

WYOMING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
October 7-8, 2013
Hathaway Building, Room 126
Cheyenne, Wyoming

Wyoming State Board of Education members present: Ron Micheli, Pete Gosar, Sue Belish, Kathy Coon, Richard Crandall, Ken Rathbun, Joe Reichardt, Kathryn Sessions, Walt Wilcox, Belenda Willson, Scotty Ratliff, Cindy Hill.

Members absent: Hugh Hageman

Also present: Bailey Anthony, WDE; Paige Fenton Hughes, SBE Coordinator; Teri Wigert, WDE; and Mackenzie Williams, Attorney General's Office (AG)

OCTOBER 7, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ron Micheli called the meeting to order at 8:43 a.m.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Belish moved to amend the agenda to add an update on the Rules and Regulations Committee after the Supervisory Committee Report. Trustee Willson moved to add an update on the P16 Council after the Rules and Regulations Committee update. Walt Wilcox moved to approve the agenda, as amended, seconded Sue Belish; the motion carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Belish moved to amend page 8 of the minutes to make it clearer to districts that this year is just a pilot. Sue Belish moved to accept the amendment, seconded by Walt Wilcox; the motion carried. Sue Belish moved to adopt the minutes as revised, seconded Kathryn Sessions; the motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

WDE Director Richard Crandall reviewed his first 60 days with the Board which included Wyoming Accountability in Education Act, implementation of the 2014-2015 assessment, hiring vacancies and meetings with various state stakeholders. His next priorities are the school accountability roll out, strategic plan, revamp system of supports, continuing to fill vacancies, SBAC field test, comprehensive communications strategy, new blended learning models and thorough review of early learning system. He reviewed his strategic plan. He noted that he needs help from the SBE on budget priorities, use of competency based education, our role with

Indian education, best use of assessment funds and capitalizing on Wyoming's strengths. That led to a deeper discussion among the Board of the issues with summer school. A "legislative wish list" was discussed and Rich mentioned he would bring more thoughts to tomorrow's meeting. Rich also noted that the Governor's Office was working with him to implement the forensic audit of WDE staff.

DISCUSS NEW POSITION FOR THE BOARD

Ron restated that the full time position is something that is a huge priority for the Board and that members are in agreement in needing this position. Rich mentioned that he interprets that the Governor's Office was in fairly strong favor of this position.

SUMMARY ON GOVERNOR'S EDUCATION OUTREACH MEETING

Pete Gosar gave an update of this meeting and the issues that were discussed. Rich Crandall agreed that this was a great meeting.

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Kathy Coon said things have been going well over the summer and that all of the contracts are on track.

RULES AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Sue Belish reminded everyone of the purpose of this committee. She stated that they are receiving input from Board members, WDE staff and district superintendents. She reviewed the meeting that was previously held and that chapters 21, 22 and 26 were discussed. Mackenzie recommended sending the Governor a letter updating him on the progress as things continue to evolve. It will be important that the SBE will work to keep the rules simple and necessary.

P16 UPDATE

Belenda Willson stated that there has been some turnover on the Council so there isn't much to update. She wonders if the committee will die out or if it will try to reconvene.

MULTIPLE MEASURES UPDATE

Chad Buckendahl reviewed the update that was given during the August meeting. Sue Belish discussed the need to expand the definition of a Wyoming graduate to be more aspirational. The college and career readiness piece was also discussed. Some Board members believe more emphasis needs to be put on the career ready portion. A concern was also raised about the three levels and that maybe not all the focus should be geared at the top level.

OCTOBER 8, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ron Micheli called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Pete Gosar reviewed the report provided in the packet and highlighted the changes.

Gerald Reichardt moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Kathryn Sessions; the motion carried.

DISCUSS BOARD RETREAT AND SET NEXT BOARD MEETING

Chariman Micheli discussed the importance of setting a retreat and working to plan meetings a few months ahead. The retreat dates were set for November 4-5, 2013 and a location will be determined at a later time. The importance of having a meeting before the Legislature meets was discussed and January 23-24, 2014 was proposed.

SELECT COMMITTEE MOTION

Since the meeting was running ahead of schedule this was moved up for discussion. Paige Fenton-Hughes reviewed the charge to the SBE of doing the end of course study work and noted that Chad Buckendahl presented his update to the Select Committee. At that meeting, it was discussed that the proposal for the multiple measures and the district assessment system guidelines that had been developed were tasking their capacity to focus on accountability priorities. They asked us to look for elements that were already being utilized in districts to fulfill these requirements. The Board discussed if ACT could count as a part of the requirement, even though it isn't aligned to the Wyoming Content Standards. It was decided that this item would be revisited in the afternoon when it was originally scheduled.

PRESENTATION ON CCSS

Amy Edmonds from the Wyoming Liberty Group presented against the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). She asked for the Board to stop the implementation of the CCSS, look at alternatives, review how the standards review process is communicated and develop ideas to improve communication with parents.

TESTIMONY ON CCSS

Jane Winget, math teacher, Michael Hayes, teacher, and Jim McBride, former State Superintendent spoke in support of the CCSS and shared their experiences on how the

standards have had a positive impact in their classrooms. A video titled, “Why the Common Core is Right for Wyoming” was played. The Board reaffirmed its position on the CCSS.

REVISED STANDARDS FOR CAREER & VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, SOCIAL STUDIES, PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

The WDE Standards Team including, Laurie Hernandez, Stephanie Brady, and Jim Verley presented the new proposed standards. Laurie gave an overview of the process that began in June 2012. Each of the content areas and changes made to each were explained in depth. How to get parents involved in these decisions was discussed. The Board discussed the hope that more emphasis could be put on social studies. The Board agreed that it needed more time before deciding to move forward with a decision on the standards and asked the team to attend the November meeting.

CHAPTER 10 RULES – WYOMING CONTENT AND PERFORMANCE

Julie was going to talk about promulgating the rules, but since the Board is waiting to approve the standards it was decided that this would be pushed to the next meeting. There was some discussion about communication around the promulgation process and the correct language that should be used in making this process clearer to the public.

PHASE I OCTOBER 15TH ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

Accountability Model

Mike Flicek reviewed the history and pieces of the accountability model and updated them on the progress. He noted that the pilot has been nearly completed and soon schools will find out how they performed. There were a lot of questions about the validity of the cuts set by the Professional Judgment Panel and Mike Flicek believes the methodology that was used is defensible. He reminded the Board the next year ALT standards completion and Hathaway Scholarship eligibility level will be included. There was a discussion about the indicators after the Board saw how participation rate affected the model.

PJP Update

Mike Beck expanded on the discussion started by Mike Flicek and gave a brief summary of the three day PJP Meeting. He agreed that the work was grounded in a standard setting process that is widely used around the country.

Assessment Update

Deb Lindsey provided an updated matrix on the assessment options for 2015. The idea of conducting a study similar to the Oregon Experience was discussed.

System of Support

Rich Crandall just wanted to reiterate that the WDE will be starting from scratch in this area. He will come with a firmer plan to the next meeting.

Multiple Measures & District Assessment System

Paige Fenton-Hughes stated that the Board needs to send the Multiple Measures (MM) Study to the Legislature because that is the statutory obligation, but that the recommendation would be

similar to what it was for the end of course. The District Assessment System draft that was presented in the last meeting would also be included in the report. The MM issue was discussed at length in order to get a clear picture of how to move forward. Mike O'Donnell, State's counsel on school finance, presented a visual to help the Board move forward with a MM recommendation. It was decided that Paige would draft a memo and have the Board review it through Google Drive.

Outreach

The comments from these sessions were provided in the packet, and Paige addressed the common issues.

SELECT COMMITTEE MOTION

Paige asked the Board to give a motion to approve the information that will be going in the October 15th report.

Sue Belish moved to accept the recommendations from the PJP, seconded by Ken Rathbun; the motion carried.

Sue Belish moved that the Board recommend that we moved forward the results of the MM study with a memo indicating the direction we might pursue, seconded by Gerald Reichardt; the motion carried.

Chairman Micheli stated that the Board is OK and he doesn't think there is any problem with what Paige will send in the report.

ADJOURNMENT

Kath Coon moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Joe Reichardt; the motion carried.

The State Board of Education adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for November 4-5, 2013 in Lander, WY.