



North Carolina State Board of Education

The State Board of Education is charged with supervising and administering "the free public school system and the educational funds provided for its support."

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sbe highlights

Notes on the state board of education...

July 6, 2006

Special Note: To review background materials on each item, please go to http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0706_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).

Action Agenda

- *District Assistance Model (HSP1)* – Board members approved a district assistance model that would provide varying degrees of support, guidance and services based on the district's performance under the ABCs and/or NCLB. There are three tiers of service provided: guided assistance (local board participation would be mandatory), collaborative assistance and consultative assistance. The primary goal of the model is to improve student academic performance and to build internal capacity in the central office and school leadership for positive change and continual growth.
- *Alignment of Licensing Requirements for Student Services Personnel with Teacher Licensing Requirements (QP 1)* – Licensure policies to facilitate the employment of teachers from other states were revised to include student services personnel (school counselors, school media coordinators, etc.).
- *Praxis Testing Requirements for Exceptional Children's License Areas (QP 2)* – Board members approved a revision to Board policy that would allow either of two tests of core knowledge for exceptional children's teachers to be used for the General or Adapted Curriculum license or the categorical license.
- *Board of Governors, Governor's School Membership (EEO 1)* – Three members currently serving on the Board of Governor's, Governor's School – Mary Bouchard, Arthur Spong and Betsy Burrows – were reappointed to serve a second term. Linda Brunson will fill the vacant District 2 superintendent position.

Action on First Reading

- *NC Virtual Public School – Director's Report (HSP 2)* – The Friday Institute will serve as the home office for the NC Virtual Public School's administrative staff. NCVPS will still report to the State Board and maintain an office in the Education Building.
- *Exemption Requests Under the Innovative Education Initiatives Act (HSP 3)* – Board members approved calendar waiver requests under the auspices of the Innovative Education Initiatives Act for New Hanover, Rutherford and Swain County School Systems to facilitate early college and high school redesign opportunities. The Innovative Education Initiatives Act authorizes community colleges, the university system, independent colleges, and local boards of education to jointly establish cooperative innovative programs in high schools and community colleges that will expand students' opportunities for education success through high quality instructional programming. The programs target at-risk students and students who would benefit from accelerated academic instruction.
- *Recommendations from the Advisory Board on Requests for Exception from Teacher Licensing Requirements (QP 3)* – In closed session, the Board considered 56 requests for exception to licensing policies.
- *Final Decision in Contested Case – Truman E. Bullard Sr., vs. NCDPI (QP 4)* – Board members approved the license revocation recommendation of staff for Truman Bullard.
- *Final Decision in Contested Case – Harry Talmadge Englebert vs. NCSBE - (QP 5)* – Board members approved the license revocation recommendation of staff for Harry Englebert.
- *Approval of Charter School Technology Plan (EEO 2)* – Crossroads Charter High School's school technology plan was approved. Approval qualifies Crossroads for the School Technology Trust Fund, No Child Left Behind, and federal eRate monies, as well as a variety of private technology grants.
- *Recommendation to Revoke the Charter of Imani Institute Charter Middle School (EEO 3)* – Board members approved initiating the charter revocation process for Imani Institute Charter Middle School (Greensboro). Imani failed to submit financial audits for the 2002-03 – 2005-06 school years.
- *Approval of Federal Grant: NCLB Enhancing Education Through Technology Grant Awards – IMPACTing Leadership Grant Awards (EEO 3)* – Board members approved IMPACTing Leadership Grant Awards to Asheville City Schools, Pamlico County Schools, Scotland County Schools and Tyrrell County Schools. Grants funds will provide funding and technical assistance to support school districts in developing programming that ensures high student achievement for the overall school curriculum. Eligibility for these grants was based on the federal criteria of high poverty and high technology need.

Discussion Agenda

- *Licensing Requirements for International Teachers (QP 6)* – Board members continued to discuss a proposal that would facilitate the licensing of educated native speakers of other languages as language teachers in public schools. Board members were asked to consider deleting the requirement of the degree being delivered in the native language. The proposed revision now reads "native speakers of a language who have earned at least a baccalaureate degree, but have not completed training to teach English or another language may be issued a provisional or lateral entry license to teach the native language. These teachers would be required to satisfy current provisional or lateral entry license requirements."
- *Alignment of the Initial Licensure Program Policy with Standard Professional 1 License Requirements (QP 7)* – Board members discussed revisions to the Initial Licensure Program policy to reflect Board requirements for converting a Standard Professional 1 license to a Standard Professional 2 license. Members were particularly interested in observation time requirements and allowing input from the field as to what would be appropriate.

Chairman's Remarks

In his Chairman's Remarks, State Board Chairman Howard Lee thanked the Governor and legislators for their support of public education in this year's budget saying "this was one of the best education budgets in years." State Board of Education Executive Director Rebecca Garland provided members with budget funding highlights, which included the restoration of the base budget and elimination of discretionary cuts – one of the top priorities for the Board, local superintendents and education associations. On July 17, preliminary AYP results will be released. An Executive Committee of the Board will meet twice before July 17 to discuss and approve recommended changes to the North Carolina accountability workbook and interim standards for NCEExtend2 reading on behalf of the Board for submission to the US Dept. of Education as advised by the US Dept. of Education. Board members also discussed their proposed strategic priority addressing 21st century learning, which is expected to be presented to the Board at its August meeting.

State Superintendent's Report

State Superintendent June Atkinson said North Carolina was one of only 10 states to have its assessment system fully approved by the US Department of Education. Under No Child Left Behind, all states were to have their assessment systems approved by June 30. NCDPI High School Improvement Coordinator Pat Ashley updated Board members on activities associated with the turnaround assessment teams. Staff members continue to conduct meetings with affected superintendents. There is an overarching need for professional development related to content area. Leadership facilitators and principals in affected schools will broker customized professional development for their teachers. Schools with less than a 60 percent performance composite for five consecutive years will use the 2006-07 school year as a planning year for redesign. NCDPI Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and School Reform Services Elsie Leak provided Board members with an update of LEAAP activities and NCDPI Associate Superintendent/Chief Information Officer Peter Asmar provided Board members with an update on NC WISE including the WAVE 2 deployment schedule, Year-End Transition and Ad Hoc reporting.

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