

State Board of Education Work Session and Business Meeting.

Thursday-Friday May 2-3, 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, May 2, 2024, 11:15 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Tegtmeier called the meeting to order at 11:25 a.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Lisa Fricke

Patsy Koch Johns

Elizabeth Tegtmeier

Deborah Neary

Jacquelyn Morrison

Patti Gubbels

Commissioner Maher was also in attendance.

Absent: Kirk Penner and Sherry Jones

1.2. President Tegtmeier led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

2. BUSINESS

2.1. Legislative Priorities for 2025-2027 Biennium

President Tegtmeier had Lane Carr and Brian Halstead, NDE Representatives, update the Board on Legislative matters from the last session and the Board began discussion of priorities for 2025-2027 Biennium.

RECESS

President Tegtmeier recessed the meeting at 12:09 p.m. The meeting resumed at 1:06 p.m.

2. BUSINESS Con't

2.1. Legislative Priorities for 2025-2027 Biennium

President Tegtmeier had Lane Carr and Brian Halstead, NDE Representatives, provide draft information and the Board continued discussion of the Legislative Priorities for 2025-2027 Biennium.

Patsy Koch Johns left the meeting at 1:20 p.m. Returned at 1:28 p.m.

Jacquelyn Morrison left the meeting at 1:32 p.m. Returned at 1:34 p.m.

3. ADJOURNMENT

President Tegtmeier adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

The State Board of Education will reconvene Friday, May 3, 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, May 3, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER – President Elizabeth Tegtmeier called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

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

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. Adopt the Resolution proclaiming May as Foster Care Awareness Month

Motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Patsy Koch Johns to proclaim May as Foster Care Awareness Month.

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.

Rose Hood-Buss, Executive Director, , the HUB Central Access Point, spoke about the challenges that young adults face in the foster care system and a young adult, Carolina, spoke about her experience and the help with her education.

2.2. Adopt the Resolution to Recognize Nebraska PK-12 Educators for Teacher Appreciation Month

Motion by Sherry Jones, second by Patsy Koch Johns to recognize Nebraska PK-12 Educators for Teacher Appreciation Month.

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.

2.3. Update on the Success Made Accessible Through Rural Tutoring (Nebraska SMART) program

Lane Carr, NDE Representative, introduced Chancellor Dr. Paul Turman, Vice Chancellor Jodi Kupper and Director of Nebraska SMART, Julie Dickerson who shared about Nebraska SMART, the one-on-one online tutoring program developed by the Nebraska State College System.

3. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

3.1. Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process

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

Agenda items 5.4.B. and 5.7.B. were requested to be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Maher delivered the Commissioner's report.

3.2. Exempt School Update

Bryce Wilson, NDE Representative, provided an update on the Exempt School Program system improvement.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Tegtmeier did not have a report.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Patsy Koch Johns, second by Patti Gubbels to approve the Consent Agenda, without agenda items 5.4.B. and 5.7.B.

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 10:12 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:25 a.m.

6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1. **Executive Committee** – Elizabeth Tegtmeier, Chair, reported on the meeting of the Committee.

6.1.A. Discussion Item: Commissioner's Appraisal Process

Members of the committee read the evaluation summary that provided an overview of Commissioner Maher in three key areas of leadership.

6.1.B. Discussion Item: Legislative Priorities for 2025-2027 Biennium

Board Members discussed the Legislative Priorities for 2025-2027 Biennium.

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: Accept the 2023 Single Audit Report

Motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Kirk Penner to accept the 2023 Single Audit Report.

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: Accept the 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) Audit

Motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Patti Gubbels to accept the 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report Audit.

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: Approve funding recommendations for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Grant Program

Motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Patti Gubbels to approve funding recommendations for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Grant Program.

Board Members discussed the accountability process, the annual reporting and visits the sites receive for funding.

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.E. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to accept funds to support the development and continued support of Statewide Family Engagement Centers

Motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Kirk Penner to accept funds to support the development and continued support of Statewide Family Engagement Centers.

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.F. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to amend a contract for providing additional training for tier two interventions to address the mental health needs of students

Motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Kirk Penner to amend a contract for providing additional training for tier two interventions to address the mental health needs of students.

Board Members discussed sustainability and monitoring of the training.

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.G. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to approve School Safety and Security-Related Infrastructure Grants

Motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Kirk Penner to approve School Safety and Security-Related Infrastructure Grants.

Jay Martin, NDE Representative, provided additional information on the funding needs of the 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.

6.2.H. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to amend the contract for the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (SEBT) program

Motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Kirk Penner to amend the contract for the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (SEBT) 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.I. Action Item: Approve new and expansion early childhood education program grants

Motion by Sherry Jones, second by Deborah Neary to approve new and expansion early childhood education program 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.

6.2.J. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract to create microcredential courses to support leadership development

Motion by Sherry Jones, second by Jacquelyn Morrison to contract to create microcredential courses to support leadership development.

Shirley Vargas and Ryan Ricenbaw, NDE Representatives, provided additional information on the microcredential courses.

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.K. Action Item: Issue subawards and contract to carry out the provisions of the Nebraska Statewide Educational Programs and Support Services for Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing State Plan and the duties listed within

Motion by Sherry Jones, second by Jacquelyn Morrison to issue subawards and contract to carry out the provisions of the Nebraska Statewide Educational Programs and Support Services for Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing State Plan and the duties listed within.

Amy Rhone, NDE Representative, provided additional information on the subawards and contracts.

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.L. Action Item: Issue subawards to carry out the Federal IDEA Part B grant continuation activities

Motion by Patsy Koch Johns, second by Patti Gubbels to issue subawards to carry out the Federal IDEA Part B grant continuation activities.

Amy Rhone, NDE Representative, provided additional information on the subawards.

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.M. Action Item: Issue subawards to carry out the Federal IDEA Part C grant continuation activities

Motion by Patsy Koch Johns, second by Kirk Penner to issue subawards to carry out the Federal IDEA Part B grant continuation activities.

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** – Sherry Jones, Chair reported on the meeting of the Committee.

Decua Jean-Baptiste, NDE Representative, presented on the accreditation or approval of Rule 10, 14, 18 and 84 School Systems, Programs and Educational Service Units.

Brad Dirksen, NDE Representative, provided additional information.

Brian Halstead, NDE Representative, provided additional information on documentation from school visits.

- 6.3.A. Action Item: Approve Nonpublic schools for the 2024-2025 school year

Motion by Kirk Penner, second by Patti Gubbels to approve nonpublic schools for the 2024-2025 school year.

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 recess at 12:07 p.m. The meeting resumed at 12:45 p.m.

- 6.3.B. Discussion Item: Conditional approval of new nonpublic schools

Board Members discussed the meaning of conditional approval.

- 6.3.C. Discussion Item: Approval of Interim-Program Schools for the 2024-2025 school year

There was no additional discussion.

- 6.3.D. Discussion Item: Accreditation of current accredited public, nonpublic, and special purpose schools

Brian Halstead, NDE Representative, said that Rule 10 provides accreditation to come before the Board annually.

Decua Jean-Baptiste and Brad Dirksen, NDE Representatives, clarified the school changes on the list.

- 6.3.E. Discussion Item: Accreditation of Educational Service Units

There was no additional discussion.

- 6.3.F. Discussion Item: Approve educator preparation programs for the 2024-2025 school year

Brad Dirksen, NDE Representative, answered questions in regard to Rule 20 revisions and adherence demonstrated through annual assurance statements.

6.3.G. Discussion Item: Development of Model Dress Code Policy

Board Members discussed the model policy.

Zainab Rida, NDE Representative, provided the process for the model dress code policy, created in accordance with section 79-2, 159.

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

Board Members discussed concerns about a model book policy.

6.4.A. Report on Rules

The report on rules is linked through Sparq in Board Agenda item 6.4.A.

7. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

5.4.B. Authorize the Commissioner to approve grant renewals to operate the T.E.A.C.H Early Childhood Nebraska® Scholarship program

Motion by Deborah Neary, second by Patsy Koch Johns to approve grant renewals to operate the T.E.A.C.H Early Childhood Nebraska® Scholarship program.

Melody Hobson, NDE Representative, provided additional information on the T.E.A.C.H Early Childhood Nebraska® Scholarship 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.

5.7.B. Approve the attached Special Grant Fund List for 024/25 School District Budgeting

Motion by Jacquelyn Morrison, second by Kirk Penner to approve the attached special grant fund list for 2024/25 school district budgeting.

Bryce Wilson, NDE Representative, provided the information used for the school district budgeting.

Kirk Penner left the meeting at 2:01 p.m.

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

The motion passed.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

Information items and reports are linked through Sparq under Board Agenda item 8.

9. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Patti Gubbels commented on the events and training that is offered by the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE), New Board Member Institute and thanked Board Members Elizabeth Tegtmeier and Sherry Jones for registering; awards, Office Hours special training sessions, and being able to submit a proposal for a session at the national conference.

10. ADJOURNMENT

President Tegtmeier adjourned the meeting at 2:12 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, June 7, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Lincoln, NE.