

WYOMING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
February 14, 2012  
Hathaway Building, Room 126  
Cheyenne, Wyoming

Wyoming State Board of Education members present: Ron Micheli, Joe Reichardt, Scotty Ratliff, Kathy Coon, Cindy Hill, Sue Belish, Pete Gosar, Larry McGarvin, and Walt Wilcox

Members absent: Dana Mann-Tavegia, Matt Garland and Hugh Hageman

Also present: John Masters, WDE; Chelsie Bailey, WDE; Paula Smith, WDE; Julie Magee, WDE; Sheryl Lain, WDE; Christine Steele; Carol Illian, WDE; Laurie Hernandez, WDE; and MacKenzie Williams, Attorney General's Office (AG)

Members of the Press and Public Present: Kathy Scheurman, WEA; and Kelly Pelissier- WY P-16.

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CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Joe Reichardt called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Sue Belish moved to amend the presented agenda to include a discussion on the pending legislation after the Board Updates and Public Comment. Pete Gosar seconded motion, the motion carried.

Kathy Coon moved to include a discussion on the letter that Mackenzie Williams had to present to the Board after the pending legislative agenda item. Sue Belish seconded, the motion carried.

Pete Gosar moved to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Sue Belish, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the January 10, 2012, State Board of Education teleconference was presented for approval.

Sue Belish moved that the minutes be approved, seconded by Scotty Ratliff, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Larry McGarvin presented the treasurer's report ending December 30, 2011, with an ending balance of \$94,269.01. Larry McGarvin noted that there are only five months left in the fiscal year.

Chairman, Joe Reichardt, extended an invitation to the Board members to attend the NASBE legislative conference on March 22-23, 2012. If any members wished to attend to contact Chelsie.

Joe Reichardt thanked Larry McGarvin for his ten years of working on the Wyoming State Board of Education.

Joe Reichardt moved to approve the treasurer's report as submitted, seconded by Ron Micheli, the motion carried.

Chairman, Joe Reichardt explained to the Board that he was contacted by Jerry Zellars, at the WDE, and agreed to pay half of a telecommunication bill that was incurred to advertise the Chapter 31 hearings.

Scotty Ratliff moved a motion in support of the Chairman's decision on the bill, Cindy Hill seconded, the motion carried.

#### BOARD UPDATES AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Reichardt addressed the Board and asked them to attend a NASBE conference. He also discussed a conference that was being held in New York City that has already been paid for, that would take place on March 11-12, 2012. Cindy Hill indicated that she would like to attend and planned on taking a staff member with her, leaving a slot for Board members. If any members were interested in attending to please contact Chelsie.

Kathy Coon had not attended a P16 meeting since the last Board meeting. The group is currently defining what P16 is and what their appropriate roles. Kelly Pelissier discussed the STEM conference, and that she hoped to hold more conferences like STEM. The next P16 meeting will be on February 20, 2012.

Scotty Ratliff would like to have a subcommittee from the Board to meet a subcommittee from the Community College Commission. He would like the Board to consider this partnership.

The new Board member orientation conference hosted by NASBE is coming up; Joe Reichardt encouraged Board members to sign up by contacting Chelsie.

#### PENDING LEGISLATION

Ron Micheli thanked Mackenzie and Chelsie for their work on the letter for the legislature. John Masters will be responsible for getting the letter sponsored and distributed. The Board should use this letter as a guide when discussing the pending Education Accountability Bill, SF0057, with legislators. John Masters will also be responsible for giving the Board legislative updates.

Pete Gosar asked when the best time to contact legislators would be. Scotty Ratliff suggested between 8 a.m.-10 a.m., but that they will probably not be reached on the initial call.

Scotty Ratliff notified the Board that SF0044, regarding parental responsibilities, had died. He would like to extend an invitation to Senator Cale Case to the Board's summer meeting and also

invite Representative Matt Teeters and Senator Hank Coe to revisit the proposed HB0039 bill, regarding graduation rates, which did not pass this session.

## LETTER ON TEACHER EVALUATIONS AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT MEASURES

Mackenzie Williams presented the Board a letter from Tracy Copenhaver from Copenhaver, Kath, Kitchen, and Kolpitcke, LLC that was addressed to John Masters, the legal counsel to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The letter described the district's concerns that there is not enough guidance on teacher accountability. Chapter 29 of the education rules does not have all the guidelines for the district to use in their evaluation systems for their employees. In 2011 the legislature made changes which required the Board to pass rules that would link student achievement with teachers of record; the Board also needs to include in the rules academic growth measures that clearly prescribe standards for satisfactory performance. This will need to be in place by July 2012. Mackenzie cannot see the Board having these rules prepared before that date. The pending education accountability bill, SF0057, gives the Board another year to establish these rules. Emergency rules can be put into place, but that requires the Governor's approval. If these rules are not put in place within the deadlines this would have an impact on the relationships between the Board and the districts.

Joe Reichardt requested that Christine Steele, Mackenzie Williams, and John Masters work with the appropriate person at WDE to create a pathway of the previous bill for the Board.

Ron Micheli moved that Sue Belish take a copy of the letter to the members of the Select Committee, Kathy Coon seconded, the motion carried.

Walt Wilcox would like to get in front of issues and have a systematic approach on how to handle issues, and asked the Board if they had any suggestions on how to do this.

Joe Reichardt noted that the Board needs someone to work full time for them and who is qualified to deal with these kinds of things.

## UPDATE ON WYOMING STATE CONTENT STANDARDS RULES AND REGULATIONS

Julie Magee reviewed the handout that was included in the Board packet. She hoped to have all the responses by March 15, 2012. Ron Micheli suggested that the Board collect and meet on the comments before the April board meeting. It is important for the board to ensure that any substantial changes are justified.

Cindy Hill requested that Mackenzie Williams find out if the standards can be voted on individually or if they are a packaged deal.

## TECHNOLOGY

Paula Smith presented to the Board different options on technology to receive the Board packets and how to use the new device. Scotty Ratliff made a motion that each Board member should meet with Paula on what their needs are but vote collectively on what device the Board should purchase. Ron Micheli commented that he already has a computer and laptop and does not wish to have the Board buy him one.

Scotty Ratliff moved that the Board should get the Apple iPads, Pete Gosar seconded, Ron Micheli opposed, the motion carried.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Joe Reichardt agreed to be chair for another term. Ron Micheli agreed to be the Vice-Chair and Pete Gosar agreed to be the Board's treasurer.

Sue Belish moved to elect proposed officers, Larry McGarvin seconded, the motion carried.

The State Board of Education adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for April 25-26, 2012 in Gillette.