

WYOMING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

January 12-13, 2017

Laramie CSD #1 Training Center

316 South Lexington Ave

Cheyenne, Wyoming

Wyoming State Board of Education members present: Pete Gosar, Kathy Coon, Ken Rathbun, Proxy for State Superintendent, Dicky Shanor (1/12), Jillian Balow (1/13), Sue Belish, Scotty Ratliff (via GoToMeeting), Robin Schamber (via GoToMeeting), Kathryn Sessions, Jim Rose (1/12), Walt Wilcox, and Belenda Willson (via GoToMeeting)

Members absent: Hugh Hageman and Jim Rose (1/13)

Also present: Chelsie Oaks, WDE; Lisa Weigel, WDE; Thomas Sachse, SBE Coordinator; Mackenzie Williams, Attorney General's Office (AG); Julie Magee, WDE; Laurie Hernandez, WDE; Laurel Ballard, WDE; Kathy Schuerman, WEA;

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January 12, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, Pete Gosar, called the meeting to order at 1:48 p.m.

Chelsie Oaks conducted roll call and established that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Kathryn Sessions moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Nate Breen; the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the November 18<sup>th</sup> State Board of Education (SBE) meeting were presented for approval.

Walt Wilcox moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Kathy Coon; the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

SBE Treasurer, Ken Rathbun, presented the summary review and expenditures report for board's budgets. Ken stated that there is 79% of the budget left with 75% of the biennium remaining. Sue Belish moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Kathryn Sessions; the motion carried.

## WYOMING STATE SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

Proxy for State Superintendent, Dicky Shanor, reviewed the memo provided in the meeting packet on the updates around the WDE and the budget cuts surrounding the University of Wyoming.

## WDE DIVISION HIGHLIGHT AND DISTRICT EVALUATION SYSTEM

Laurel Ballard, WDE supervisor, reviewed that two schools districts have submitted their evaluation systems for approval. Laurel noted that currently there is a legislative bill that would remove this requirement, but both districts would like to proceed in getting their system approved.

Kathy Coon requested that a check-off sheet be provided that would show that the district has met all requirements for the board. Laurel Ballard will provide that to the members before the request for action.

Laurel Ballard reported that her team on Student and Teacher Resources has been working on a part of ESSA, section 5, on excellent educator work and building up that section and subsections. Her team has been gathering stakeholder feedback and is hearing that districts do not want two accountability systems. They would prefer one in order to achieve overarching collaboration.

## BOARD REPORTS AND UPDATES

### **Legislative Priorities**

Tom Sachse SBE Coordinator, reviewed the memo provided in the meeting packet and asked that the board have a discussion around its legislative priorities. Members discussed the priorities from the previous year and whether or not they related to the board's current stance. After an in-depth discussion pertaining to the board's previous priorities, members decided that the board's number one priorities should be the retention of the SBE coordinator position.

Sue Belish requested that the board establish its priorities in the August/September board meeting, to allow for more time to discuss and prepare.

Jim Rose reminded the board members to be cognizant of not lobbying. SBE attorney, Mackenzie Williams, reviewed the Attorney General's memo on lobbying with the members.

The board recessed at 5:57 p.m.

January 13, 2017

The board reconvened at 8:03 a.m.

## CONTINUATION OF BOARD REPORTS AND UPDATES

The board continued its work on a legislative priorities memo to the legislature. The SBE administration committee will assist Tom in drafting the memo. Once the draft is complete it will be forward to the whole board and then to the 64<sup>th</sup> Wyoming State Legislature.

### **SBE Duties**

Tom Sachse presented the information in the packet to the board.

Pete Gosar asked that these duties be linked to a visual calendar with specific dates. Nate Breen added that a document with all due dates would be very helpful to new members, and should be apart of new member training.

### **Policies**

The board reviewed the proposed policy provided in the packet around the annual operating budget of the board.

Sue Belish recommended that a sentence be included that the board will present its own budget to the Joint Accountability Committee (JAC).

Jillian Balow stated that presenting to the JAC has always been an option to the board and that the department's fiscal staff is always there to assist with any budgetary questions.

Ken Rathbun agreed with Sue on including a sentence that the board would present its own budget. He also stated that last year he worked with Trent Carroll at the department to prepare the budget for the JAC review. Ken felt it was a good idea for the board to advocate for its budget.

Sue Belish thought that some additional policies around board operations might be needed, specifically around the monitoring of contracts. Mackenzie Williams, SBE attorney, will provide information on what the State uses for both personnel and service contracts.

Pete Gosar agreed that the board needs more operational policies and suggested a policy be created around the correct way to respond to emails. Makenzie Williams will help the board in creating a policy around this.

### **Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)**

Lisa Weigel, WDE Liaison, provided an update on the last of the listening tours, the department heard great conversations and received great input. The next phase will be putting together external work groups. Also, there might be some adjustments to the plan with the new administration at the federal level and to account for those changes. The WDE will be submitting the plan in September 2017.

Sue Belish and Kathy Coon requested to participate in the external work groups.

Jillian Balow stated that she appreciated the board's input, but wanted to clarify the authority of ESSA is with the state education agency. But there is a strong requirement to get meaningful input from state boards of education and legislators.

### **Assessment RFP**

Lisa Weigel introduced Laurie Hernandez as the new director of standards and assessment.

Laurie Hernandez reviewed the assessment request for proposals review timeline.

Sue Belish requested that when a recommendation is brought to the board, she would like to see the top rated vendors and the advantages and disadvantages.

Makenzie Williams, SBE attorney, will look into how this information can be provided and will get back to the board.

The board agreed that it would like the process to be as open as possible.

### **Trigger of Off-Cycle Review of Standards Options**

Laurie Hernandez reviewed a petition of rules draft template with the board.

Jillian Balow stated that she appreciated the discussion around this potential issues and adopting a process like this would be a preventative mechanism.

Sue Belish commented that she really liked the form and that it allowed for petitions to be reviewed on a case by case circumstance.

Pete Gosar noted that he felt an SBE policy could be created around this and asked that the document be shared with the board members for further review.

Walt Wilcox suggested that the amount of acronyms should be limited and would like to include "stakeholders" listed in the "internal use only" box.

### **Math Standards**

Laurie Hernandez introduced Jill Stringer, WDE Math Consultant, and reviewed the timeline provided in the meeting packet. Laurie reminded the board that previously when the board adopted a 9 year review cycle from a 5 year review that one content area would need to go earlier to stagger the years of review and it was determined that math would be that content area. Also, The WDE Standards Team created and released a survey to collect educator feedback on the current 2012 Wyoming Mathematics Standards.

Walt Wilcox requested that the six standards committee options and the overall themes of the surveys be presented at the next SBE meeting.

### **Statewide System of Support (SSoS)**

WDE Liaison, Lisa Weigel, updated the board on the Statewide System of Support and all the work that has been accomplished around data retreats, district assessment systems, Phase III, and project ECHO.

Walt Wilcox noted that he felt the data retreats were very well done, and was wondering how close the team was to meeting with all the priority schools in the state.

Lisa Weigel responded that by the end of spring 2017 all priority schools will have had a data retreat.

Joel Dvorak, SSoS contractor, gave kudos to the work that Lisa and the WDE have done. Joel stated that the next question is when will follow-up be given, behaviors change with follow-up not just awareness. To continue the work, Joel will be meeting with superintendents in different regions of the State.

### **Chapter 31 Rules**

Julie Magee, WDE, updated the board on the Chapter 31 Rules. On December 14, 2016, the governor's office gave the State Board of Education, through the WDE, permission to proceed with collecting public comment on Chapter 31: Graduation Requirements. Public comment on the Chapter 31 rules will be accepted through March 3, 2017. Comments may be emailed or mailed to Julie Magee or submitted online.

### **SBE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### Administrative Committee

Sue Belish updated the board that the committee had met and has monitored the SBE Coordinator contractor, Tom Sachse. Feedback has been provided and additional goals have been assigned to Tom.

#### Communication Committee

Ken Rathbun updated that this committee had met earlier in the week and reviewed Kelly Pascal Gould's invoice with the board.

Tom Sachse, brought to the board's attention that if it considered moving the February meeting up a week it could coincide with 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration with the Wyoming School Boards Association.

Sue Belish moved to move the February 23-24, 2017 SBE meeting to February 13-14, 2017, seconded by Kathryn Sessions.

Walt Wilcox requested that the timeline go through Laurie Hernandez pertaining to the assessment vendors before the board officially moves the meeting date.

Sue Belish amended her motion to add Walt's request, seconded by Kathryn Sessions; the motion carried.

#### Nominating Committee

Kathy Coon presented the list of members that have been nominated to serve as an officer.

Chair: Walt Wilcox

Vice-Chair: Sue Belish, Walt Wilcox, Nate Breen and Ken Rathbun

Treasurer: Ken Rathbun and Sue Belish

Kathy Coon requested that ballots be prepared for the next meeting.

### **DISTRICT EVALUATION SYSTEMS**

Sue Belish moved to approve the revised Certified Personnel Evaluation Systems for Big Horn CSD #2 and Sublette CSD #1. Seconded by Nate Breen; the motion carried.

## SBE POLICIES

Sue Belish moved to add "The board will be prepared to present biennium state board budget requests to the appropriate legislative committee" to the end of the annual operating budget policy of the board. Seconded by Kathy Coon; the motion carried.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Kathy Schuerman, reminded the board that the WEA will be hosting the 1<sup>st</sup> 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for the board on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Gosar is scheduled to speak around 6:30 p.m. and if a member wishes to attend to follow the link on the WEA website to register.

Pete Gosar reviewed all the items for the next meeting or those that required immediate follow-up.

The meeting adjourned at 12:36 p.m.

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