

State Board of Education Work Session Meeting

April 6, 2017 2:00 p.m.

State Board Meeting Room, State Office Building, Lincoln, Nebraska

[Link to Agenda and Attachments](#)

[Link to Video of Meeting](#)

Publicized notice of the work session and business meeting was given by posting notice on the Department's website; 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. Roll Call - Attendance Taken at 2:00 p.m.

Present Board Members:

Patricia Timm

Rachel Wise

Maureen Nickels

Patrick McPherson

John Witzel

Lisa Fricke

Patsy Koch Johns

Absent Board Members:

Molly O'Holleran

Commissioner Blomstedt was also present.

1.2. President Timm announced 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

State Board Members discussed participation in the ESSA Stakeholder Engagement meetings across the state; NRCSA Spring Conference in Kearney; NASBE conference in Washington, DC; and other events attended during March.

2.2. Discuss requests for meeting attendance

State Board Members requested approval for upcoming events in April including the NETA Conference and AQuESTT Conference. There was also discussion concerning several board members attending the same event.

2.3. Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

State Board Members were directed to review the Monthly Board Travel Expense Report. There was no discussion.

3. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT AND AGENDA OVERVIEW

3.1. Consent Agenda process

Commissioner Blomstedt explained the process for items on the Consent Agenda.

3.2. Report on Rules

Commissioner Blomstedt discussed the report provided on the status of NDE Rules.

3.3. Board Priorities and Policy Research

Donlynn Rice, Department of Education representative, reviewed the new website for the strategic planning process and discussed activities for NASBE (National Association of State Boards of Education).

3.4. State Board to Local Board Responsibilities

Commissioner Blomstedt commented on the recent activities of the Omaha Public Schools Board of Education and explained the relationship between local boards of education and the State Board of Education. Commissioner Blomstedt offered assistance should the Omaha School Board seek guidance.

4. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.1. AQuESTT - Teaching and Learning Domain Committee

4.1.A. Assessment

4.1.A.1. Action Item: Accept the Enhanced Education Grant Award from the U.S. Department of Education

Valorie Foy, Department of Education representative, discussed the details of the Enhanced Education Grant award from the U.S. Department of Education which was received by the Nebraska Department of Education. The Grant timeline is April 2017 through December 2020.

4.1.A.2. Action Item: Approve the contract with EdCounts to provide services related to the Enhanced Assessment Grant awarded to the Nebraska Department of Education

Valorie Foy, Department of Education representative, explained the contract with EdCounts related to the Enhanced Education Grant. The contract is for project planning and research, development of local and state tools, and project evaluation and reporting. The grant will include development of innovative assessment item types, improvement of assessment scoring and reporting; inventory of state and local assessment systems; and will focus on science assessment.

The Committee recommends the Board accept the award and approve the contract during the Business Meeting on April 7, 2017.

4.1.A.3. Discussion Item: Overview of standard setting with specific reference to ACT and NeSA-English Language Arts and Spring ACT Test date

Valorie Foy, Department of Education representative, discussed the process for setting standards for the ACT and NeSA-English Language Arts in August 2017. This will include standards, cut scores decisions.

4.2. AQuESTT - Student Success and Access Domain Committee

John Witzel, served as Chair in Molly O'Holleran's absence. Mr. Witzel reported that the Committee discussed the IT initiative, ESSA, standards for Physical Education and Arts.

4.2.A. Educational Opportunities and Access

4.2.A.1. Action Item: Approve the NonPublic Schools appearing on the accompanying list to operate for the 2017-2018 school year in accordance with the provisions of Rule 14 (92 NAC 14), "Regulations & Procedures for the Legal Operation of Approved NonPublic Schools"

Freida Lange, Department of Education Representative, discussed the accreditation process for nonpublic schools and explained the difference between approved schools and accredited schools.

The Committee recommends approval of the schools during the business meeting on April 7, 2017.

4.3. Legislative Committee

4.3.A. Action Item: Review 2017 Proposed State Legislation and Take Action on Board Positions

Rachel Wise, Chair, expressed appreciation for the time and work of the staff and Brian Halstead on legislative issues. Brian Halstead, Deputy Commissioner, reported on school finance, senator requests, state aid, and the Committee discussion on the AM to LB 14. The Committee discussed the Board position on LB 14 regarding the successful completion of a civics exam as a high school requirement.

On March 17, 2017: The State Board Legislative Committee met and unanimously recommended support of AM 625 to LB 14 with NDE staff being a proponent on the amendment at the Education Committee Hearing held on March 20, 2017. The State Board Legislative Committee recommends that the State Board of Education support AM 625 to LB 14 during the business meeting of the Board on April 7, 2017.

4.4. Strategic Planning, Performance and Improvement Committee

4.4.A. Action Item: Approve the Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy Counties Community Achievement Plan

Patricia Timm, Chair, reported on the discussions of the Committee. Aprille Phillips, Department of Education representative; Lorraine Cheng, David Patton, Kevin Riley, Mark Feldhausen, Treva Haugaard, Jim Sutfin, and Kim Bodensteiner, representatives of the Douglas and Sarpy Counties Learning Community, presented the Learning Community's plan for student achievement.

The Committee recommends approval of the plan during the business meeting on April 7, 2017.

4.5. Budget and Finance Committee

4.5.A. Action Item: Adopt proposed revisions to Title 93, Chapters 1-16 (93 NAC 1-16), "Nebraska Department of Education Personnel Rules"

John Witzel, Chair, asked Joel Scherling, Department of Education representative, to share the discussion of the Committee relating to the Department's personnel rules. Joel Scherling, reviewed the process for the changes to personnel rules.

The Committee recommends approval of the revisions during the business meeting on April 7, 2017.

4.5.B. Action Item: Adopt proposed revisions to Rule 1 (92 NAC 1), "Rules and Regulations Governing the Audit of Nebraska Public School Districts"

At the request of John Witzel, Chair, Bryce Wilson and Shane Rhian, Department of Education representatives, reviewed the updates to Rule 1, clarifying average daily attendance process. The Committee recommends approval of the revisions during the business meeting on April 7, 2017.

5. ADJOURNMENT

President Timm adjourned the work session at 4:20 p.m.

State Board of Education Meeting and Notification Agenda

April 07, 2017 9:00 AM, State Board Meeting Room
State Office Building
Lincoln, Nebraska

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1. Roll Call - Attendance Taken at 9:00 AM:

Present Board Members:

Patricia Timm
Rachel Wise
Maureen Nickels
Patrick McPherson
John Witzel
Lisa Fricke
Patsy Koch Johns

Absent Board Members:

Molly O'Holleran

Commissioner Blomstedt was also present.

1.2. President Timm led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3. President Timm announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act information

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

2.1. Approve the minutes of the March 2-3, 2017 State Board of Education meeting as published

Motion Passed: Approve the minutes of the March 2-3, 2017, State Board of Education meeting as published passed with a motion by John Witzel and a second by Patsy Koch Johns.

Patricia Timm	Yes
Rachel Wise	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Absent
John Witzel	Yes
Lisa Fricke	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns	Yes

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3.1. Commissioner's recommendations and items to be removed from consent agenda

Motion Passed: Motion to approve the agenda as presented passed with a motion by John Witzel and a second by Lisa Fricke.

Patricia Timm	Yes
Rachel Wise	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Absent
John Witzel	Yes
Lisa Fricke	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns	Yes

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

4.1. Request for Appearance

4.1.A. National Donate Life Month

Tom Neal, Nebraska Organ Recovery, spoke about the donation process of organs for transplantation and presentations to high school students.

4.2. Other Public Comment

- Rachel Pinkerton, speaking to Omaha Public Schools superintendent search and Mark Christian

5. HEARINGS (None)

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION (None)

7. ACTION ITEMS

7.1. AQuESTT - Teaching and Learning Domain Committee

7.1.A. Assessment

7.1.A.1. Accept the Enhanced Education Grant Award from the U.S. Department of Education

Motion Passed: Accept the Enhanced Education Grant Award from the U.S. Department of Education passed with a motion by Maureen Nickels and a second by Rachel Wise.

Patricia Timm	Yes
Rachel Wise	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Absent
John Witzel	Yes
Lisa Fricke	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns	Yes

7.1.A.2. Approve the contract with EdCounts to provide services related to the Enhanced Assessment Grant awarded to the Nebraska Department of Education

Motion Passed: Approve the contract with EdCounts to provide services related to the Enhanced Assessment Grant awarded to the Nebraska Department of Education passed with a motion by Maureen Nickels and a second by Rachel Wise.

Patricia Timm	Yes
Rachel Wise	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Absent

John Witzel	Yes
Lisa Fricke	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns	Yes

7.2. AQuESTT - Student Success and Access Domain Committee

7.2.A. Educational Opportunities and Access

7.2.A.1. Approve the NonPublic Schools appearing on the accompanying list to operate for the 2017-2018 school year in accordance with the provisions of Rule 14 (92 NAC 14), "Regulations & Procedures for the Legal Operation of Approved NonPublic Schools"

Motion Passed: Approve the NonPublic schools appearing on the accompanying list to operate for the 2017-2018 school year in accordance with the provisions of Rule 14 (92 NAC 14), Regulations & Procedures for the Legal Operation of Approved NonPublic Schools passed with a motion by John Witzel and a second by Patrick McPherson.

Patricia Timm	Yes
Rachel Wise	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Absent
John Witzel	Yes
Lisa Fricke	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns	Yes

7.3. Legislative Committee

7.3.A. Review 2017 Proposed State Legislation and Take Action on Board Positions

Motion Passed: To support AM 625 to LB 14, passed with a motion by Rachel Wise and a second by John Witzel.

Patricia Timm	Yes
Rachel Wise	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Absent
John Witzel	Yes
Lisa Fricke	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns	Yes

7.4. Strategic Planning, Performance and Improvement Committee

7.4.A. Approve the Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy Counties Community Achievement Plan

Motion Passed: Approve the Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy Counties Community Achievement Plan as presented passed with a motion by Rachel Wise and a second by Patsy Koch Johns.

Patricia Timm	Yes
Rachel Wise	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Absent
John Witzel	Yes
Lisa Fricke	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns	Yes

7.5. Budget and Finance Committee

7.5.A. Adopt proposed revisions to Title 93, Chapters 1-16 (93 NAC 1-16), "Nebraska Department of Education Personnel Rules"

Motion Passed: Adopt proposed revisions to Title 93, Chapters 1-16 (93 NAC 1-16) "Nebraska Department of Education Personnel Rules" passed with a motion by John Witzel and a second by Patsy Koch Johns.

Patricia Timm	Yes
Rachel Wise	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Absent
John Witzel	Yes
Lisa Fricke	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns	Yes

7.5.B. Adopt proposed revisions to Rule 1 (92 NAC 1), "Rules and Regulations Governing the Audit of Nebraska Public School Districts"

Motion Passed: Adopt proposed revisions to Rule 1 (92 NAC 1), "Rules and Regulations Governing the Audit of Nebraska Public School Districts" passed with a motion by John Witzel and a second by Patrick McPherson.

Patricia Timm	Yes
Rachel Wise	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Absent
John Witzel	Yes
Lisa Fricke	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns	Yes

8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

8.1. Identify items for separate vote (None)

8.2. Approve consent agenda

Motion Passed: To accept the Consent Agenda as published passed with a motion by Patsy Koch Johns and a second by John Witzel.

Patricia Timm	Yes
Rachel Wise	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Absent
John Witzel	Yes
Lisa Fricke	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns	Yes

9. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

9.1. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Status Update

Brian Halstead and Matt Heusman, Department of Education representatives, updated the Board on the ESSA plan. A draft report was provided. The timeline for submission was reviewed noting the September 18, 2017, submission deadline. Stakeholder input continues. The process centers around AQuESTT. Public ready draft available at June 2017 meeting for Board members to review.

10. BOARD REPORTS, DATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

10.1. Meeting participation

Motion Passed: Approve Board Member Meeting participation passed with a motion by John Witzel and a second by Lisa Fricke.

Patricia Timm	Yes
Rachel Wise	Yes
Maureen Nickels	Yes
Patrick McPherson	Yes
Molly O'Holleran	Absent
John Witzel	Yes
Lisa Fricke	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns	Yes

11. INFORMATION ITEMS/WRITTEN REPORTS

- 11.1. Contracts approved by Commissioner
- 11.2. State Board Policy G20, "Model Policy to Prevent Dating Violence" and State Board Policy B13, "Agenda/Meeting Material for Regular Meetings" for review
- 11.3. 2016/17 Exempt (Home) School Annual Report

12. ADJOURNMENT

President Timm adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m. The next meeting of the State Board of Education will be held May 4-5, 2017, at the State Office Building in Lincoln, Nebraska.