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

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION – Monday, March 3, 2014

The State Board of Education met for purposes of a work session on Monday, March 3, 2014, beginning at 3:00 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 Rachel Wise called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. Roll call showed the following members present: Patricia Timm, Lynn Cronk, Rachel Wise, Lillie Larsen, John Sieler, Molly O'Holleran. Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt was also present. District 2 and District 4 seats are currently vacant.

1.2 President Wise announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

2. REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

2.1 Commissioner's Agenda Overview

Commissioner Blomstedt provided an overview of the agenda and pointed out some changes in the layout in tying topics together between the Board and NDE staff.

2.2 Legislative Update

2.2.1 Brian Halstead, Department of Education representative, provided an overview of the status of the 2014 Legislative Session. (Handout: 2014 Legislative Session, March 3-4, 2014)

2.2.1 Federal Legislation. No report.

2.2.3 State Board Legislative Committee will meet following the business meeting of the Board on March 4.

2.3 STANDARDS

- 2.3.1 Lillie Larsen, Chair of the Standards Committee reported on the Standards Committee meeting.
- 2.3.2 Donlynn Rice and Debbie DeFrain, Department of Education representatives, discussed the adoption of the Fine Arts Standards for Nebraska K-12 students. (Handout: State Board of Education Fine Arts Standards PowerPoint dated March 3, 2014; Nebraska K-12 Fine Arts Standards, January 22, 2014 edit.)

2.4 ASSESSMENT

- 2.4.1 Valorie Foy, Department of Education representative; and Matthew Blomstedt, Commissioner of Education, provided an update on Assessment Administration. (Handout: Report to the Nebraska State Board of Education dated March 3, 2014)

The State Board of Education joins with the Department of Education in recognizing the effects of the technology and connectivity issues the students have experienced in the NeSA-Writing tests.

2.5 ACCOUNTABILITY

- 2.5.1 Molly O'Holleran, State Accountability Committee Chair, provided a report on the committee meeting.
- 2.6 Julane Hill and Donlynn Rice, Department of Education representatives, discussed the grant opportunity for healthy and safe schools. (Handout: State Board of Education Healthy School Grant PowerPoint, dated March 3, 2014)
- 2.7 Sharon Katt and Pat Madsen, Department of Education representatives, discussed the nomination for State Board representative on the Nebraska Council of Teacher Education (NCTE).
- 2.8 Melody Hobson and Dean Folkers, Department of Education representatives, discussed the purchase of IT services from the Office of Chief Information Officer (OCIO) in support of the Early Childhood Professional Record System and IT work through the state approved Covendis IT procurement system.
- 2.9 and 4.1 Proposed revisions to State Board Policy B11 and Policy Committee Report

John Sieler, Chair, reported on the Policy Committee meeting. A proposed 2015 calendar will be considered during the business meeting of the Board on March 4.

4. **ADDITIONAL STATE BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Patricia Timm, Chair, reported on the meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee, noting the change in name of the Committee with the purpose of establishing a plan for the Board.

Lynn Cronk, Chair, reported on the meeting of the High Ability Learner Study Committee.

Rachel Wise, Chair, reported on the meeting of the Commissioner's Appraisal Committee.

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Wise adjourned the work session at 5:10 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING – Tuesday, March 4, 2014

The State Board of Education met for purposes of a meeting on Tuesday, March 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. 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 Lynn Cronk, second by Lillie Larsen: To approve the minutes of the February 3-4, 2014 State Board of Education meeting.

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

The motion passed.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Blomstedt recommended Action Item 7.5 be taken as a discussion item today and added as an Action Item on the April Board Agenda.

Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Lynn Cronk: To approve the Agenda as recommended.

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

The motion passed.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Bill North – personal finance education (handout: File Folder – DecaMillionaire)
- Jay Sears, Nebraska State Education Association, in support of the Fine Arts Standards
- Marian Fay, Nebraskans for the Arts, in support of the Fine Arts Standards
- Rachel Pinkerton, speaking against charter schools and common core state standards (handout)

- 4.2.1 Henry W. Burke, speaking to Nebraska Math Standards

Special Guests – Adia Johnson, Nicole Kotrous, Josie Brady, Lindsey Johnston, Noah Talmadge, eBooks authors from Ralston Public Schools.

At 9:35 a.m., President Wise called for a break. The meeting resumed at 9:42 a.m.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Rachel Wise, second by Lillie Larsen: To go 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 and District 4

The motion passed.

Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Lillie Larsen: To adjourn the Executive Session of the Board and resume the business meeting.

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

The motion passed.

7. ACTION ITEMS

7.4 Motion by Lynn Cronk, second by Patricia Timm: In *Peter Thew v. Deputy Commissioner*, NDE Case No. 13-15, that the Board adopt the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and the Recommended Decision of the Hearing Officer, denying Petitioner's request for a Nebraska teaching certificate, and to adopt the Final Order proposed by Legal Counsel.

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

The motion passed.

7.1 Motion by Lillie Larsen, second by Lynn Cronk: To adopt the Fine Arts Standards for Nebraska K-12 students.

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

The motion passed.

- 7.2 Motion by Molly O'Holleran, second by Patricia Timm: To grant the Commissioner the Authority to accept the grant opportunity for healthy and safe schools.

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

The motion passed.

- 7.3 Motion by Patricia Timm, second by Lillie Larsen: To grant the Commissioner the authority to purchase IT services from the Office of Chief Information Officer (OCIO) in support of the Early Childhood Professional Record System and IT work through the state approved Covendis IT procurement system

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

The motion passed.

- 7.5 The Board discussed proposed changes to Board Policy B11. The Board will consider action on the proposed changes during the April meeting.

8. **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

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

The motion passed.

10. **BOARD REPORTS, DATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 10.1 NRCSA conference on March 20, 2014, in Kearney. Commissioner Blomstedt will be luncheon speaker followed by a session with Board members who are available to attend.

- 10.2 The Board discussed their various roles in NASBE and the upcoming Legislative Issues conference March 13-16, 2014, in Arlington, Virginia.

The Board discussed participating in the Governor's Arts Awards on March 25, 2014, at Embassy Suites Hotel in La Vista, Nebraska.

- 10.3 John Sieler, Lillie Larsen, and Lynn Cronk reported on the Nebraska Association of the Gifted Conference, held February 20-21, 2014 at the Embassy Suites, Omaha, Nebraska.

Lynn Cronk and Molly O'Holleran reported on meetings with their districts school principals.

Rachel Wise reported on the ESU 10 meeting she attended.

Rachel Wise reported on meetings she attended with Commissioner Blomstedt held in South Sioux City, Winnebago Little Priest Tribal College, and ESU 1.

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Wise adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

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