

**MINUTES**  
**State Board of Education Meeting**  
**April 18, 2008**  
**Albany County School District #1**

State Board members present: Michelle Sullivan, Bill Anthony, Pamala Anderson, Matt Garland, Jim Lowham, Jim McBride, Sandy Barton, Jan Torres, Larry McGarvin,

State Board Members Absent: Larry McGarvin, Dana Mann-Tavegia

Also present: Mary Kay Hill, Wyoming Department of Education (WDE); Joe Simpson, WDE; Jennifer Duncan, WDE; John Shumway, Attorney General's Office (AG); Tania Hytrek, WDE; Fred Hansen, WDE; Gerry Maas, WDE

Members of the Press and Public Present: Janice Marshall, Albany County School District #1 board, Madeline Alger, School Facilities Commission

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jim Lowham called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Jennifer Duncan took a roll call and it was established that a quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the February 20, 2008 meeting held in Cheyenne were presented for approval.

SANDY BARTON MOVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 20, 2008 MEETING BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED

JAN TORRES SECONDED THE MOTION

Bill Anthony noted that he had asked that a press release be done regarding the preamble for the upcoming standards revision. It could have occurred during the work session.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT**

The treasurer's report for the period ending February 29, 2008 reflected a balance of \$144,316.36.

JAN TORRES MOVED THAT THE TREASURER'S REPORT BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED

BILL ANTHONY SECONDED THE MOTION

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

State Superintendent Jim McBride thanked Michelle Sullivan for her service over the last year as Chairman of the State Board.

He has had some travel opportunities. He traveled to Japan earlier in the year. Their system is different; people pay to attend high school and this almost guarantees parent involvement. Since then he has attended the Milken Awards for the Milken winner for the states. He will visit with superintendents regarding the Milken Foundation and their guidelines for the individual being selected as winner. He also went to the PBS/Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) event in New York City. PBS is going digital and with that capability they could broadcast 4 channels. Two of these channels may be able to be aired and one could be an education channel that could carry certain classes.

He is glad there are funds to implement more at-risk programs and the career-technical education study. Within the at-risk study are court ordered placement providers which are a high priority for children who are incarcerated. He would like to see the focus off of asking for more money and producing better results. The pilot program for career technical education will take about 10 years to fine tune and make the program fully integrated with academic programs. The legislature approved funding for the first 2 years of the program.

The State Report Card will be coming out soon and will have the addition of ACT scores as well as information from the Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

Jim Lowham asked about the study on Hathaway follow up and tracking success after the student's graduate college. WDE received \$135,000 for this study; the University of Wyoming will probably handle this.

NAEP Scores were released and the state is improving on this assessment.

### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Michelle Sullivan updated the board on the work she has been doing with the Kellogg Fellowship. She has been involved in a project called "Making the Grade", a student nutrition foundation. They are creating a grant that they will turn into the Foundation that will assist districts to improve their nutrition for their

students. This is a larger view that includes the overall view of how students look at food and healthy lifestyles.

Jim Lowham updated the board on the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) study group; he participates in the career technical education group. Perkins money has always been associated with vocational education. The shift has now gone to careers rather than individual classes so this money becomes more valuable in that respect.

#### **FREMONT COUNTY #38 ACCREDITATION REVIEW**

Gerry Maas, WDE and Joe Simpson reviewed the accreditation status of Fremont County #38. Current status is accreditation with follow up; the WDE will be bringing a new status for accreditation of this district at the June meeting. Gerry Maas is the technical assistance coach for this district and updated the board on what is being done for this district. Gerry and Joe reviewed the different levels of support and the follow up expected at each level.

#### **RECOGNITION FOR PREVIOUS CHAIR**

Jim Lowham took time to recognize Michelle Sullivan for her chairmanship of the board over the last year.

#### **MODIFICATION OF CHEYENNE CLASSICAL ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION APPEAL CHARTER**

SANDY BARTON MOVED THAT THE STATE BOARD DIRECT PARTIES IN THE CHEYENNE CLASSICAL ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL APPEAL TO SUBMIT PROPOSED FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW BY THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON MAY 2, 2008.

JAN TORRES SECONDED THE MOTION

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **COURT ORDERED PLACEMENT PROVIDER APPROVAL**

Fred Hansen, WDE, presented Turning Point Center for Youth and Family Development in Ft. Collins, CO as a court ordered placement provider for students from the state of Wyoming. Two students from Wyoming would like to be placed there by the Department of Family Services.

Fred visited the school, the two residential buildings, and the administrative offices. He was very pleased with the overall program and facility and would like the board to approve it as a provider for Wyoming students.

JAN TORRES MOVED THAT TURNING POINT CENTER FOR YOUTH AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT BE APPROVED AS AN APPROVED FACILITY FOR COURT ORDERED PLACEMENT PROVIDER FOR THE STUDENTS OF THE STATE OF WYOMING.

BILL ANTHONY SECONDED THE MOTION

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A lengthy discussion followed involving the care and education of students with addictions, emotional and mental illness.

#### **TEACHER OF THE YEAR VISIT**

The board visited with Wyoming's 2008 Teacher of the Year Eileen Johnson. She is an elementary school teacher at Indian Paintbrush Elementary school in Laramie.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Lowham adjourned the meeting at 12:30 P.M.