

State Board of Education Business Meeting
Thursday-Friday, November 4-5, 2021
Holiday Inn Lincoln Southwest, Nebraska Ballroom,
2500 Tamarin Ridge Road, Lincoln, NE 68512
[Link to Agenda and Attachments](#)
[Link to Video of Meeting](#)

Publicized notice of the business meeting was given by posting notice on the Department's website and emailed to news media requesting notification, which gave the date, time, and location of the meeting.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION, Thursday, November 4, 2021, 1:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER – President Maureen Nickels called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Maureen Nickels	Patti Gubbels	Robin Stevens
Patsy Koch Johns	Lisa Fricke	Deborah Neary
Jacquelyn Morrison		

Commissioner Blomstedt was also in attendance via Zoom.

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

2. DISCUSSION

2.1. Board Discussion on Content Area Standards Process

President Nickels led the Board discussion on the content area standards process.

At the October 2021 Board Meeting, Board Members discussed creating an Ad Hoc Committee for the purpose of addressing the health education standards process. After reviewing that discussion, President Nickels has created the Ad Hoc Committee with Board Members Jacqueline Morrison, Chair, Robin Stevens and Patti Gubbels. President Nickels has requested a full report from the Ad Hoc Committee no later than January 25, 2021, and the Committee will report to the full Board at the February Board Meeting with possible action in March 2022.

President Nickels requested that Board Members have conversations in Committees this morning for information to share with the Ad Hoc Committee members during this discussion.

Jacquelyn Morrison reported from the discussion in the AQuESTT Student Success, Access, and Support Committee, and Lisa Fricke reported on the discussion in the AQuESTT Teaching, Learning, and Serving Committee. Additional board member discussion followed.

3. ADJOURNMENT

President Nickels adjourned the meeting at 1:29 p.m.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, Thursday, November 4, 2021, 3:00 PM.

1. CALL TO ORDER – President Maureen Nickels called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Maureen Nickels
Patsy Koch Johns
Jacquelyn Morrison

Patti Gubbels
Lisa Fricke

Robin Stevens
Deborah Neary

Commissioner Blomstedt was also in attendance via Zoom.

1.2. President Nickels led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3. President Nickels announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

1.3. COVID-19 Meeting Protocol

Ryan Foor, NDE Representative, shared information on the COVID-19 Meeting Protocol.

2. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

2.1. Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process

2.1.A. No agenda items were requested for removal.

2.2. Report on Rules

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 24 is with the Attorney General awaiting approval.

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 1 and Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 2 approved October 27, 2021 with an effective date of November 1, 2021.

2.3. Board Operations Information (NONE)

2.4. Report on Feedback from the Field and COVID-19 Impacts

Commissioner Blomstedt reported on impacts of Covid-19 on the Nebraska education system, feedback from the education field, and key work and progress of the NDE, including a summary of American Rescue Plan investments to date.

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

3.1. Update from the Nebraska Association of Colleges for Teacher Education on the Nebraska Educator Shortage Summit

Sara Skretta, Certification Officer, College of Education & Human Sciences and Jenny Jansky, UNK Director of Educator Certification Office and Certification Officer provided an update from the Nebraska Educator Shortage Summit hosted by Nebraska Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (NACTE) October 27, 2021, in Kearney, NE.

4. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Maureen Nickels thanked the Board Members who attended the Nebraska Educator Shortage Summit.

President Nickels thanked the staff for organizing the Board meeting and the staff that is present during the meeting. She indicated that she expects a new Board Member will be appointed by the Governor before the December meeting.

President Nickels shared that during the Work Session, an Ad Hoc Committee has been formed to review and discuss the standards process. All Board Members provided input for what the new Committee should consider.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Patsy Koch Johns, second by Patti Gubbels to approve the Consent Agenda.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yea
Vacant	

The motion passed.

6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1. **Policy Committee** – Maureen Nickels, Acting Chair, reported on the Committee meeting.

The Committee began the scheduled four-year review of State Board Policy P5, *Contracts, Grants and Purchases* a couple of months ago. The NDE staff has provided background information for the Committee regarding analytic information of contracts and grants that have been processed by NDE since 2017. Committee members recommend that further discussion continue in Committee and will be placed as a discussion item at the December Policy Committee meeting.

The Committee began the scheduled four-year review of State Board Policy P11, *Data Access and Use*. This policy is for the protection of education records that the NDE has in their possession. The NDE staff will bring proposed revisions to the Policy Committee for discussion at the December Policy Committee meeting.

The Committee discussed the proposed State Board meeting schedule for 2022. After discussion, the Committee recommends maintaining present circumstance by keeping the State Board meeting dates as outlined in B5, meeting the first Thursday and Friday of each month except January or as otherwise determined by the Board. The Committee will bring this as an action item to the full Board in December.

6.1.A. Discussion Item: P5, *Contracts, Grants and Purchases*

There was no further discussion on this item.

6.1.B. Discussion Item: P11, *Data Access and Use*

There was no further discussion on this item.

6.1.C. Discussion Item: Proposed State Board meeting schedule for 2022

There was no further discussion on this item.

6.2. **Legislative Committee** – Robin Stevens, Chair, reported on the Committee meeting.

The Legislative Committee heard from Lane Carr, NDE Representative, on the progress and efforts made towards advancing the State Board's legislative and regulatory priorities.

6.3. **Commissioner's Appraisal Committee** – No report. The Committee did not meet this month.

6.4. **AQuESTT Teaching, Learning and Serving Domain Committee** – Lisa Fricke, Chair, reported on the Committee meeting.

The Committee on Teaching, Learning and Serving reports on one discussion item.

The Teaching & Learning Committee heard a report from the NDE on the process to review Nebraska's Mathematics Standards. Over 130 Nebraska educators applied to be part of the revision team. NDE staff are working to finalize the list of revision team members prior to the first revision meeting on November 20th. Public Input Survey #1 will close next week. This is an opportunity to provide input on the current mathematics standards.

The Committee also received an update from the NDE staff on Career and Technical Education and future potential rule revisions. The Committee also discussed the idea of a resolution to recognize teachers, administrators, and others.

6.4.A. Discussion Item: Nebraska's College & Career Ready Standards for Mathematics

Board Members requested a presentation from NDE staff on the process for the December meeting.

6.5. **AQuESTT Student Success, Access and Support Domain Committee** – Patsy Koch Johns, Chair, reported on the Committee meeting.

The Committee on AQuESTT Student Success, Access and Support domain met on November 4, 2021, and had only one update item on upcoming revisions to Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 51 (Rule 51).

There was no discussion on the Leading for Equity and Excellence Program (LEEP) State Policy Network.

6.5.A. Leading for Equity and Excellence Program (LEEP)

There was no discussion on this item.

- 6.6. **Budget and Finance Committee** – Maureen Nickels, Acting Chair, reported on the Committee meeting. The Committee discussed each item on the consent agenda making sure that all Committee questions were answered. NDE staff was on hand to answer questions and provide more detail when needed to ensure that Committee members were comfortable with the consent agenda items. After each consent agenda item was discussed and corresponding questions answered, the Committee was in support of all consent agenda items.

The Committee reviewed the Monthly Board travel expenses and had no concerns.

The Committee reviewed in-state travel authorization with no issues or concerns.

6.6.A. Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

There was no further discussion on this item.

6.6.B. In-State Travel Authorization Reports

There was no further discussion on this item.

- 6.7. **Strategic Planning, Performance and Improvement Committee** – No report. The Committee did not meet this month.

7. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

- 7.1. In accordance with Board Policy B9, set public comment time limits for Friday, November 5, 2021

Pursuant to Board Policy B9, I move to limit public comment at the Friday, November 5, 2021, meeting, to end by 4:00 p.m., where each person may address the Board for up to two minutes. The Board may take a 45-minute lunch break announced at a time prior to recessing. Motion made by Maureen Nickels, second by Patti Gubbels.

Board Members discussed the importance of having this motion so that the public is aware of how much time and what is expected during Public Comment.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yea
Vacant	

The motion passed.

7.2. Resolution to Recognize State Board of Education Member Patricia Timm

Motion to adopt the Resolution to recognize State Board of Education Member Patricia Timm made by Patti Gubbels, second by Patsy Koch Johns.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yea
Vacant	

8. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

8.1 President Nickels referred Board Members to review information items and reports.

9. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Deborah Neary had conversation with teachers and educators at the Nebraska Educator Shortage Summit and each conversation included compliments for Brad Dirksen, NDE Representative, and his responsiveness.

Jacqueline Morrison mentioned Lee Perez as the 2022 Teacher of the Year.

Ryan Foor, NDE Representative, explained to the Board that normally the month of November is the recognition for Teacher of the Year, and, because of COVID, the event didn't happen last year. There is an event being planned for after the first of the year to recognize both Paul Timm (current Teacher of the Year) and Lee Perez.

President Nickels added that all Board Members will be attending the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) State Education Conference November 17-19, 2021, at the CHI Health Center and thanked those Board Members who will be on the panel.

10. ADJOURNMENT

President Nickels adjourned the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

The State Board of Education will reconvene Friday, November 5, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. Holiday Inn Lincoln Southwest, Nebraska Ballroom, 2500 Tamarin Ridge Road, Lincoln, NE 68512.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, Friday, November 5, 2021, 9:00 AM.

1. CALL TO ORDER – President Maureen Nickels called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Maureen Nickels
Lisa Fricke

Patti Gubbels
Deborah Neary

Robin Stevens
Jacquelyn Morrison

Commissioner Blomstedt was also in attendance via Zoom.

Patsy Koch Johns arrived at 9:05 a.m.

1.2. President Nickels led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3. President Nickels announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

1.4. COVID-19 Meeting Protocol

No additional information added.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

2.1. The following individuals from the public spoke regarding the Board's lack of transparency and dysfunction: Dan Urman, Dawn Urman, Deb Fisbeck, Fanchon Blythe, Jenna Derr, Katie McClemens, Liz Davids, Mark Bonkiewicz.

The following individuals from the public spoke against the Health Standards: Amber Parker, Brenda McGill, Deb Miller, Dee Elder, Janece VanWinkle, Julie Sheldon, Justin Thiel, Kathy Adams, Kelli Brady, Rita Tritsch, Sherry Jones, Stephanie Johnson, Teresa Carey.

2.2. Written Public Comment

Submitted written public comments are linked through SPARQ in Board Agenda item number 4.2, documents SBOE Written Public Comment September 2021 – Google Forms.

3. ADJOURNMENT

President Nickels adjourned the meeting at 9:58 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, December 3, 2021, at 9 a.m. at a location to be determined.