

PLEASE NOTE: Support documentation for agenda items can be accessed through the posted [Agenda](#).

**NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Nebraska Department of Education**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**February 3-4, 2014**

**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION – Monday, February 3, 2014**

The State Board of Education met for purposes of a work session on Monday, February 3, 2014, beginning at 10:00 a.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 Rachel Wise called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Roll call showed the following members present: Patricia Timm, Lynn Cronk, Rachel Wise, Lillie Larsen, John Sieler, Molly O'Holleran. Rebecca Valdez was absent. Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt was also present. District 2 representation is currently vacant.
- 1.2 President Wise announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

**2. REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

**2.1 Legislative Update**

- 2.2.1 President Wise reported on the Legislative Committee meeting. Brian Halstead, Assistant Commissioner, reviewed state legislation relating to education. The Board reviewed the following bills:

LB 1077 – Adopt the Shared Responsibility for Access and Success Act

Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Lillie Larsen: To support the concepts of LB 1077.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Absent: Valdez  
Vacant: District 2

The motion passed.

LB 754 – Provide funds for career education programs

Motion by Lynn Cronk, second by Patricia Timm: To support LB 754.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Absent: Valdez  
Vacant: District 2

The motion passed.

LB 842 – Change provisions relating to allocations to the Excellence in Teaching Cash Fund

No action taken.

LB 789 – Provide for a survey relating to paraeducators

No action taken.

LB 834 – Change provisions relating to funding for school breakfast programs

No action taken.

LB 972 – Adopt the Independent Public Schools Act

Motion by Molly O'Holleran, second by Patricia Timm: To oppose LB 972 with staff testimony.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, O'Holleran  
Abstain: Sieler  
Absent: Valdez  
Vacant: District 2

The motion passed.

LB 958 – provide for appointment of a student achievement coordinator

Motion by Molly O'Holleran, second by Lillie Larsen: To support LB 958 with staff testimony.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Absent: Valdez  
Vacant: District 2

The motion passed.

2.1.2 Brian Halstead, Department of Education representative, provided an update on federal legislation.

2.1.3 Board Member Molly O'Holleran reported on the National Association of State Boards of Education Governmental Affairs Committee meeting.

## **2.2 Standards, Assessment, and Accountability**

2.2.1 Lillie Larsen reported on the committee meeting of the Board's Standards Committee. Donlynn Rice, Department of Education representative continued discussing the Nebraska's standards Review Process. (Handouts: PowerPoint dated February 3, 2014 – Nebraska Standards Process for College and Career Readiness; Nebraska Development Process for College and Career Ready Standards)

2.2.2 Board Member Lillie Larsen, Chair of the Standards Committee reported on the meeting of the committee. Donlynn Rice and Debbie DeFrain, Department of education representatives, provided additional information on the review of the K-12 Fine Arts Standards. (Handout: Packet of information relating to Nebraska Fine Arts standards)

Action on the adoption of the fine art standards will be placed on the March agenda. The Board and the Commissioner commended Donlynn Rice, Debbie DeFrain and others for their work on the Fine Arts Standards.

2.2.3 Public Comment on Standards  
Public Comment was provided by:

- Jed O'Leary
- Glenn Nierman
- Patricia Koch Johns
- Roxanne Nielsen
- Kyle Cartwright

2.2.4 Special Appearance – Language Arts Standards – Henry Burke

At 11:58 a.m., President Wise called for a break. At 12:05 p.m., the meeting resumed.

2.3 Freida Lange, Department of Education representative, discussed Rule 10 (92 NAC 10), *Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools*.

2.4 Sharon Katt, Department of Education representative, discussed revisions to Rule 20 (92 NAC 20), *Regulations for the Approval of Teacher Education Programs*.

2.5 Sharon Katt and Pat Madsen, Department of Education representatives, discussed revisions to Rule 24 (92 NAC 24), *Regulations for Certificate Endorsements and the Guidelines Recommended for Use with Rule 24*.

- 2.6 Sharon Katt and Kevin Peters, Department of Education representatives, discussed the contract with the Office of Chief Information Office (OCIO) for services related to implementation of the *OnBase* system.
- 2.7 Dean Folkers, Department of Education representative, discussed the contract amendments for the nine SLDS Data Dashboard Pilot Districts.
3. PRESENTATION  
None.
4. ADDITIONAL AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS  
None.

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Wise adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

#### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING – Tuesday, February 4, 2014**

The State Board of Education met for purposes of a meeting on Tuesday, February 4, 2014, 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 Wise called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Roll call showed the following Board members present: Lillie Larsen, Patricia Timm, Rachel Wise, Lynn Cronk, John Sieler, Molly O'Holleran. Rebecca Valdez was absent. Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt was also present.
- 1.2 President Wise led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 1.3 President Wise announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

#### **2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

- 2.1 Motion by Mollie O'Holleran, second by Lillie Larsen: To approve the minutes of the January 6-7, 2014 State Board of Education meeting.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Absent: Valdez  
Vacant: District 2

The motion passed.

- 2.2. Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Lynn Cronk: To approve the minutes of the January 27, 2014, Legislative Retreat.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Absent: Valdez  
Vacant: District 2

The motion passed.

### **3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Commissioner Blomstedt recommended removal of Action Item 7.2, Adopt Fine Arts Standards, and place it on the March 2014 agenda of the State Board.

Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Lillie Larsen: To approve the Agenda as recommended.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Absent: Valdez  
Vacant: District 2

The motion passed.

### **4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- Jay Sears, Nebraska State Education Association, speaking to Fine Arts Standards, and the process for developing standards
- Lance Nielsen, Doane College, in support of Fine Arts Standards
- Jeremy Murphy, Catholic Social Services, speaking to Fine Arts Standards; LB 438, *State Accountability*

### **7. ACTION ITEMS**

- 7.1 Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Lynn Cronk: To accept, with regrets, the resignation of State Board Member Rebecca Valdez, District #4.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Vacant: District 2, District 4

The motion passed.

State Board members expressed appreciation for the service of Rebecca Valdez.

- 7.3 Motion by Molly O'Holleran, second by Patricia Timm: To approve the revisions to Rule 20 (92 NAC 20), *Regulations for the Approval of Teacher Education Programs*.

The Board expressed appreciation of support and work of Leslie Donley, Assistant Attorney General, and Sharon Katt, Nebraska Department of Education representative.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Vacant: District 2, District 4

The motion passed.

- 7.4 Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Lillie Larsen: To approve the revisions to Rule 24 (92 NAC 24), *Regulations for Certificate Endorsements*.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Vacant: District 2, District 4

The motion passed.

- 7.5 Motion by Patricia Timm, second by John Sieler: To approve the revisions to the Guidelines for Use with Rule 24.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Vacant: District 2, District 4

The motion passed.

- 7.6 Motion by Molly O'Holleran, second by Lynn Cronk: To grant the Commissioner the authority to contract with the Office of the Chief Information Officer to develop an enterprise solution system for electronic data called *OnBase* for the NDE Teacher Certification System.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Vacant: District 2, District 4

The motion passed.

7.7 Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Lynn Cronk: To grant the Commissioner the authority to amend the contracts with the nine SLDS Data Dashboard Pilot Districts.  
Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Vacant: District 2, District 4

The motion passed.

## **8. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Vacant: District 2, District 4

The motion passed.

## **10. BOARD REPORTS**

### **10.2 Approve request for meeting attendance**

- Nebraska Association of the Gifted Conference, February 20-21, 2014  
Lillie Larsen, John Sieler and Lynn Cronk plan to attend. Dr. Blomstedt will also be attending a portion of the conference.
- National Association of State Board of Education, March 13-16, 2014, in Arlington, Virginia  
Molly O'Holleran, Lillie Larsen, and Rachel Wise will attend.

### **10.3 Meeting participation**

- Commissioner Blomstedt reported on the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) Legislative Issues Conference, January 26, 2014, in Lincoln, Nebraska.
- National Association of State Board of Education, in Arlington, Virginia, January 23-25, 2014
  - Commissioner Blomstedt reported on the Common Core Workshop, held January 23
  - Molly O'Holleran reported on the Governmental Affairs Committee meeting

- Lillie Larsen reported on the Student Engagement Study Group
- Rachel Wise reported on the Board of Directors Meeting

#### **10.4 Board Member Presentations/Resolutions**

10.4.1 President Wise read a Resolution in recognition of State Board Member Mark Quandahl and his contributions during his service on the State Board.

10.4.2 President Wise read a Resolution in recognition of State Board Member Rebecca Valdez and her contributions during her service on the State Board.

Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Lillie Larsen: To adopt the resolutions recognizing the service of Board Members [Mark Quandahl](#) and [Rebecca Valdez](#).

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Vacant: District 2, District 4

The motion passed.

President Wise called for a recess at 10:15 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

#### **5. HEARINGS**

5.1 A hearing was held in NDE Case No. 13-20, *In the Matter of Reinstatement of Jodi Reeder Hammans*. [Minutes of the hearing](#) are attached.

5.2 A hearing was held in NDE Case No. 13-21, *In the Matter of the Reinstatement of Matthew Rega*. [Minutes of the hearing](#) are attached.

5.3 A hearing was held in NDE Case No. 13-22, *Commissioner v. Donald Webben*. [Minutes of the hearing](#) are attached.

#### **6. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by John Sieler, second by Patricia Timm: To move into executive session to deliberate and receive advice from Legal Counsel on contested cases.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Vacant: District 2, District 4

The motion passed. At 11:25 a.m., the Board moved into executive session to deliberate and receive advice from legal Counsel on contested cases.

Motion by John Sieler, second by Patricia Timm: To adjourn the executive session of the board and return to business meeting.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Vacant: District 2, District 4

The motion passed. At 11:35 a.m., the Board adjourned the executive session and returned to the business meeting.

## 7. ACTION ITEMS

**7.8** Motion by Molly O'Holleran, second by John Sieler: In NDE Case No. 13-20, *In the Matter of the Reinstatement of Jodi (Reeder) Hammans*, that this Board adopt the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and the Recommendation of the Nebraska Professional Practices Commission, finding that Petitioner should be allowed to apply for her teaching certificate, and to adopt the Final Order proposed by Legal Counsel.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Vacant: District 2, District 4

The motion passed.

**7.9** Motion by Lynn Cronk, second by Patricia Timm: In NDE Case No. 13-21, *In the Matter of the Reinstatement of Matthew Rega*, that this Board adopt the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and the Recommendation of the Nebraska Professional Practices Commission, finding that Petitioner should be allowed to apply for his teaching certificate, and to adopt the Final Order proposed by Legal Counsel.

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Vacant: District 2, District 4

The motion passed.

**7.10** Motion by Patricia Timm, second by John Sieler: In NDE Case No. 13-22, *Deputy Commissioner v. Donald Webben* that this Board adopt the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and the Recommendation of the Nebraska Professional Practices Commission, revoking the Respondent's teaching certificate for a period of two years, and to adopt the Final Order proposed by Legal Counsel."

Voting Yes: Timm, Cronk, Wise, Larsen, Sieler, O'Holleran  
Vacant: District 2, District 4

The motion passed.

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Wise adjourned the meeting at 11:37 a.m.

**NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

State Board Meeting Room  
State Office Building, Sixth Floor  
301 Centennial Mall South  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

**MINUTES OF HEARING**

**In the Matter of the Reinstatement of Jodi Reeder Hammans, Case No. 13-20**

**11:00 a.m.**

February 4, 2014

The State Board of Education met on February 4, 2014, in the State Board Meeting Room, Sixth Floor, State Office Building, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska, for the purpose of holding a hearing on Case No.13-20, *In the Matter of Reinstatement of Jodi (Reeder) Hammans*. Publicized notice of the hearing was given by posting notice on the Department's website on the internet; e-mailed 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 hearing. Specific notice of the hearing was provided to the parties involved in the proceeding.

Board President Rachel Wise declared a quorum present and called the hearing to order at 11:00 a.m. The following State Board of Education members were present:

Patricia Timm	Rachel Wise	Lynn Cronk
John Sieler	Lillie Larsen	Molly O'Holleran

President Wise noted that the Nebraska Professional Practices Commission recommended in the case report that the Board allow Petitioner to apply for reinstatement of her Nebraska teaching certificate. She stated that the Board was provided with a copy of the case file containing the recommended Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Recommendation, and copies of all pleadings, exhibits, and testimony, which were marked as Exhibit 1. The notice of deposition hearing and the certified return receipts are marked as Exhibit 2. The written statement from the Clerk of the Nebraska Professional Practices Commission is marked as Exhibit 3. Hearing no objections, the Exhibits were received.

The Petitioner was present and spoke on her own behalf.

Brian Halstead, General Counsel, appeared on behalf of the Commissioner of Education.

There being no further testimony, President Wise adjourned the hearing on Case No. 13-20 at 11:05 a.m.

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
State Board Meeting Room  
State Office Building, Sixth Floor  
301 Centennial Mall South  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

**MINUTES OF HEARING**  
**In the Matter of the Reinstatement of Matthew Rega, Case No. 13-21**  
**11:00 a.m.**  
February 4, 2014

The State Board of Education met on February 4, 2014, in the State Board Meeting Room, Sixth Floor, State Office Building, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska, for the purpose of holding a hearing on Case No.13-21, *In the Matter of the Reinstatement of Matthew Rega*. Publicized notice of the hearing was given by posting notice on the Department's website on the internet; e-mailed 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 hearing. Specific notice of the hearing was provided to the parties involved in the proceeding.

Board President Rachel Wise declared a quorum present and called the hearing to order at 11:05 a.m. The following State Board of Education members were present:

Patricia Timm	Rachel Wise	Lynn Cronk
John Sieler	Lillie Larsen	Molly O'Holleran

President Wise noted that the Nebraska Professional Practices Commission recommended in the case report that the Petitioner be allowed to apply for reinstatement of his Nebraska teaching certificate. She stated that the Board was provided with a copy of the case file containing the recommended Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Recommendation, and copies of all pleadings, exhibits, and testimony, which were marked as Exhibit 1. A copy of the Notice of Hearing and certified return receipts was marked as Exhibit 2. The written statement from the Clerk of the Nebraska Professional Practices Commission was marked as Exhibit 3. Hearing no objections, the Exhibits were received.

The Petitioner was present and spoke on his own behalf.

Brian Halstead, General Counsel, appeared on behalf of the Commissioner of Education.

There being no further testimony, President Wise adjourned the hearing on Case No. 13-21 at 11:10 a.m.

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

State Board Meeting Room  
State Office Building, Sixth Floor  
301 Centennial Mall South  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

**MINUTES OF HEARING**

**Matthew L. Blomstedt, Commissioner v. Donald Webben, Case No. 13-22**

**11:00 a.m.**

February 4, 2014

The State Board of Education met on February 4, 2014, in the State Board Meeting Room, Sixth Floor, State Office Building, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska, for the purpose of holding a hearing on Case No.13-22, *Matthew L. Blomstedt, Commissioner v. Donald Webben*. Publicized notice of the hearing was given by posting notice on the Department's website on the internet; e-mailed 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 hearing. Specific notice of the hearing was provided to the parties involved in the proceeding.

Board President Rachel Wise declared a quorum present and called the hearing to order at 11:10 a.m. The following State Board of Education members were present:

Patricia Timm	Rachel Wise	Lynn Cronk
John Sieler	Lillie Larsen	Molly O'Holleran

President Wise noted that the Nebraska Professional Practices Commission recommended in the case report that the Board revoke the Nebraska teaching certificate of the Respondent for two years. She stated that the Board was provided with a copy of the case file containing the recommended Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Recommendation, and copies of all pleadings, exhibits, and testimony, which were marked as Exhibit 1. A copy of the Notice of Hearing was marked as Exhibit 2. The written statement from the Clerk of the Nebraska Professional Practices Commission was marked at Exhibit 3. Hearing no objections, the Exhibits were received.

Brian Halstead, General Counsel, appeared on behalf of the Commissioner of Education in support of the recommendation of the Professional Practices Commission.

The Respondent was present and represented by Counsel. Rick Wade. Respondent's counsel requested the Board to consider a revocation for one year.

There being no further testimony, President Wise adjourned the hearing on Case No. 13-22 at 11:25 a.m.



**NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**RESOLUTION**

**NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RECOGNITION OF STATE BOARD MEMBER REBECCA VALDEZ**

**WHEREAS**, Rebecca Valdez has contributed significantly to the quality of education provided by Nebraska schools as well as the excellence of education enjoyed by all Nebraska students during her years of service on the State Board of Education;

**WHEREAS**, Rebecca Valdez has represented District 4, Omaha residents with integrity, dedication and caring;

**WHEREAS**, Rebecca Valdez has provided guidance and leadership to the State Board of Education, serving on numerous committees and chairwoman of the Policy Committee, representing the State Board at numerous conferences, forums and workshops;

**WHEREAS**, Rebecca Valdez will step down from the State Board on February 4, 2014, leaving a legacy of strong leadership in support of Nebraska students, schools, and the Nebraska Department of Education;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Nebraska State Board of Education recognizes Rebecca Valdez and her contributions and service to Nebraska students; and

**THAT** the Nebraska State Board of Education members express their collective appreciation and admiration for her leadership and for her dedication to service on the State Board of Education.

On behalf of the State Board of Education this 4<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2014.

Handwritten signature of Rachel Wise in cursive.

Rachel Wise, President

Handwritten signature of John Sieler in cursive.

John Sieler, Vice President



## **NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

### **RESOLUTION**

#### **NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOGNITION OF STATE BOARD MEMBER MARK QUANDAHL**

**WHEREAS**, Mark Quandahl has contributed significantly to the quality of education provided by Nebraska schools as well as the excellence of education enjoyed by all Nebraska students during his years of service on the State Board of Education;

**WHEREAS**, Mark Quandahl has represented District 2, Omaha residents with integrity, dedication and caring;

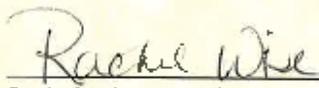
**WHEREAS**, Mark Quandahl has provided guidance and leadership to the State Board of Education, serving as vice president and chairman of the Legislative Committee for several years, representing the State Board at numerous conferences, forums and workshops;

**WHEREAS**, Mark Quandahl will step down from the State Board on January 27, 2014, leaving a legacy of strong leadership in support of Nebraska students, schools, and the Nebraska Department of Education;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Nebraska State Board of Education recognizes Mark Quandahl and his contributions and service to Nebraska students; and

**THAT** the Nebraska State Board of Education members express their collective appreciation and admiration for his leadership and for his dedication to service on the State Board of Education.

On behalf of the State Board of Education this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2014.

  
Rachel Wise, President

  
John Sieler, Vice President