

WYOMING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 23-24, 2017

Platte CSD #1 Board Room

1350 Oak Street

Wheatland, Wyoming

Wyoming State Board of Education members present: Ken Rathbun, Proxy for State Superintendent, Dicky Shanor, Sue Belish, Ryan Fuhrman, Dan McGlade (3/23), Max Mickelson, Scotty Ratliff, Robin Schamber, Kathryn Sessions, Jim Rose (via GoToMeeting), Walt Wilcox, and Belenda Willson (via GoToMeeting)

Members absent: Nate Breen

Also present: Chelsie Oaks, WDE; Lisa Weigel, WDE; Thomas Sachse, SBE Coordinator; Kodi Gerhold, WDE; Mackenzie Williams, Attorney General's Office (AG); Katherine Leuschel, Attorney General's Office (AG); Jill Stringer, WDE; Shelly Andrews, WDE; Mike Flicek, WDE; Julie Magee, WDE; Laurie Hernandez, WDE; Laurel Ballard, WDE; Kathy Schuerman, WEA;

March 23, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Walt Wilcox called the meeting to order at 11:42 p.m.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Sue Belish moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Walt Wilcox; the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the February 13-14, 2017 State Board of Education meeting were presented for approval.

Scotty Ratliff moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by State Superintendent proxy, Dicky Shanor; the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

SBE Treasurer, Ken Rathbun, presented the summary review and expenditures report for the board's budgets, and went over the remaining balances and time left in the current biennium.

Scotty Ratliff moved to approve the presented Treasurer's Report, Ryan Fuhrman seconded; the motion carried.

WYOMING STATE SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

State Superintendent Proxy, Dicky Shanor, reviewed the Superintendent's memo provided in the meeting packet and the Governor vetoing the K2 foreign language bill. Mr. Shanor will also provide additional information on Education Accountability Survey and on Open Range later in the day.

BOARD REPORTS AND UPDATES

Math Standards Review Process

Laurie Hernandez, WDE, reviewed with the board that there are nine content areas within a nine year review cycle and the process that takes place when a standards review comes up.

Jill Stringer, WDE, notified the board that the survey to collect public feedback on the current standards is on the Department's website and reviewed math standards review committees and timeline.

Off-Cycle Review of Standards Options

Laurie Hernandez presented the March 2017 Draft Petition of Rules template.

Walt Wilcox requested a timeline be presented for the finalization of the template.

Chapter 31 Rules Discussion

Julie Magee and Shelly Andrews, WDE, reported during the 60-day public comment period, which closed on March 3, 2017, a total of ninety (90) comments were received related to the proposed revisions to these rules. The comments and proposed responses have been grouped by theme and are attached for the State Board's review. After taking the comments into consideration, the State Board of Education has the option to adopt the Chapter 31 rules as proposed, adopt the rules with non-substantive changes, or withdraw the proposed rules altogether.

Julie Magee did note that a majority of the comments were around adding fine and performing arts to graduation requirements.

The Board decided it would take consensus on the proposed response for each theme.

On comments related to additional graduation requirements the board took consensus to respond: *The State Board has chosen not to impose requirements above and beyond those required by statute.*

On comments related to the calculation of graduation rate, the board took consensus to respond: *These rules are intended to address the requirements for obtaining a high school diploma. They do not, nor are they intended, to address methods for calculating graduation rates.*

On comments related to budget constraints, the board took consensus to respond: *No change requested.*

On comments related to Basket of Goods, Sue Belish requested that Julie Magee give more clarity to the response when sent back to commenter(s).

The board took consensus to respond: *The proposed rules do not, nor are they intended, to reduce or eliminate statutory requirements related to the common core of knowledge and skills (Basket of Goods) or the proficiency requirements.*

On comments related to District Assessment Systems, the board took consensus to respond: *The proposed rules conform to the statutory requirement that each district's assessment system is aligned to the Uniform Student Content and Performance Standards. The proposed rules do not, nor are they intended, to limit a district to a single approach for evaluating what a student knows or is able to do.*

On comments related to additional emphasis to specific areas, the board took consensus to respond: *The State Board has chosen not to impose requirements above and beyond those required by statute.*

On comment one related to the theme "other", the board took consensus to respond: *The State Board of Education has adopted the rules as proposed to remain consistent with statute.*

On comment two related to the theme "other", the board took consensus to respond: *The State Board has chosen to adopt the rules as proposed.*

On comment three related to the theme "other", the board took consensus to respond: *The authority to set graduation requirements beyond those set forth in statute rests with the local school boards. The State Board has chosen to adopt the rules as proposed.*

Equity Plan

Laurel Ballard, WDE, reviewed the equity report with the board. She said that districts have been doing a great job in equability.

Wyoming Accountability in Education Act Discussion

Julie Magee passed out the proposed Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) timeline and reviewed the information provided in the meeting packet. She asked that she be permitted to come back to the boards meetings to give updates as the process goes along.

Julie added that at the end of this process she would like to have one accountability system. Additionally, Julie went over a crosswalk between ESSA and WAEA and noted that the ESSA timeline is much more aggressive.

Board members were invited to attend the internal design team meetings and to just let Julie know if they are interested.

Lastly, Mike Flicek presented on the Wyoming State Accountability system.

Board members requested that the April meeting packet provide exactly what the Department needs from the board during for the progression of both WAEA and ESSA.

State Board of Education recessed at 5:26 p.m.

March 24, 2017

State Board of Education reconvened at 9:01 a.m.

New board members Ryan Fuhrman and Max Mickelson took the oath of office.

CONTINUATION OF BOARD REPORTS AND UPDATES

Legislative Update and Interim Topics

Tom Sachse, SBE Coordinator, presented on the final outcomes of the 2017 Legislative Session.

Sue Belish thanked Tom for his work and his form with all the bills but asked him to make the necessary veto changes to the form for easy reference next session.

SBE Duties Timeline and Calendar

SBE Coordinator, Tom Sachse, asked that the list be deferred to the administrative committee and that the list be used to create an agenda over the next couple of meetings.

Chairman Wilcox called for a consensus on the administration committee doing a crosswalk of the duties and timeline. Consensus was given and Kathryn Sessions offered to serve on administration committee if needed.

Phase II- Leader Accountability

Tom Sachse referred to his memo on Phase II that was provided in the meeting packet.

The board had an in-depth discussion surrounding the possibility of putting a council or group of stakeholders together to create a recommendation and then have that recommendation come to the board for approval.

The board agreed that collaboration is needed and asked that the SBE Coordinator and Wyoming Department of Education work together and to bring a plan forward for the board to approve in the April meeting.

SBE Policies 26 & 27

Katherine Leuschel, attorney for SBE, introduced both draft governance policies on monitoring contracts and public comment.

New Board Member Training

Tom Sachse presented the draft orientation agenda.

Chairman Wilcox offered for any members new and old to attend the training if they would like.

SBE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communication Committee

Ken Rathbun updated that this committee had met earlier in the week and that the Pascal Public Relation Contract would be expiring at the end of May. Ken stated that the board needed to determine if the contract and services are worth continuing and that the expenses total about \$40,000 a year. Board members discussed the possibility of the Department taking on more of that work but the need for independent balance.

Administrative Committee

Sue Belish updated the board that the committee had met and the need for the board to make a decision about the SBE coordinator position. Sue requested that the administration committee be allowed to look at all the possible options and avenues and come forward with a recommendation in the April meeting.

SBE POLICIES

Sue Belish moved to approve the adoption of the proposed SBE policy 26 on monitoring contracts and that the policy be adopted as follows:

The Board may contract with outside individuals or parties for services. The Board shall assign a corresponding committee to monitor those contracts on an ongoing basis for efficacy and necessity.

Scotty Ratliff seconded; the motion carried.

Sue Belish moved to approve the adoption of proposed SBE policy 27 on public comment as presented in the meeting packet. Scotty Ratliff seconded; the motion carried.

CHAPTER 31 RULES

Sue Belish moved to adopt the Chapter 31 Rules on Graduation Requirements with non-substantive changes, Ken Rathbun seconded the motion carried.

SCHOOL ALTERNATIVE CALENDARS

Julie Magee presented the school alternative calendars to the board for approval and noted that there might be more alternative calendars to approve in a later meeting.

Sue Belish moved that the new requests for alternative schedule be approved for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years, except for Crook CSD #1 and Sweetwater CSD #1. Kathryn Sessions seconded; the motion carried.

Max Michelson moved to approve the Crook CSD #1 alternative schedule for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years, seconded by Ryan Fuhrman. Ken Rathbun abstained; the motion carried.

Ken Rathbun moved to approve the Sweetwater CSD #1 alternative schedules for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years, seconded by Sue Belish. Max Mickelson abstained; the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Diana Clapp, Superintendent of Fremont CSD #6, wanted to bring a different lens or perspective to the board and wanted the board to know that there will be push back on the Advisory Council report from the Wyoming Association of School Administrators.

Chelsie Oaks, Executive Secretary, thanked the board for allowing her to work for them for the last six years.

NEXT MEETING

The Board's next meeting will take place in Casper, April 20-21, 2017

The meeting adjourned at 12:23 p.m.