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NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Nebraska Department of Education
Minutes of the State Board of Education Meeting
June 6-7, 2013

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION – Thursday, June 6, 2013

The State Board of Education met for purposes of a work session on Thursday, June 6, 2013, beginning at 1:00 p.m. The work session was held at the State Office Building in the State Board Meeting Room in Lincoln, Nebraska; and via videoconferencing in the Conference Room of ESU 16, North Platte Office, 1221 West 17th Street, North Platte, NE 76901. 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 Timm called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. Roll call showed the following members present: Lynn Cronk, Mark Quandahl, Rebecca Valdez, John Sieler (arrived 1:07 p.m.), Patricia Timm, Rachel Wise, and Lillie Larsen. Commissioner Breed was also present. Molly O’Holleran was present and participated via video conferencing from ESU #16 in North Platte, Nebraska.
- 1.2 President Timm announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

2. REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

2.1 Commissioner Search Discussion

President Timm reviewed the proposed outline along with Gary Solomon and Eva Prokop. (Handout: PROACT Search Kick-Off Meeting and Documents (6/6/13))

2.2 Legislative Update

- 2.2.1 Brian Halstead, Assistant Commissioner, provided an update on State Legislation. (Handouts: Legislative Bills Status and Interim Studies)
- 2.2.2 Brian Halstead provided an update on Federal Legislation.

- 2.3 Joel Scherling, Department of Education representative, discussed the proposed revisions to Title 93, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapters 1-16, *Nebraska Department of Education Personnel Rules*.
- 2.4 Freida Lange, Department of Education representative, discussed classification of the schools as accredited to operate for the 2013-14 school year in accordance with the provisions of Rule 10 (92 NAC 10) *Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools*.
- 2.5 Melody Hobson, Department of Education representative, discussed approval of grant awards to selected school districts for the Nebraska Early Childhood Education Grant Program for Children ages 3 to 5.
- 2.6 Dr. Scott Swisher, Nebraska Deputy Commissioner of Education, discussed a contract to employ an additional Assistant Commissioner during the time the Deputy Commissioner is responsible for carrying out both his and the Commissioner's duties.
- 2.7 Donlynn Rice and Rich Katt, Department of Education representatives, discussed the proposed hearing draft of Rule 47, (92 NAC 47), *Nebraska Career Academies*.
- 2.8 Donlynn Rice and Rich Katt, Department of Education representatives, discussed the contract to provide leadership training and state officer coordination for the Nebraska Career Student Organizations.
- 2.9 Donlynn Rice and Rich Katt, Department of Education representatives, discussed continuation of a contract for services as the State Director for Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Career Field.

President Timm called for a break at 2:35 p.m. The meeting resumed at 2:47 p.m.
Dr. Breed took a moment to address Girls State guests in the audience.

- 2.10 Donlynn Rice and Cory Epler, Department of Education representatives, discussed the contract with Growing Leaders, Inc., to provide leadership and skills training for Career and Technical Education teachers.
- 2.11 Donlynn Rice and Debbie DeFrain, Department of Education representatives, provided an update on Visual and Performing Arts. (Handout: PowerPoint Visual and Performing Arts Update dated June 6, 2013)
- 2.12 Marilyn Peterson and Dean Folkers, Department of Education representatives, discussed the purchase of hardware and software needed to implement the District Dashboards funded through the Statewide Longitudinal Data System 2012 federal grant.

- 2.13 Vicki Bauer, Department of Education representative, discussed a hearing draft of proposed revisions to Rule 81, (92 NAC 81), *Rules and Regulations for the High School Equivalency Program*.

The Board provided a Q&A session for members of Girls State. President Timm adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2013 – STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS MEETING

The State Board of Education met for purposes of a meeting on Friday, June 7, 2013, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held at the State Office Building in the State Board Meeting Room in Lincoln, Nebraska; and via videoconferencing in the Conference Room of ESU #16, North Platte Office, 1221 West 17th Street, North Platte, NE 76901. 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

President Timm called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Roll call showed the following members present: Lynn Cronk, Rachel Wise, John Sieler, Rebecca Valdez, Patricia Timm, Mark Quandahl (arrived at 9:09 a.m.), and Lillie Larsen. Commissioner Breed was also present. Molly O’Holleran was present and participated via video conferencing from ESU #16 in North Platte, Nebraska.

- 1.2 President Timm led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 1.3 President Timm announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Rachel Wise, second by Lillie Larsen: To approve the minutes of the May 6-7, 2013 meeting.

Voting Yes: Timm, Valdez, Sieler, O’Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen
Absent: Quandahl

Motion passed.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Breed advised the Board that Leslie Donley will be available for Executive Session at 10:00 a.m. with regard to Action Item 7.5.

Motion by Rebecca Valdez, second by Lynn Cronk: To approve the agenda for June 7, 2013, as printed.

Voting Yes: Timm, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen
Absent: Quandahl

The motion passed.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Ralph Bodie, speaking to global governance
- Morgan and Gina Miller, standardized tests, common core state standards
- Nydia Karlen, effective use of words
- Darlene Harper, speaking to common core state standards
- Rachel Pinkerton, common core state standards
- Marty Broier, common core state standards

President Timm called public comment to an end at 9:30 a.m.

Motion made by John Seiler: To allow each person who wants to speak, one minute.
Motion failed due to lack of second.

President Timm called for a break at 9:33 a.m., to allow for discussions with the public and board members. President Timm resumed the meeting at 9:53 a.m.

7. ACTION ITEMS

7.1 Motion by Lillie Larsen, second by Mark Quandahl: To authorize President Timm and the Search Committee to develop and implement a plan of work with Proact Search for the search for a new Commissioner consistent with the State Board's discussion at the June 6, 2013, Work Session.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen

Motion passed.

- 7.2 Motion by Rebecca Valdez, second by Lynn Cronk: To consider approval of the proposed revisions to Title 93, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapters 1-16, *Nebraska Department of Education Personnel Rules*.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen

Motion passed.

- 7.3 Motion by Rachel Wise, second by Lynn Cronk: To authorize the Commissioner to pay annual dues for the National Association on State Boards of Education (NASBE); Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO); CCSSO-State Collaborative on Assessment and Student Standards (SCASS) and State Consortium for Effective Educators (SCEE).

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen
Abstain: Sieler

Motion passed.

- 7.4 Motion by Lillie Larsen, second by Rebecca Valdez: To approve accreditation of the schools for the 2013-14 school year in accordance with the provisions of Rule 10, (92 NAC 10), *Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools*.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler

Motion passed.

Motion by John Sieler, second by Rachel Wise: To classify six currently approved schools to operate as accredited in the 2013-14 school year. Those six schools are Sacred Heart Elementary, Omaha, NE; St. Bernadette Elementary, Omaha, NE; St. James-Seton Elementary, Omaha, NE; St. Joan of Arc Elementary, Omaha, NE; St. Phillip Neri Elementary, Omaha, NE; Sts. Peter and Paul Elementary, Omaha, NE

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler

Motion passed.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mark Quandahl, second by Rachel Wise: To move into Executive Session to deliberate and receive advice from Legal Counsel on contested cases.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen

The motion passed. At 10:05 a.m. the Board moved into Executive Session to deliberate and receive advice from Legal Counsel on contested cases.

Motion by Mark Quandahl, second by Lynn Cronk: To return to the regular meeting of the Board at 10:17 a.m.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen

Motion passed. At 10:17 a.m., the Board adjourned the Executive Session and returned to the business meeting of the Board.

7. ACTION ITEMS

7.5 Motion by Mark Quandahl, second by Lynn Cronk: In *Converse v. Commissioner*, NDE Case No. 13-01, that this Board adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the hearing officer. However, the Board does not adopt the hearing officer's recommended decision granting Petitioner's request for a teaching certificate. The Petitioner's request is therefore denied. Finally, that this Board adopt the final Order proposed by legal Counsel.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen

Motion passed.

7.6 Motion by Lynn Cronk, second by Rachel Wise: To adjust the boundaries of ESU 6 and ESU 18 to reflect the boundaries of member school districts.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen

Motion passed.

7.7 Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Molly O'Holleran: to authorize the Commissioner to approve grant awards to selected school districts for the Nebraska Early Childhood Education Grant Program for Children ages 3 to 5.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen

Motion passed.

- 7.8 Motion by Rachel Wise, second by Lynn Cronk: To authorize the Commissioner to enter into a contract to employ an additional Assistant Commissioner during the time the Deputy Commissioner is responsible for carrying out both his and the Commissioner's duties.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen

Motion passed.

- 7.9 Motion by Rachel Wise, second by Rebecca Valdez: To authorize the Commissioner to approve a hearing draft of Rule 47, (92 NAC 47) *Nebraska Career Academies*, to set a hearing date and appoint a hearing official to conduct a hearing on behalf of the State Board.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen

Motion passed.

- 7.10 Motion by John Sieler, second by Mark Quandahl: To grant the Commissioner the authority to contract to provide leadership training and state officer coordination for the Nebraska Career Student organizations.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen

Motion passed.

- 7.11 Motion by Rebecca Valdez, second by Rachel Wise: To grant the Commissioner the authority to continue to contract with the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska on behalf of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for services as the State Director for Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Career Field.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen

Motion passed.

- 7.12 Motion by Rachel Wise, second by Mark Quandahl: To grant the Commissioner the authority to contract with Growing Leaders, Inc., to provide leadership and skills training for Career and Technical Education teachers.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen

Motion passed.

- 7.13 Motion by Lynn Cronk, second by John Sieler: To authorize the purchase of hardware and software needed to develop the District Dashboards funded through the Statewide Longitudinal Data System 2012 federal grant.

Discussion followed concerning security issues.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen

Motion passed.

- 7.14 Motion by Mark Quandahl, second by Rachel Wise: To approve a hearing draft of proposed revisions to Rule 81, (92 NAC 81), *Rules and Regulations for the high School Equivalency Program*, and authorize the Commissioner to set a date, time and place for the hearing and to appoint a hearing official to conduct a hearing on behalf of the State Board.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen

Motion passed.

President Timm called for a break at 11:00 a.m. The meeting resumed at 11:12 a.m.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Lynn Cronk, second by Rebecca Valdez: To approve the Consent Agenda as published.

Voting Yes: Timm, Quandahl, Valdez, Sieler, O'Holleran, Cronk, Wise, Larsen

Motion passed.

10. BOARD REPORTS

- 10.1 President Timm advised the Board of Administrators' Days in Kearney on July 31.

10.2 None

- 10.3 President Timm reminded Board members attending the National Association of State boards of Education (NASBE) New Board member Institute and the NASBE Annual Conference in July to finalize their travel plans.

- 10.4 President Timm appointed Lillie Larsen as the Nebraska Delegate and Rachel Wise as the alternate for the 2013 NASBE Annual Conference in Arlington, Virginia on July 28-30, 2013.

- 10.5 President Timm discussed the NASBE proposed changes to bylaws.
- 10.6 President Timm discussed NASBE Public Education positions.
- 10.7 No report from the State Accountability ad hoc Committee.
- 10.8 Mark Quandahl, Chair of the Legislative Committee, provided an update on the committee meeting.
- 10.9. Rebecca Valdez, Chair of the Policy Committee, provided an update on the committee meeting.

President Timm took a point of privilege to recognize the service of Commissioner Breed. Mark Quandahl read the State Board Resolution acknowledging the many contributions of Dr. Breed over his 42 years of educational service in addition to his service as Commissioner. The [Resolution](#) is attached.

- 10.10 No report.

President Timm adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.



WHEREAS, Dr. Roger Breed, Commissioner of Education, has demonstrated effective leadership and a strong commitment to students and their schools throughout his 42-year career as an educator in the State of Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Breed strengthened relationships among educators and policymakers statewide, establishing a culture of caring accountability for each and every student since becoming Commissioner of Education in 2009; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Breed led the revision of academic content standards, implemented assessments and guided the development of a new state accountability system while working with the U. S. Department of Education to ensure that Nebraska continued to move forward with educational reform and improvement efforts built upon the state's tradition of small schools, community support, local control and state guidance; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Breed advocated consistency in the education of English Language Learners and for early childhood education, encouraging interagency collaboration; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Breed improved collaboration between the Nebraska Department of Education and Educational Service Units, establishing a culture of commitment to Continuous Improvement; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Breed provided leadership and support to the Office of Special Education, achieving the highest level of performance determination from the U.S. Office of Special Education Programs, improving the lives of students with disabilities and their families; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Breed provided the vision and support for preparing highly effective teachers for Nebraska students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Breed worked effectively with the state court system and the Legislature to address excessive absenteeism to improve student attendance and academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Breed served on the Nebraska State Accreditation Committee, the executive board of the Nebraska Council of School Administrators, the Greater Nebraska Schools Association; co-chaired the Nebraska P-16 Initiative and the Chief Justice Task Force for Truancy Intervention; named 2007 Superintendent of the Year by the Nebraska Council of School Administrators; recipient of the National Educational Administrator of the Year Award from the National Association of Educational Office Professionals; recipient of the Jack Halstrom Friend of Education Award; received the Outstanding Educational Leader Award from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Breed's leadership and accomplishments will continue to benefit Nebraska students and their schools long into the future after he retires June 30, 2013, as Commissioner of Education.

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

- Commends Dr. Roger Breed for his accomplishments; and,
- On behalf of Nebraska students and educators statewide, thanks him for his many years of outstanding service.

/s/ Patricia Timm

Patricia Timm, President

/s/ Mark Quandahl

Mark Quandahl, Vice President