

MINUTES

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ladislaus B. Dombrowski Board Room  
John A. Hannah Building  
608 West Allegan  
Lansing, Michigan

December 14, 2004  
9:00 a.m.

Present: Mr. Thomas D. Watkins Jr., Chairman  
Mrs. Kathleen N. Straus, President  
Dr. Herbert S. Moyer, Vice President  
Mrs. Carolyn L. Curtin, Secretary  
Mr. John C. Austin, Treasurer  
Mrs. Marianne Yared McGuire, NASBE Delegate  
Mrs. Elizabeth W. Bauer  
Mr. Reginald M. Turner  
Mrs. Eileen Lappin Weiser (via telephone)  
Ms. Sue Carnell, representing Governor Jennifer M. Granholm, ex officio

Also Present: Mrs. Heidi Capraro, 2004-2005 Michigan Teacher of the Year  
Mrs. Nancy Danhof, Board Member Elect – Term Beginning January 1, 2005

**REGULAR MEETING**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Watkins called the Regular Meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

II. AGENDA FOLDER ITEMS

A. Highlights of Activities – Superintendent’s Report – November, 2004 – December, 2004

III. INFORMATIONAL FOLDER ITEMS

- A. Information on Progress Report on Social Studies Task Force Recommendations
- B. The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) December 2004 Quick Notes
- C. Follow-Up on Information Presented by Ms. Mary T. Wood to Members of the State Board of Education at its Meeting of November 9, 2004

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

- A. Report on the Progress of the Supporting Student Behavior: Seclusion/Restraint Referent Group – removed from agenda
- B. Report on Approval of Proposal to Annex St. Johns Public Schools to Lansing Community College – added to agenda
- C. 2004-2005 United States Department of Education, Charter School Grant Program, Competitive Start-Up Grant – Tenth Cycle – Continuation – added to agenda
- D. 2004-2005 Implementation Grant Application for Charter School Grant Program – Initial – added to agenda
- E. 2004-2005 United States Department of Education Charter School Grant Program – Initial – added to agenda

**Mrs. Bauer moved, seconded by Mr. Austin, that the State Board of Education approve the agenda and order of priority, as modified.**

**Ayes: Austin, Bauer, Curtin, McGuire, Straus, Weiser  
Absent: Moyer, Turner**

**The motion carried.**

V. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS, DEPARTMENT STAFF, AND GUESTS

Mrs. Eileen Hamilton, State Board Executive, introduced the members of the State Board of Education, Department staff, and guests attending the meeting.

Mrs. Hamilton welcomed Mrs. Nancy Danhof, recently elected member of the State Board of Education, who will take office on January 1, 2005, for an eight year term.

VI. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting to convene as a Committee of the Whole at 9:10 a.m.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

VII. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Watkins called the Committee of the Whole to order at 9:11 a.m.

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Presentation by Tom Clay, Citizens Research Council

The following individual presented:

- Mr. Tom Clay, Director of State Affairs, Citizens Research Council of Michigan

Mr. Turner joined the meeting at 9:15 a.m. Dr. Moyer joined the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

B. Presentation by Dr. Felix Chow, Superintendent of Flint Community Schools

The following individual presented:

- Dr. Felix Chow, Superintendent, Flint Community Schools
- Mr. Thomas Svitkovich, Superintendent, Genesee Intermediate School District
- Dr. Barbara Goebel, Superintendent, Flushing Community Schools

The following individuals offered comments:

- Dr. David Plank, Co-Director of the Education Policy Center at Michigan State University and a professor of educational administration

Ms. Carnell joined the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

IX. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole at 10:47 a.m. and reconvened at 11:05 a.m.

X. DISCUSSION ITEMS (continued)

C. Presentation by the New Detroit Science Center

The following individuals presented:

- Mr. Bernard Robertson, Board of Directors, New Detroit Science Center
- Mr. Francois Castaing, Chairman of the Board, New Detroit Science Center
- Ms. Shawn Kahle, President and Chief Executive Officer, New Detroit Science Center

- D. Presentation on the Grade Level Content Expectations Companion Documents Project

The following individuals presented:

- Dr. Yvonne Caamal Canul, Director, Office of School Improvement
- Ms. Betty Underwood, Assistant Director, Office of School Improvement
- Ms. Mary Cullinane, Project Director, Microsoft Partners in Learning

XI. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – MR. THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.

Mr. Watkins introduced Mrs. Lonnie Pepler-Moyer, wife of Dr. Herbert S. Moyer.

XII. RECESS

The Board recessed at 12:25 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 1:21 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING**

XIII. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

- A. Approval of Record of Committee of the Whole and Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 9, 2004.

**Mrs. Curtin moved, seconded by Mrs. Weiser, that the State Board of Education approve the Record of Committee of the Whole and Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 9, 2004.**

**Ayes: Austin, Bauer, Curtin, Moyer, Straus, Turner, Weiser  
Absent During Vote: McGuire**

**The motion carried.**

XIV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

- A. Ms. Sandra Spencer, 8506 Garbow Drive, Alton, Michigan 49302.  
Ms. Spencer provided comments on special education services.
- B. Mr. Larry Posont, 20812 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights, Michigan 48127.  
Mr. Posont, representing Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind, provided comments on Camp Tuhsmeheeta.
- C. Mr. Roger Houghtaling, 300 Carriage Way, Davison, Michigan 48423.  
Mr. Houghtaling, representing Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind, provided comments on Camp Tuhsmeheeta.

- D. Ms. Christy Witte, 3433 Haleh Circle, Apt. 2, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546. Ms. Witte, representing Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind, shared comments on Camp Tuhsmeheeta.
  - E. Mr. Walter Saumier, 522 West Grand River, Lansing, Michigan 48906. Mr. Saumier, representing Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind, commented on Camp Tuhsmeheeta.
  - F. Ms. Ellen Sugrue Hyman, 3401 East Saginaw, Suite 216, Lansing, Michigan 48912. Ms. Sugrue Hyman commented on universal education.
  - G. Ms. Janice K. Colliton, 930 Murray Hill, Highland, Michigan 48357. Ms. Colliton shared comments on universal education.
  - H. Ms. Emily Zoeller, 8348 Brookwood Drive, Portage, Michigan 49024. Ms. Zoeller, representing Girl Scouts Troop 396, discussed Circle of Friends and inclusion of people with special needs.
  - I. Ms. Caitlin St. Arnauld, Portage, Michigan 49024. Ms. St. Arnauld, representing Girl Scouts Troop 396, discussed universal education and Circle of Friends.
  - J. Ms. Taylor Mcquat, 10211 Woodlawn, Portage, Michigan 49002. Ms. Mcquat, representing Girl Scouts Troop 396, shared comments on Circle of Friends and universal education.
  - K. Ms. Lauri Stein, 6565 Tanglewood, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546. Ms. Stein, representing Everyone Together and United Cerebral Palsy Michigan, shared comments on universal education.
  - L. Mrs. Mary T. Wood, 27533 Santa Ana, Warren, Michigan 48093. Mrs. Wood shared comments on charter school oversight.
  - M. Ms. Mary Monaghan, 3603 Sawgrass Circle, Lansing, Michigan 48911. Ms. Monaghan provided comments as a tribute to Dr. Moyer.
- XV. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – MRS. CAROLYN L. CURTIN

**Mrs. Curtin moved, seconded by Mr. Turner, that “Structural Issues Surrounding Michigan School Funding in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” be added to the agenda of the Regular Meeting.**

**Ayes: Austin, Bauer, Curtin, Moyer, Straus, Turner, Weiser  
Absent During Vote: McGuire**

**The motion carried.**

XVI. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting to reconvene as a Committee of the Whole at 2:05 p.m.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

XVII. DISCUSSION ITEMS (continued)

E Report on Reading First Annual Performance Report for Year Two

The following individuals presented:

- Dr. Yvonne Caamal Canul, Director, Office of School Improvement
- Ms. Faith Stevens, Supervisor, Curriculum and Literacy, Office of School Improvement
- Dr. Joanne F. Carlisle, University of Michigan, Principal Investigator, Evaluation of Reading First in Michigan

F. Report on the Progress of the Supporting Student Behavior: Seclusion/Restraint Referent Group

This item was removed from the agenda.

G. Report on Federal and State 2005-2006 Proposed Budgets

The following individuals presented:

- Ms. Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent
- Ms. Roberta Stanley, Director, Administrative Law and Federal Relations

XVIII. ADJOURMENT

The Board adjourned the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 2:37 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 2:38 p.m.

## REGULAR MEETING

### XIX. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

#### A. Tribute to Dr. Herbert S. Moyer

Mrs. Straus said that Dr. Moyer will be leaving the State Board of Education at the end of 2004. She thanked him for his service and said he has been a valued member of the Board and his wisdom, superintendent's perspective, and wit will be missed. She said a reception in Dr. Moyer's honor will be held following the Board meeting.

#### B. Teacher Recognition Banquet

Mrs. Straus said she, Mrs. Bauer, and Dr. Moyer attended the Educator Recognition Reception and Banquet at the Kellogg Center on December 9, 2004. She said award-winning teachers were honored. Mrs. Straus said this banquet was in the middle of a two-day conference for educators where best practices were shared. Mrs. Straus said Ms. Jean Shane, Special Assistant, Awards and Recognition Programs; and Mr. David Borth, Chairman, Network of Michigan Educators Steering Committee; planned the event.

### XX. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

#### A. Structural Issues Surrounding School Funding

Mr. Watkins said he wrote the report, *Structural Issues Surrounding Michigan School Funding in the 21st Century*, in response to Mrs. Straus' request to outline his thoughts and to devise an action plan that addresses school funding issues for the purpose of stimulating dialogue among State Board members and other key stakeholders. Mr. Watkins said the current funding model is not sustainable, and alternatives need to be discussed.

Dr. Moyer said communication with the Legislature needs to be increased and improved. Mr. Watkins said Mr. Morris, Legislative Director, is working with North Central Regional Educational Laboratory to convene a meeting with Legislative leadership and freshman legislators in February, 2005.

Mr. Watkins said "Highlights of Activities – Superintendent's Report – November, 2004 – December 2004" is in the agenda folder.

XXI. REPORT ON MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR ACTIVITIES

Mrs. Heidi Capraro, 2004-2005 Teacher of the Year, presented Report on Michigan Teacher of the Year Activities.

Mrs. Capraro said many of her activities are contained in the written report. She said she also participated in the Microsoft Michigan Partners in Learning conference on November 29, 2004, and found it to be a valuable experience.

XXII. STRUCTURAL ISSUES SURROUNDING MICHIGAN SCHOOL FUNDING IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

Mrs. Straus presented Structural Issues Surrounding Michigan School Funding in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Mrs. Straus publicly thanked Governor Granholm and the Legislature for transferring money from the General Fund to the School Aid Fund to maintain current funding levels for schools. Mrs. Straus said funding is still an issue, since many children and families need health and social services that are funded by General Fund money. Mrs. Straus said since 2001 school aid funding has been flat, which actually is a reduction. Mrs. Straus said there are structural problems with the funding and delivery of education in Michigan. She said these are urgent matters and a comprehensive review and strategy is needed to solve them.

Mrs. Straus said she appreciated the Committee of the Whole presentations on school funding by Mr. Tom Clay, Citizens Research Council; and Dr. Felix Chow, Superintendent of Flint Community Schools, and Genesee county superintendents and educators.

**Mrs. Bauer moved, seconded by Mrs. Curtin, that the State Board of Education direct the Board President to appoint a subcommittee composed of Mrs. Straus and two other Board members to: (1) meet with Governor Granholm to gain her input and support; (2) meet with legislative leadership to gain bi-partisan support, conceptually and financially, to develop action steps and recommendations addressed in the Superintendent's report, *Structural Issues Surrounding Michigan School Funding in the 21st Century*; and (3) direct the superintendent to seek business, labor and foundation support, both conceptually and financially, to support the expenses associated with implementation of the recommendations from his report.**

Mrs. Straus said she will appoint both Mrs. Curtin and Mr. Turner to the subcommittee and both have agreed to serve on the subcommittee.

Mr. Austin said it should be made clear that this is beyond an adequacy and equity study, but rather a comprehensive review and fresh perspective of effectiveness and efficiency of the school funding structure and delivery of education.

Mr. Turner said there is a need for more stability in funding education, and the Board needs to determine how to create a structure that is functional within the limited resources.

The vote was taken on the motion.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Austin left the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Mrs. Straus offered the assistance of the State Board of Education, as the Detroit School Board transitions from the Reform Board.

### XXIII. UPDATE ON EDUCATIONAL LEGISLATION

Mr. Robert Morris, Legislative Director, presented Update on Educational Legislation.

Mr. Morris reported on House and Senate leadership, the intermediate school district committee chaired by Representative Ruth Johnson, the Michigan Merit Examination Package, and the State School Aid Fund.

In response to Mrs. Bauer's question, Mr. Morris said the Merit Scholarship Program will continue, and students will qualify by passing the new examination.

This was an update only, and no action was required.

### XXIV. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION REGARDING PRINCIPALS' WEEK

**Mrs. McGuire moved, seconded by Mrs. Straus, that the State Board of Education adopt the Resolution Regarding Michigan School Principals' Week, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 3, 2004.**

**Ayes: Bauer, Curtin, McGuire, Moyer, Straus, Turner, Weiser**  
**Absent: Austin**

**The motion carried.**

The Resolution Regarding Principals' Week is attached as Exhibit A.

XXV. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION HONORING HERBERT S. MOYER

Mrs. Straus presented Adoption of Resolution Honoring Herbert S. Moyer.

**Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mrs. McGuire, that the State Board of Education adopt the Resolution Honoring Herbert S. Moyer, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated December 3, 2004.**

**Ayes: Bauer, Curtin, McGuire, Moyer, Straus, Turner, Weiser  
Absent: Austin**

**The motion carried.**

Mrs. Straus read and presented Dr. Moyer with the framed Resolution. Mrs. Straus said she is presenting the Resolution with best wishes, thanks, great respect, admiration, and love. Mrs. Straus thanked Mrs. Moyer for the support she provided, as Dr. Moyer fulfilled his term on the Board.

Mr. Watkins said it has been a privilege to work with Dr. Moyer. He said he values his wit and dedication to children.

Mrs. McGuire said she is honored to have served with Dr. Moyer, and will greatly miss him.

Mrs. Weiser said she wishes Dr. Moyer the best of luck, and she enjoyed her time on the Board with him.

Mrs. Bauer said there is no better champion for public education than Dr. Moyer and she enjoyed his wisdom and wit.

Mr. Turner said as one of the newest members of the Board he was grateful for Dr. Moyer's help and encouragement.

Mrs. Curtin said she hears many great comments about Dr. Moyer as she travels the state, and he has many colleagues that have great respect for him.

Mrs. Carnell said although Dr. Moyer is known for his wit, she values his seriousness for educating children no matter where they are.

Dr. Moyer said he has felt extremely honored and privileged to serve on the Board. He said he has served 43 years as an administrator and teacher and 8 years as a member of the State Board of Education. He said he is grateful that he was able to fulfill his term, and for all the wonderful associations he has had with Board members and Department staff.

The Resolution Honoring Herbert S. Moyer is attached as Exhibit B.

XXVI. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

There were no additional comments from Board members.

XXVII. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Mr. Watkins invited Board members to submit agenda items to the Board's Agenda Planning Committee.

XXVIII. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. January 11, 2005
- B. February 8, 2005
- C. March 8, 2005
- D. April 12, 2005
- E. May 9, 2005

XXIX. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m., and a 4:00 p.m. reception honoring Dr. Moyer followed.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn L. Curtin  
Secretary