

**State Board Visioning Session for Strategic Plan**

March 3, 2016 8:30 AM  
The Cornhusker Hotel  
Yankee Hill Rooms 1 and 2  
333 South 13th Street  
Lincoln, NE 68508

[Agenda](#)

**CALL TO ORDER - Roll Call - Attendance Taken at 8:37 AM.**

Present Board Members:

Rachel Wise

Lillie Larsen

Glen Flint

John Witzel

Molly O'Holleran

Patricia Timm

Maureen Nickels

Patrick McPherson

Commissioner Blomstedt was also present.

**Announcement of the placement of the Open Meetings Act information**

**1. INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT UPDATE**

Representatives from FSG reviewed the agenda for the morning and discussed the objectives for the session. They provided an overview of the FSG's engagement and how the morning's session will help to set direction for the development of the strategic plan.

**2. REVIEW INTERVIEW AND SURVEY FINDINGS**

Representatives from FSG reviewed the results of the interviews conducted and the surveys collected over the past four weeks. They highlighted the areas of alignment and divergence among NDE Board and staff. They facilitated a discussion around the implications of the findings for creating a vision for leadership.

**4. APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY ACTIVITY**

The participants worked in small groups to identify what they would like the Board and Department to achieve by 2026. As the groups reported out, key themes and patterns were identified that will be examined as the strategic plan and implementation plan are developed

President Wise adjourned the session at 11:25 a.m.

**State Board of Education Work Session Meeting**

March 3, 2016 2:00 PM  
State Board Meeting Room  
State Office Building  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
[Agenda](#)

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1.1. Roll Call - Attendance Taken at 2:05 PM:**

Present Board Members:

Rachel Wise

Lillie Larsen

Glen Flint

John Witzel

Molly O'Holleran

Patricia Timm

Maureen Nickels

Patrick McPherson

Commissioner Blomstedt was also present.

**1.2. Announcement of the placement of the Open Meetings Act information**

**2. BOARD REPORTS, DATES AND DISCUSSIONS ITEMS**

**2.1. Meeting participation and joint meetings with policy partners**

Board members reported on various meetings attended since the February 2016 Board meeting.

**2.2. Discuss requests for meeting attendance**

Board members discussed upcoming meetings and events.

**3. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT AND AGENDA OVERVIEW**

**3.1. Consent Agenda process**

Commissioner Blomstedt explained the process for consent agenda items.

**3.2. Report on Rules scheduled for Hearings**

Commissioner Blomstedt reviewed the report on Rules Updates.

**3.3. Board Priorities and Policy Research**

Commissioner Blomstedt reviewed and reiterated the critical work of strategic planning and other Board priorities and policy research efforts.

**4. DISCUSSION OF ACTION ITEMS**

**4.1. Discuss approval of a continuation grant to the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to continue the Nurturing Healthy Behaviors program**

Lillie Larsen excused herself from participating in discussion and voting on this topic to avoid any conflict of interest or appearance of impropriety.

**5. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

**5.1. AQuESTT**

Commissioner Blomstedt reported on preliminary work with priority schools and what can also be applied across the state.

**5.2. TEACHING AND LEARNING REPORTS**

**5.2.A. Assessment Tenet Report**

**Motion Passed:** Moving into Executive Session to receive advice from Legal Counsel on pending rulemaking petition filed under the Administrative Procedures Act and on the legal consequences of particular actions at 3:30 p.m. passed with a motion by Lillie Larsen and a second by Patricia Timm.

Rachel Wise	Yes
Lillie Larsen	Yes
Glen Flint	Yes
John Witzel	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Yes
Patricia Timm	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	No

At 3:30 p.m., the Board moved into Executive Session to receive advice from Legal Counsel on pending rulemaking petition filed under the Administrative Procedures Act and on the legal consequences of particular actions.

**Motion Passed:** Adjourning the Executive Session at 4:17 p.m. to return to the work session of the Board passed with a motion by Lillie Larsen and a second by Patricia Timm.

Rachel Wise	Yes
Lillie Larsen	Yes
Glen Flint	Yes
John Witzel	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Yes
Patricia Timm	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes

At 4:17 p.m., the Board adjourned the Executive Session to return to the work session of the Board.

### **5.3. STUDENT SUCCESS AND ACCESS REPORTS**

### **5.4. DATA AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT REPORT**

### **5.5. STRATEGIC PLANNING REPORT**

### **5.6. POLICY**

#### **5.6.1. Policy Committee report**

Patricia Timm, Chair, reported on the Policy Committee meeting.

### **5.7. LEGISLATION**

#### **5.7.1. Legislative Committee Report**

Brian Halstead, Deputy Commissioner, and Lillie Larsen, Chair of the Legislative Committee reported on the Legislative Committee meeting.

### **5.8. TEACHER/PRINCIPAL EVALUATION**

#### **5.8.1. Teacher/Principal Evaluation Study Committee Report**

Molly O'Holleran, Chair, reported on the Teacher/Principal Evaluation Study final report.

## **5.9. COMPETENCY BASED EDUCATION**

### **5.9.1. Competency Based Education Study Committee Report**

Glen Flint, Chair, reported on the Study Committee work.

- 6. ADJOURNMENT** - At 4:52 p.m., President Wise adjourned the work session. The regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education will reconvene at 9:00 a.m. on March 4, 2016, State Board Meeting Room, State Office Building, Sixth Floor, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE 68509-4987.

## **State Board of Education Meeting**

March 4, 2016 9:00 AM  
State Board Meeting Room  
State Office Building  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
[Agenda](#)

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

### **1.1. Roll Call**

#### **Attendance Taken at 9:02 AM:**

##### Present Board Members:

Rachel Wise

Lillie Larsen

Glen Flint

John Witzel

Molly O'Holleran

Patricia Timm

Maureen Nickels

Patrick McPherson

Commissioner Blomstedt was also present.

### **1.2. President Wise led the Pledge of Allegiance**

### **1.3. President Wise Announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act information**

## 2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- 2.1. Motion Passed:** Approval of the minutes of the February 4-5, 2016 State Board of Education meeting passed with a motion by John Witzel and a second by Patrick McPherson.

Rachel Wise	Yes
Lillie Larsen	Yes
Glen Flint	Yes
John Witzel	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Yes
Patricia Timm	Abstain
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes

## 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 3.1. Motion Passed:** Approval of the Agenda as published passed with a motion by Patrick McPherson and a second by Lillie Larsen.

Rachel Wise	Yes
Lillie Larsen	Yes
Glen Flint	Yes
John Witzel	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Yes
Patricia Timm	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes

## 4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

### 4.1. REQUEST FOR APPEARANCE

**4.1.A. Federal Money and Federal Control of Nebraska Schools – Henry Burke**

**4.1.B. Petition for a Rules Change submitted by the Nebraska Catholic Conference on January 8, 2016 – Sheri Rickert**

### 4.2. OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT

- Jessica Kluck – Textbook loan program
- S. Wayne Smith – suggestion for school curricula
- Susan O'Gara Benes - Textbook loan program

- Kevin and Laurie Clark – Textbook loan program
- Mark L’Heureux - Textbook loan program
- Amber Davis - Textbook loan program
- Carrie Stratman – Textbook loan program

## 5. HEARINGS

### 5.1. Hearing in NDE Case No. 16-03, Commissioner v. Raymond LeBlanc

A hearing was held in NDE Case No. 16-02, *Commissioner v. Raymond LeBlanc*. President Wise called the hearing to order at 10:05 a.m. Brian Halstead, on behalf of the Petitioner, Matthew L. Blomstedt, Commissioner of Education, appeared in support of the Settlement Agreement between the parties, assessing a one-year suspension of the teaching certificate of the Respondent for abrogation of his contract. The Respondent was not present nor represented by Counsel. President Wise closed the hearing at 10:08 a.m.

## 6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 6.1. **Motion Passed:** To move into Executive Session to deliberate and receive advice from Legal Counsel on contested cases and a pending petition filed under the Administrative Procedures Act at 10:09 a.m., passed with a motion by Lillie Larsen and a second by Patricia Timm.

Rachel Wise	Yes
Lillie Larsen	Yes
Glen Flint	Yes
John Witzel	Yes
Molly O’Holleran	Yes
Patricia Timm	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes

At 10:09 a.m., the State Board moved into Executive Session to deliberate and receive advice from Legal Counsel on contested cases and a pending petition filed under the Administrative Procedures Act.

**Motion Passed:** Adjournment of the Executive Session to return to the general business meeting of the Board at 10:46 passed with a motion by Lillie Larsen and a second by Patricia Timm.

Rachel Wise	Yes
Lillie Larsen	Yes

Glen Flint	Yes
John Witzel	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Yes
Patricia Timm	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes

At 10:46 a.m., the Board adjourned the Executive Session of the Board and returned to the general business meeting.

## 7. ACTION ITEMS

### 7.1. State Legislation and Board Actions on legislative issues

No action was taken.

- 7.2. Motion **Passed**: In *Commissioner v. Raymond LeBlanc*, NDE Case No. 16-03, approval by this Board of the proposed Settlement Agreement in which the parties agreed to a one-year suspension of Respondent's teaching certificate, and to adopt the Final Order proposed by Legal Counsel passed with a motion by Molly O'Holleran and a second by Patrick McPherson.

Rachel Wise	Yes
Lillie Larsen	Yes
Glen Flint	Yes
John Witzel	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Yes
Patricia Timm	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes

- 7.3. Motion **Passed**: That the Board approve the Rulemaking Petition of the Nebraska Catholic Conference and initiate rulemaking proceedings on the requested revision to NDE Rule 4 passed with a motion by Glen Flint and a second by John Witzel.

Rachel Wise	Yes
Lillie Larsen	Yes
Glen Flint	Yes
John Witzel	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Yes
Patricia Timm	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes

- 7.4. Motion Passed:** To remove Agenda 7.5 from the table passed with a motion by Patrick McPherson and a second by Patricia Timm.

Rachel Wise	Yes
Lillie Larsen	Abstain
Glen Flint	Yes
John Witzel	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Yes
Patricia Timm	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes

- 7.5. Motion Passed:** Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a continuation grant to the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to continue the Nurturing Healthy Behaviors program passed with a motion by Patrick McPherson and a second by Patricia Timm.

Rachel Wise	Yes
Lillie Larsen	Abstain
Glen Flint	Yes
John Witzel	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Yes
Patricia Timm	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes

## **8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion Passed:** To approve the Consent Agenda as published passed with a motion by John Witzel and a second by Patrick McPherson.

Rachel Wise	Yes
Lillie Larsen	Yes
Glen Flint	Yes
John Witzel	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Yes
Patricia Timm	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes

## **9. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS**

- 9.1.** Greg Adams, President of **Accelerate Nebraska**, reported on a study by Accelerate Nebraska.

## 10. BOARD REPORTS, DATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 10.1. Meeting participation

Patrick McPherson stated For the Record: *My comments are the same as last month. This Board needs a travel expense policy that among other things: (1) defines appropriate functions that Board members may attend at NDE expense; (2) that defines or limits amounts that board members may expend on an annual basis; (3) that defines appropriate levels of reimbursement for meals, mileage, lodging, registration, etc.; (4) that defines the difference between board functions that are reimbursable by the state, and constituent and non-official functions that should be paid for by the member personally or by his/her campaign account.*

**Motion Passed:** Approval of travel requests passed with a motion by Lillie Larsen and a second by Maureen Nickels.

Rachel Wise	Yes
Lillie Larsen	Yes
Glen Flint	Yes
John Witzel	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Yes
Patricia Timm	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	No

### 10.2. Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

12. **ADJOURNMENT** – President Wise adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, April 8, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. at the Nebraska State Office Building, Nebraska Department of Education, Sixth Floor, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE 68509. A work session will be held on Thursday, April 7, 2016, at 2:00 p.m. at the Nebraska State Office Building, Nebraska Department of Education, Sixth Floor, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE 68509.