

**State Board of Education Work Session Meeting**

April 7, 2016

State Board Meeting Room  
State Office Building  
Lincoln, Nebraska

**Attendance Taken at 2:01 PM:**

Present Board Members:

Rachel Wise

Lillie Larsen

Glen Flint (absent)

John Witzel

Molly O'Holleran

Patricia Timm

Maureen Nickels

Patrick McPherson

Commissioner Blomstedt was also present.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1.1. Roll Call**

**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 shared information from meetings attended during March.

**2.2. Discuss requests for meeting attendance**

Board members were reminded to submit requests for travel approval.

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

**3.1. Consent Agenda process**

Commissioner Blomstedt reviewed the process for Consent Agenda items.

**3.2. Report on Rules**

Commissioner Blomstedt reported on the status of Rules.

**3.3. Discuss Innovation Grants from the Lottery**

Commissioner Blomstedt discussed the Innovation Grants from lottery funding.

**3.4. Board Priorities and Policy Research**

Donlynn Rice, Department of Education representative, reported.

**3.4.A. Request nominations for a State Board representative to the Nebraska Council on Teacher Education (NCTE)**

Sharon Katt and Pat Madsen requested nominations for the NCTE council from State Board Members.

**4. DISCUSSION OF ACTION ITEMS**

**4.1. Discuss proposed revisions to State Board Policy B12, "Public Participation in Board Meetings"**

Patricia Timm, Chair of Policy, discussed proposed revisions.

**4.2. Discuss proposed revisions to State Board Policy B19, "Staff Research and Assistance"**

Patricia Timm, Chair of Policy, discussed proposed revisions.

**4.3. Grant the Commissioner approval to contract for classification and compensation consultant services for an amount up to \$115,000**

Joel Scherling, Department of Education representative, discussed the purpose and selection of a classification and compensation consultant.

**4.4. Discuss proposed revisions to Rule 81 (92 NAC 81), Rules and Regulations for the High School Equivalency Program**

Vicki Bauer, Department of Education representative, discussed the Rule 81 proposed changes for GED testing.

**4.5. Discuss provisional approval for Bellevue University to become an approved teacher preparation program**

Sharon Katt, Department of Education representative, discussed the Bellevue University teacher preparation program.

**4.6. Discuss a Subgrant from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for use of Child Care Development Grant Quality funds**

Melody Hobson, Department of Education representative, discussed the subgrant from Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

**4.7. Discuss a contract with Branagh Information Group for software, hardware, services and training related to Early Childhood observations and records**

Melody Hobson, Department of Education representative, discussed the contract for software, hardware, services and training.

**4.8. Discuss awards for new and expansion Early Childhood Education Program grants to identified Public School Districts**

Melody Hobson, Department of Education representative, discussed the Early Childhood Education Program grants.

Board member Patricia Timm will abstain from voting as she serves on a board in Beatrice who has received one the grants.

**4.9. Discuss approval of the nonpublic schools appearing on the accompanying list to operate for the 2016-2017 school year in accordance with the provisions of Rule14, Regulations & Procedures for the Legal Operation of Approved Nonpublic Schools.**

Freida Lange, Department of Education representative, discussed approval of the nonpublic schools.

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

**5.1. AQuESTT**

Commissioner Blomstedt provided an overview of activities relating to AQuESTT.

**5.2. TEACHING AND LEARNING REPORTS**

Maureen Nickels provided an update on the Teaching and Learning Domain.

**5.3. STUDENT SUCCESS AND ACCESS REPORTS**

Molly O'Holleran provided an update on the Student Success and Access Domain.

**5.4. DATA AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT REPORT**

The Board Committee will meet on Friday, April 8.

**5.5. STRATEGIC PLANNING REPORT**

Donlynn Rice, Department of Education representative, reported on the progress of Strategic Planning.

**5.6. POLICY**

**5.6.1. Policy Committee report**

Patricia Timm, Chair of Policy, reported on the actions of the Committee.

## **5.7. LEGISLATION**

Lillie Larsen, Chair of legislation, reported on the actions of the Committee.

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

Brian Halstead, Department of Education representative, provided an update on LB 694, LB 930, LB 1066, and LB 1086.

## **6. ADJOURNMENT**

President Wise adjourned the meeting at 5:12 p.m.

### **State Board of Education Meeting**

April 08, 2016 9:00 AM

State Board Meeting Room

State Office Building

Lincoln, Nebraska

### **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 Matthew Blomstedt was also present.

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

### **1.1. Roll Call**

### **1.2. Pledge of Allegiance**

### **1.3. Announcement of the placement of the Open Meetings Act information**

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

### **2.1. Approve the minutes of the March 3-4, 2016 State Board of Education meeting as published**

**Motion Passed:** Approval of the minutes of the March 3-4, 2016, State Board of Education meeting as published passed with a motion by Patrick McPherson 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

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

**Motion Passed:** Motion to approve the agenda as presented passed with a motion by Lillie Larsen 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

**3.1. Commissioner's recommendations and items to be removed from consent agenda. - None**

### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

#### **4.2. OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Jay Sears - speaking to Action Item 7.6; introduced Cindy Copich, NSEA
- Deb Andrews - speaking to public comment policy changes;
- Henry Burke – speaking to ESSA and public comment policy
- Rachel Pinkerton - handout – speaking to early childhood

**5. HEARINGS - None**

**6. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None**

### **7. ACTION ITEMS**

**7.1. Approve proposed revisions to STATE BOARD POLICY B12, "Public Participation in Board Meetings"**

*For the Record: Patrick McPherson stated that the example given by the Commissioner for the due date of Special Requests be included in the Policy. For example: If the meeting was on Thursday, the request deadline would be 5:00 p.m. on Monday.*

**Motion Tabled.** A motion to approve proposed revisions as presented in Version 2 to State Board Policy B12, "Public Participation in Board Meetings" and to post the due dates for Special Requests on the website was made by Patricia Timm and a second by Lillie Larsen.

**Motion Passed:** To table approval of the policy in order for the Policy Committee to reconsider the wording regarding the due date for special requests 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

**7.2. Approve proposed revisions to STATE BOARD POLICY B19, "Staff Research and Assistance"**

**Motion Passed:** Approve proposed revisions to STATE BOARD POLICY B19, "Staff Research and Assistance" passed with a motion by Patricia Timm 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

**7.3. Adopt the State Board of Education Resolution recognizing May 13 as Nebraska State Fire Day**

**Motion to Amend Passed:** To amend the motion from: "Adopt the State Board of Education Resolution recognizing May 13 as Nebraska State Fire Day" to: "Adopt the State Board of Education Resolution recognizing May 13 as Nebraska State Fire Day and that this to be sent directly to each local school board" passed with a motion by Patrick McPherson and a second by Glen Flint.

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

**Motion Passed:** Adopt the State Board of Education Resolution recognizing May 13 as Nebraska State Fire Day and that this to be sent directly to each local school board passed with a motion by Patricia Timm 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

President Wise read the Resolution into the record.

**7.4. Grant the Commissioner approval to contract for classification and compensation consultant services for an amount up to \$115,000**

**Motion Passed:** Grant the Commissioner approval to contract for classification and compensation consultant services for an amount up to \$115,000 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

**7.5. Adopt proposed revisions to Rule 81 (92 NAC 81), Rules and Regulations for the High School Equivalency Program**

**Motion Passed:** Adopt proposed revisions to Rule 81 (92 NAC 81), Rules and Regulations for the High School Equivalency Program passed with a motion by Molly O'Holleran 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

**7.6. Grant provisional approval to Bellevue University to phase in a teacher education program**

**Motion Passed:** Grant provisional approval to Bellevue University to phase in a teacher education program passed with a motion by John Witzel 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

**7.7. Authorize the Commissioner to negotiate an agreement with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for the use of Child Care Development Block Grant Funds**

**Motion Passed:** Authorize the Commissioner to negotiate an agreement with Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for the use of Child Care Development Block Grant Funds passed with a motion by Patricia Timm 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

**7.8. Authorize the Commissioner to negotiate and enter into a contract with Branagh Information Group for software, hardware, services and training related to Early Childhood observations and records**

**Motion Passed:** Authorize the Commissioner to negotiate and enter into a contract up to the amount of \$48,155 for classroom assessment software, software services and training, in addition to the purchase of hardware for up to the amount of \$6,000 passed with a motion by Molly O'Holleran 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

**7.9. Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve awards for new and expansion Early Childhood Education Program grants to identified Public School Districts**

**Motion Passed:** Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve awards for new and expansion Early Childhood Education Program grants to identified Public School Districts passed with a motion by John Witzel and a second by Molly O'Holleran.

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

**7.10. Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve the nonpublic schools appearing on the accompanying list to operate for the 2016-2017 school year in accordance with the provisions of Rule14, Regulations & Procedures for the Legal Operation of Approved Nonpublic Schools**

**Motion Passed:** Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve the nonpublic schools appearing on the accompanying list to operate for the 2016-2017 school year in accordance with the provisions of Rule14, Regulations & Procedures for the Legal Operation of Approved Nonpublic Schools passed with a motion by Patricia Timm and a second by Glen Flint.

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

## 8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

**Motion Passed:** Approval of the Consent Agenda passed with a motion by Molly O'Holleran 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

## 9. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS (NONE)

## 10. BOARD REPORTS, DATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 10.1. Meeting participation

**Motion Passed:** Approve meeting attendance passed with a motion by Patricia Timm 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

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.*

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

President Wise adjourned the meeting at 10:23 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, May 6, 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, May 5, 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.