

## State Board of Education Meetings

Thursday-Friday, April 5-6, 2018

State Board Meeting Room, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska

[Link to Agenda and Attachments](#)

[Link to Video of Meeting](#)

Publicized notice of the work session, business meeting, and retreat 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 meetings.

### STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION – Thursday, April 5, 2018

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – President John Witzel called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Lisa Fricke:	Present
Patsy Koch Johns:	Present
apPatrick McPherson:	Present
Maureen Nickels:	Present
Molly O'Holleran:	Present
Patricia Timm:	Present
Rachel Wise:	Present
John Witzel:	Present
Commissioner Blomstedt	Present

1.2 Announcement of the placement of the Open Meetings Act information by President Witzel

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

2.1 Consent Agenda process

Commissioner Blomstedt reviewed the process for Consent Agenda items. Questions about the items are directed to Scott Summers, General Counsel.

2.2 Report on Rules

Commissioner Blomstedt reported that Rule 9 is up for hearing, Rule 21 has been signed and received press recognition with the Governor; Rules 71, 72, 23, 15, and 24 are waiting approval by the Governor.

## 2.3 Update on School Safety

Commissioner Blomstedt provided an overview of the Governor's designation of a Safe Schools Task Force consisting of subgroups from Education, Behavioral Health, and Law Enforcement. The Education subgroup, led by Commissioner Blomstedt, will have met twice before meeting up with the other subgroups for further collaboration. Membership of the Task Force consist of individuals across the state. The Education subgroup is organizing their efforts around Prevention, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery.

2.4 Board Priorities and Policy Research - No update provided.

## 3. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### 3.1 **Policy Committee**

3.1.A Discussion Item: Four year review of State Board Bylaw B3, State Board Member Code of Conduct

Patricia Timm, Chair, reported on the Committee discussion of minor revisions to B3, Code of Conduct for action at the May 2018 Board meeting.

### 3.2 **Legislative Committee**

3.2.A Review 2018 Proposed State Legislation and Take Action on Board Positions

Rachel Wise, Chair, advised Board Members that the Legislative Committee will meet on May 9 in Omaha, Nebraska. Board Members attending the NASBE Legislative Conference shared information from that meeting.

Commissioner Blomstedt reported on the status of LB 1069 (Change provisions related to the Committee on Americanism) and LB 1081 (Change education provisions regarding reporting, penalties, residency, boundaries, priority schools, subpoena authority, poverty, and limited English proficiency).

### 3.3 **Commissioner's Appraisal Committee**

No report. The Committee will be meeting after this Work Session.

President Witzel called for a break at 2:49 p.m. The meeting resumed at 3:19 p.m.

### 3.4 **AQuESTT - Teaching and Learning Domain Committee**

3.4.A Assessment

3.4.A.1 Discussion Item: Statewide Assessment Contracts Nebraska statewide assessment contracts

Maureen Nickels, Chair, asked Valorie Foy and Jeremy Heneger, Department of Education representatives, to present on the progress of statewide testing now taking place in schools and

to provide information on the status of statewide assessment contracts.

### **3.5. AQuESTT - Student Success and Access Domain Committee**

#### 3.5.A Transitions

Molly O'Holleran, Chair, reviewed the discussions of the Committee.

- 3.5.A.1 Action Item: Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract with Easterseals Nebraska for students with disabilities, age 14-21, enrolled in high school during the 18-19 school year

Lindy Foley and Brigid Griffin, Department of Education representatives, provided a review of proposals for services to people with disabilities contract with Easterseals Nebraska.

Molly O'Holleran noted that the Committee recommends support of this item.

- 3.5.A.2 Action Item: Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract with Educational Service Unit #16 to implement two four-week summer internship programs, Summer Work Education and Employment Program (SWEEP)

Lindy Foley and Brigid Griffin, Department of Education representatives, provided a review of proposals for the summer internship programs.

Molly O'Holleran, Chair, noted that the Committee recommends approval.

- 3.5.A.3 Action Item: Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract with Disability Rights Nebraska (DRN) to conduct a Self-Advocacy for Youth and Disability program

Lindy Foley and Brigid Griffin, Department of Education representatives, provided a review of the contract with Disability Rights Nebraska (DRN) to conduct a Self-Advocacy for Youth and Disability program

Molly O'Holleran, Chair, noted that the Committee recommends approval.

- 3.5.A.4 Action Item: Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract with PTI Nebraska (Parent Training and Information) to implement Family Employment Awareness Training (FEAT)

Lindy Foley and Brigid Griffin, Department of Education representatives, provided a review of the contract with PTI Nebraska (Parent Training and Information) to implement Family Employment Awareness Training (FEAT).

Molly O'Holleran, Chair, noted that the Committee recommends approval.

- 3.5.A.5 Action Item: Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract with Educational Service #13 to provide workplace readiness training and partner with Scottsbluff, Nebraska, businesses.

Lindy Foley and Brigid Griffin, Department of Education representatives, provided a review of the contract with Educational Service #13 to provide workplace readiness training and partner with Scottsbluff, Nebraska, businesses.

Molly O'Holleran, Chair, noted that the Committee recommends approval.

3.5.B Educational Opportunities and Access

- 3.5.B.1 Action Item: Grant the Commissioner authority to contract with HSMC Orizon, LLC to conduct procedure reviews at a cost of \$52,200

Diane Stuehmer and Shannon Wilkinson, Department of Education representatives, spoke to the contract with HSMC Orizon, LLC to conduct procedure reviews.

Molly O'Holleran, Chair, noted that the Committee recommends approval.

- 3.5.B.2 Action Item: Grant the Commissioner authority to approve funding recommendations for the federally funded 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Grant Program

Diane Stuehmer and Jan Handa, Department of Education representatives, spoke to the federally funded 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Grant Program.

Molly O'Holleran, Chair, noted that the Committee recommends approval.

- 3.5.B.3 Action Item: Approve Nonpublic schools to Operate for the 2018-2019 school year pursuant to Rule 14 (92 NAC 14) Regulations & Procedures for the Legal Operation of Approved Nonpublic Schools

Don Loseke and Kim Snyder, Department of Education representatives, spoke to Rule 14 (92 NAC 14) Regulations & Procedures for the Legal Operation of Approved Nonpublic Schools.

Molly O'Holleran, Chair, noted that the Committee recommends approval.

- 3.5.B.4 Discussion Item: Discuss the Revision of the Nebraska Early Learning Guidelines

Molly O'Holleran, Chair, asked Melody Hobson, Department of Education representative, to discuss revision of the Nebraska Early Learning Guidelines. This item will be placed on the State Board Agenda for May as an action item.

**3.6 Budget and Finance Committee**

- 3.6.A Action Item: Accept the 2017 Single Audit Report

Bryce Wilson, Department of Education representatives, discussed the Single Audit which is an annual report on federal programs.

John Witzel, Chair, noted that the Committee recommends approval.

- 3.6.B Action Item: Grant the Commissioner authority to purchase new and replacement computer equipment, software licenses and maintenance agreements for NDE PK-12 programs.

Shane Rhian and Tibor Moldovan, Department of Education representatives, provided information on the topic.

John Witzel, Chair, noted that the Committee recommends approval.

### **3.7 Strategic Planning, Performance and Improvement Committee**

- 3.7.A Discussion Item: ESSA Process

Patricia Timm, Chair, asked Diane Stuehmer and Lane Carr, Department of Education representatives, to update the Board on the status of the ESSA plan.

Commissioner Blomstedt expressed appreciation of Department for the work on the ESSA plan and their work to maintain the integrity of AQuESTT. The Commissioner noted that AQuESTT is not a rate and blame system but it is a system for identifying schools that need support.

- 3.7.B Discussion Item: Priority Schools

Commissioner Blomstedt provided an update on the designation of Schuyler Central High School as a priority school. He noted that the Department is working to find ways to support improvement and has had conversations with the Schuyler Board president in setting up time to meet with local administration, the local board and staff in April.

There will be an update on the Priority Schools on the State Board Agenda for May.

## **4. BOARD REPORTS, DATES AND DISCUSSIONS ITEMS**

- 4.1 Meeting participation and joint meetings with policy partners

Board Members discussed participation at various meetings and conferences since the March 2018 meeting.

- 4.2 Meetings that took place in the past and were not previously approved

The process for approving meetings that took place in the past which were not

- 4.3 Discuss requests for future meeting attendance board folder

Board Members noted requests for attendance at future meetings and reminded to complete the meeting attendance form for submission to Ryan Foor or Lora Sypal.

4.4 Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

This report is provided for Board Member review.

**5. ADJOURNMENT.**

President Witzel adjourned the meeting at 4:49 pm.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education will reconvene at 9:00 a.m., Friday, April 6, 2018, in the State Board Meeting Room.

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 2018, 9:00 a.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER** – President Witzel called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Lisa Fricke	Present
Patsy Koch Johns	Present
Patrick McPherson	Present
Maureen Nickels	Present
Molly O'Holleran	Present
Patricia Timm	Present
Rachel Wise	Present
John Witzel	Present
Commissioner Blomstedt	Present

1.2 President Witzel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**2.1** Motion by Koch Johns, second by Timm: To approve the minutes of the March 1-2, 2018 State Board of Education meeting as published.

**Voting Yes:** Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel

**The motion passed.**

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- 3.1 Commissioner Blomstedt recommended that Action Item 7.1, Legislative Action, be removed as there is no action to take. Presentation Item 9.1, Presentation by Michelle Helt, will be taken upon her arrival.

Motion by O'Holleran, second by Fricke: To approve the Agenda with the recommended changes.

**Voting Yes:** Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel

**The motion passed.**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

- 4.1 Request for Appearance – Henry Burke, speaking to State Testing in Nebraska Schools.  
4.2 Other Public Comment

- Rachel Pinkerton, speaking to the actions of the Omaha Liberty Ladies

**5. HEARINGS – None**

**6. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None**

**9. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS**

- 9.1 Teacher of the Year Quarterly Report

Michelle Helt, 2018 Nebraska Teacher of the Year, from Cardinal Elementary School, South Sioux City, Nebraska, presented her first quarter report as Teacher of the Year. She is welcoming the challenges and opportunities and looks forward to meeting and working with other states' Teachers of the Year.

**7. ACTION ITEMS**

- 7.1 Legislative Committee – Removed from agenda  
7.2 AQuESTT - Student Success and Access Domain Committee  
7.2.A Transitions

- 7.2.A.1 Motion by O'Holleran, second by Timm: To grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract with Easterseals Nebraska for students with disabilities, age 14-21, enrolled in high school during the 18-19 school year.

**Voting Yes:** Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel

**The motion passed.**

7.2.A.2 Motion by O'Holleran, second by Koch Johns: To grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract with Educational Service Unit #16 to implement two four-week summer internship programs, Summer Work Education and Employment Program (SWEEP)

**Voting Yes:** Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel

**The motion passed.**

7.2.A.3 Motion by O'Holleran, second by Koch Johns: To grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract with Disability Rights Nebraska (DRN) to conduct a Self-Advocacy for Youth and Disability program.

**Voting Yes:** Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel

**The motion passed.**

7.2.A.4 Motion by O'Holleran, second by McPherson: To grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract with PTI Nebraska (Parent Training and Information) to implement Family Employment Awareness Training (FEAT).

**Voting Yes:** Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel

**The motion passed.**

7.2.A.5 Motion by O'Holleran, second by Fricke: To grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract with Educational Service #13 to provide workplace readiness training and partner with Scottsbluff, NE businesses

**Voting Yes:** Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel

**The motion passed.**

7.2.B Educational Opportunities and Access

7.2 B.1 Motion by O'Holleran, second by Fricke: To grant the Commissioner authority to contract with HSMC Orizon, LLC to conduct procedure reviews.

**Voting Yes:** Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel

**The motion passed.**



7.2.B.2 Motion by O'Holleran, second by McPherson: To grant the Commissioner authority to approve funding recommendations for the federally funded 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Grant Program.

**Voting Yes:** Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel

**The motion passed.**

7.2.B.3 Motion by O'Holleran, second by Timm: To approve the identified Nonpublic schools to Operate for the 2018-2019 school year pursuant to Rule 14 (92 NAC 14) Regulations & Procedures for the Legal Operation of Approved Nonpublic Schools.

**Voting Yes:** Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel

**The motion passed.**

7.3.C Budget and Finance Committee

7.3.C.A Motion by Timm, second by Koch Johns: To accept the 2017 Single Audit Report.

**Voting Yes:** Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel

**The motion passed.**

7.3.C.B Motion by Timm, second by Wise: To grant the Commissioner authority to purchase new and replacement computer equipment, software licenses and maintenance agreements for NDE PK-12 programs.

**Voting Yes:** Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel

**The motion passed.**

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

8.1 Identify items for separate vote - None

8.2 Motion by Wise, second by O'Holleran: To approve the Consent Agenda as published.

**Voting Yes:** Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel

**The motion passed.**

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

10.1 Meetings that took place in the past and were not previously approved

Motion by Timm, second by Wise: To approve the attendance of Patsy Koch Johns, Lisa Fricke, and Patrick McPherson at the Conversation on Innovation meeting on March 20, 2018.

**Voting Yes:** Nickels, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel  
**Abstain with Conflict:** Fricke, McPherson, Koch Johns

**The motion passed.**

Motion by Timm, second by Wise: To approve attendance of Patsy Koch Johns, Maureen Nickels, Molly O'Holleran, and Lisa Fricke at the Fine Arts Education Summit on April 4, 2018.

**Voting Yes:** McPherson, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel  
**Abstain with Conflict:** Fricke, Nickels, O'Holleran, Koch Johns

**The motion passed.**

10.2 Motion by Nickels, second by O'Holleran: To approve future Meeting participation as indicated.

**Voting Yes:** Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Timm, Wise, Witzel

**The motion passed.**

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

President Witzel adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m. The State Board of Education will hold a Strategic Planning Retreat in the Lower Level of the State Office Building beginning at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, April 6, 2018. Live web-streaming will not be available.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, May 4, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. at the Nebraska State Office Building, Lincoln, Nebraska.

### **STRATEIC PLANNING RETREAT – Friday, August 6, 2018, 10:30 a.m.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – President Witzel called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

1.1. Roll Call

Lisa Fricke	Present
Patsy Koch Johns	Present
Patrick McPherson	Present
Maureen Nickels	Present
Molly O'Holleran	Present
Patricia Timm	Present

Rachel Wise	Present
John Witzel	Present
Commissioner Blomstedt	Present

1.2 President Witzel announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act information.

## 2. **REPORTS, DISCUSSION ITEMS, PRESENTATIONS**

2.1 Discussion Item: Strategic Plan and ESSA Implementation

The State Board took opportunity to meet with Reg Leichty, Amy Starzynski, and Elliot Regenstein, of Foresight Law + Policy. The Board discussed guidance on developing the State Board Strategic Plan implementation.

## 3. **ADJOURNMENT**

President Witzel adjourned the retreat at 1:00 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, May 4, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. at the Nebraska State Office Building, Lincoln, Nebraska.