Legislative Report

Advisory Councils, SBE Highlights

About the NC SBE

The WISE federal grant program started in NC schools in 2000 and is expected to be fully implemented in 2007. The program, which is expected to replace NC WISE, will no longer be supported after 2007. At that time, NC will begin the first wave of districts to implement the model. Two more implementation waves are expected in 2008 and 2009.

DPI Reorganization

The Board reviewed a proposed reorganization of the DPI to address the need for more efficient and effective delivery of services to local schools. The proposal includes the creation of three new divisions: School Business, Technology, and Federal Programs. The proposal also includes new roles and responsibilities for existing positions and the elimination of some positions. The Board members agreed to move forward with the reorganization and to seek input from stakeholders before finalizing the plan.

Good News

New business technology project is now operating in 361 schools and serving more than 600,000 students. The project is expected to reach all schools by the end of the school year. The initiative is helping to provide a technology-rich teaching and learning environment and a resource-rich environment for students.

Discussion Agenda

- Action Agenda Items
  - Stronger parental and family involvement and began conversation concerning a variety of initiatives to support parents, provide advisory or decision-making structures for family involvement in school decision-making.

Special Note: To review background materials on each item, please go to the Board’s website for the November 3-4, 2004 agenda.

Action Agenda Items

- ABCs Results
  - (HSP 4) - Last week, the State Board of Education continued a review of accountability data for District 10 and District 11. The review included an analysis of performance data for the 2003-04 school year and a discussion of plans for the 2004-05 school year.

- 2003-04 Annual Report on School Crime and Violence
  - The report includes data on school crime and violence incidents reported to the State Department of Justice. The report found that the number of reported incidents declined in the 2003-04 school year. The report also includes data on school crime and violence prevention initiatives and a discussion of next steps.

- Teacher Education Programs
  - The Board approved changes to the approval process for teacher education programs. The changes include the establishment of a new process for reviewing and approving programs, the development of new criteria for program approval, and the establishment of a new timeline for the approval process.

- Teacher Education Program Approvals
  - The Board approved program approval recommendations for several programs. These programs include the MAT teacher education program at Duke University, the MAT teacher education program at Wingate University, and the MAT teacher education program at Methodist College.

- Staff Development
  - The Board approved a new program for supporting teacher development. The program includes the development of a new database of statewide professional development offerings, as is being developed by the State Department of Education.

- Compliance Commission Recommendations Regarding Middle Schools and High Schools
  - The Board approved recommendations from the Compliance Commission regarding middle schools and high schools. The recommendations include changes to the program approval process, the development of new criteria for program approval, and the establishment of a new timeline for the approval process.

- Student Assessment
  - The Board approved the use of a K-2 assessment that could provide evaluation data for those grades. The assessment is expected to be implemented in the 2005-06 school year.

- Federal Funding Initiatives
  - The Board approved a proposal for federal funding initiatives. The proposal includes the development of new criteria for funding initiatives, the establishment of a new timeline for the approval process, and the establishment of a new process for reviewing and approving funding initiatives.