

WYOMING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

April 11, 2014

McMurry Training Center  
2220 N. Bryan Stock Trail  
Casper, Wyoming

Wyoming State Board of Education members present: Ron Micheli, Kathy Coon, Scotty Ratliff, Ken Rathbun, Joe Reichardt, Pete Gosar, Belenda Willson, Kathryn Sessions, Hugh Hageman, Cindy Hill, Belenda Willson

Members absent: Sue Belish, Richard Crandall, and Walt Wilcox

Also present: Chelsie Oaks, WDE; Leighton Thomas, WDE; Laura Johnson, WDE; Laurie Hernandez, WDE; Jim Verley, WDE; Stephanie Brady, WDE; Paige Fenton-Hughes, SBE Coordinator; Mary Kay Hill, Governor's Office, Catherine Reeves, WDE; Tom Reeder, REP HD 58; Tania Hytrek, LSO; Matt Wilmarth, LSO; Mackenzie Williams, Attorney General's Office (AG)

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CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ron Micheli called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Scotty Ratliff moved to amend the agenda to move Pubic Comment before the Wyoming Content and Performance Standards, seconded by Pete Gosar; the motion carried.

A half hour will be given to both the for and against sides of the Next Generation Science Standards.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the March 24, 2014 State Board of Education meeting were presented for approval.

Joe Reichardt moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Kathy Coon; the motion carried.

APRIL 25, 2014 JEC MEETING

Paige Fenton Hughes, SBE Coordinator, reviewed the memo on statewide education governance structure that was provided in the packet for the upcoming April 25, 2014 Joint Education Committee. In addition, Tania Hytrek and Matt Wilmarth were in attendance for any additional questions.

Cindy Hill noted that she does not opposed the idea of State Board members being elected.

Kathryn Sessions is concerned that if the State Board members were to be elected that the Board and education would become a political football.

Cindy Hill and Hugh Hageman felt that the word “unanimously” in section 2 of the memo is not an accurate reflection of the Board’s vote.

Belenda Willson moved that the memo be adopted, seconded by Joe Reichardt; the motion carried.

Ron Micheli thanked Paige Fenton Hughes for her work on the memo.

Cindy Hill asked that it be noted she would have voted no on the motion.

## SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Kathy Coon, chairwoman of the Supervisory Committee, handed out and briefly reviewed a resolution on the Wyoming State Science Standards created by the Supervisory Committee.

## WYOMING CONTENT AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS ON SOCIAL STUDIES, PE & CAREER/VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Laurie Hernandez, Stephanie Brady, and Catherine Reeves, of the WDE, gave a brief overview on what has happened in prior meetings and reviewed the packet materials around the three content areas of Career/ Vocational Education, Social Studies and Physical Education Standards review.

Laurie Hernandez reassured the Board that these standards are standards that the committee wrote and that they are more rigorous and better for the students of Wyoming. There are no repercussions from the federal government for adopting these standards.

Ron Micheli acknowledged the effort of the WDE and the Social Studies committee to include the Wyoming and US Constitution and the founding fathers.

Hugh Hageman believed that the word democracy was misused in the Social Studies Standards.

Stephanie Brady responded that the word “democracy” refers to civic responsibility.

Joe Reichardt moved to adopt the revised standards for Social Studies, Physical Education, and Career/Vocational Education. Ken Rathbun seconded.

Hugh Hageman moved to amend the Social Studies Standards by omitting the word “democracy” and replacing it with “representative republic.” Motion died for lack of a second.

Pete Gosar wanted to clarify that this adoption is to move the standards to public comment and not a final adoption. There is still time for additional revisions if needed.

Hugh Hageman opposes the motion, the motion carried.

## SCIENCE STANDARDS

Jim Verley, WDE, discussed the Science Standards and the process in creating the standards. He additionally noted, the Science Standards were created without federal input and that it would be very difficult for the committee to create standards that would be as research based as the Next Generation Science Standards. Jim Verley would like to have the opportunity to make modifications to the NGSS if the Board directed him to.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public who spoke in favor of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS): Josh Thompson, Isaac Lee, Dillon Thompson, Nicole Gomez, Katie Fica, Veronica Stricker, Robert Arlen, Rich Barns, Cate Cabat, Dr. Milton Garret, Marguerite Herman, Pete Ellsworth and Elizabeth Horsch.

Members of the public who spoke against the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS): Cindy McKee, Elizabeth Bingham, Brittany Botting, Michelle Sabroksy, Debra Deter, Rom Reeder, Lynn Hutchings.

Chairman Micheli thanked the public for their comments.

## SCIENCE STANDARDS (CONTINUED)

Scotty Ratliff recognized former Board member Larry McGarvin.

Mary Kay Hill, Governor's Office, expressed to the Board the Governors optimism for the future Wyoming Science Standards and his appreciation on what has become a tough assignment.

She recommended the Board honor both the spirit and the law of the legislative footnote and to find a path forward that include more people from the public.

Kathy Coon discussed the resolution that was handed out earlier in the meeting. She further discussed that the resolution was created out of frustration with the position the Board has been place in and the inability to complete something it started.

Scotty Ratliff moved to go into executive session to receive legal advice, seconded by Joe Reichardt. The motion carried; the Board entered executive session at 2:01 pm.

The Board returned from executive session at 2:32 p.m.

Mackenzie Williams, attorney for SBE, stated the executive session was needed for legal attorney client communication that is confidential and privileged.

Kathy Coon moved that the Board adopt the resolution on the Wyoming State Science Standards, seconded by Hugh Hageman. Pete Gosar and Belenda Willson spoke in opposition of the resolution. A roll call vote was taken:

Ron Micheli- Yes  
Scotty Ratliff- No  
Pete Gosar- No

Kathy Coon-Yes  
Hugh Hageman- Yes  
Ken Rathbun-No  
Joe Reichardt- No  
Kathryn Sessions- No  
Belenda Willson- No

The motion did not carry.

Hugh Hageman moved to stop further action on the Next Generation Science Standards to comply with the law and the spirit of the letter of the law created by the Legislature. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Scotty Ratliff moved to have the Wyoming Department of Education make revisions to the Next Generation Science Standards and come back to the Board with changes in a timely fashion. Ken Rathbun seconded. Roll call vote was taken:

Ron Micheli- Yes  
Scotty Ratliff- Yes  
Pete Gosar- No  
Kathy Coon-Yes  
Hugh Hageman- No  
Ken Rathbun-Yes  
Joe Reichardt- No  
Kathryn Sessions- Yes  
Belenda Willson- No

The motion did not carry.

Pete Gosar moved that the Next Generation Science Standards be adopted but to remain in compliance with the law that no work on the Next Generation Science Standards beyond June 30 will take place, Joe Reichardt seconded. A roll call vote was taken:

Ron Micheli- No  
Scotty Ratliff- No  
Pete Gosar- Yes  
Kathy Coon-No  
Hugh Hageman- No  
Ken Rathbun-No  
Joe Reichardt- Yes  
Kathryn Sessions- No  
Belenda Willson- Yes

The motion did not carry.

Belenda Wilson moved that the State Board of Education refer the NGSS to the WDE and that they be revised to be the best science standards, Scotty Ratliff seconded.

Ron Micheli believed Belenda's motion is the same as a previous motion. A motion to reconsider the vote is needed, rather than the new motion.

Ron Micheli moved that the Board reconsider the vote on the science standards motion that was proposed by Scotty Ratliff earlier in the meeting, Belenda Willson seconded. A roll call vote was taken:

Ron Micheli- Yes  
Scotty Ratliff- Yes  
Pete Gosar- No  
Kathy Coon-Yes  
Hugh Hageman- Yes  
Ken Rathbun-Yes  
Joe Reichardt- No  
Kathryn Sessions- Yes  
Belenda Willson- Yes

The motion carried.

Scotty Ratliff moved to have the Wyoming Department of Education make revisions to the Next Generation Science Standards and come back to the Board with changes in a timely fashion. Ken Rathbun seconded.

Mackenzie Williams notified the Board that essentially none of the NGSS can be used in creating the future science standards as long as the promulgation progress goes into the next biennium budget.

Walt Wilcox requested to vote via phone, there is no objection.

Ron Micheli- Yes  
Scotty Ratliff- Yes  
Pete Gosar- No  
Kathy Coon-Yes  
Hugh Hageman- Yes  
Ken Rathbun-Yes  
Joe Reichardt- No  
Kathryn Sessions- Yes  
Belenda Willson- Yes  
Walt Wilcox- Yes

The motion carried.

#### OTHER ISSUES, CONCERNS, DISCUSSION, PUBLIC COMMENT

Jillian Balow gave a brief public comment on the science standards conversation.

Scotty Ratliff moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kathy Coon. The State Board of Education adjourned at 3:38 p.m.