

WYOMING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
November 12, 2015
GoToMeeting

Wyoming State Board of Education members present: Pete Gosar, Belenda Willson, Superintendent Balow, Nate Breen, Kathy Coon, Sue Belish, Kathryn Sessions, Scotty Ratliff, Ken Rathbun, Jim Rose and Walt Wilcox

Absent: Hugh Hageman

Also present: Paige Fenton Hughes, SBE Coordinator; Chelsie Oaks, WDE; Brent Young, WDE; Joel Dvorak, WDE contractor; Dicky Shanor, Chief of Staff, WDE; Mackenzie Williams, Attorney General's Office (AG)

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pete Gosar called the meeting to order at 8:11 a.m.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ken Rathbun moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Kathy Sessions; the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the October 28, 2015 State Board of Education meeting were presented for approval.

Kathryn Sessions moved to approve the meeting minutes from the October 28, 2015 meeting, seconded by Nate Breen; the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ken Rathbun, Board Treasurer, reviewed the budget summaries and the revised budget revision provided in the meeting packet and via email to board members.

Sue Belish moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Nate Breen; the motion carried.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

State Superintendent Jillian Balow presented to the Board on having a discussion on "triggers" as they relate to standards review and the necessity of creating a process on

the review and development in all subject areas to reduce the reactionary responses. She requested that this topic be a discussion in a future State Board meeting.

Sue Belish said that this work has already been started as part of the grant application between the board and the National Association of State Boards of Education.

Superintendent Balow left the meeting and appointed Dicky Shanor as her proxy.

UPDATES FROM SBE COORDINATOR AND WDE LIAISON

State System of Support (SSoS)

Brent Young, WDE Liaison, gave a brief overview on the first SSoS Collaborative Council meeting that took place on November 8-9, 2015. The second meeting will be scheduled for either December or January.

Kathryn Sessions, who represents the board on this council, commented that she felt that the council was on its way to improving schools in Wyoming.

Sue Belish mentioned that she was eager to see a mission statement from the council.

Select Committee and JEC Meeting Follow Up & University Partnership Update

Paige Fenton Hughes, SBE Coordinator, reviewed her board report memo that highlighted on the Select Committee on Statewide Education Accountability and the Joint Education Committee meetings in Casper in late October. Additionally, a review of the Wyoming School-University Partnership meeting was also given.

Board members asked questions on the ACT and if the costs would now fall to families instead of the state. Proxy for the Superintendent, Dicky Shanor, mentioned that the State Superintendent expressed her concern of the optional ACT and WorkKeys at the Joint Education Committee meeting.

Sue Belish felt that a crosswalk between the Wyoming State Standards and the ACT standards needed to be done.

Dicky Shanor, proxy for Superintendent Balow, said that there is a crosswalk between ACT and the Common Core standards, but that the WDE would be looking into it at the state level.

Tribal Relations Committee Information

Paige Fenton Hughes reviewed the draft memo for the Tribal Relations Committee that was provided in the packet. Board members provided feedback and a few revisions. The meeting will be held in Lander on November 30th; all board members are invited to attend.

Definition of a High School Graduate

Paige Fenton Hughes reviewed the memo provided in the board packet on the definition of a high school graduate. The board agreed that getting a diverse group of stakeholders to weigh in is needed. It was decided that the draft definition will be distributed at the Wyoming School Board Association conference for input.

SBE Goals

Paige Fenton Hughes requested that the Board not address this topic at this meeting and revisit it at a later date.

Next SBE Meeting

A December state board meeting might be needed; board members should be on the lookout for a Doodle Poll.

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA/PRIORITIES

Paige Fenton Hughes requested that the Board formally vote on the legislative priorities of the board that was provided in the packet, but not necessarily on the format of the document.

Belenda Willson requested that a stronger statement with support on early learning be included.

Sue Belish moved to approve the legislative priorities and directed the SBE Coordinator to create a better format and to expand the priorities with more in depth explanations. Ken Rathbun seconded; the motion carried.

CHAPTER 31 RULES

Brent Young explained that the current emergency rules expire on December 15, 2015. W.S. 16-3-103 (b) allows the re-adoption of similar emergency rules for a second 120 day period. This is necessary to retain the authority to align graduation requirements with 2015 Senate Enrolled Act No. 87 which eliminates the tiered diploma requirement. In order to have available as much of the 240 days allowed for emergency rules as possible, the motion to re-adopt the emergency rules will direct the WDE to submit the request for approval to the governor on or before December 7, 2015.

Walt Wilcox moved to re-adopt Chapter 31 emergency rules as of December 10, 2015 for submission to the governor for approval of a second 120 day period. Scotty Ratliff seconded; the motion carried.

No public comment was given

The State Board of Education meeting adjourned at 10:11 a.m.