

State Board of Education Work Session and Business Meeting.

Thursday-Friday October 5-6, 2023

Gering Civic Center, Wildcat and Dome Rock Rooms, 1050 M Street, Gering, NE 69341

[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, October 5, 2023, 2:30 p.m. MT/3:30 p.m. CT

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Gubbels called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Lisa Fricke

Patti Gubbels

Elizabeth Tegtmeier

Deborah Neary

Sherry Jones

Kirk Penner

Commissioner Maher was also in attendance.

Absent: Jacquelyn Morrison and Patsy Koch Johns

1.2. President Gubbels led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

2. BUSINESS

2.1. Review proposed changes to the Board Bylaws and Policies

Board Members engaged in a work session discussing changes to the Board Bylaws and Policies.

Kirk Penner left at 3:53 p.m.

President Gubbels called for a break at 3:54 p.m. The meeting resumed at 4:00 p.m.

3. ADJOURNMENT

President Gubbels adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

The State Board of Education will reconvene Friday, October 6, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. MT/10:00 a.m. CT
Gering Civic Center, Wildcat and Dome Rock Rooms, 1050 M Street, Gering, NE 69341

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, Friday, October 6, 2023, 9:00 a.m. MT/10:00 a.m. CT

1. CALL TO ORDER – President Patti Gubbels called the meeting to order at 8:59 a.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Sherry Jones	Patti Gubbels	Elizabeth Tegtmeier
Lisa Fricke	Deborah Neary	Kirk Penner

Commissioner Maher was also in attendance.

Absent: Patsy Koch Johns and Jacquelyn Morrison

1.2. President Gubbels led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

2. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

2.1. Addressing the Teacher Shortage in the Panhandle and Beyond

NDE Representative, Lane Carr, introduced Dr. Jim Powell and Dr. Don King, Chadron State College addressing the Teacher Shortage in the Panhandle and Beyond.

2.2. Recognize November as National Native American Heritage Month

2.2.A. Resolution to Recognize November as National Native American Heritage Month

Motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Deborah Neary to adopt the resolution to recognize November as National Native American Heritage Month

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Absent
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Sherry Jones:	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent

The motion passed.

2.3. Nebraska VR Presentation

NDE Representative, Lindy Foley, presented on the mission of Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation and October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

2.3.A. Resolution to Recognize October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Motion by Elizabeth Tegtmeier, second by Lisa Fricke to adopt the resolution to recognize October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Absent
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Sherry Jones:	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier:	Yes

Patti Gubbels: Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison: Absent

The motion passed.

President Gubbels called for a break at 10:06 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:16 a.m.

3. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Maher delivered the Commissioner's Report.

3.1. Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process

3.1.A. Commissioner's recommendation and items to be removed from consent agenda.

No Consent Agenda items were removed.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Gubbels delivered the President's Report.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Kirk Penner, second by Deborah Neary to approve the Consent Agenda without agenda items 5.3.B. and 5.3.C.

Lisa Fricke: Yes
Patsy Koch Johns: Absent
Deborah Neary: Yes
Sherry Jones: Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier: Yes
Patti Gubbels: Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison: Absent
Kirk Penner: Yes

The motion passed.

6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1. **Executive Committee** – Patti Gubbels, Chair, reported on the meeting of the Committee.

6.1.A. Discussion Item: Review Commissioner Mid-Year Appraisal Process

No discussion.

6.2. **Budget and Finance Committee** – Sherry Jones, Vice 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. Action Item: Accept the 2023 Statewide Longitudinal Data System Grant from the U.S. Department of Education

Motion by, Deborah Neary second by Kirk Penner to accept the 2023 Statewide Longitudinal Data System Grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Lisa Fricke: Yes

Patsy Koch Johns:	Absent
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Sherry Jones:	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yes

The motion passed.

- 6.2.C. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to submit the Department's deficit budget request for fiscal year 2023-24

Motion by Elizabeth Tegtmeier, second by Kirk Penner to submit the Department's deficit budget request for fiscal year 2023-24.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Absent
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Sherry Jones:	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yes

The motion passed.

- 6.2.D. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to approve 2023-2024 medical consultant contracts for the Disability Determinations Section

Motion by Kirk Penner, second by Sherry Jones to approve 2023-2024 medical consultant contracts for the Disability Determinations Section.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Absent
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Sherry Jones:	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yes

The motion passed.

- 6.2.E. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to approve the Bipartisan Safer Communities Stronger Connections Grants awarded to districts

Motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Kirk Penner to approve the Bipartisan Safer Communities Stronger Connections Grants awarded to districts.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Absent
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Sherry Jones:	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier:	Yes

Patti Gubbels: Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison: Absent
Kirk Penner Yes

The motion passed.

6.3. **Planning and Evaluation Committee Report** – Deborah Neary, Chair reported on the meeting of the Committee.

6.3.A. Action Item: Approve the Priority School Progress Plan for Isanti Elementary School

Motion by Sherry Jones, second by Lisa Fricke to approve the priority school progress plan for Isanti Elementary School.

NDE Representative, Shirley Vargas, and Caitlin Sharpe, partner with TNTP, provided additional information on the priority school progress plan for Isanti Elementary School.

Lisa Fricke: Yes
Patsy Koch Johns: Absent
Deborah Neary: Yes
Sherry Jones: Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier: Yes
Patti Gubbels: Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison: Absent
Kirk Penner No

The motion passed.

6.3.B. Action Item: Approve the Priority School Progress Plan for Isanti High School

Motion by Sherry Jones, second by Deborah Neary to approve the priority school progress plan for Isanti High School.

NDE Representative, Shirley Vargas, and Caitlin Sharpe, partner with TNTP, provided additional information on the priority school progress plan for Isanti Elementary School.

Lisa Fricke: Yes
Patsy Koch Johns: Absent
Deborah Neary: Yes
Sherry Jones: Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier: No
Patti Gubbels: Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison: Absent
Kirk Penner No

The motion passed.

6.3.C. Action Item: Approve Rule 11 waiver request from Auburn Public Schools

Motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Deborah Neary to approve Rule 11 waiver request from Auburn Public Schools

Lisa Fricke: Yes
Patsy Koch Johns: Absent
Deborah Neary: Yes
Sherry Jones: Yes

Elizabeth Tegtmeier: Yes
Patti Gubbels: Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison: Absent
Kirk Penner Yes

The motion passed.

- 6.3.D. Action Item: Approve Rule 10 Waiver for Blue Hill Community Schools for the 2023-24 academic year regarding 6th grade participation in athletics as outlined in the request

Motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Sherry Jones to approve Rule 10 Waiver for Blue Hill Community Schools for the 2023-24 academic year regarding 6th grade participation in athletics as outlined in the request.

Lisa Fricke: Yes
Patsy Koch Johns: Absent
Deborah Neary: Yes
Sherry Jones: Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier: Yes
Patti Gubbels: Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison: Absent
Kirk Penner Yes

The motion passed.

- 6.3.E. Discussion Item: Update and discussion of the annual plan for the Nebraska Statewide Assessment and reporting system (staff presentation)

NDE Representative, Trudy Clark, provided additional information on the annual plan for the Nebraska Statewide Assessment and reporting system.

Deborah Neary left at 11:39 a.m. Returned at 11:42 a.m.

Rules and Regulations Committee – Elizabeth Tegtmeier, 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 revisions to Rule 21

Motion by Kirk Penner, second by Elizabeth Tegtmeier to approve revisions to Rule 21

NDE Representative, Tammy Barry, provided additional information on the changes required for Rule 21.

Lisa Fricke: Yes
Patsy Koch Johns: Absent
Deborah Neary: Yes
Sherry Jones: Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier: Yes
Patti Gubbels: Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison: Absent
Kirk Penner Yes

The motion passed.

7. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

- 5.3.B. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to renew a contract for the Indigenous Pedagogies Project

Motion by Sherry Jones, second by Deborah Neary to renew a contract for the Indigenous Pedagogies Project

NDE Representative, Amy Rhone, provided additional information on the contract for the Indigenous Pedagogies Project.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Absent
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Sherry Jones:	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier:	No
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	No

The motion passed.

President Gubbels called for a recess at 12:09 p.m. The meeting resumed at 1:00 p.m.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- 8.1. Don Lease II spoke with regard to basic mental health training and making it mandatory.

Darrel Lechner, Jr. spoke with regard to the health standards.

7. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS, Con't.

- 5.3.C. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to renew a contract for Step Up to Quality Program

Motion by Elizabeth Tegtmeier, second by Deborah Neary to renew a contract for Step Up to Quality Program

NDE Representative, Melody Hobson, provided additional information on the contract for Step Up to Quality Program.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Absent
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Sherry Jones:	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yes

The motion passed

OTHER ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Board Members finished discussing changes to Board Operating Policy 1.14 and 1.15. Brian Halstead, Board Legal Counsel provided additional information on the changes.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD, Con't.

8.2. Written Public Comment

(NONE)

9. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

President Gubbels referred Board Members to review information items and reports.

10. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Lisa Fricke spoke of attending the 2023 Thriving Children, Families and Communities conference and shared four facts about Early Childhood.

11. ADJOURNMENT

President Gubbels adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, December 1, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Lincoln, NE.