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Dec. 6-7, 2006

Special Note: To review background materials on each item, please go to http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0612/0612_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

- Report on the Effectiveness of Representative Mentor Programs (QP 1) - Board members approved the Report on the Effectiveness of Representative Mentor Programs and its findings for submission to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division. The report recommended that funding be provided for a full-time mentoring program at a ratio of one mentor teacher per 15 beginning teachers and that funding be provided for a full-time beginning teacher support program coordinator for each district.
Proposed Standards for the Approval of Pilot Programs for the Preparation of School Administrators (QP 2) - Proposed standards for approving one or more pilot programs that would offer a more innovative/experimental approach to the identification, recruitment, preparation and induction of school administrators were approved. They must now go through the rule-making (APA) process. With over 50 percent of principals having 25 or more years of service, it is important that alternative routes for preparing new principals be explored.
Licensing of Teachers for World Languages (QP 3) - A proposal that would facilitate the licensing of teachers for world languages by utilizing proficiency assessments available through the American Council on Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) to validate the teachers' language proficiency was approved. Individuals who already hold clear teaching licenses will be allowed to add a world language to the license by earning a proficiency rating of "Intermediate High" or better on the ACTFL oral and written proficiency assessments in the language.
2007-09 Biennial Budget Request (EEO 1) - Board members approved the presented budget items for submission to the Office of State Budget and Management for consideration of inclusion in Gov. Easley's 2007-09 biennial budget.
Appointments for Charter School Advisory Committee (EEO 2) - Board members approved the reappointment of Tannis Nelson (New Hanover County-Region 2), Simon Johnson (Forsyth County-Region 5) and Nancy Farmer (Orange County-Region 5) and the appointment of Debra Horton (NC PTA President) to the North Carolina Charter School Advisory Committee.
Revision to SBE/APA Policies Following Public Input (EEO 3) - Revisions to the State Board's policy for resolving disputes pertaining to the school admission and assignment of homeless students and unaccompanied youth were approved.
Recommendations of Appeal Panel on John H. Baker, Jr., Charter High School Revocation (EEO 4) - Consistent with John H. Baker Charter High School's agreement, the State Board of Education postponed its decision on the school's appeal of the decision to terminate its charter until its January Board meeting.

Action on First Reading

- Recommended Interim Grade 3 Pretest in Mathematics Academic Achievement Standards (HSP 1) - Interim academic achievement standards (cut scores) for the Grade 3 Pretest effective with the 2006-07 school year were approved.
Assistance Program for January-June 2007 (HSP 2) - Board members approved the assistance program for January-June 2007.
Changes to the 2005-06 ABCs/AYP Report (HSP 3) - Board members approved changes to the 2005-06 ABCs/AYP report to reflect the following:
Field Test Appeals (HSP 4) - Department of Public Instruction staff handled the appeals administratively so Board action was not required.
Academic Rigor, Relevance and Relationships Policy: Timeline for Default Curriculum (HSP 5) - This item was moved to Action on First Read.
Recommendations from the Advisory Board on Requests for Exception from Teacher Licensing Requirements (QP 4) - Board members acted on recommendations from the appeal's panel regarding requests for exception from teacher licensing requirements.
Final Decisions in Contested Cases (QP 5) - Board members approved staff recommendations regarding the final decisions in these contested cases.
Replacement of Compliance Commission Members and Appointment of a New Chairperson (EEO 5) - Board members approved the appointments of Cindy Goodman (Region 4), David Pugh Jr. (Region 5), Carolyn Lowder (Region 6), Heidi Von Dohlen (Region 8) and Wanda Bunch (At-Large) to the Compliance Commission for Accountability.
Approval of the FY 2006-07 Learn and Earn Planning Sites (EEO 6) - This item was moved to action on first read.

Discussion Agenda

- The Cooperative Innovative High School Program Act - Applications and Waivers for Education Purposes (HSP 6) - Board members discussed calendar waiver requests for instructional purposes and a request to approve calendar waivers so that they align with the five year span of the approved program application.
Proposed Revisions to the Requirements for an International Faculty License (QP 6) - Proposed revisions to the requirements for an International Faculty License were discussed.
Statae Evaluation Committee Program Approval Recommendations (QP 7) - Program approval recommendations for Appalachian State University, East Carolina University, Pfeiffer University, UNC Asheville and UNC Wilmington were discussed.
Appointment of Individuals to the State Evaluation Committee on Teacher Education (QP 8) - Board members discussed reappointing Elizabeth City State University Professor Dr. Barbara Johnson and Catawba College Department of Teacher Education Chair Dr. James Stringfield and appointing East Carolina University Director of Teacher Education Dr. Vivian Covington, Lincoln County Schools' Associate Superintendent for Personnel Dr. Walter Hart and Salem College Director of Teacher Education Dr. Micha Jeffries to the State Evaluation Committee on Teacher Education.
Revision of Board Policy to Reflect Changes in the Provisional Licensing Requirements for Career and Technical Education Teachers (QP 9) - Proposed policy revisions to reflect changes to the Transitional Licensing Requirements for Career and Technical Education Teachers were discussed.
Study of the Adequacy of Compensation of School Psychologists with National Certification (QP 10) - Session law directs the State Board to study the adequacy of the compensation of school psychologists who are Nationally Certified School Psychologists by the National School Psychology Certification Board.
Proposal to Facilitate the Licensing of More at Four Teachers Through the Office of School Readiness (QP 11) - A proposal to allow More at Four teachers in non-public school settings to work through the Office of School Readiness to obtain and maintain their teaching licenses was discussed.
LEA-Wide Calendar Waiver Requests (EEO 7) - LEA-wide weather-related calendar waiver requests were discussed.

Information Agenda

- Report on LEA Status for Title III Improvement (HSP 7) - Board members received for information a Summary Report of Title III Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives for 2005-06.
NC Virtual Public School - Director's Report (HSP 8) - NC Virtual Public School (NCVPS) Interim Advisory Board Chair John Bolding briefed Board members on the school's progress to date.
The Carl D. Perkins Consolidated Accountability Report (HSP 9) - Board members met as the State Board of Career-Technical Education and received for information the Carl D. Perkins Consolidated Accountability Report.
State Plan Proposal for Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006 (HSP 10) - Still meeting as the State Board of Career-Technical Education, Board members accepted the State Plan Proposal for Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006 and its recommendations.
The Revised North Carolina Educational Technology Plan (EEO 8) - The Revised North Carolina Educational Technology Plan was presented to Board members for their information.
Annual Report of School Crime and Violence: 2005-06 (SS 1) - During last school year, North Carolina public schools reported 10,959 acts of crime and violence among the state's almost 1.4 million students.

Special Recognition

Board members recognized the following outgoing committee and commission members for their service: John Geil, Charter Schools Advisory Committee; Larry Seigler, Compliance Commission for Accountability; Rita Burgeson, Compliance Commission for Accountability; Jeff Jernigan, Compliance Commission for Accountability; and Betsy Thompson, Council for Educational Services for Exceptional Children. Each member was presented with a framed certificate and a letter of congratulations and thanks from the State Board.

Board members welcomed 2006-07 Local Board of Education Advisor Carr Ipock who is chairman of the Craven County Board of Education and winner of the NC School Boards Association's Raleigh Dingman Award. Ipock received a State Board pin, a briefcase for Board materials and a mug.

Special Presentation and Resolution

Board members recognized Ms. Zita Ferebee, a Perquimans County Schools' bus driver and recipient of the Blue Heroism Award from the National Association for Pupil Transportation. In the October 2005, Ferebee rescued students from a burning school bus that had been in a traffic accident. She has now recovered. Ferebee was presented with a resolution and a plaque in honor of her heroism.

Chairman's Remarks

State Board Legislative Liaison Rita Joyner provided Board members with a legislative update. Joyner said that the Education Oversight Committee has met twice since the last Board meeting and had discussed a number of issues including NC WISE, turnover rates, leadership evaluation, small specialty high schools, high school graduation and dropout rates.

State Superintendent's Report

State Superintendent June Atkinson told Board members that staff anticipates receiving a \$1 million grant to help the Department move forward with the K-Net technology project.

NCDPI High School Turnaround Team Director Pat Ashley shared highlights of turnaround efforts since the November Board meeting. The first priority has been to assist 35 schools in selecting redesign or reform models that they will use to change. The schools receiving presentations on the four models available. Ten schools have selected the STEM model through the New Schools Project. A Request for Proposal has been posted for visits to schools that are under 60 percent and under 70 percent. The goal is to have these teams in the field by February. The first cohort of principals is completing their third day at the Principals' Executive Program and the second cohort will be coming on board soon. Sessions are addressing using technology solutions to help students, developing strategies for improving student performance and using data from the Teachers' Working Conditions Survey.

NCDPI Associate Superintendent/Chief Information Officer Peter Asmar provided Board members with an update on NC WISE. He said production continues to go well. Staff just received results from a client survey showing an 81 percent satisfaction score on NC WISE. As for Wave 2, staff members are struggling with the vendor and litigation may need to be considered. Some districts in Wave 2 may have to drop out if the tool is not delivered appropriately.

On-Going Business

NCDPI Deputy Superintendent Janice Davis presented Board members with a progress report on the Future Ready Students' Plan and Implementation. Staff members are moving forward with the 21st century plan. Since the Board's last meeting, different owners of responsibilities have identified champions for specific areas with clear timelines and measures. Momentum is in place and moving forward.

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