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NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Nebraska Department of Education
Minutes of Meeting
September 7-8, 2011

MINUTES OF THE RETREAT – Wednesday, September 7, 2011

The State Board of Education met for purposes of a retreat on Wednesday, September 7, 2011, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The session was held at the State Office Building in the Lower Level F Conference Room, Lincoln, Nebraska. Publicized notice of the session was given by posting notice on the Department's website on the internet; emailed to news media requesting notification and posting a copy of the agenda in the Office of the Commissioner of Education, which gave the time, date and location of the retreat.

CALL TO ORDER

President Scheer called the retreat to order at 9:07 a.m. Roll call showed the following Board members present: Jim Scheer, Mark Quandahl, Patricia Timm, Robert Evnen, Lynn Cronk, John Sieler, and Molly O'Holleran. Rebecca Valdez was absent. Commissioner Breed was also present.

President Scheer announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

1. Commissioner Breed provided the constitutional and statutory authority that governs the work of the State Board of Education. A discussion of these responsibilities followed.
2. Commissioner Breed facilitated a Board discussion on the common threads of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) statements provided by the various NDE teams.

President Scheer called for a break at 9:35 a.m. The meeting resumed at 9:50 a.m.

Discussion continued. Commissioner Breed will provide a summary of the Board comments for consideration and preparation for the goal setting retreat in October.

3. Jolene Palmer, a Department of Education representative, facilitated a discussion of the current Mission Statement, Board Role Priorities and Board Values Continue operating under present Mission.
4. Commissioner Breed asked Board members to consider the discussions today and begin thinking and exploring the student needs, school district needs and the State needs from the State Board of Education. The discussion will continue in October.

President Scheer adjourned the retreat at 12:20 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION – Wednesday, September 7, 2011

The State Board of Education met for purposes of a work session on Wednesday, September 7, 2011, beginning at 2:00 p.m. The session was held at the State Office Building in the State Board Meeting Room in Lincoln, Nebraska. Publicized notice of the session was given by posting notice on the Department's website on the internet; emailed to news media requesting notification and posting a copy of the agenda in the Office of the Commissioner of Education, which gave the time, date and location of the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1. President Scheer called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. Roll call showed the following Board members present: Jim Scheer, Mark Quandahl, Patricia Timm, Robert Evnen, Lynn Cronk, John Sieler, and Molly O'Holleran. Rebecca Valdez was absent. Commissioner Breed was also present.
- 1.2 President Scheer announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

2. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- 2.1 Standards, Assessment and Accountability
 - 2.1.1 Pat Roschewski, Department of Education representative, reviewed NeSA Reading, Writing and Mathematics results. (Handout: Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Standards Across Grade Levels – 2009-10 and 2010-11 Comparison)
 - 2.1.2 Pat Roschewski, Department of Education representative; and Bill Auty, Psychometrician/ Consultant; reviewed the Accountability plan. (Handout: Information regarding Standards, Assessment and Accountability)
 - 2.1.3 Patricia Timm, State Board Member; Pat Roschewski and Marilyn Peterson, Department of Education representatives; discussed proposed rescission of State Board Policies G8 (Standards, Assessment and Reporting), G9 (Accountability Reporting), G10 (Assessment Policy), and G12 (Using School Performance Information for Improving Learning).

President Scheer called for a break at 3:23 p.m. The meeting resumed at 3:35 p.m.

- 2.1.4 Donlynn Rice and Larry Starr, Department of Education representatives, reviewed the Social Studies Timeline. (Handout: PowerPoint: Social Studies Standards Revision)
- 2.2 Mary Ann Losh and Nancy Rowch, Department of Education representatives, discussed provisions of the proposed Hearing Draft of Rule 15, (92 NAC 15), *Regulations and Procedures for the Education of Students with Limited English Proficiency in Public Schools*. (Handout: PowerPoint: Rule 15 – September Board Update)

- 2.3 Sharon Katt and Karen Buller, Nebraska Department of Education representatives, discussed revisions to Rule 25 (92 NAC 25), *Regulations Governing the Excellence in Teaching Act*.
- 2.4 Approval and Accreditation
 - 2.4.1 Freida Lange, Department of Education representative, provided an overview of proposed revisions to Rule 84 (92 NAC 84), *Regulations for Educational Service Units*.
 - 2.4.2 Freida Lange, Department of Education representative, provided an overview of proposed revisions to Rule 10, (92 NAC 10), *Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools*.
 - 2.4.3 Freida Lange, Department of Education representative, provided an overview of proposed revision to Rule 14 (92 NAC 14), *Regulations and Procedures for the Legal Operation of Approved Nonpublic Schools*.

Jim Scheer left the meeting at 4:55 p.m. President Scheer appointed Vice President Evnen to continue as presiding officer of the Work Session.

- 2.5 Commissioner Breed discussed the 2012 State Board of Education meeting dates. A request to change the May meeting dates to May 7-8 was requested.
- 2.6 Melody Hobson, Department of Education representative, discussed the Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children (NeAEYC) for services to administer the *T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Nebraska Scholarship* program for early childhood care and education program staff.
- 2.7 Carol Fichter, Department of Education representative, discussed the grant to ESU #10 for the purpose of administration of an Early Learning Connection partnership in the Central region of the state's early childhood professional development delivery system.

Commissioner Breed announced the retirement of Carol Fichter on October 4, 2011. He expressed appreciation and thanks for her service.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Vice President Evnen adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – Thursday, September 8, 2011

The State Board of Education met for purposes of a meeting on Thursday, September 8, 2011, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held at the State Office Building in the State Board Meeting Room in Lincoln, Nebraska. Publicized notice of the session was given by posting notice on the Department's website on the internet; emailed to news media requesting

notification and posting a copy of the agenda in the Office of the Commissioner of Education, which gave the time, date and location of the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1. President Scheer called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m. Roll call showed the following Board members present: Jim Scheer, Mark Quandahl, Patricia Timm, Robert Evnen, Lynn Cronk, John Sieler, and Molly O'Holleran. Rebecca Valdez was absent. Commissioner Breed was also present.

1.2 President Scheer led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3 President Scheer announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Molly O'Holleran: To approve the minutes of the August 10-11, 2011, State Board of Education meeting.

Voting Yes: Cronk, Scheer, Quandahl, Sieler, Timm, O'Holleran, Evnen
Absent: Valdez

The motion passed.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA for September 8, 2011

Commissioner Breed suggested taking up Action Item 7.1 after Action Item 7.8 and withdrawing Action Item 7.3 from the Agenda for further consideration.

Motion by Robert Evnen, second by John Sieler: To amend and approve the agenda as suggested by Commissioner Breed.

Voting Yes: Cronk, Scheer, Quandahl, Sieler, Timm, O'Holleran, Evnen
Absent: Valdez

The motion passed.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Jay Sears, Nebraska State Education Association, speaking in support of the draft of Rule 15
- Rob Winter, Superintendent, Grand Island Public Schools, and representative of Greater Nebraska Superintendents. Offer his introduction and offer assistance to the Board of GNS and Grand Island Public Schools
- Dave Ludwig, ESU 2 Administrator in Fremont. Expressed appreciation of work of board. Provided a list of ESU Administrators and Offices in Nebraska.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Robert Evnen, second by Patricia Timm: To move into Executive Session to deliberate and receive advice from Legal Counsel on a contested case.

Voting Yes: Cronk, Scheer, Quandahl, Sieler, Timm, O'Holleran, Evnen
Absent: Valdez

The motion passed. At 9:27 a.m., the Board moved into Executive Session to deliberate and receive advice from Legal Counsel on a contested case.

Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Robert Evnen: To adjourn the Executive Session and return to the regular business meeting of the Board.

Voting Yes: Cronk, Scheer, Quandahl, Sieler, Timm, O'Holleran, Evnen
Absent: Valdez

The motion passed. At 9:30 a.m. the Board adjourned the Executive Session and returned to the regular business meeting of the Board.

7. ACTION ITEMS

7.2 Motion by Mark Quandahl, second by Molly O'Holleran: In *Gregory Allen Smith v. Commissioner*, NDE Case No. 10-28, that this Board adopt the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and the Recommended Decision of the Hearing Officer, denying Petitioner's request to participate in student teaching activities, and to adopt the Final Order proposed by Legal Counsel.

Voting Yes: Cronk, Scheer, Quandahl, Sieler, Timm, O'Holleran, Evnen
Absent: Valdez

The motion passed.

President Scheer announced that Robert Evnen would Chair the Social Studies Standards Committee and appointed John Sieler, Lynn Cronk and Patricia Timm to serve on the Committee.

7.4 Motion by Patricia Timm, second by John Sieler: To approve revisions to Rule 25 (92 NAC 25), *Regulations Governing the Excellence in Teaching Act*.

Voting Yes: Cronk, Scheer, Quandahl, Sieler, Timm, O'Holleran, Evnen
Absent: Valdez

The motion passed.

- 7.5 Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Mark Quandahl: To rescind State Board Policies G8 (Standards, Assessment and Reporting), G9 (Accountability Reporting), G10 (Assessment Policy), and G12 (Using School Performance Information for Improving Learning).

Voting Yes: Cronk, Scheer, Quandahl, Sieler, Timm, O'Holleran, Evnen
Absent: Valdez

The motion passed.

- 7.6 Motion by Patricia Timm, second by John Sieler: To grant the Commissioner the authority to continue to contract with Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children (NeAEYC) for services to administer the *T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Nebraska Scholarship* program for early childhood care and education program staff.

Voting Yes: Cronk, Scheer, Quandahl, Sieler, Timm, O'Holleran, Evnen
Absent: Valdez

The motion passed.

- 7.7 Motion by Molly O'Holleran, second by Patricia Timm: To grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract with Families and Work Institute for professional development services that include a Learning Facilitator Institute, training materials and technical assistance for delivery throughout the state's Early Learning Connection.

Voting Yes: Cronk, Scheer, Quandahl, Sieler, Timm, O'Holleran, Evnen
Absent: Valdez

The motion passed.

- 7.8 Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Robert Evnen: To grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a grant to ESU #10 for the purpose of administration of an Early Learning Connection partnership in the Central region of the State's early childhood professional development delivery system.

Voting Yes: Cronk, Scheer, Quandahl, Sieler, Timm, O'Holleran, Evnen
Absent: Valdez

The motion passed.

- 7.1 Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Lynn Cronk: To amend and approve the proposed 2012 Board Meeting dates by changing the May meeting dates to May 7 and 8 and the July meeting dates to July 9 and 10 .

Voting Yes: Cronk, Scheer, Quandahl, Sieler, Timm, O'Holleran, Evnen

Absent: Valdez

The motion passed.

7.9.1 Motion by Robert Evnen, second by John Sieler: To grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract with Ollie Webb Center, Inc., to provide a supported employment program to serve Vocational Rehabilitation consumers with acquired brain injury in the Omaha area.

Voting Yes: Cronk, Scheer, Quandahl, Sieler, Timm, O'Holleran, Evnen
Absent: Valdez

The motion passed.

7.10 President Jim Scheer announced a conflict of interest with respect to Action item 7.10 and will withdraw from discussion and action on this item. President Scheer appointed Vice President Evnen to act as presiding officer on this item.

Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Mark Quandahl: To grant the Commissioner the authority to continue contracting with Liberty Centre to provide a supported employment program to serve Vocational Rehabilitation mental health consumers.

Voting Yes: Cronk, Quandahl, Sieler, Timm, O'Holleran, Evnen
Abstain: Scheer
Absent: Valdez

The motion passed.

Commissioner Breed announced the retirement of Margaret Hoffman, Assistant Director of Vocational Rehabilitation. President Scheer noted her 42 years of service, the vital part of NDE that Voc Rehab plays in the mission of the Department and her work with those who need the help the most.

8. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Robert Evnen, second by Molly O'Holleran: To approve the Consent Agenda as published.

Voting Yes: Cronk, Scheer, Quandahl, Sieler, Timm, O'Holleran, Evnen
Absent: Valdez

The motion passed.

President Scheer called for a break at 9:50 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:05 a.m.

9. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

- 9.2 Donlynn Rice and Jim Havelka provided an update on the development of Teacher and Principal Standards for educator effectiveness (handout). President Scheer expressed appreciation for the work of Donlynn Rice and Jim Havelka on this project.
- 9.1 Kathleen Feller, Associate Vice President Early Childhood Programs, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation provided an update on the Sixpence Endowment. (Handout)

10. BOARD REPORTS, DATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 10.2 President Scheer polled the Board members for attendance at the NASBE conference. President Scheer will be attending.
- 10.4 Commissioner Breed will be providing additional information on the November NASB Conference in Omaha.

President Scheer asked the State Board Policy Committee to review State Board Policies G15, G16 and D3.

President Scheer adjourned the meeting at 11:18 a.m.