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Notes on the state board of education...

## Nov. 2-3, 2005

*Special Note: To review background materials on each item, please go to [http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe\\_meetings/0511\\_sbagenda.html](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0511_sbagenda.html). Click on the appropriate agenda category, High Student Performance (HSP); Quality Teachers, Administrators and Staff (QP); Effective and Efficient Operations (EEO); Healthy Students in Safe, Orderly and Caring Schools (SS); or Strong Family, Community and Business Support (FCB).*

### Issues Session

SBE Priorities and Call to Arms - Board members continued their internal examination initiated at their October retreat regarding the possibility of adding a sixth strategic priority to the ABCs Plus. The Board discussed adding a priority around global preparedness or embedding goals around global preparedness into an existing priority. The new priority would ensure that students graduate with the skills to compete on a global scale. Board members discussed current initiatives, the need to prepare students and teachers, instructional delivery, and tools and standards. Following a review of other states' activities in this area (e-learning, extending school day, expanding after-school programs, exploring technology opportunities such as virtual schools), members participated in a brainstorming session that focused on the following areas:

1. Call to arms - the need for community understanding and support;
2. What must be included in student preparation?
3. What must be included in teacher preparation?
4. What tools must we have for instructional delivery and schools?
5. How do we develop and expand partnerships?
6. How do we involve the community?

Board member Kathy Taft pointed out that the Board's May 2005 policy on graduation addresses the need for graduates to be competitive and suggested that this policy could be the starting point for future planning. State Board Chairman Howard Lee recommended that the Board's comments be packaged and sent to members for review and deeper consideration before the Board takes up the question of next steps at a subsequent Board meeting.

### Action Agenda

- *Revising the IPT Cut Scores for the IDEA Language Proficiency Tests (HSP1) - The Individualized Developmental English Activities (IDEA) Language Proficiency Tests (IPT) were revised to align with requirements of No Child Left Behind (NCLB). The SBE approved new cut scores for K-1 (grades 2-12 were approved at the June 2005 Board meeting). The cut scores will be used for the 2005-06 school year and will be re-evaluated during the summer of 2006.*
- *Clarifications/Revisions of Existing SBE Policies Related to Testing & Accountability (HSP2) - Members approved clarifications/revisions to policies HSP-A-007 (Policy delineating the guidelines for the testing of students with limited English proficiency), HSP-A-009 (Policy regarding rules, guidelines, and procedures governing the NC testing program), and HSP-A-012 (Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives for NCLB Title III) to reflect current guidelines related to accountability, testing and student achievement.*
- *Waiver to Allow Five Pilot School Systems to Replace Present Special Education Identification Procedures with the Response to Intervention Procedures (HSP3) - Ten elementary schools located in Bertie, Burke, Guilford, Harnett, and New Hanover counties were approved to pilot a process to determine a child's Response to Intervention by using a Problem-Solving Model. The NCDPI's Exceptional Children Division will use the pilot's evaluation to recommend possible changes in "Procedures Governing Programs and Services of Children with Disabilities" and advise school systems as to the most effective way to evaluate and identify children with disabilities.*
- *Policy for Adequately Informing Ninth Grade Students About Accelerated Preparation for College Entry (HSP4) - Board members approved revisions to their policy to adequately inform ninth grade students about accelerated preparation for college entry. The revisions incorporate language reflecting the Board's rigor policy and require educators to provide guidance and information to students about course selections and requirements prior to ninth grade and to work with counselors to increase student awareness.*
- *Revision to SBE/APA Policies Following Public Input (OP1) - Board members approved proposed amendments to the lateral entry policy following conclusion of the public input period. No input was received.*
- *Revision of the Requirements for a Provisional License as a Health Occupations Teacher (QP2) - Board members approved proposed revisions to the eligibility requirements for a provisional license as a health occupations teacher to allow individuals with diplomas in nursing to serve in multi-teacher departments.*
- *State Evaluation Committee Program Approval Recommendation (QP3) - Board members approved the State Evaluation Committee on Teacher Education program approval recommendation for Gardner Webb University.*
- *Annual Teacher Turnover Report (QP4) - The Annual Teacher Turnover Report was approved by State Board members for submission to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee.*
- *Recommendations from the Special Committee on Graduate Pay Approval and Non-Teaching Work Experience Policies (QP5) - Board members approved proposed revisions to licensure policies addressing graduate pay approval and non-teaching work experience credit effective July 1, 2005. Also approved was the establishment of an Appeals Panel.*
- *Revision of Standards for Teacher Education Programs in Reading, Latin, Visually Impaired, Instructional Technology, School Counseling, School Psychology, and Social Work (QP6) - Board members approved a revised change in language to standards affecting school counselors and school social workers in regard to addressing human diversity issues with students.*
- *Revision of Allotment Policy Manual - Incentive to Adopt Local School Bus Idling Policies (EE01) - Changes to the Allotment Policy Manual were approved by Board members to require local boards of education to have an effective policy that would eliminate unnecessary school bus idling before local school systems could receive any additional funding to help offset rising fuel prices.*
- *Reporting of FY 2004-05 At-Risk and Student Accountability Funding and Submission of Reports in 2005-06 (EE02) - To remain eligible for funds appropriated for the At-Risk/Alternative Schools allotments and the Improving Student Accountability allotments in FY 2006-07, local school systems were required to submit a report to the State Board detailing the expenditures of these funds and the impact on student achievement. Board members approved this report for submission to the Office of State Budget, the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee, and the Fiscal Research Division.*
- *Revisions to Procedures for Implementation of the Persistently Dangerous Schools Policy (SS1) - In an effort to address the concerns voiced by small schools, State Board members approved a proposal from the NCDPI's School Safety and Climate Section that would revise the current persistently dangerous schools' visitation procedures to address data collection requirements for small schools. The Board also approved recommendations that would enhance the reliability/validity of data collected from local school systems due to the self-reporting nature of the Annual Report on School Crime and Violence.*

### Action on First Reading

- *Changes to the 2004-05 ABCs/AYP Report (HSP5) - Board members approved the following changes to the 2004-05 ABCs/AYP Report:*
  - Cabarrus Opportunity, Cabarrus County Schools, AYP status changed from Under Review to Met.
  - Davidson School, Cleveland County Schools, AYP status changed from Under Review to Not Met.
  - Nakina Alternative, Columbus County Schools, AYP status changed from Under Review to Met.
  - N. Whiteville Academy, Whiteville City Schools, AYP status changed from Under Review to Met.
  - Cumberland Evening, Cumberland County Schools, AYP status changed from Under Review to Met.
  - Early College High School, Durham Public Schools, AYP status changed from Under Review to Met.
  - Middle College, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools, AYP status changed from Under Review to Not Met.
  - Winston-Salem Preparatory Academy, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools, AYP status changed from Under Review to Met.
  - Guilford County Middle College High, Guilford County Schools, AYP status changed from Under Review to Met.
  - Scale School, Guilford County Schools, AYP status changed from Under Review to Met.
  - STAR Academy, Harnett County Schools, AYP status changed from Under Review to Met.
  - Mulberry St. School, Iredell/Statesville Schools, AYP status changed from Under Review to Met.
  - So. Campus Community High, Johnston County Schools, AYP status changed from Under Review to Met.
  - Anchor School, Montgomery County Schools, AYP status changed from Under Review to Not Met.
  - Pender County Alternative, Pender County Schools, AYP status changed from Under Review to Not Met.

There are still 12 schools that fall under the jurisdiction of Juvenile Justice and the Department of Health and Human Services that have unresolved issues relating to whether they must report AYP. Staff members are waiting clarification from the US Dept. of Education.

- *Changes to the NC Accountability Workbook Resulting from Title I Monitoring Visit (HSP6) - Board members approved on first reading changes to the Accountability Workbook resulting from a June 2005 Title I Monitoring Visit by the U.S. Dept. of Education. These changes include language revisions to reflect more accurately the NC Accountability program and a change in the way AYP is calculated at the local and state levels. Local and state AYP will include both graduation rate and attendance rate as the Other Academic Indicators.*
- *Changes to SBE Policy on Components in ABCs and AYP for 2005-06 and 2006-07 School Years (HSP7) - Policy changes removing US History and Civics and Economics from growth calculations in the 2005-06 school year were approved by Board members on first reading. These end-of-course tests will be used to determine growth in the 2006-07 school year. Additionally, changes in titles for Alternate Assessments also have been included.*

- *Evaluation of High Priority Schools Initiatives: Third Annual Report (HSP8) - This is the third and final year that the State Board of Education will submit an evaluation to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee addressing the impact on student achievement of funds initially appropriated by the General Assembly in 2001-02 to provide the state's lowest performing elementary schools with the tools needed to improve student achievement. The Board contracted with Metis Associates to conduct this evaluation and bring recommendations to the Board. Metis Associates' Senior Vice President Stan Schneider and Managing Senior Associate Donna Wilkens presented their findings and recommendations to the Board. Key findings were grouped in four main areas: changes in implementation, retention of teaching assistants, teacher turnover rates, and student achievement. The Board approved receiving this report on first reading to meet the December submission date.*
- *Requests for Extension of Time to Fulfill Licensure Coursework Requirements Due to Extenuating Circumstance (QP7) - Board members approved all requests for extensions of time except those that cited computer problems as the reason for not following requirements.*
- *Annual Report on School Crime and Violence (SS2) - Presentation of this report was delayed to the December State Board meeting scheduled for Nov. 30 - Dec. 1.*

### Discussion Agenda

- *LEA Assistance Programs (HSP 9) - Board members received for discussion the LEA Assistance Program Report that is due to the Office of State Budget and Management, the Fiscal Research Division, and the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee in December. This is the second and final report. The report summarizes local school system initiatives and expenditures of funds provided by the General Assembly for FY 2003-04 to the state's low-performing local school systems to assist schools in meeting AYP for each subgroup identified under No Child Left Behind.*
- *Assist Local School Administrative Units on the Implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act (HSP 10) - This report, which will be submitted to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee upon approval in December, summarizes the number and location of schools meeting adequate yearly progress, the assistance models developed for each subgroup, technical assistance provided to local school systems, and the need for additional resources to implement this act on a statewide basis. Staff found that the schools that did the best job of meeting AYP did not use commercially packaged programs but instead had strong instruction aligned with the state's Standard Course of Study. These schools also were characterized as having a caring environment for staff and students.*
- *Report of the State Board of Education Ad Hoc Committee on Physical Education (HSP 11) - The Ad Hoc Committee on Physical Education presented to the Board its draft report on the feasibility of 150 minutes of elementary physical education and 225 minutes of middle school physical education, including implications and potential consequences and a list of recommendations for Board consideration in the development of a plan of action. Study recommendations focused on adequate indoor/outdoor facilities; communication; personnel; staff development; supplies and equipment; and time. Board member discussion focused on the importance of public health to economic development, the hiring of an ambassador for physical education to work with local school systems/schools, the need for a working timeline to track accomplishments, the need to measure what is a healthy level for students, and the need for a cultural change to embrace a healthy lifestyle.*
- *Addendum to the North Carolina Arts Education Standard Course of Study (HSP 12) - Board members discussed a proposed addendum to the Arts Education Standard Course of Study that would add Advanced Placement courses in music and visual arts, including Studio Art (2D, 3D, and Drawing), Art History and Music Theory.*
- *Follow-Up Activities for Senate Bill 1117 (HSP 13) - A progress report was presented to State Board members in response to SB 1117, which directs the State Board and the NCDPI to study the feasibility of providing a liaison to North Carolina NCLBPI bases in addition to reviewing and revising policies and procedures regarding credit for high school courses to ensure that all students, especially the children of high school expellees, receive credit for courses taken out-of-state. The Board is expected to act on this report in December.*

### Information Agenda

- *Report on LEA Status for the Title III Improvement (HSP 14) - Local school systems receiving Title III funds must meet a series of Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAO) that address the percentage of students progressing from an achievement level on the IPT test to another higher achievement level, the percentage of students becoming English proficient in five years or less, and whether the LEP subgroup met its AYP targets. Board members received a report detailing how these school systems did in meeting these measures. Those that did not meet their AMAO goals in the same set two years in a row must develop a detailed improvement plan as required by NCLB. Nine local school systems have been identified as needing assistance and having to develop an improvement plan.*

### Good News

*20-Year Celebration of North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching - Dr. Mary McDuffie, executive director of the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching, and Richard Schwartz, president of the Foundation Board for NCCAT, told Board members that this is the 20th Anniversary for NCCAT and provided Board members with a video presentation and informational materials on NCCAT. McDuffie said that the week-long professional development opportunities provided by the center align with the state's Standard Course of Study and offer teachers an opportunity to rejuvenate and network with their peers. For its 20th anniversary, NCCAT is holding a year-long celebration that will include a dedication of its Eastern North Carolina facility - a former Coast Guard station on Ocracoke Island - in late September 2006.*

### Special Recognitions

*SBE Advisors - Board members welcomed their new student advisor, Ben Curtis, a senior at Grimsley High School (Guilford County Schools), and thanked outgoing Local Board of Education Advisor Wayne White, a member of the Camden County Board of Education and the North Carolina School Board Association's 2005 Raleigh Digniman Award recipient, for his counsel to the Board.*

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