

State Board of Education Work Session and Business Meeting.

Thursday-Friday January 4-5, 2024

Nebraska Department of Education, State Board Room, 500 S 84th 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, January 4, 2024, 4:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Gubbels called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Lisa Fricke

Patti Gubbels

Jacquelyn Morrison

Patsy Koch Johns

Elizabeth Tegtmeier

Deborah Neary

Sherry Jones

Kirk Penner

Commissioner Maher was also in attendance.

1.2. President Gubbels led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

1.4. Meeting Logistics Orientation

NDE Representatives, Drew Worster and Travis Rhoden, provided logistics for microphones and WIFI connections.

2. BUSINESS

2.1. 2024 ORGANIZATION OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

2.1.A. Election Process and Procedures

Commissioner Maher reviewed election procedures pursuant to Board BLW 2 State Board Officers.

Commissioner Maher appointed Brian Halstead and Lora Sypal as Tellers to disseminate and count the ballots.

2.1.B. Election of Board President

Commissioner Maher opened nominations for President of the State Board of Education.

Deborah Neary nominated Elizabeth Tegtmeier.

There being no further nominations, the Commissioner Maher closed the nominations.

Vote 1:

Reporting Teller, Brian Halstead, read the vote results:

- 8 votes were cast
- 5 votes necessary for election
- 6 votes for Elizabeth Tegtmeier
- 1 vote for Patsy Koch Johns
- 1 vote for Jacquelyn Morrison
- 0 illegal votes

The tally was delivered to the Commissioner Maher, who announced the result that Elizabeth Tegtmeier was elected President.

3.3. Election of Board Vice President

Commissioner Maher opened nominations for Vice President of the State Board of Education.

Kirk Penner nominated Deborah Neary.

Patti Gubbels nominated Lisa Fricke.

There being no further nominations, the Commissioner Maher closed the nominations.

Vote 1:

Reporting Teller, Brian Halstead, read the vote results:

- 8 votes were cast
- 5 votes necessary for election
- 6 votes received for Deborah Neary
- 2 votes received for Lisa Fricke
- 0 illegal votes

The tally was delivered to the Commissioner Maher, who announced the result that Deborah Neary was elected President.

3. ADJOURNMENT

President Tegtmeier adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

The State Board of Education will reconvene Friday, January 5, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at Nebraska Department of Education, State Board Room, 500 S 84th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, Friday, January 5, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER – President Elizabeth Tegtmeier called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Sherry Jones	Patti Gubbels	Elizabeth Tegtmeier
Patsy Koch Johns (arrived at 9:01 a.m.)	Lisa Fricke	Deborah Neary
Jacquelyn Morrison (arrived at 9:01 a.m.)	Kirk Penner	

Commissioner Maher was also in attendance.

1.2. President Tegtmeier led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

2. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

2.1. Introduction of Jacob Eitzen, 2023-2024 Nebraska Milken Educator, at the time of the award, an 11th/12th Grade AP Statistics and Algebra 2 Teacher, Bellevue West High School, Bellevue, Nebraska

David Jespersen, Administrator of the Office of Public Information and Communication, introduced Jacob Eitzen, 2023-2024 Nebraska Milken Educator.

2.2. Introduction of Leslie McIntosh, 2023-2024 Nebraska Milken Educator, at the time of the award, a 5th Grade Reading/English Language Arts (ELA) Teacher, Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Middle School, Syracuse, Nebraska

David Jespersen, Administrator of the Office of Public Information and Communication, introduced Leslie McIntosh, 2023-2024 Nebraska Milken Educator.

President Tegtmeier called for a break at 9:43 a.m. The meeting resumed at 9:52 a.m.

Jacquelyn Morrison and Deborah Neary returned at 9:53 a.m.

3. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

3.2. Introduction of Scott Phillips, 2024 Nebraska Teacher of the Year, Math teacher, Aurora Middle School, Aurora, Nebraska

The 2023 Nebraska Teacher of the Year, Scott Phillips, Math teacher, Aurora Middle School, Aurora, Nebraska provided an introduction to his family, his journey to education and his goals for this year.

President Tegtmeier called for a break at 10:25 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:31 a.m.

3.1. Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process

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

No items were requested for removal.

Commissioner Maher delivered the Commissioner's report.

Deputy Commissioner Halstead, Board Legal Counsel, provided information on the Summer EBT Food Service program. The statutes enacted by the Legislature did not contemplate what Congress

changed at the federal level making the Summer EBT program a permanent part of the Department of Agriculture's summer food service programs.

NDE Representative, Trudy Clark, provided an overview of the RFP process for assessment, explained that the work product belongs to Nebraska and what things will be compared in requesting information from vendors.

Kirk Penner left at 11:11 a.m. Returned at 11:15 a.m.

3.3. Review Process for Developing Content Area Standards

NDE Representative, Allyson DenBeste, reviewed the process for developing content area standards and engaged in discussion with Board Members.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Tegtmeier delivered the President's Report

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Patsy Koch Johns, second by Kirk Penner to approve the Consent Agenda.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Sherry Jones:	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yes
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. Adopt revisions to Board Bylaws

Motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Kirk Penner to adopt revisions to Board Bylaws.

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

The motion passed.

6.1.B. Adopt revision to Board Operating Policies

Motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Kirk Penner to adopt revisions to Board Operating Policies.

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

The motion passed.

6.1.C. Adopt revision to Agency Management Policies

Motion by Kirk Penner, second by Sherry Jones to adopt revisions to Agency Management Policies.

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

The motion passed.

President Tegtmeier called for a break at 11:53 a.m. The meeting resumed at 12:33 p.m.

6.2. **Budget and Finance Committee** – Patsy Koch Johns, 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: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with a Vendor to aid in the building and development of a Learning Management System (LMS), and construction of an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)

Motion by Deborah Neary, second by Kirk Penner to contract with a Vendor to aid in the building and development of a Learning Management System (LMS), and construction of an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).

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

The motion passed.

- 6.2.C. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to approve a grant to the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to continue the Nurturing Healthy Behaviors/Rooted in Relationships program

Motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Kirk Penner to Authorize the Commissioner to approve a grant to the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to continue the Nurturing Healthy Behaviors/Rooted in Relationships program.

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

The motion passed.

- 6.2.D. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with WestEd to conduct a Nebraska Middle School CTE Landscape Analysis

Motion by Kirk Penner, second by Patti Gubbels to contract with WestEd to conduct a Nebraska Middle School CTE Landscape Analysis.

Lisa Fricke:	Yes
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yes
Deborah Neary:	Yes
Sherry Jones:	Yes
Elizabeth Tegtmeier:	Yes
Patti Gubbels:	Yes
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yes
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: Authorize the Commissioner to approve the Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation (Nebraska VR) portion of the WIOA Combined State Plan

Motion by Patsy Koch Johns, second by Kirk Penner to approve the Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation (Nebraska VR) portion of the WIOA Combined State Plan.

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

The motion passed.

6.3.B. Discussion Item: Engage in discussion and provide updates on Nebraska’s Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) state plan amendment

No additional discussion.

6.3.C. Discussion Item: Discuss extension of NWEA contract to 2024-2025

No additional discussion.

6.3.D. Discussion Item: Discuss extension of Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) contract to 2024-2025

No additional discussion.

6.3.E. Discussion Item: Approve Rule 11 teacher waiver request for Franklin Public Schools

No additional discussion.

6.3.F. Discussion Item: Discuss the proposed Computer Science and Technology standards

NDE Representatives, Katie Graham, and Shaun Young, provided that already existing in Rule 10 (92 NAC 10) Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools, is a process where school districts can create a policy to allow middle school coursework to count for high school credit. This would be another example of where districts could deliver the high school computer science requirement in middle school and count towards the graduation requirement.

6.4. **Rules and Regulations Committee** – Elizabeth Tegtmeier, Chair reported on the meeting of the Committee.

NDE Representatives, Brian Halstead, and Zainab Rida, provided information on a regular school day, specifically with regard to summer school, for purposes of the anaphylaxis’s protocol.

6.4.A. Report on Rules

There is no action on rules.

6.4.B. Action Item: Approve and adopt proposed revisions to Rule 58 (92 NAC 58) Regulations for Security-Related Infrastructure Grants

Motion by Kirk Penner, second by Patti Gubbels to approve and adopt proposed revisions to Rule 58 (92 NAC 58) Regulations for Security-Related Infrastructure Grants.

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

The motion passed.

6.4.C. Action Item: Approve and adopt proposed revisions to Rule 59 (92 NAC 59) Regulations for School Health and Safety

Motion by Jacquelyn Morrison, second by Patti Gubbels to approve and adopt proposed revisions to Rule 59 (92 NAC 58) Regulations for School Health and Safety.

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

The motion passed.

7. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

(NONE)

8. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

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

9. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Deborah Neary indicated that one of the Board Members, Patsy Koch Johns, is receiving a statewide award and will be inducted into the Thespian Hall of Fame.

Patti Gubbels indicated that January 21-28 is Local School Board Member Appreciation Week and that the NASB Legislative Issues Conference is January 21-22, 2024, for any that have not signed up.

10. ADJOURNMENT

President Tegtmeier adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, February 2, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Lincoln, NE.