



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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Notes on the state board of education...

August 2-3, 2006

Special Note: To review background materials on each item, please go to http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0608/0608_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

NCDPI Deputy Superintendent Janice Davis led Board members in their Issues Session: Education for the 21st Century. She provided a brief update on efforts so far and then focused the discussion on Board consideration of its new mission statement and supporting goals. The mission statement and goals will replace the Board's current mission statement and five strategic priorities for excellent schools. Upon motion by Lt. Governor Beverly Perdue, who had previously challenged Board members to consider a new priority that incorporated the importance of technology and globalization, Board members approved the following mission statement and supporting goals during Thursday's State Board of Education Chairman's report: "The guiding mission of the North Carolina State Board of Education is that every public school student will graduate from high school, globally competitive for work and postsecondary education and prepared for life in the 21st century."

- Goal: NC public schools will produce globally competitive students.
- Goal: NC public schools will be led by 21st century professionals.
- Goal: NC public school students will be healthy and responsible.
- Goal: Leadership will guide innovation in NC public schools.
- Goal: NC public schools will be governed and supported by 21st century systems.

Action Agenda

- *Alignment of the Initial Licensure Program Policy with Standard Professional 1 License Requirements (QP 1)* - Revisions to the Initial Licensure Program policy to reflect Board requirements for converting a Standard Professional 1 license to a Standard Professional 2 license were approved.
- *Revocation of Imani Institute Charter* - Board members approved the charter revocation of Imani Institute Charter Middle School (Guilford County) for "failure to file required audits with NCDPI; failure to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management; material violation of the reporting conditions, standards, or procedures set forth in its charter; and other good cause as identified in the findings and conclusions."
- *Recommendations for Preliminary Approval of 2006 Charter School Applications (EEO 1)* - Neuse Charter School (Johnston County), Pine Lake Preparatory (Iredell County), KIPP: Charlotte (Mecklenburg County), Wilmington Preparatory Academy (New Hanover County), Voyager Academy (Durham County) and Columbus Charter School (Columbus County) were given preliminary approval by State Board members to begin their planning year.

Action on First Reading

- *Revising the IPT Cut Scores for the IDEA Language Proficiency Tests (HSP1)* - Board members approved revised cut scores for the Individualized Developmental English Activities (IDEA) Language Proficiency Test (IPT) to comply with Title III of No Child Left Behind. The cut scores were revised following re-evaluation of data from the first operational administrations of the IPT this spring.
- *Clarification to SBE Policy on Components in ABCs and AYP for 2006-07 School Year (HSP 2)* - State Board Policy HSP-C-020 was approved for modification to show that Physical Science, Physics and Chemistry will not be used in the 2006-07 ABCs calculations as students in these courses will be participating in statewide field tests. Changes that have been made to reflect new alternate assessments will be used in the 2006-07 ABCs/AYP calculations pending approval by the U.S. Department of Education.
- *AYP Results for High Schools and AYP Reading Results for Elementary and Middle Schools (HSP 3)* - Board members approved the 2005-06 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) results for high schools and AYP reading results for elementary and middle schools. Board members also received a list of school districts in LEA Improvement and their current status based on this year's AYP results and a list of LEAs being considered for LEA Improvement based on reading AYP. LEAs will be given two weeks to review their data or appeal their identification before the LEA Improvement list is finalized.
- *Recommended Interim Academic Achievement Standards (Cut Scores) and Descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 EOG Writing Assessments Grades 4 and 7 (HSP 4)* - Board members approved interim academic achievement standards (cut scores) and descriptors for NCEXTEND2 EOG writing alternate assessments for the fourth and seventh grades. The NCEXTEND2 EOG writing alternate assessment is a newly designed and implemented (2005-06) alternate assessment for eligible students with disabilities. Staff will re-evaluate the interim standards for the 2006-07 school year once the U.S. Department of Education has provided the final regulations and additional guidance about assessments for students with disabilities.
- *Exemption Requests Under the Innovative Education Initiatives Act (HSP 5)* - Board members approved calendar waiver requests under the auspices of the Innovative Education Initiatives Act for Guilford County Schools for an Early College Academy program, Columbus County Schools to allow for waiver of NC principal certification requirements and Gateway to College Consortium (consortium members are Camden, Currituck, Edenton-Chowan, Gates, Perquimans and Pasquotank counties) for a school calendar waiver. 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 2)* - Board members acted on recommendations from its Advisory Board on Requests for Exception from Teacher Licensing Requirements. Individuals who have not met licensing requirements due to extenuating circumstances may request an exception from the requirement or an extension of time.
- *Requests for Waiver of the Repayment Obligation of the National Board Certification Participation Fee (QP 3)* - Board members acted on recommendations of its review panel for 45 teachers who did not complete the process for National Board certification and who had requested a waiver of the repayment obligation.
- *Approval of Charter School Technology Plan (EEO 2)* - State Board members approved the technology plan for Children's Village Charter School. Approval qualifies Children's Village Charter School for the School Technology Trust Fund, No Child Left Behind, and federal eRate monies, as well as a variety of private technology grants.
- *2006-07 Special Provisions (EEO 3)* - Five special provisions in Senate Bill 1741 and four provisions from SB 622 (ratified last summer) were approved by Board members. The special provisions in SB 1741 address funds for increased fuel costs, funds to implement the ABCs of Public Education, NC WISE positions, the North Carolina Virtual Public School and distance education. Special provisions in SB 622 address alternative schools/at-risk students, litigation reserve, charter school advisory committee/charter school evaluation, and discrepancies between anticipated and actual ADM.
- *Replacement of Compliance Commission Member (EEO 6)* - Board members approved the appointment of Albert Eckel from Corning, Inc., to fill the business representative, at-large position on the Compliance Commission for Accountability. This item was moved to action on first read because the Compliance Commission is expected to meet in late August.

Discussion Agenda

- *Strategic Plan for Reading Literacy (HSP 6)* - A revised Strategic Plan for Reading Literacy was presented to Board members for discussion. Revisions to the plan were based on input from an external stakeholders committee. Committee members were asked to serve in one of five groups (based on the State Board's strategic priorities) to examine various strategic priorities and make appropriate comments for consideration. The Department's Reading Project Team then reviewed each comment and revised the plan accordingly. The Board will consider taking action on the literacy plan at its September meeting.
- *Report from the Ad Hoc Committee on School Leadership (QP 4)* - The report from the State Board's Ad Hoc Committee on School Leadership was presented to Board members for discussion. The Committee drafted proposed standards for school administrators that reflect the knowledge, skills and dispositions that school leaders must have if all students are to leave school prepared for successful participation in the 21st century economy. The standards will require the development of new assessment instruments for school administrators and new standards for school administrator preparation programs. Board members are expected to take action on the report at their September meeting.
- *Revision of Provisional Licensing Requirements for Career-Technical Education Teachers (QP 5)* - Board members discussed proposed revisions to the Career and Technical Education provisional licensure areas, which if approved by the Board in September, would take effect July 1, 2007. The proposed revisions were based on a 30-state licensure study through the Southern Region Education Board, and input from career and technical education directors, human resource administrators, career and technical education teachers and teacher educators.
- *PreK-K Teacher Performance Appraisal Instrument (QP 6)* - A pre-kindergarten-kindergarten teachers' appraisal instrument that is more closely aligned with birth-kindergarten appraisal standards was discussed for September action.
- *Membership for the State Advisory Council on Indian Education (EEO 4)* - Board members discussed a recommended appointment/reappointments to the State Advisory Council on Indian Education. Recommended for appointment is Claire Hunter Morrow representing the Meherrin Tribal/Urban. Recommended for reappointment are Brian Brooks, Brenda Dial Deese and Jill Ammons Rogitz all representing the Lumbee Tribal/Urban.
- *NC Public School Employees Benefit and Employment Policies Manual (EEO 5)* - Changes to the Public School Employee Benefits Manual were outlined for Board members for action in September. The changes reflect legislative action and do not require State Board approval to change any policy directives.

Information Agenda

- *NC Virtual Public School Director's Report (HSP 7)* - NC Virtual Public School Interim Director Bruce Friend provided Board members with a six-month progress report of the NC Virtual Public School (NCVPS), including an overview of the accomplishments and actions taken toward meeting the Stage 1 goals that were established for NCVPS, the results of the statewide needs assessment that NCVPS conducted and next steps.
- *2007-09 Biennial Budget Process (EEO 7)* - Board members began discussing potential continuation and expansion budget items for the 2007-09 Biennium. NCDPI's continuation and expansion budget request for the 2007-09 biennium is due to the Office of State Budget and Management in October. Items under consideration include those that were on the Board's request last year that were not funded, items Board members discussed at their monthly meetings, and items discussed at the local level. Board members will continue their discussion in September for possible action at their October meeting.

Special Recognition

- *2006-07 Superintendent Advisor* - Board members welcomed Wilson County Schools' Superintendent and 2006-07 North Carolina Association of School Administrators' Superintendent of the Year Dr. Larry Price and presented him with a plaque, mug and briefcase.
- *2006-07 NC Principal of the Year Advisor* - Board members welcomed South Mecklenburg High School Principal and 2006 Wachovia Principal of the Year Marian Yates and presented her with a plaque, mug and briefcase.
- *2006-07 NC Teacher of the Year Advisor* - Board members welcomed Hickory High School teacher and 2006-07 North Carolina Teacher of the Year Diana Beasley and presented her with a plaque, mug and briefcase.
- *2006-07 Student Advisor* - Board members welcomed Enloe High School (Wake County Schools) junior Danielle Alston and presented her with a plaque, pin and mug.

Chairman's Remarks

In his Chairman's Remarks, State Board Chairman Howard Lee introduced Associate Superintendent for Financial and Business Services Philip Price who then introduced two of his directors for staff introductions from their areas: Charter Schools, School Allotments, Monitoring and Compliance, Information Analysis and Reporting, and School Personnel Support.

Chairman Lee introduced North Carolina PTA President Debra Horton who expressed the NC PTA's commitment to support Board efforts in turning around public schools. The Board approved a resolution in support of this effort and committing to work together to increase parent/guardian involvement in public schools and improve education for all children.

NCDPI Middle Grades Education Division Director Marvin Pittman reported to the Board that no North Carolina public schools were identified as Persistently Dangerous under No Child Left Behind.

State Board of Education Executive Director Rebecca Garland summarized legislation passed during the 2006 Short Session of the General Assembly and recognized Rita Joyner (State Board Intern), Harry Wilson (State Board staff attorney), and DPI staff for the important role they played during the session. Garland reviewed items approved in the state budget as well as legislation outlined in the special provisions. Two particular initiatives included the allocation of 100 literacy coaches to middle schools based on 8th grade reading scores and the literacy requirement for School Improvement Plans.

State Superintendent's Report

State Superintendent June Atkinson said that she recently met with members of the State Superintendent's Principals' Advisory Committee. Two key issues for this group are teacher recruitment and retention and accountability concerns. The Office of School Readiness and Teacher Academy will be joining the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

NCDPI High School Improvement Coordinator Pat Ashley updated Board members on Turnaround Team activities. Seventeen high priority school principals recently completed nine days of training provided by the Principals' Executive Program and Kenan Fliegler. By the end of the school year, these administrators will have received 20 days of training. Leadership facilitators to assist principals in schools with performance composites below 60 percent for two years have mostly been identified. Staff is currently working to identify instructional facilitators to support schools that fail to achieve a 60 percent performance composite for two years in a row. On Aug. 18, staff will meet with Judge Howard Manning to discuss efforts to assist high schools with performance composites below 60 percent.

The NC WISE update was provided by new program director John Wetsch. Superintendent Atkinson also noted the departure this month of Wetsch Advisor for Healthy Schools Paula Collins who has accepted a position with East Carolina University.

New Business

Under New Business, Board members approved their meeting schedule for 2006-07.

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