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NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Nebraska Department of Education
Minutes of the State Board of Education Meeting
May 7-8, 2012

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION – Monday, May 7, 2012

The State Board of Education met for purposes of a Work Session on Monday, May 7, 2012, beginning at 2:00 p.m. The Work Session was held at the State Office Building in the State Board Meeting Room in Lincoln, Nebraska. Publicized notice of the Work 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 date, time and location of the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1 President Scheer called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. Roll call showed the following members present: Lynn Cronk, Jim Scheer, Mark Quandahl, Rebecca Valdez, John Sieler, Patricia Timm, Molly O’Holleran, and Robert Evnen. Commissioner Breed was also present. President Jim Scheer left the meeting at 4:00 p.m.
- 1.2 President Scheer announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

President Scheer announced to the Board that he would be calling for an Executive Session to discuss the evaluation of Commissioner Breed.

- 2.1.1. Pat Roschewski, Department of Education representative, and Dave Chayer, Vice President of Psychometrics at Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) led a discussion of NeSA Writing cut scores. (Handout: NeSA Writing – Setting Academic Proficiency Standards for the Nebraska State Accountability (NeSA) Writing Assessment Grades 8 and 11 dated May 7-8, 2012.

The Board will be asked to take action on the cut scores for NeSA Writing during the business meeting on Tuesday.

- 2.1.2 Pat Roschewski, Department of Education representative, provided a preliminary report of NeSA security audit. (Handout: Executive Summary)

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION and Discussion Item 2.9

Motion by Rebecca Valdez, second by Patricia Timm: To move into Executive Session to evaluate the job performance of Commissioner Breed and to prevent needless injury to his reputation.

Commissioner Breed confirms the understanding that he has not requested this discussion be held in open session.

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

The motion passed. At 2:55 p.m., the Board moved into Executive Session to evaluate the job performance of Commissioner Breed and to prevent needless injury to his reputation.

Motion by Robert Evnen, second by Molly O'Holleran: To adjourn the Executive Session of the Board and return to the Work Session business.

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

The motion passed. At 3:40 p.m., the Board adjourned the Executive Session and returned to the Work Session.

- 2.1.4 Sameano Porchea, Kathy Boshart, and Jill Aurand, Department of Education representatives, provided a demonstration of page displays for the State of the Schools Report (SOSR) currently under development.
- 2.2 Frieda Lange, Department of Education representative, discussed the revisions to Rule 10 (92 NAC 10), *Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools*.
- 2.3 Freida Lange, Department of Education representative, discussed the revisions to Rule 14 (92 NAC 14), *Regulations and Procedures for the Legal Operation of Approved Nonpublic Schools*.
- 2.4 Freida Lange and Rick Moses, Department of Education representatives, discussed the classification of the interim-program schools as approved to operate for the 2012-2013 school year under Rule 18 (92 NAC 18), *Regulations and Procedures for the Approval of Interim-Program Schools in County Detention Homes, Institutions, and Juvenile Emergency Shelters*.
- 2.5 Melody Hobson, Department of Education representative, discussed the approval of Early Childhood Education Grants to school districts.
- 2.6 Gary Sherman and Carol McClain, Department of Education representatives, discussed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Parts B and C Applications.

- 2.7 Mary Ann Losh and Nancy Rowch, Department of Education representatives, reported on the Guide for Implementation of Rule 15 (92 NAC 15), *Regulations and Procedures for the Education of Students with Limited English Proficiency in Public Schools*.
- 2.8 Lori Henkenius, Department of Education representative, discussed the purchase of computer equipment and software.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Vice President Quandahl adjourned the Work Session at 4:50 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS MEETING – Tuesday, May 8, 2012

The State Board of Education met for purposes of a meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 2012, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The Work Session was held at the State Office Building in the State Board Meeting Room in Lincoln, Nebraska. Publicized notice of the meeting 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 date, time and location of the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1 President Scheer called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Roll call showed the following members present: Lynn Cronk, Jim Scheer, Mark Quandahl, Rebecca Valdez, John Sieler, Patricia Timm, Molly O'Holleran, and Robert Evnen. Commissioner Breed was also present.
- 1.2 President Scheer led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 1.3 President Scheer announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Rebecca Valdez, second by Mark Quandahl: To approve the minutes of the April 12-13, 2012, meeting.

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

The motion passed.

3. AGENDA

Commissioner Breed expressed the request of the Policy Committee to remove Action Item 7.8, Adopt the Policy Statement for Developing Global Competence, from the May Agenda.

Motion by Robert Evnen, second by Molly O'Holleran: To approve the Agenda for May 8, 2012, with the removal of Action Item 7.8.

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

The motion passed.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Robert VanValkenburg, issues as state board candidate include pledge/flag; fire at LPS and record keeping security; research capabilities; plans for campaign
- Jon Habben, Executive Director of NRCSA, commenting on Pledge of Allegiance. (Handout: Pledge of Allegiance recitation requirement proposal survey results)
- Jay Sears, Nebraska State Education Association, addressing 7.10, Commissioner Contract; 7.3, Rule 10 rigor for accreditation; 7.5, Rule 18 schools; and 7.2, Approving the NeSA Writing Cut Scores in Grades 8 and 11 and support for "raising the bar" on learning

9. PRESENTATION

- 9.1 Melody Hobson, Department of Education representative, and Dr. Barb Jackson, UNMC, presented the 2010-11 Evaluation Report of the Early Childhood Education Program. (Handout: Early Childhood Education in Nebraska Public School Districts and Educational Service Units 2010-11 State Report)

7. ACTION ITEMS

- 7.2 Motion by Robert Evnen, second by Lynn Cronk: To approve the NeSA Writing Cut Scores in Grades 8 and 11 with plus three-quarters (3/4) standard error.

Move to amend by Mark Quandahl, second by Patricia Timm: from a three-quarters (3/4) standard error to a one (1) plus standard error.

Voting Yes: Cronk, Quandahl, Valdez, Timm

Voting No: Scheer, Sieler, O'Holleran, Evnen

The motion to amend failed.

Roll call vote on original motion:

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

The motion passed.

President Scheer called for a break at 10:40 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:55 a.m.

7.1 Motion by Robert Evnen, second by Patricia Timm: To grant the Commissioner the authority to continue contracting for assessment services with Data Recognition Corporation (DRC).

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

The motion passed.

The Board expressed appreciation to John Moon for providing additional background material on the item.

7.3 Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Mark Quandahl: To approve the revisions to Rule 10 (92 NAC 10), *Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools*.

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

The motion passed.

7.4 Motion by Mark Quandahl, second by Patricia Timm: To approve the revisions to Rule 14 (92 NAC 14), *Regulations and Procedures for the Legal Operation of Approved Nonpublic Schools*.

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

The motion passed.

7.5 Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Rebecca Valdez: To classify Interim Program Schools as approved to operate for the 2012-13 School Year under Rule 18 (92 NAC 18), *Regulations and procedures for the Approval of Interim Program Schools in County Detention Homes, Institutions and Juvenile Emergency Shelters*.

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

The motion passed.

The Board expressed appreciation to Rick Moses for his work with Rule 18 schools.

7.6 Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Rebecca Valdez: To grant the Commissioner the authority to approve Early Childhood Education Grants to School Districts.

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

The motion passed.

7.9 The Board took no action on the nominations for NASBE Board of Directors for the offices of President Elect, and Area Directors.

7.7 Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Lynn Cronk: To grant the Commissioner the authority to contract with McREL to conduct an alignment study between Nebraska's new career education standards and Nebraska's academic Standards.

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

The motion passed.

7.8 Pulled from agenda

7.10 Motion by Mark Quandahl, second by Molly O'Holleran: To extend the contract to Roger D. Breed as Commissioner of Education by one year and to include a pay increase of 2%.

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

The motion passed.

President Scheer, on behalf of the Board, expressed the one-year contract to be reflective of the request of the Commissioner and not by lack of confidence from the Board. Board members expressed appreciation for the service of Commissioner Breed not only to the State Board but to Nebraska as well. Dr. Breed has gone beyond expectations.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Rebecca Valdez, second by Lynn Cronk: To approve the consent agenda as published.

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

The motion passed.

10. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.4 Patricia Timm, Chair of the Policy Committee, provided a report of the Committee. The item pulled from the May agenda will be reviewed further and presented at the July Work Session.

10.5 Robert Evnen, Chair of the State Accountability ad hoc Committee, reported on the writing assessment cut scores and display of data.

10.6 Robert Evnen, Chair of the Standards ad hoc Committee, reported on the public input sessions held for the social studies standards.

10.7 Jim Scheer, Chair of the Commissioner Appraisal Committee, reported on the review of evaluations and offer to extend the Commissioner's contract.

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Scheer adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.