

MINUTES
State Board of Education Meeting
June 13, 2008
McMurry Training Center
Casper, Wyoming

State Board members present: Jim Lowham, Bill Anthony, Jan Torres, Pamala Anderson, Sandra Barton, Dana Mann-Tavegia, Jeff Marsh, Michelle Sullivan, Jim McBride, Larry McGarvin, Matt Garland

Also present: Mary Kay Hill, Wyoming Department of Education (WDE); Joe Simpson, WDE; Jennifer Duncan, WDE; Gerry Maas, WDE; Dianne Frazer, WDE; John Shumway, Attorney General's Office (AG); Annette Bohling, North Central Association (NCA); Alan Moore, WDE

Members of the Press and Public Present: Bruce Brown, McMurry Training Center, Jonathan Downing, Wyoming Contractor's Association; Gene Meier, Fremont County School District #21, Carie Aslor, Cheyenne Classical Academy

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lowham called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dana noted that she was absent at the April 18, 2008 meeting.

SANDY BARTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 18, 2008 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING HELD AT ALBANY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1 BOARD ROOM IN LARAMIE, WYOMING AS WELL AS THE MAY 12, 2008 VIDEOCONFERENCE HELD REGARDING THE WYOMING CLASSICAL ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION AS AMENDED

DANA MANN-TAVEGIA SECONDED THE MOTION

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jan Torres presented the treasurer's report with nothing noted.

JAN TORRES MOVED THAT THE TREASURER'S REPORT ENDING 4/30/2008 BE APPROVED

BILL ANTHONY SECONDED THE MOTION

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Dana Mann-Tavegia proposed that the Board consider purchasing laptop computers for board members to accommodate members that are unable to attend every meeting. It could enable them to attend via videoconference.

Jim McBride said it would be a good idea to explore since technology is available to do it. He would be supportive of that being included in their next budget cycle.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Matt Garland introduced the staff at the McMurry Training Center and asked them to talk about their program and the facility the Board is meeting in today. The Wyoming Contractor's Association began training in Casper in 1998. The program has grown significantly due to the need for more technical and career technical education demands. They have moved into the energy industry training in the various aspects of working in that industry i.e. a drilling school.

Dana Mann-Tavegia addressed the Board regarding the career technical program they are starting in Osage at Kitty Moats elementary. She also talked about the National Association of State Boards of Education Government Affairs committee meeting. They were addressed by the U.S. Dept. of Education Technical Advisory committee member selection process and graduation rates as well as many other issues surrounding education.

Jim Lowham updated the board on the Career Technical Education committee meeting. He encouraged other members to participate in these. Jim was trying to ascertain how the Pathways to 2014 would fit in with the discussions regarding Career Technical Education. The biggest issue seems to be the lack of engagement between public schools and industry. Much of the training that is done by industry does not meet school performance and content standards even though it is the training that is needed to work. This has resulted in a lot of private money not coming into public schools.

SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCREDITATION

Annette Bohling, North Central Association, addressed the board regarding accreditation of school districts for this year. She reviewed the accreditation process for the board and went on to discuss the results of the accreditation visits. NCA uses a three pillar that follow a standards based approach to. The first step is a rubric on a scale of 1 to 4 that utilizes a body of evidence to show how the schools are improving in many areas; the second is evidence of continuing improvement and the third part is actual accreditation where the schools show quality assurance. Seven areas are evaluated: vision and purpose, governance and

leadership, teaching and learning, documenting and using results, resources and support systems, stakeholder communications and relationships, and continuous improvement.

Fremont County #38 still has some issues around staff licensing and fiscal matters that still need resolution. A year ago they were looked at and many things have improved tremendously over the last year but these two areas are still outstanding. The WDE continues to work closely with this district by providing a district coach to help them take care of the issues that need to be addressed. The proposed accreditation status gives them time to work with the WDE toward improvement.

JEFF MARSH MOVED THAT ALL WYOMING SCHOOL DISTRICTS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FREMONT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #38, BE GRANTED FULL ACCREDITATION

DANA MANN-TAVEGIA SECONDED THE MOTION

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MICHELLE SULLIVAN MOVED THAT FREMONT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #38 BE GRANTED ACCREDITATION WITH DEFICIENCIES.

JAN TORRES SECONDED THE MOTION

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The institutional schools listed below were presented for full accreditation:

Attention Homes, Inc.
Big Horn Basin Children's Center (Northwest BOCES)
C-V Ranch (Region V BOCES)
Cathedral Home for children (Mae Olson Education Center)
Jeffrey C. Wardle Academy (Frontier Corrections)
Normative Services
Powder River Basin Children's Center (Northeast BOCES)
Red Top Meadows
St. Joseph's Children's Home
Wyoming Boys' School (Colter High School)
Wyoming Girls' School
Wyoming State Hospital (Pioneer School)

JEFF MARSH MOVED THAT THE INSTITUTIONAL SCHOOLS PRESENTED BE GRANTED FULL ACCREDITATION.

JIM MCBRIDE SECONDED THE MOTION

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CHAPTER 32 RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Board discussed potential changes to the Charter School Rules based upon their recent experience with the Cheyenne Classical Academy charter school application appeal.

- Clear definitions in the statute
- Evidence of collaboration
- More points of denial within the process rather than denying the entire application at the end of the process.
- Mediation from a third-party
- Flexibility in the timelines
- Written timelines
- Accepting application does not mean accepting the charter
- Remove the adversarial nature of the relationship the statute creates between the charter schools and WDE

John Shumway with the Attorney General's office helped guide the Board through the statute. Mary Kay Hill notified that the Board has contracted with Annemarie McCracken. She will research with all of the stakeholders in the charter school appeal process and develop a report based on what she finds out. Potential changes to the rules could be suggested from this report. The Board also visited with Carie Aslor, a representative of the Cheyenne Classical Academy and asked her specific questions regarding the need for a charter school and why they are so strongly in favor of one.

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL SCHEDULES

Dianne Frazer presented the various schools that have requested alternative school schedules to the typical schedule. The schools must meet the minimum criteria of 175 student teacher contact days or 950 elementary, 1050 for middle school and 1150 hours high school. The State Board approved the following schools alternative schedule requests.

JAN TORRES MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL SCHEDULES FOR THE LISTED SCHOOLS AS PRESENTED FOR THE 2008-2009 AND 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEARS.

MICHELLE SULLIVAN SECONDED THE MOTION

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1) Campbell CSD #1 (Gillette – Westwood High School)	143.5 day schedule for Westwood High School (♦ 4 day week)	2008-2009
2) Carbon CSD #1 (Rawlins – Little Snake River Valley School)	150 day schedule for Little Snake River Valley School (♦ 4 day week)	2008-2009 2009-2010
3) Carbon CSD #2 (Saratoga Elementary, Saratoga M/HS, H-E-M Jr/Sr High School)	154 day schedule for Saratoga Elementary School, Saratoga Middle/High School, H-E-M Junior/Senior High School (♦ 4 day week)	2008-2009
4) Converse CSD #1 (Douglas – four Rural Schools only)	156 day schedule for four Rural Schools (White, Moss Agate, Shawnee, and Dry Creek Rural Schools)	2008-2009 2009-2010
5) Fremont CSD #1 (Lander – Jeffrey City Elementary School)	144.5 day schedule for Jeffrey City Elementary School (♦ 4 day week)	2008-2009 2009-2010
6) Fremont CSD #2 (Dubois)	167 day schedule	2008-2009 2009-2010
7) Fremont CSD #6 (Pavillion)	154 day schedule for elementary school. (♦ 4 day week) 155 day schedule for middle school and high school	2008-2009 2009-2010
8) Fremont CSD #14 (Ethete)	171 day schedule	2008-2009 2009-2010
9) Fremont CSD #24 (Shoshoni)	171 day schedule for grades 7-12 168 day schedule for grades K-6	2008-2009 2009-2010
10) Johnson CSD #1 (Buffalo)	171 day schedule (Buffalo) and 167 day schedule (Kaycee)	2008-2009
11) Lincoln CSD #2 (Cokeville schools)	153 day schedule for Cokeville schools (♦ 4 day week)	2008-2009
12) Natrona CSD #1 (Casper – four elementary schools only)	172 day schedule for Mountain View, Grant, Willard, and University Park Elementary Schools	2008-2009
13) Park CSD #16 (Meeteetse)	148 day schedule (♦ 4 day week)	2008-2009
14) Sheridan CSD #1 (Ranchester)	148 day schedule (♦ 4 day week)	2008-2009
15) Sheridan CSD #3 (Clearmont)	148 day schedule (♦ 4 day week)	2008-2009
16) Sweetwater CSD #1 (Rock Springs)	167 day schedule	2008-2009
17) Weston CSD #7 (Upton)	169 day schedule	2008-2009

EVALUATION PRE-AMBLE ADOPTION

The Board evaluated the pre-amble they wish to attach to the future evaluation document for certified district personnel. A subcommittee of board members drafted the preamble. The preamble will be redrafted with the suggested changes and brought back before the board at a later meeting.

PATHWAYS TO 2014 UPDATE

Joe Simpson shared with the Board the results of his presenting the preamble to the leadership of the WDE. The leadership members reviewed the preamble in great detail in order to operationalize the document to use as training for staff and to make it user friendly in its format and content. They want to pull elements out of the document to apply to many significant areas of work and learning within the WDE. The Board decided that having a discussion during their retreat with several stakeholders in the standards process would be effective.

SBE RETREAT DISCUSSION AND PLANNING

Jennifer Duncan updated the board on the plans for the retreat. The majority of the meetings will be held at the Historic Trails Center multi purpose room. The discussion forum would need to be held in a larger setting to accommodate the number of people. The retreat will begin with the business meeting the afternoon of September 10th, with the discussion forum being held the following day and a wrap up half day on Friday, September 12, 2008.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL AUDIT

Mary Kay Hill updated the Board regarding the office of the inspector general conducted an audit of the WDE which focused on documentation regarding the statewide assessment. Everything went as well as could be expected.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Lowham adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.