

State Board of Education Work Session

Thursday, June 2, 2022

Nebraska Innovation Campus, Banquet Hall, 2021 Transformation Drive, Lincoln, NE 68508

[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 WORK SESSION, Thursday, June 2, 2022, 9:00 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Koch Johns called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Maureen Nickels
Deborah Neary
Lisa Fricke

Robin Stevens
Kirk Penner
Jacquelyn Morrison (arrived at 9:11 a.m.)

Patsy Koch Johns
Patti Gubbels

Commissioner Blomstedt was also in attendance.

1.2. President Koch Johns led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3. President Koch Johns announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

1.4. Meeting Protocol

Commissioner Blomstedt asked members of the public to be considerate of the proceedings of the meeting.

2. BOARD TRAINING

The State Board engaged in a work session with Linda Richards, Blane McCann and Sue Pressler from PRISM Advisors.

3. ADJOURNMENT

President Koch Johns adjourned the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

The State Board of Education will reconvene Friday, June 3, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at Nebraska Innovation Campus, Banquet Hall, 2021 Transformation Drive, Lincoln, NE 68508.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, Friday, June 3, 2022, 9:00 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER – President Patsy Koch Johns called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

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

Commissioner Blomstedt was also in attendance.

1.2. President Koch Johns led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3. President Koch Johns announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

1.4. Meeting Protocol

Commissioner Blomstedt asked members of the public to be considerate of the proceedings of the meeting.

2. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

2.1. High Plains Community Schools Presentation

Commissioner Blomstedt deferred to Maureen Nickels to introduce High Plains Community Schools (Hordville, Polk, Clarks) Superintendent Kim Beran, PK-6 Elementary Principal Bre Helgoth and a student who presented about the programs at the elementary school.

2.2. Impact Story of ESSER Fund Investments

Lane Carr, NDE Representative, introduced Jolene Palmer, NDE Coordinated Student Support Services Director – School Safety and Chad Denker, Superintendent of David City Public Schools who presented to the Board on Safe2Help.

3. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

3.1. Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process

3.1. Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process

Commissioner Blomstedt provided an overview of the Consent Agenda process

3.1.A. Agenda Item 5.3.I. requested to be removed for separate vote.

3.2. Board Operations Information

No report.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Koch Johns delivered the President's Report.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Patti Gubbels to approve the Consent Agenda without agenda item 5.3.I.

Lisa Fricke: Yes

Patsy Koch Johns: Yes
Deborah Neary: Yes
Maureen Nickels: Yes
Robin Stevens: Yes
Patti Gubbels: Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison: Yes
Kirk Penner: Yes

The motion passed.

6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1. **Executive Committee** – Robin Stevens, Vice Chair, reported on the Committee meeting.

6.1.A. Action Item: Approve the employment agreement between the State Board of Education and Matthew L. Blomstedt and his goals for July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023.

Motion by Robin Stevens, second by Jacquelyn Morrison to approve the attached amendment to the employment agreement between the State Board of Education and Matthew L. Blomstedt.

Motion by Jacquelyn Morrison, second by Robin Stevens to go into Executive Session to discuss the contract proposal of this item to avoid needless injury to the reputation of an individual

Lisa Fricke:	No
Patsy Koch Johns:	No
Deborah Neary:	No
Maureen Nickels:	No
Robin Stevens:	No
Patti Gubbels:	No
Jacquelyn Morrison:	No
Kirk Penner:	No

The motion failed.

Motion by Jacquelyn Morrison, second by Deborah Neary to lay the main motion on the table to a time later in today's meeting.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Robin Stevens:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yes
Kirk Penner:	No

The motion passed.

President Koch Johns called for a recess at 11:24 a.m. The meeting resumed at 11:33 a.m.

6.3.A. Action Item: Remove Schuyler Central High School from Priority School Designation

Motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Deborah Neary to remove Schuyler Central High School from Priority School Designation.

Shirley Vargas, NDE Representative, introduced the Schuyler Central Priority School team: Travis Steinhoff, Assistant Principal; Samantha Ludwig, 9-12 Assistant Principal; Dr. Joey Lefdal, Director of Student Services, 9-12 Principal; Brandi Zavadil, Instructional Coach, EL Transitional Counselor; Mr. Richard Brabec, Schuyler Central School Board President, Dr. Daniel Hoelsing, Superintendent. The team gave a report on their priority school plan.

Shirley Vargas, NDE Representative, recommended Schuyler Central High School be removed from priority school designation.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Robin Stevens:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yes
Kirk Penner	Yes

The motion passed.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- 8.1. The following individuals from the public spoke against the Health Standards: Amber Parker, Francis Kuhlman, Jeanne Greisen, Kelli Brady, Liz Davids, Mark Bonkiewicz, Monti Starkey, Stephanie Johnson, Wayne Smith.

Marni Hodgen spoke about the teacher shortages.

- 8.2. Written Public Comment

Submitted written public comments are linked through SPARQ in Board Agenda item number 8.2., SBOE Written Public Comment June 2022.

President Koch Johns called for a recess at 1:12 p.m. The meeting resumed at 1:51 p.m.

- 6.2. **Budget and Finance Committee** – Maureen Nickels, Chair, reported on the meeting of the Committee.

- 6.2.A. Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

There was no further discussion on this item

- 6.2.B. Review In-State Travel Authorization Reports

There was no further discussion on this item.

- 6.2.C Action Item: Accept the 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report Audit

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Patti Gubbels to accept the 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report Audit.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Robin Stevens:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes

Jacquelyn Morrison: Yes
Kirk Penner Yes

The motion passed.

- 6.2.D. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Educational Service Unit #10 (ESU 10) to provide support to the ATP Education Program.

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Lisa Fricke to contract with Educational Service Unit #10 (ESU 10) to provide support to the ATP Education Program.

Lisa Fricke: Yes
Patsy Koch Johns: Yes
Deborah Neary: Yes
Maureen Nickels: Yes
Robin Stevens: Yes
Patti Gubbels: Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison: Yes
Kirk Penner Yes

The motion passed.

- 6.2.E. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Mary Phillips for services to prepare for, participate in, and/or facilitate IEP meetings under the direction of NDE

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Patti Gubbels to contract with Mary Phillips for services to prepare for, participate in, and/or facilitate IEP meetings under the direction of NDE.

Lisa Fricke: Yes
Patsy Koch Johns: Yes
Deborah Neary: Yes
Maureen Nickels: Yes
Robin Stevens: Yes
Patti Gubbels: Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison: No
Kirk Penner Yes

The motion passed.

- 6.2.F. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with SPED Strategies to offer a Yearlong professional learning series to support teaching and learning for students with disabilities

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Patti Gubbels to contract with SPED Strategies to offer a Yearlong professional learning series to support teaching and learning for students with disabilities.

Lisa Fricke: Yes
Patsy Koch Johns: Yes
Deborah Neary: Yes
Maureen Nickels: Yes
Robin Stevens: Yes
Patti Gubbels: Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison: Yes
Kirk Penner Yes

The motion passed.

- 6.2.G. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to purchase new and replacement computer equipment, software licenses and maintenance agreements, and other technology supports for the NDE

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Lisa Fricke to purchase new and replacement computer equipment, software licenses and maintenance agreements, and other technology supports for the NDE.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Robin Stevens:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yes
Kirk Penner	Yes

The motion passed.

- 6.3. **Planning and Evaluation Committee** – Patti Gubbels, Chair, reported on the meeting of the Committee.

- 6.3.B. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with one or more contractor(s) to be determined for services and support to Nebraska’s Priority Schools for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

Motion by Deborah Neary, second by Patti Gubbels to contract with one or more contractor(s) to be determined for services and support to Nebraska’s Priority Schools for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Robin Stevens:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yes
Kirk Penner	Yes

The motion passed.

- 6.3.C. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with DRC for statewide assessment services in 2022-2023

Motion by Deborah Neary, second by Maureen Nickels to contract with DRC for statewide assessment services in 2022-2023.

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

Kirk Penner Yes

The motion passed.

- 6.3.D. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with NWEA for statewide assessment services in 2022-2023

Motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Deborah Neary to contract with NWEA for statewide assessment services in 2022-2023.

Lisa Fricke: Yes
Patsy Koch Johns: Yes
Deborah Neary: Yes
Maureen Nickels: Yes
Robin Stevens: Yes
Patti Gubbels: Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison: Yes
Kirk Penner Yes

The motion passed.

- 6.4. **Rules and Regulations Committee** – Lisa Fricke, Vice Chair reported on the meeting of the Committee.

- 6.4.A. Report on Rules

Commissioner Blomstedt reported on the rules.

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

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 51 was approved by the Governor May 12, 2022.

- 6.4.B. Discussion Item: Bylaw B13, Rule Development

There was no further discussion on this item.

7. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

- 5.3.I. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Boys Town, USA to continue as the communications center for the LB 322 School Safety and Security Reporting System Act, specifically Safe2HelpNE

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Lisa Fricke to contract with Boys Town, USA to continue as the communications center for the LB 322 School Safety and Security Reporting System Act, specifically Safe2HelpNE.

Lisa Fricke: Yes
Patsy Koch Johns: Yes
Deborah Neary: Yes
Maureen Nickels: Yes
Robin Stevens: Yes
Patti Gubbels: Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison: Yes
Kirk Penner Yes

The motion passed.

6.1.A. Action Item: Approve the employment agreement between the State Board of Education and Matthew L. Blomstedt and his goals for July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023.

Motion by Jacquelyn Morrison, second by Deborah Neary to take from the table the motion to approve the amendment to the employment agreement between the State Board of Education and Matthew L. Blomstedt and his goals for July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Robin Stevens:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yes
Kirk Penner	Yes

The motion passed.

Motion by Robin Stevens, second by Jacquelyn Morrison to go into executive session to discuss the amendment to the Commissioner's contract and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of an individual and to seek legal advice.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	No
Robin Stevens:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yes
Kirk Penner	No

The motion passed.

At 3:31 p.m., the Board moved into Executive Session to discuss the amendment to the Commissioner's contract and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of an individual.

Motion by Robin Stevens, second by Jacquelyn Morrison to adjourn Executive Session at 5:06 p.m.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Robin Stevens:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yes
Kirk Penner	Yes

The motion passed.

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Patti Gubbels to amend the amendment to the employment agreement section A by striking 2024 and inserting 2025.

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Patti Gubbels to postpone the main motion and amendment until the next meeting.

Lisa Fricke:	No
Patsy Koch Johns:	No
Deborah Neary:	No
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Robin Stevens:	No
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	No
Kirk Penner	No

The motion failed.

On the motion to amend the amendment to the employment agreement section A by striking 2024 and inserting 2025.

Lisa Fricke:	No
Patsy Koch Johns:	No
Deborah Neary:	No
Maureen Nickels:	No
Robin Stevens:	No
Patti Gubbels:	No
Jacquelyn Morrison:	No
Kirk Penner	No

The amendment failed.

Motion by Jacquelyn Morrison, second by Robin Stevens to call the question.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	Yes
Robin Stevens:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yes
Kirk Penner	Yes

The motion passed to end debate.

On the motion to approve the attached amendment to the employment agreement between the State Board of Education and Matthew L. Blomstedt.

Lisa Fricke:	No
Patsy Koch Johns:	No
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Maureen Nickels:	No
Robin Stevens:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	No
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yes
Kirk Penner	No

The motion failed.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

9.1. President Koch Johns referred Board Members to review information items and reports.

10. GOOD OF THE ORDER

(NONE)

11. ADJOURNMENT

President Koch Johns adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, August 5, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. in Lincoln, Nebraska.