

**Minutes of the  
North Carolina State Board of Education  
Education Building  
301 N. Wilmington Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825  
February 5 and 7, 2008**

<b>Education Building, Raleigh</b>	<b>Tuesday, February 5, 2008</b>	<b>Board Room, 3:00 PM</b>
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The North Carolina State Board of Education met and the following members were present:

Howard N. Lee, Chairman	Tom Speed
Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair	Kathy Taft
Melissa Bartlett	John Tate
Shirley Harris	Eulada Watt
Kevin Howell	Patricia Willoughby

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent	Deshera Mack, Principal Advisor
Diana Beasley, Teacher Advisor	Shirley Prince, Superintendent Advisor

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION**

After extending a warm welcome to all present, Chairman Lee called the Tuesday session of the February State Board of Education meeting to order. He called attention to the unusual schedule this month due to the Board's participation in the Joint Governing Boards Meeting on Wednesday. Chairman Lee noted that the Board is meeting today because the report on professional development for school leaders involves recommendations that the full Board needs to hear in detail before voting takes place. He also provided the particulars for the committee meetings adjusted to allow for participation in the Joint Governing Boards meeting. He further explained that the Board would not meet as a committee of the whole on Wednesday but would reconvene on Thursday morning. He noted also that the Board will begin with a closed session on Thursday morning and will not begin its regular meeting until 9:15 a.m.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Chairman Lee reminded Board members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest under Chapter 138A. He asked if members of the Board knew of any conflict of interest or any appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before them during this meeting. No Board members indicated a conflict of interest at this time. The Chairman then requested that if, during the course of the meeting, members became aware of an actual or apparent conflict of interest that they bring the matter to the attention of the chair. It would then be their duty to abstain from participating in discussion and from voting on the matter.

**21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT**  
**(Ms. Shirley Harris and Ms. Eulada Watt, Co-Chairs)**

***ACTION***

**TCP 1 – Report from the ad hoc Committee on Professional Development for School Leaders**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # QP-B-003

**Presenter(s):** Mr. John Tate (Member, State Board of Education) and Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Analyst, Office of the State Board of Education)

**Description:**

In July 2007, the State Board of Education and the University of North Carolina-General Administration convened an ad hoc committee to consider professional development for school leaders. The committee met monthly and considered a variety of issues including the professional development and on-going support needed to re-tool current administrators for 21<sup>st</sup> Century schools and possible delivery systems for this professional development and ongoing support. The committee’s report is presented for approval this month.

**Recommendations:**

That the Board accept the recommendations in the report.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Mr. John Tate provided an extensive overview of the ad hoc Committee’s work. He reviewed the Committee’s membership, its charge, guiding principles, findings and recommendations. In terms of the findings and recommendations, he explained that a needs analysis of the status of professional development for school leaders identified a number of areas in which there are significant gaps between “what is” and “what is desired.” The areas considered include Delivery System(s), Content, Connection Between License Renewal and Professional Development; Succession Planning, Career Advancement, Professional Development; Accountability, and Resources and Coordination. The report includes a consolidated list of 22 recommendations. (See Attachment TCP 1, pgs. 33-36)
- Ms. Kathy Taft expressed concern with some of the recommendations and questioned the Board action that would be taken relative to the report. After a brief discussion, it was determined that the Board would vote to accept the report entrusting that DPI would develop a process and provide recommendations to move forward.

*Upon motion by Mr. John Tate and seconded by Mr. Tom Speed, the Board voted to accept the recommendations in the report from the ad hoc Committee on Professional Development for School Leaders. (See Attachment TCP 1)*

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Wayne McDevitt moved that the Board recess the February 5, 2008, meeting until 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, February 7, 2008. Mr. Tom Speed seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to recess the meeting.

The North Carolina State Board of Education met and the following members were present:

Howard N. Lee, Chairman	Richard Moore
Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chair	Kathy Taft
Melissa Bartlett	Eulada Watt
Shirley Harris	Patricia Willoughby
Kevin Howell	

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent	Shirley Prince, Superintendent Advisor
Deshera Mack, Principal Advisor	James Bell, Teacher Advisor

*Chairman Lee asked for a motion go into closed session. A motion was made by Mr. Wayne McDevitt and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, to go into closed session to consult with our attorneys on attorney-client privileged matters and to consider our attorney's advice and give them instruction in the case of *Hoke County. et al, v. State..* The Board voted unanimously to go into closed session.*

At the end of the closed session, upon motion by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the closed session and convene the SBE meeting.

Following closed session, Chairman Howard Lee extended a warm welcome to all present and called the Thursday session of the February State Board of Education meeting to order. He explained that the Board was meeting as a committee of the whole and commented on the unusual schedule this month, which allowed the Board to participate in the Joint Governing Boards Meeting on Wednesday in Chapel Hill. Chairman Lee then explained the process by which the Board would conduct its business during today's meeting.

The Chairman noted that Board Members Tom Speed and John Tate are not present due to work commitments. In addition, Local Board Member Advisor Sue Stone, Teacher Advisor Diana Beasley, and Student Advisors Brandon Young and Danielle Alston are not present due to other commitments.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Chairman Lee reminded Board members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest under Chapter 138A. He asked if members of the Board knew of any conflict of interest or any appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before them during this meeting. No Board members indicated a conflict of interest at this time. The Chairman then requested that if, during the course of the meeting, members became aware of an actual or apparent conflict of interest that they bring the matter to the attention of the chair. It would then be their duty to abstain from participating in discussion and from voting on the matter.

Following the ethics statement reading, the Vice Chairman recognized Ms. Shirley Harris to lead the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation followed and was presented by Ms. Eulada Watt.

## MINUTES

*Vice Chairman McDevitt asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 9-10, 2008, Board meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Kathy Taft and seconded by Treasurer Richard Moore. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the January 9-10, 2008, meeting as presented.*

### **Special Presentation**

- **2007-08 Milken Award Winner**
  - Mr. Stewart Albright, C.E. Jordan High School, Durham Public Schools

After a brief introduction on the Milken Award by Chairman Lee, the State Board of Education honored Mr. Stewart Albright for his selection as North Carolina's 2007-08 Milken Award Winner. Mr. Albright is the only North Carolina educator to receive the award this year. Treasurer Richard Moore, along with Superintendent Atkinson and Chairman Lee, presented Mr. Albright with his Milken obelisk, plaque from the State Board of Education, and a State Board mug. As the state's Milken recipient, Albright will receive an unrestricted financial award of \$25,000 when he attends the national conference in Los Angeles, Calif., in April. Mr. Albright's wife, Durham County Superintendent Carl Harris, and Principal Richard Webber, joined Mr. Albright for the presentation and pictures.

### **Good News Presentation**

- **Ms. Daintry O'Brien, Executive Director, Kids Voting NC**

Ms. O'Brien provided a brief synopsis of Kids Voting North Carolina stating that it is a private, non-partisan, nonprofit organization that promotes civic participation by educating America's youth about the importance of an informed electorate and the responsibilities of voting to sustain democracy. The program allows students to accompany parents or other adults to official polling sites to "vote" on real candidates and ballot issues. The focus is teaching kids how to vote.

North Carolina currently has twenty-one Kids Voting programs in the following counties: Alleghany, Buncombe, Cabarrus, Catawba, Clay, Cumberland, Davie, Durham, Greene, Guilford, Haywood, Henderson, Iredell, Jackson, Lee, Madison, Mecklenburg, New Hanover, Onslow, Randolph, and Wake. The program is expanding this year to include Forsyth, Burke and Beaufort counties, and another five counties have expressed interest.

Ms. O'Brien provided a packet of information, including a classroom activities CD for educators, for Board members to review.

After several comments from Board members about the importance of this program, Deputy Superintendent Buxton noted that DPI's Communications Office is engaged in promoting and making information available about Kids Voting to the LEAs and teachers across the state.

Chairman Lee then called on the priority chairs to present items in their respective areas for *Information*.

### **INFORMATION AGENDA**

#### **GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE STUDENTS (Ms. Kathy Taft, Chair; Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Vice-Chair)**

##### ***INFORMATION***

##### **GCS 7 – Dropout Data Report, 2006-07**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute § 115C-12(27); SBE Policy #HSP-Q-001

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Robert Logan (Associate Superintendent, Innovation and School Transformation), Ms. Priscilla J. Maynor (Director, Agency Operations and Information Management) and Dr. Kenneth Gattis (Senior Research and Evaluation Coordinator, Agency Operations and Information Management)

##### **Description:**

G.S. § 115C-12(27) directs the State Board of Education (SBE) to compile a report on dropout rates and report findings to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee. The SBE requires that each LEA submit dropout data as requested by the Department of Public Instruction per SBE Policy #GCS-Q-001.

This 2006-07 dropout report contains statewide and LEA analysis of dropout events and rates. The report disaggregates data by age, grade, gender, race, and dropout reason.

##### **Recommendations:**

N/A

##### **Discussion/Comments:**

- Mr. Logan used a PowerPoint presentation to speak about the Dropout Data Report. He explained that dropout events are calculated by the number of dropouts in any particular school determined on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the following school year. He further explained the formula used to determine the dropout rate. In addition, Mr. Logan cited the top 16 reasons reported for dropping out.
- Discussions occurred about how the data are gathered, key points about trends, the age groups involved, and reasons noted for dropping out (attendance being the number one reason). Board Members also discussed the need to revisit the issue of raising the compulsory attendance law to affect the dropout rate, and the need for a more reliable system of tracking those students who drop out.
- Chairman Lee proposed that Mr. McDevitt develop recommendations for the Board to pursue in raising the compulsory attendance age. There were no objections.

This item was presented for information only. (See Attachment GCS 7)

##### ***INFORMATION***

##### **GCS 8 – Annual Study of Suspensions and Expulsions: 2006-07**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute § 115C-12(27)

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Robert Logan (Associate Superintendent, Innovation and School Transformation), Ms. Priscilla J. Maynor (Director, Agency Operations and Information Management) and

Dr. Kenneth Gattis (Senior Research and Evaluation Coordinator, Agency Operations and Information Management)

**Description:**

G. S. § 115C-12(27) directs the State Board of Education to report in a disaggregated manner annually to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Commission on Improving the Academic Achievement of Minority and At-Risk Students the numbers of students who have dropped out of school, been suspended, been expelled, or been placed in an alternative program. The data in this report cover the requirements in this law except that regarding dropouts, which was provided in a separate report. Where possible, data for 2006-07 were combined with data from previous school years for trend information. Data in this report includes numbers of short-term suspensions, long-term suspensions, and expulsions for 2006-07, both overall and for major demographic subgroups. The data are reported separately overall for charter schools and LEAs. Also, a breakdown of suspensions and expulsions by gender and ethnicity is provided for individual charter schools and LEAs.

**Recommendations:**

N/A

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Mr. Logan summarized the 2006-07 Annual Study of Suspensions and Expulsions.
- GCS Committee Chair Kathy Taft noted that several charter schools had more short-term suspensions than some entire school districts. She asked that the Charter Schools Office provide a report about this issue at a future GCS Committee meeting.

This item was presented for information only. (See Attachment GCS 7)

**COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS ON ACTION, ACTION ON FIRST READING,  
AND DISCUSSION AGENDA**

**GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE STUDENTS  
(Ms. Kathy Taft, Chair; Ms. Tricia Willoughby, Vice-Chair)**

***ACTION***

**GCS 1 – High School Science Courses Taken in the Middle School: Considerations for Extending  
Policy Beyond Mathematics and Foreign Language**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy #HSP-M-001

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Robert Logan (Associate Superintendent, Innovation and School Transformation), Mr. Edd Dunlap (Middle/Secondary Science Section Chief), and Dr. Eleanor Hasse (Secondary Science Consultant)

**Description:**

The GCS Committee has requested information on expanding the current policy HSP-M-001 that allows students to take high school mathematics and foreign language courses for high school credit while they are in middle school.

**Recommendations:**

State Board members are requested to approve the expansion of existing policy to include science courses.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- There was no discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby and seconded by Mr. Kevin Howell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the expansion of existing policy, HSP-M-001, to include science courses. (See Attachment Revisions GCS 1)*

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**GCS 2 – Recommended Final Academic Achievement Standards (Cut Scores) and Achievement Level Descriptors for the NCEXTEND 2 EOG Reading and Mathematics Grades 3-8 and Recommended Draft Achievement Level Descriptors for NCEXTEND2 EOG Science Grades 5 and 8**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy #HSP-C-026; No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director, Accountability Services Division)

**Description:**

In accordance with the practice established after the national audit panel’s review of the testing program in 2001, the recommended *final* academic achievement standards (cut scores) and achievement level descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 EOG reading and mathematics at grades 3-8 are being provided for adoption on first reading at the February 2008 meeting of the State Board of Education. The NCEXTEND2 EOG Reading and Mathematics were implemented initially as operational modified alternate assessments effective with the 2005-06 school year for students with disabilities who require the modified assessments in order to access the statewide testing program as required by the NCLB Act of 2001. Interim academic achievement standards (cut scores) for these tests were approved by the SBE for the 2005-06 and the 2006-07 school years pending the adoption of the final regulations by the USED. The final academic achievement standards (cut scores) and achievement level descriptors were generated by a group of panelists who were practicing ELA and mathematics educators in sessions held with Pearson Educational Measurement facilitating the sessions along with analyses and recommendations by NCDPI Test Development staff. The consequential data used to inform decisions about the final cut scores and descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 EOG Reading and Mathematics assessment were derived from the 2005-06 and the 2006-07 administrations of the assessments. After an extensive analysis of all of the data, the department will recommend the final academic achievement standards (cut scores) and achievement level descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 EOG Reading and Mathematics alternate assessments for students with disabilities who require the use of the NCEXTEND2, a modified alternate assessment, in order to access the statewide testing program. Recommended final standards and descriptors are to be effective with the 2007-08 school year. Revised achievement level cut scores and achievement level descriptors will be presented to the SBE for reading during the summer 2008 which is the first assessment year of the new curriculum cycle for ELA.

Additionally, the recommended *draft* achievement level descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 EOG science assessments at grades 5 and 8 are being provided for adoption on first reading at the February 2008 meeting of the State Board of Education. The draft descriptors are required as a part of the USED Peer

Review Process which is scheduled to be held in March 2008. The NCEXTEND2 EOG science grades 5 and 8, modified alternate assessments, were implemented initially as a field test in 2005-06, as a pilot in 2006-07, and as an operational modified alternate assessments effective with the 2007-08 school year for students with disabilities who require the modified assessments in order to access the statewide testing program as required by the NCLB Act of 2001. Interim academic achievement standards (cut scores) and interim achievement level descriptors for these tests will be presented for approval by the SBE during the summer 2008 when the 2007-08 test administration data are collected for both grades. The recommended draft descriptors are to be replaced with the interim achievement level descriptors during the summer 2008.

The cut scores for NCEXTEND2 EOG Reading and Mathematics will be sent to the SBE members prior to the February SBE meeting.

**Recommendations:**

The department recommends that the State Board amend policy HSP-C-026 and that the final academic achievement standards (cut scores) and achievement level descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 EOG Reading and Mathematics at grades 3-8 and the draft achievement level descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 EOG Science Grades 5 and 8 be approved as provided.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Mr. Kevin Howell recused himself from discussion and voting on this item.
- Ms. Patricia Willoughby noted the change in the language for the recommendation. She stated that the Council of Chief State Schools Officers are conducting studies that could affect the final cut scores for this item as the reason for the language revision.
- There was no additional discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted to amend policy HSP-C-026 regarding the final academic achievement level descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 EOG Reading and Mathematics at grades 3-8 and the draft achievement level descriptors for the NCEXTEND2 EOG Science Grades 5 and 8. Mr. Kevin Howell recused himself from the vote. (See Attachment GCS 2)*

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**GCS 3 – Recommended Interim Academic Achievement Standards (Cut Scores) and Achievement Level Descriptors for EOC Tests of Science (Physical Science, Biology, chemistry, and Physics) and Recommended Final Academic Achievement Standards (cut Scores) and Achievement Level Descriptors for the EOC Test of Algebra II**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # HSP-C-010; No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director, Accountability Services Division)

**Description:**

In accordance with the practice established after the national audit panel's review of the testing program in 2001, the recommended *interim* academic achievement standards (cut scores) for the revised EOC tests of Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics are being provided for adoption on first reading at the February 2008 meeting of the State Board of Education. The revised EOC tests were implemented effective with the 2007-08 school year to measure the revised curriculum in the area of science. The standards are being set using data from the Contrasting Groups method of standard setting using data (teacher judgments and student performance data) generated from fall semester 2007. Final standards for

the science EOC tests will be presented to the SBE for approval in the early fall of 2008. The recommended interim standards are to be effective for the 2007-08 school year only.

Furthermore, the recommended *final* academic achievement standards (cut scores) and achievement level descriptors for the EOC test of Algebra II are being provided for adoption on first reading at the February 2008 meeting of the State Board of Education. These revised EOC tests are to be implemented effective with the 2007-08 school year due to the shortening of the test. The final academic achievement standards (cut scores) and achievement level descriptors were generated from data generated from the fall 2007 data collection of teacher judgment and student performance. The cut scores were generated using information from several sources, including the Contrasting Groups method and the Item-Mapping (book marking) procedure. The recommended final standards and descriptors are to be effective with the 2007-08 school year.

Because the cut scores for these assessments will be based on fall block data, the actual changes in policy for the cut scores will be presented at the SBE meeting.

**Recommendations:**

The department recommends that the State Board amend policy HSP-C-010 and that the interim academic achievement standards (cut scores) for the EOC tests in the areas of Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry and Physics; and the final academic achievement standards (cut scores) and achievement level descriptors for the revised Algebra II EOC test be approved as provided.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- There was no discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby and seconded by Ms. Shirley Harris, the Board voted unanimously to amend policy HSP-C-010 and that the interim academic achievement standards (cut scores) for the EOC tests in the areas of Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry and Physics; and the final academic achievement standards (cut scores) and achievement level descriptors for the revised Algebra II EOC test. (See Attachment GCS 3)*

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**GCS 4 – Recommended Interim Cut Scores/Achievement Level Descriptors for NCCLAS EOC Science Tests and Final Achievement Level Descriptors for the NCCLAS EOC Assessment of Algebra II**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # HSP-C-024; No Child Left Behind (NCLB) of 2001

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Louis M. Fabrizio (Director, Accountability Services Division)

**Description:**

In accordance with the practice established after the national audit panel’s review of the testing program in 2001, the recommended interim cut scores and achievement level descriptors for the NCCLAS EOC science assessments (Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics) and the *final* achievement level descriptors for the NCCLAS EOC Algebra II assessment are being provided for adoption on first reading at the February 2008 meeting of the State Board of Education. The NCCLAS science EOC tests are to be implemented effective with the 2007-08 school year for students with disabilities who require an alternate assessment with a different format in order to access grade level course content and standards with the same degree of challenge and rigor in order to access the statewide testing program as required by the

NCLB Act of 2001. The interim cut scores and achievement level descriptors for the NCCLAS science EOC tests were generated by a panel of practitioners during a session held at NCSU on January 14, 2008 under guidance of an external facilitator from RTI. The final achievement level descriptors for NCCLAS EOC Algebra II were generated by a group of practicing mathematics educators. The recommended interim cut scores and descriptors for the noted NCCLAS EOC science assessments are to be effective with the 2007-08 school year. The recommended descriptors for the NCCLAS EOC Algebra II assessments are to be implemented with the 2007-08 school year. NCCLAS is a grade-level alternate assessment with grade-level academic achievement standards for students with IEPs and students who are LEP who are taught grade level competencies but due to the nature of their disability or level of language proficiency need a different type of assessment to access the statewide testing program.

**Recommendations:**

The department recommends that the State Board amend policy HSP-C-024 and that the interim cut scores and achievement level descriptors for the NCCLAS EOC science assessments (Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics) and the final achievement level descriptors for the NCCLAS EOC assessment in the area of Algebra II be approved as provided.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- There was no discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to amend policy HSP-C-024 regarding the interim cut scores and achievement level descriptors for the NCCLAS EOC science assessments (Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics) and the final achievement level descriptors for the NCCLAS EOC assessment in the area of Algebra II. (See Attachment GCS 4)*

**DISCUSSION**

**GCS 6 – Impact of Possible Revision of the North Carolina Standard Course of Study in Mathematics**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy #HSP-F-002

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Robert L. Logan (Associate Superintendent, Innovation and School Transformation), Ms. Everly Broadway (Section Chief, Middle and Secondary Mathematics), and Ms. Donna Thomas (Consultant, Elementary Mathematics)

**Description:**

The *North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Mathematics* was last revised in 2003. A schedule for revision was approved at the State Board of Education meeting in May 2007.

**Recommendations:**

The State Board of Education is asked to grant approval of the proposed revision to the *North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Mathematics K-12*.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Vice Committee Chair Patricia Willoughby directed Board members to their notebooks for additional information, which provides the Committee’s recommendation for the revision of K-5 only and delays revision of 6-12 based on the Blue Ribbon Commission on Testing and Accountability’s recommendation.

- Chairman Lee urged Board Members who need further clarification or would like to make suggestions to contact the Committee Chairs and plan to attend the GCS Committee meeting in March.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in February and will be presented at the March meeting for action. (See Attachment GCS 6)

#### **New Business Report**

- GCS Vice Chair Patricia Willoughby noted that the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006 Five-Year State Plan is being developed and is available for review on the website. Hard copies are available upon request from the SBE Office. Ms. Willoughby encouraged Board members to review this item carefully.

### **HEALTHY, RESPONSIBLE STUDENTS** (Ms. Kathy Taft, Chair, and Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Vice Chair)

#### **New Business Report**

- GCS Vice Chair Patricia Willoughby reported that the HRS Committee received a new business report on the NC Prevention Partners – Zone Health Project. Executive Director Meg Molloy discussed the Zone Health School Obesity Prevention Program and how it strongly links to the mission and goals of the State Board. The program was piloted in 2003-2006 in nine North Carolina public schools as a way to improve student fitness measures. The program is currently operating in 25 public schools and staff are partnering with state leadership at DPI and the State Board to identify opportunities to strengthen capacity to understand and address the school's role in obesity prevention.

### **21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT** (Ms. Shirley Harris and Ms. Eulada Watt, Co-Chairs)

#### ***ACTION***

#### **TCP 2 – Clarification of the Lateral Entry Licensure Policies**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # TCP-A-001

**Presenter(s):** Ms. Nadine Ejire (Assistant Section Chief, Licensure Section)

#### **Description:**

Individuals who have not completed an approved teacher education program may be issued a lateral entry license for up to three years if they meet the requirements detailed in Board policy. Based on requests from and discussions with personnel administrators, two elements of the current policy need to be clarified. Revisions that focus on these areas in need of clarification are presented for approval. Since last month the proposed wording has been edited for greater clarity.

**Recommendations:**

That the Board approve the proposed revisions of the lateral entry licensure policy.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Committee Co Chair Shirley Harris explained that more specificity is provided in this proposed policy.
- There was no additional discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Shirley Harris and seconded by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, the Board voted unanimously to accept the proposed revisions of the lateral entry licensure policy as submitted. (See Attachment TCP 2)*

***ACTION*****TCP 3 – Policy on Eligibility for State Teacher of the Year**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute § 115C-11(a2); SBE Policy # QP-E-000

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Danny Holloman (Section Chief, Center for Recruitment and Retention)

**Description:**

Currently, the SBE policy is titled, Policy on the Regional Teacher of the Year position. The policy does not provide any information on the eligibility requirement for the State Teacher of the Year. The policy is being revised to define eligibility requirements. Another policy will be developed to address financial incentives for both the State and Regional Teachers of the Year.

**Recommendations:**

That the Board adopt the policy on eligibility for State Teacher of the Year.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- TCP Committee Co Chair Eulada Watt noted that the TCP Committee recommends further discussion on several aspects of this policy, including the number of hours as criteria for selection (i.e., the number of hours of direct instruction). Therefore, this item is referred back to the TCP Committee for clarity.
- There was no additional discussion.

***ACTION ON FIRST READING*****TCP 4 – Recommendations from the Advisory Board on Requests for Exception from Teacher Licensing Requirements**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # QP-A-021

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Kathy Sullivan (Senior Policy Analyst, SBE Office)

**Description:**

In April 2006, the Board adopted a policy to allow individuals who have not met licensing requirements due to extenuating circumstances to request an exception from the requirement or an extension of time. The request must include documents from the teacher, the principal, the superintendent, and the chair of

the local board of education. In June, a similar policy was approved to allow colleges and universities to submit requests for exception to Praxis I testing requirements on behalf of students seeking admission to teacher education programs. Requests are evaluated by a panel chaired by a member of the State Board. Panel recommendations will be presented in closed session.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the actions related to each request be approved.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- There were no requests in February for exception from teacher licensing requirements.

**NEW BUSINESS REPORTS**

Committee Co-Chair Shirley Harris reported that the TCP Committee received reports and held discussions about the New Evaluation Instrument(s) Deployment Plan, Non-Teaching Work Experience Credit, and an update on Highly Qualified Teachers.

**TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY SYSTEMS  
BUSINESS/FINANCE AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT  
(Mr. Kevin Howell, Chair, and Mr. John Tate, Vice-Chair)**

***ACTION***

**TCS 1 – Educational Value Added Assessment System (EVAAS) Teacher Module**

**Policy Implications:** Session Law 2007-277, Senate Bill 1030

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services) and Mr. Jackson Miller (Social Research Assistant, Financial and Business Services)

**Description:**

The teacher module is a statistical analysis program provided by SAS that uses student performance data, collected over a number of years, to assess a teacher’s pedagogical strengths and weaknesses. It is a tool that administrators can use to design and implement professional development programs that will address the unique needs of their teachers.

We worked with the Attorney General’s Office to consolidate the previous three policies into one succinct policy. The consolidated policy covers the same concepts addressed in the previous three policies—confidentiality, definition of terms, and appropriate use of the reports.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the State Board approve the policy related to access this data.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- There was no discussion.

<p><i>Upon motion by <u>Mr. Kevin Howell</u> and seconded by <u>Ms. Patricia Willoughby</u>, the Board voted unanimously to approve the policy related to access this data. (See Attachment TCS 1)</i></p>
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***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**TCS 2 – Approval of Grants: NCLB Enhancing Education Through Technology – IMPACT IV Awards; and Even Start Family Literacy Programs – Supplemental Grant Awards 2007-08**

**Policy Implications:**

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Robert Logan, Associate Superintendent, Innovation and School Transformation), Mrs. Wynn Smith (Interim Lead, Instructional Technology), and Mr. John Pruette (Executive Director, Office of School Readiness)

**Description:**

The grants listed below are being submitted for approval of distribution of funds to selected school systems. Please see attachments for description of grants.

- Attachment 1 – NCLB Enhancing Education Through Technology – IMPACT IV Awards
- Attachment 2 – Even Start Family Literacy Programs – Supplemental Grant Awards 2007-2008

**Recommendations:**

Staff recommends that the Board approve these grants.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- There was no discussion.

*Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell and seconded by Ms. Kathy Taft, the Board voted unanimously to approve the grants as presented. (See Attachment TCS 2)*

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**TCS 3 – Individual Class Size Waiver Requests**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute § 115C-301

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services), Mr. Paul LeSieur (Director, School Business Division), and Mrs. Alexis Schauss (Assistant Director, School Business Division)

**Description:**

It shall be the responsibility of local boards of education to assure that the class size and teaching load requirements set forth in G.S. 115C-301 are met. Requests for individual class size waivers are required to be submitted to the State Board of Education after the second school month and the remainder of the school year, if the individual class exceeds the allotment ratio by three students so long as the LEA-wide average class size maximums is not exceeded. There may be additional waivers submitted for the February SBE meeting. If class size waivers are reviewed after the submission of this report but prior to the February Board meeting, they will be provided to the State Board as a late item.

**Recommendations:**

The Department recommends that the State Board of Education approve the attached waiver pertaining to the class size exception request submitted by Transylvania County Schools, the Department will then notify the LEA(s) of the action taken by the State Board of Education.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Mr. Howell noted a revision to this item, which was a request for class size waivers for Wake County Schools.
- There was no additional discussion.

*Upon motion by Mr. Kevin Howell and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the waiver pertaining to the class size exception submitted by Transylvania County Schools and not to approve the request submitted from Wake County Schools. (See Attachment TCS 3)*

**DISCUSSION**

**TCS 4 – 2008-09 Supplemental Budget Request**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute § 115C-12(1a)

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Philip Price (Associate Superintendent, Financial and Business Services) and Ms. Becky McConkey (Director, Financial Services Division)

**Description:**

Supplemental budget requests for 2008-09 must be finalized and submitted to the Governor in March 2008. At this meeting, there will be discussion of unfunded requests pending from the 2007-09 biennium, new requests submitted and prioritized by agency leadership, and recommendations from Legislative Commissions and other Board studies.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the State Board of Education discuss future budget needs and specific budget requests in order to construct the SBE's 2008-09 Supplemental Budget Request.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell noted that full discussion would be held at the next TCS Committee meeting about the supplemental budget request for the short session. Ms. Becky McConkey and Mr. Philip Price are leading the efforts on this item by the deadlines required.
- There was no additional discussion.

This item is presented for discussion in February and will be presented for action in March. (See Attachment TCS 4)

**UPDATE ON CONTRACTS**

(See Attachment in book)

- There was no discussion.

**LEADERSHIP FOR INNOVATION COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT**  
**(Ms. Melissa Bartlett and Mr. Tom Speed, Co-Chairs)**

***ACTION***

**LFI 1 – Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools with Charters Expiring June 2008**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute § 115C-238.29D(d); SBE Policy #EEO-U-007

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Robert L. Logan (Assistant State Superintendent, Innovation and School Transformation) and Mr. Jack Moyer (Director, Office of Charter Schools)

**Description:**

Based on, GS 115C-238.29D(d) and SBE Policy EEO-U-007, the following schools are requesting renewal of their charters.

- Dillard Academy
- Kennedy School

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the SBE accept the renewal recommendations of the Leadership for Innovation Committee.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- There was no discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to accept the renewal recommendations of the Leadership for Innovation Committee for Dillard Academy and Kennedy School. (See Attachment LFI 1)*

**NEW BUSINESS REPORTS**

Committee Co-Chair Melissa Bartlett reported that the TCS Committee received several reports. One report was on the 1:1 Laptop initiative that is being rolled out in a public/private partnership between the Board and the business community. NCDPI Finance Division CIO Rob Hines is leading this initiative. This educational partnership between DPI, SAS, Friday Institute, New Schools Project, and the Golden LEAF Foundation aims to change teaching and learning in each school by providing laptops for every teacher and student as well providing classroom tools including software and hardware designed to enhance learning. In addition, the TCS Committee received a report about the NC Virtual Public School rolling out ten pilots to improve the delivery system to affect the virtual school initiative across the state. Ms. Bartlett noted that her intention is to bring both of these items to the full Board in the future.

**CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

In his remarks, Chairman Howard Lee announced that the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) is hosting its annual legislative conference in Washington, DC, March 11-13. Any Board member interested in attending should contact Betsy West or Rebecca Garland.

Chairman Lee also noted a list being passed around regarding the Board members' designee to receive the donated textbooks from publishers. He asked Board members to confirm the recipient of the textbooks listed by their names.

In conclusion, Chairman Lee mentioned, for the Board's information only, his intentions to engage in conversation with heads of institutions of higher education (IHEs) to determine the feasibility of pursuing

the creation of an associate arts degree in teaching at the community college level. He will keep the Board updated on this issue.

### **Executive Director's Report**

SBE Executive Director Rebecca Garland directed Board members to a packet in their notebooks containing a listing of all of the applications made for the dropout grants. The information includes those funded and those not funded, as well as the allotment amounts. She shared that the Department had to defend the process used by the committee after questions about equity. The legislation did not include a body to answer programmatic questions and/or to manage the funded grants. Once the committee was disbanded, the responsibility and/or authority to answer questions terminated. Therefore, programmatic questions, with the exception of how state dollars can be spent, are being referred to the General Assembly.

In other General Assembly news, Dr. Garland reported that the legislature is having conversations on funding formulas, professional development, and virtual learning that the Department is co-presenting with the university system.

Dr. Garland also reported that she and Board Member Howell attended the recent NASBE Conference.

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

#### **Project K-Nect**

Superintendent Atkinson announced that the NC Department of Public Instruction, Digital Millennial Consulting, and Qualcomm Incorporated have jointly distributed 100 Smartphones to four high schools in three school districts in North Carolina. The school districts are Onslow, Durham, and Forsyth Counties. The pilot education program uses Smartphones with advanced mobile broadband technologies to deliver math educational materials to ninth grade students.

#### **eBook Initiative**

Superintendent Atkinson was pleased to report that the NC Department of Public Instruction and Hertford County Public Schools have rolled out an eBook initiative with the support of a \$25,000 grant from AT&T. Technology-based curriculum aligned with the *NC Standard Course of Study* will be used with ninth and tenth grade students in Algebra I and Civics/Economics. SERVE and the East Carolina University School of Education will oversee the evaluation of the initiative.

#### **Singapore Learning**

The Superintendent provided a PowerPoint presentation sharing photographs and insight learned from her recent experiences in Singapore with the Public School Forum and Center for International Understanding to study the educational system.

#### **State Superintendent's Advisory Councils**

The State Superintendent's Advisory Councils met on January 23-24, 2008. The following topics were discussed.

##### **1. Teachers**

- Annual Report on Reasons Teachers Leave the Profession
- Teacher Licensure Process
- Technology Rich Schools

- “We Believe” White Paper Development by Teachers of the Year

## 2. Superintendents

- Teacher Licensure Process
- Principals’ Training Needs
- Budget Priorities
- InsideOut Dropout Prevention Program
- Blue Ribbon Commission on Testing and Accountability Recommendations

## 3. Principals

- Teacher Licensure Process
- Teachers’ and Principals’ Evaluation Process
- Principals’ Training Needs
- Budget Priorities
- InsideOut Dropout Prevention Program
- Blue Ribbon Commission on Testing and Accountability Recommendations

## 4. Parents

- NC Parent Involvement Guide Development
- InsideOut Dropout Prevention Program
- Blue Ribbon Commission Testing and Accountability Recommendations

### Upcoming Events

- Third Annual Entrepreneurship Summit, February 26, Greensboro Coliseum Special Events Center, Greensboro
- Second Annual National Entrepreneurship Week, February 23 – March 1
- Raising Achievement and Closing Gaps Conference, March 31-April 1, Sheraton Four Seasons Hotel, Greensboro

### Employee Recognition

In conclusion, Dr. Atkinson recognized Ms. Jackie Colbert who recently received recognition for outstanding achievement from the High School Network for her outstanding contributions to the development of the high school network and to public education. The Board joined Superintendent Atkinson in congratulating Ms. Colbert for her continuous efforts and contributions to education.

### OLD BUSINESS

N/A

### NEW BUSINESS

N/A

### DEPUTY STATE SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

In his report, Deputy State Superintendent J.B. Buxton reported briefly about the data management project, an infrastructure study funded by the Gates Foundation. Board members were encouraged to ask

questions about the strategic plan for data management and infrastructure of the Department as it relates to this effort.

Regarding the Department's continuing reorganization efforts, Mr. Buxton noted that the Department is in the middle of reviewing core and non-core activities to determine those items that do not align with the Board's mission and goals, as well as state and federal mandates. Several internal committees will determine the need to continue these activities.

The work of comprehensive support is moving forward according to Mr. Buxton. Assessment work in Columbus County and Lexington City is underway; coaches and regional leads have been identified and are working in those districts. The Department will be in those school districts with plans assisting them based on the needs assessment for next year.

In closing, Mr. Buxton reported that the Department has developed guidelines for dress expectations in the Department, and he will be meeting with agency leadership to discuss the policy and Board expectations.

Board Member Patricia Willoughby announced that Junior Student Advisor Brandon Young has been selected to participate in the Beijing Association of Science and Technology Exhibition scheduled for March in Beijing, China.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

<p><i>Chairman Chairman Howard Lee asked for a motion to adjourn. Upon motion by <u>Ms. Melissa Bartlett</u> and seconded by <u>Ms. Shirley Harris</u>, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the February 7, 2008, meeting of the State Board of Education.</i></p>
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