

## State Board of Education Work Session

Thursday, December 1, 2022

Lincoln Marriott Cornhusker Hotel, Yankee Hill III, 333 South 13<sup>th</sup> Street, 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, December 1, 2022, 1:30 p.m.

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

President Koch Johns called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

##### 1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Robin Stevens

Patsy Koch Johns

Patti Gubbels

Deborah Neary

Kirk Penner

Maureen Nickels

Lisa Fricke

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

#### 2. BUSINESS

Motion by Robin Stevens, second by Maureen Nickels to go into closed session for the purpose of receiving legal advice on the search for the next Commissioner of Education.

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.

At 1:35 p.m., the Board went into closed session to receive legal advice on the search for the next Commissioner of Education.

Motion by Robin Stevens, second by Deborah Neary to adjourn closed session.

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. The Board adjourn the closed session at 2:13 p.m.

#### 2.1. Vendor Proposal Presentations for the Commissioner of Education Search Process

Board Members heard presentations from:

- McPherson and Jacobsen, LLC Executive Recruitment and Development, Dr. Walt Cooper, Dr. Randy Gilson, Dr. Steve Joel and Dr. Michelle Hamilton.
- National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE), Paolo Demaria, President and CEO.
- Nebraska Association of Schools Boards (NASB), Shari Becker, Colby Coash, Matt Belka, Marica Herring, Abi Carlson.

### 3. ADJOURNMENT

President Koch Johns adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

The State Board of Education will reconvene Friday, December 2, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at Lincoln Marriott Cornhusker Hotel, Yankee Hill III, 333 South 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, NE 68508.

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, Friday, December 2, 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:

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

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.

**2. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

2.1. 2022 Nebraska Teacher of the Year, Lee Perez, Alice Buffett Magnet Middle School, Omaha, Nebraska Final Report

2022 Nebraska Teacher of the Year, Lee Perez, English as a Second Language teacher in grades 5-8th at Alice Buffett Magnet Middle School in Omaha, reviewed his year as the 2022 Nebraska Teacher of the Year.

**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. No Consent Agenda Items were requested to be removed.

3.2. Report from Superintendent of Institutional Schools

Scott English, Superintendent of Institutional Schools, provided a 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.

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** – No report.

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

6.3.A. Action Item: Adopt the annual plan for the Nebraska statewide assessment and reporting system

Motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Lisa Fricke to adopt the annual plan for the Nebraska statewide assessment and reporting system.

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

The motion passed.

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: Authorize the Commissioner to hire a Contractor to serve as a Farm to School and Early Care Project Coordinator.

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Patti Gubbels authorize the Commissioner to hire a Contractor to serve as a Farm to School and early Care Project Coordinator.

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 ACS Ventures to conduct alignment studies for the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) exams in science.

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Patti Gubbels to contract with ACS Ventures to conduct alignment studies for the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) exams in science.

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

There is no action on rules.

6.4.B. Action Item: Approve the State Board’s Legislative and Regulatory Priorities

Motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Maureen Nickels to approve the updated version of the State Board’s Legislative and Regulatory Priorities.

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.

President Koch Johns called for a break at 10:37 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:50 a.m.

6.4.C. Discussion Item: Basic Skills Competency Options

Brad Dirksen, NDE Representative, presented on Basic Skills Competency Options

## 7. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1. Report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Board Policy Manual Revision – Patti Gubbels reported on the proposed board policy revisions and recommends adopting the draft revisions.

7.1.A. Action Item: Adopt Board Policy Revisions

Motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Maureen Nickels to adopt the proposed Board Policy Revisions

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.

7.2. Report from the Ad Hoc Search Committee

7.2.A. Action Item: Select a Vendor to Perform an Executive Search for the Position of Commissioner of Education.

Motion made by Jacquelyn Morrison, second by Maureen Nickels to move the President, on behalf of the Board, contract with McPherson and Jacobson, LLC to assist in the search for the next Commissioner of Education.

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

The motion passed.

**8. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

8.1. Board Member Recognition

President Koch Johns recognized Maureen Nickels for her service to the State Board of Education.

President Koch Johns recognized Robin Stevens for his service to the State Board of Education.

8.2. Commissioner Recognition

President Koch Johns recognized Commissioner Matthew L. Blomstedt on his service to the Nebraska Department of Education and to the State Board of Education.

President Koch Johns called for a break at 11:46 a.m. The meeting resumed at 1:00 p.m.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

9.1. Public Comment

Heather Schmidt spoke regarding the disappointing literacy test scores and that Nebraska needs new direction increasing reading proficiency.

Dr. De Tonack spoke regarding the efforts to look for ways to extend the search for Teacher Certification and continue work on assessment and teacher shortage.

9.2. Written Public Comment

Submitted written public comments are linked through SPARQ in Board Agenda item number 9.2., SBOE Written Public Comment December 2022.

## **10. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS**

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

## **11. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

(NONE)

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

President Koch Johns adjourned the meeting at 1:12 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, January 6, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Lincoln, Nebraska.