

State Board of Education Minutes of Meetings

November 1-2, 2018

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 meetings were 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 WORK SESSION, Thursday, November 1, 2018, 2:00 PM

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

1.1. Roll Call

Present: Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Wise, Witzel, Timm
Commissioner Blomstedt was also present.

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

4. BOARD REPORTS, DATES AND DISCUSSIONS ITEMS

4.1 Year in Review: 2018 Nebraska Teacher of the Year, Michelle Helt, Third Grade Teacher, Cardinal Elementary School, South Sioux City, Nebraska. Michelle Helt, reviewed her year as the 2018 Nebraska Teacher of the Year with a pictorial presentation.

4.2 Recognition of the 2019 Nebraska Teacher of the Year, Sydney Jensen, 9th Grade English Teacher, Lincoln High School, Lincoln, Nebraska. Sydney Jensen, 2019 Nebraska Teacher of the Year, introduced herself and what she looks forward to as Teacher of the Year.

2. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT AND AGENDA OVERVIEW

2.1. Consent Agenda process

Commissioner Blomstedt reviewed the process for Consent Agenda items.

2.2. Report on Rules

Commissioner Blomstedt directed the State Board to the Report on Rules. Personnel Rule 93 has moved on to the Governor and Rules 91-92 relating to school transportation are coming up for hearing.

2.3. Board Priorities and Policy Research

Ryan Foor, Department of Education representative, informed the Board of the upcoming Nebraska Association of School Boards meeting in November and the role the Board would have at the meeting.

In December, the State Board will meet for a breakfast meeting with the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. An agenda will be provided at a later date.

The National Association of State Boards of Education conference, update on Rule 10, and the October Board Retreat were also discussed.

- 2.3.A. Information on the Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy Counties Community Achievement Plan. Representatives from the Learning Community presented an updated draft of the Achievement Plan and reviewed the four components of the plan: Superintendent's Plan for Early Childhood Education; Superintendent's Plan to improve Attendance; Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy Counties North and South Omaha Learning Centers; and Collective Impact Initiative developed by MOEC. (Handout)
- 2.3.B. Commissioner Blomstedt provided an update from previous board discussion on school accreditation and accountability.
- 2.3.C. Ryan Foor, Department of Education representative, updated the Board on the progress of the external review of the strategic plan.
- 2.3.D. Commissioner Blomstedt provided information to the Board on the ACT Report. He noted the confusion with the ACT data and actual Nebraska data.
- 2.3.E. Commissioner Blomstedt discussed the ESSA requirements for school-level finance reporting and the coding changes for accountability. A timeline of events was provided to the Board.

3. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

3.1 Policy Committee

3.1.A. Discussion Item: 2019 State Board of Education meeting dates/schedule

Patricia Timm, Chair, reported on the Committee discussion and asked Board members to review the 2019 meeting schedule prior to December meeting.

3.1.B. Discussion Item: Proposed revisions to State Board Bylaw B6, Agendas/Meeting Material for Regular Meetings

Patricia Timm, Chair, reported that the Budget and Finance Committee reviewed the proposed revisions and recommended revisions to support Goal 1.1 of the Strategic Plan. The Board will take action on this item in December.

3.2 Legislative Committee

Rachel Wise, Chair, updated Board members on the upcoming meetings in November with area senators. The purpose of the meetings is to provide senators with an overview of the role of the State Board, share legislative priorities, and listening to what the Senators need from the Board.

3.3 AQuESTT - Teaching and Learning Domain Committee

3.3. Discussion Item: Annual plan for Nebraska statewide assessment and reporting system

Maureen Nickels, Chair, had Jeremy Heneger, Department of Education representative, to discuss the plan for examining the statewide plan for assessment.

3.3.1 Discussion Item: Provide update on the process to revise content area standards for Business, Marketing, and Management

Maureen Nickels, Chair, had Cory Epler, Katie Graham, and Sydney Kobza, Department of Education representatives, to provide information on the development of Career and Technical Education standards.

At 4:03 p.m., President Witzel called for a break. The meeting resumed at 4:16 p.m.

3.4 AQuESTT - Student Success and Access Domain Committee

3.4.A. Action Item: Accept the Federal Deaf-Blind Grant from the U.S. Department of Education to fund the Nebraska Center for the Education of Children who are Blind/Visually Impaired (NCECBVI) Project.

Molly O'Holleran, Chair, reported that the Committee received information on the project history and recommended approval of the item.

3.4.B. Action Item: Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract with ESU #10 to rebuild and update the AT4ALL website

Molly O'Holleran, Chair, reported that the Committee received information on the history of the website, noting that updates and changes are needed. ESU #10 was least expensive and had experience. While the contract is for less than \$50,000.00, the item is coming before the Board because, if approved, this would take contract amounts for ATP with ESU #10 over the \$50,000.00 threshold. The Committee recommended approval.

- 3.4.C. Action Item: Grant the Commissioner the authority to contract with partners for the Project AWARE grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Molly O'Holleran, Chair, reported that the Board approved acceptance of the grant at the October meeting. This request is to proceed with contracting with partners per the approved grant application. The committee asked Dean Folkers and Shane Rhian, Department of Education representatives, to share information about the grant. The Committee recommended approval.

- 3.5 Budget and Finance Committee

- 3.5.A. Action Item: Accept the 2018 National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program Audit Report

John Witzel, Chair, had Bryce Wilson and Shane Rhian, Department of Education representatives to review the findings on the Audit report. The Committee recommended approval.

- 3.6. Strategic Planning, Performance and Improvement Committee

- 3.6.A. Action Item: Grant the Commissioner the authority to enter into an interlocal agreement with the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska, the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges, and each of the six Nebraska Community Colleges establishing the Nebraska Statewide Workforce and Educational Reporting System.

Patricia Timm, Chair, reported on the meeting. Dean Folkers, Department of Education representative, provided information on the agreement. The Committee recommended approval.

4. BOARD REPORTS, DATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 4.3 Meeting participation and joint meetings with policy partners

- 4.3.A. Monthly Board Reports

Board members shared reports from one meeting or event attended during the previous month.

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

The Board will take action on five meeting requests that took place in the past.

- 4.5 Discuss requests for future meeting attendance submit before tomorrow

Board members were reminded to submit requests for attendance before the business meeting on Friday.

4.6 Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

Board members were reminded to review the Monthly Board Travel Expense Report.

5. ADJOURNMENT

President Witzel adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education will be 9:00 a.m. on November 2, 2018, in the State Board Meeting Room, Lincoln, Nebraska.

STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING, Friday, November 2, 2018, 9:00 AM

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

1.1. Roll Call – Roll Call showed the following:

Present: Fricke, Koch Johns, Wise, Witzel, O'Holleran, Nickels, McPherson
Absent: Timm
Commissioner Blomstedt was also 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

1.2. Approval of the minutes passed with a motion by Molly O'Holleran and a second by Lisa Fricke.

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

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3.1 Approval of the agenda passed with a motion by Patsy Koch Johns and a second by Rachel Wise.

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

4.1. Request for Appearance

4.2. Other Public Comment

- Cindy Copich, NSEA – commenting and appreciating the Teacher of the Year program.
- Rachel Pinkerton, LEAP – reporting on the Dyslexia Conference and literacy (handouts)
- Carole Julian, LEAP – reading a note from Henry Burke about voting. President Witzel stopped the comments as it related to campaigning for a candidate for the State Board election.
- Lia Post – speaking to a FERPA violation relating to her child.

4.3. Introduction of Exchange Teacher from Laos

Stephanie Call, Department of Education representative, introduced Johnny Chanthavilay, an exchange teacher from Laos, and shared some details of his visit in Nebraska.

5. HEARINGS. None.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION. None.

7. ACTION ITEMS

7.1. AQuESTT - Student Success and Access Domain Committee

- 7.1.A. Acceptance of the Federal Deaf-Blind Grant from the U.S. Department of Education to fund the Nebraska Center for the Education of Children who are Blind/Visually Impaired (NCECBVI) Project passed with a motion by Molly O'Holleran and a second by Maureen Nickels.

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

- 7.1.B. Granting the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract with ESU #10 to rebuild and update the AT4ALL website passed with a motion by Molly O'Holleran and a second by Rachel Wise.

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

- 7.1.C. Granting the Commissioner the authority to contract with partners for the Project AWARE grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services passed with a motion by Molly O'Holleran and a second by Maureen Nickels.

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

- 7.2. Budget and Finance Committee

- 7.2.A. Acceptance of the 2018 National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program Audit Report passed with a motion by Patsy Koch Johns and a second by Rachel Wise.

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

- 7.3. Strategic Planning, Performance, and Improvement Committee

- 7.3.A. Granting the Commissioner the authority to enter into an interlocal agreement with the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska, the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges, and each of the six Nebraska Community Colleges establishing the Nebraska Statewide Workforce and Educational Reporting System passed with a motion by Lisa Fricke and a second by Rachel Wise.

8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- 8.2. Approval of the consent agenda passed with a motion by Molly O'Holleran and a second by Lisa Fricke.

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

9. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS - None

10. BOARD REPORTS, DATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

Approval of a meeting that took place in the past that was not previously approved for Patricia Timm for attending the Commissioner's Talent Pool Meeting September 4, 2018 passed with a motion by Molly O'Holleran and a second by Patsy Koch Johns.

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

Approval for a meeting that took place in the past that was not previously approved for Lisa Fricke for attending Senator Vargas Roundtable LR456 on October 1, 2018, passed with a motion by Molly O'Holleran and a second by Rachel Wise.

Yes: Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Wise, Witzel

Absent: Timm

Abstain: Fricke

Approval of a meeting that took place in the past that was not previously approved for Molly O'Holleran for attending the Governor's Humanities event on October 9, 2018, passed with a motion by Maureen Nickels and a second by Rachel Wise.

Yes: Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, Wise, Witzel

Absent: Timm

Abstain: O'Holleran

Approval of a meeting that took place in the past that was not previously approved for John Witzel and Maureen Nickels for attending the TOY Notification at Lincoln High School on October 11, 2018, passed with a motion by Rachel Wise and a second by Molly O'Holleran.

Yes: Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, O'Holleran, Wise

Absent: Timm

Abstain: Witzel, Nickels

Approval of a meeting that took place in the past that was not previously approved for Rachel Wise for attending the Nebraskans for the Arts, Norfolk High School on October 23, 2018, passed with a motion by Patrick McPherson and a second by Lisa Fricke.

Yes: Fricke, Koch Johns, McPherson, Nickels, O'Holleran, Witzel

Absent: Timm

Abstain: Wise

10.2 Approval to attend future meeting participation passed with a motion by Maureen Nickels and a second by Rachel Wise.

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

Absent: Timm

10.3 Quarterly discussion on meeting participation

Board member discussed their participation at various meetings.

12. ADJOURNMENT

President Witzel adjourned the meeting at 9:48 a.m. The next Work Session will be held on Thursday, December 6, at 2:00 p.m., and a Board Meeting held on Friday, December 7 at 9:00 a.m., in Lincoln, Nebraska.