

MINUTES

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

July 24, 2003
9:00 a.m.

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

Absent: Mrs. Marianne Yared McGuire, NASBE Delegate

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Watkins called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

II. AGENDA MATERIALS PROVIDED TO THE BOARD

- A. Approval of Criteria for the 2003-2004 *Great Parents, Great Start* Program Grants
- B. Approval of Criteria for the 2003-2004 Enhancing Education Through Technology – Freedom to Learn Grant Program
- C. Report on Approval of Annexation Request – Northport Public School District to Traverse City Area Public Schools
- D. 2003-2004 Title I, Part D – Prevention and Intervention for Neglected or Delinquent Children – Initial
- E. 2003-2004 Title I Schoolwide Program Planning Grants – Initial
- F. 2003-2004 Title II, Part D, Enhancing Education Through Technology

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

- A. 2003-2004 Mandated Activities Projects, Part B added to agenda
- B. Update on *Education Yes!/No Child Left Behind* Report Card – added to agenda
- C. Approval of Criteria for the 2003-2004 *Great Parents, Great Start* Program – added to agenda
- D. Approval of Criteria for the 2003-2004 Enhancing Education Through Technology – Freedom to Learn Grant Program – added to agenda
- E. Report on Approval of Annexation Request – Northport Public School District to Traverse City Area Public Schools – added to agenda
- F. 2003-2004 Title I, Part D – Prevention and Intervention for Neglected or Delinquent Children – Initial – added to agenda
- G. 2003-2004 Title I Schoolwide Program Planning Grants – Initial – added to agenda
- H. 2003-2004 Title II, Part D, Enhancing Education Through Technology Initial – added to agenda
- I. Election of Vice President of State Board of Education – removed from agenda

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

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

The motion carried.

Mrs. Weiser joined the meeting by telephone at 9:14 a.m.

IV. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION HONORING MRS. SHARON GIRE

Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Dr. Moyer, that the State Board of Education adopt the resolution attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated July 9, 2003, honoring Sharon L. Gire.

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

The motion carried.

The resolution honoring Mrs. Sharon L. Gire is attached as Exhibit A.

V. COMMENTS BY MRS. SHARON GIRE, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF SERVICES TO THE AGING

Mr. Watkins welcomed Mrs. Sharon L. Gire, Director, Office of Services to the Aging, who addressed the Board regarding engaging senior citizens in the public schools.

Mrs. Gire said senior citizens are involved in schools in a variety of ways assisting students and teachers. Mrs. Gire said the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) has approximately 10,000 volunteers serving in 40 Michigan counties providing over 35,000 hours of service in tutoring and literacy. She said almost 100,000 hours of service were provided in the education field in 2002. Mrs. Gire said volunteers assist with recruiting and training, immunization records, stocking clothing closets, teaching computer skills, mentoring, truancy prevention, library services, summer school activities, and recreation.

Mrs. Gire said the Foster Grandparent Program is comprised of approximately 1,500 foster grandparents in 57 counties. Mrs. Gire said volunteers must be income eligible and a stipend is provided. She said foster grandparents serve in public and private schools, preschools, Head Start Programs, and after school programs.

Mrs. Gire said she has been invited to join the Governor's Children's Action Network and will be serving with Mr. Watkins. Mrs. Gire said she is excited about the possibility of collaborating on senior elementary partnerships, teen parent programs, mentoring employability, coaching, transportation, intergenerational day care, and nursing home reading programs.

Mrs. Straus and several other board members congratulated Mrs. Gire on her appointment; commended her creativity, enthusiasm and leadership; and thanked her for her service as a member of the State Board of Education.

Mrs. Gire was presented with the resolution from the State Board of Education.

VI. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting to convene as a Committee of the Whole at 9:45 a.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

VII. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Watkins called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

VIII. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS AND GUESTS

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

IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Update on Embracing the Information Age Task Force Recommendations

The following individual provided the update:

- Mrs. Elizabeth Bauer, Member, State Board of Education; and Chair of the Embracing the Information Age Task Force

B. Presentation on Partnership for Success Program

The following individuals participated in the presentation:

- Dr. Yvonne Caamal Canul, Special Assistant to the Chief Academic Officer
- Ms. MaryAlice Galloway, Acting Director, Office of School Excellence
- Ms. Sue Carnell, Education Advisor to Governor Granholm

X. RECESS

The Board recessed at 11:20 a.m. and reconvened at 11:30 a.m.

XI. DISCUSSION ITEMS (continued)

C. Presentation on Languages of Love – Teacher to Teacher

The following individuals participated in the presentation:

- Mrs. Carolyn Curtin, Member, State Board of Education
- Mr. Dale Whipple, Manton Middle School Teacher, and Authorized Presenter of *The Five Love Languages*
- Mrs. Nancy Schaaf, Manton Middle School Teacher, and Authorized Presenter of *The Five Love Languages*

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee of the Whole Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. in a Regular Meeting.

REGULAR MEETING

APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

A Approval of Minutes of Meeting of June 26, 2003

Mrs. Bauer moved, seconded by Mrs. Weiser, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of Meeting of June 26, 2003.

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

The motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A Welcome to Mr. Bill Cecil, Teacher of the Year

Mrs. Straus welcomed Mr. Bill Cecil, the Michigan Teacher of the Year, who will be seated at the Board table this school year to represent Michigan teachers.

B Decision Making Ruler on Display in Board Room

Mrs. Straus thanked Marquette Public Schools for the wooden replica of the Decision Making Ruler that was presented by Dr. Patrick Smith, Superintendent of Marquette Public Schools, at the June 26 Board meeting, and is now on display in the Board Room.

C Superintendent of Public Instruction Takes Voluntary Reduction in Pay

Mrs. Straus said Mr. Watkins has volunteered to take a five percent reduction in salary for fiscal year 2003-2004, in light of the state's current fiscal situation. Mrs. Straus said Mr. Watkins continues to be a role model by taking less pay. She said Mr. Watkins contributed his salary increase from the current fiscal year to a student from Inkster High School to pursue his college education.

D Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District Job Training Program

Mrs. Straus shared an article that was published in the Detroit Free Press in early July titled "Job Training Program Grows Into State Stores." Mrs. Straus said the article highlights a job training program that established a business where special education students make decorative paper and cards that they sell from a store in downtown Traverse City. Mrs. Straus said she heard a presentation about this innovative program when in Traverse City earlier this year.

E State Board of Education Legislative Subcommittee

Mrs. Straus said the Legislative Subcommittee met this month to review pending legislation and advise Ms. Elaine Madigan. Mrs. Straus said she hopes to reconvene the State Board of Education Legislative Subcommittee to develop an agenda of legislative programs to discuss with the Legislature. Mrs. Straus said once the Board's legislative priorities are established, the legislative leadership will be invited to attend a meeting.

F Task Force Recommendations

Mrs. Straus said the Board will be meeting with Deans and Directors of Teacher Preparation Institutions to discuss and work toward implementation of the recommendations from the five task forces created by the Board.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

**A Ms. Mary T. Wood, 27533 Santa Ana, Warren, Michigan 48093
Ms. Wood offered comments regarding requests for information**

Mr. Watkins said Ms. Wood and an outside consultant have been hired on contract to review issues related to charter schools and report to the Board at a future meeting.

ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

This item was removed from the agenda

**XVII APPROVAL OF WORKKEYS ASSESSMENTS AND PASSING SCORES FOR
TITLE I PARAPROFESSIONALS**

Ms. Linda Brown, Acting Director, Office of Field Services, presented Approval of WorkKeys Assessments and Passing Scores for Title I Paraprofessionals.

Ms. Brown said the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 requires all Title I paraprofessionals hired after January 8, 2002, to meet one of the following qualifications: (1) complete two years of higher education, (2) obtain an associate's degree, or (3) pass a formal assessment of knowledge and ability to assist in instructing reading, writing and mathematics. Ms. Brown said all Title I paraprofessionals employed prior to January 8, 2002, must meet one of the abovementioned requirements by January 8, 2006.

Ms. Brown said the Basic Skills Test of the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification has been approved as one assessment option, and it is recommended that the State Board approve the WorkKeys Reading for Information, Applied

Mathematics, and Writing assessments as a second assessment option with the passing scores established through the WorkKeys profiling process that involved 107 paraprofessionals in six regions of Michigan.

Mrs. Bauer commended Ms. Brown for the process used, but expressed concern regarding the passing score of 4 for mathematics, and questioned whether this should be lowered to 3 as recommended by the Wayne county profile region. Mrs. Bauer said the largest number of paraprofessionals is employed in the Wayne county region. Mrs. Bauer said she does not want to displace paraprofessionals that have successfully performed their job duties for several years.

Ms. Carnell asked if there is capacity for all paraprofessionals seeking to use WorkKeys as an assessment option. Ms. Brown said WorkKeys assessments are currently available through more than 40 service centers.

Dr. Moyer asked if funding is available for paraprofessionals to participate in WorkKeys assessment. Ms. Brown said districts that have staff who do not meet highly qualified paraprofessional or highly qualified teacher status are required to set aside Title I funds for that purpose.

Mrs. Bauer suggested that data be collected on numbers of people taking the test, test scores, and how many times the test is retaken. Ms. Brown said the Office of Professional Preparation Services is collecting data. Mr. Watkins said staff will be asked to submit a report to the Board in six months.

Mrs. Straus said community colleges are currently offering courses to help paraprofessionals meet the qualifications of being highly qualified.

Mr. Austin moved, Mrs. Curtin seconded, that the State Board of Education approve the WorkKeys assessments and passing scores (cut scores) for Title I paraprofessionals as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated July 9, 2003; and strongly encourage school districts to allow each of their Title I paraprofessionals to select the option that is most appropriate for that person's individual situation.

Mr. Watkins asked if there were any comments from the audience. Ms. Linda Myers, Michigan Education Association, said she took the sample WorkKeys assessment for mathematics and had problems with the cut score. Ms. Myers said paraprofessionals may choose to retire, rather than seek highly qualified status. She said it is better to begin with a lower score and raise it in the future.

Mrs. Straus said she would like people to be encouraged to take the WorkKeys assessment, not be discouraged by cut scores that may be too high, particularly in mathematics.

Mrs. Curtin said lowering the score at a future date sends a confusing message, and implies that standards are being lowered.

Ms. Carnell said setting a lower score for paraprofessionals and requiring that students meet high, rigorous academic standards could be perceived as having different standards for adults than those standards required for children.

The vote was taken on the motion

Ayes: Austin, Bauer, Curtin, Moyer, Weiser

Nay: Straus

Absent: McGuire

The motion carried.

Mr. Watkins repeated that the Board will receive a report in six months on the data collected with regard to WorkKeys assessment.

XVIII. UPDATE ON EDUCATIONAL LEGISLATION

Ms. Elaine Madigan, Acting Assistant Superintendent, Government Services and Customer Satisfaction; and Mr. Rick Floria, Director, Budget, Contracts, and Grants; presented the Update on Educational Legislation.

Ms. Madigan distributed copies of Enrolled House Bill 4391 – FY 2003-2004 Department Budget Bill. Mr. Floria reviewed the Bill.

Ms. Madigan distributed copies of the Conference Report – House Bill 4401 – State School Aid for 2003-2004. Ms. Madigan reviewed the Conference Report.

Dr. Moyer said he has received many comments from the public regarding the reduction in adult education funding.

Mrs. Bauer asked if the Board will have representation on study groups and committees. Ms. Madigan said the Department will determine membership in the Court-Placed Pupils group, and the Board and Family Independence Agency will be represented. Ms. Madigan said membership in the Adult Education – Family Resource Center Curriculum Blue Ribbon Study Committee is prescribed in the legislation, however the Board could request membership in the Committee. Mr. Watkins said a communication would be drafted to the Legislature requesting membership in the Adult Education – Family Resource Center Curriculum Blue Ribbon Study Committee.

Mrs. Straus said she is extremely disappointed that the Michigan Model for School Health was discontinued. Mrs. Straus said the program was extraordinarily successful, highly recognized and applauded throughout the country. Mrs. Straus said it is important to find alternative funding to keep the

program operational. Mr. Watkins said there has been discussion regarding funding at least at minimal efforts, and the Department will continue to pursue that.

Mr. Watkins said Mr. Austin, through Public Policy Associates, is working with former Lansing Mayor David Hollister, Director of the Michigan Department of Consumer and Industry Services, to determine ways to think outside the box to provide for adult education services that have been eliminated.

Mr. Watkins said he will write a letter to the Governor and Legislature commending them for passing a bipartisan budget for K-12 education and Michigan's children, highlighting programs that the Board hopes will be a priority as the economy improves, and requesting active Board participation in committees.

This was an update only and no action was required.

XIX. UPDATE ON *EDUCATION YES!/NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND* REPORT CARD

Ms. Pam Wong, Chief of Staff and Director of Communications; and Mr. Paul Bielawski, Special Assistant for Underperforming Schools; provided an Update on the *Education YES!/No Child Left Behind* Report Card.

Ms. Wong said that the Department has developed the No Child Left Behind Report Card format and tool kit with input from the Michigan School Public Relations Association. Ms. Wong said local districts will communicate directly with their communities. Ms. Wong said the goal is to have information that is accurate, understandable, and timely.

Ms. Wong distributed copies of "Tentative Dates for *Education YES!* Editorial Boards and Listen and Learn Sessions."

Mr. Bielawski said the Report Card reflects No Child Left Behind and *Education YES!* data. He explained the Report Card using a computer projection of the draft template.

In response to Mr. Austin's question, Mr. Watkins said grade level expectations for the Michigan Educational Assessment Program tests will be approved by the Merit Board. Mr. Watkins said staff in the Office of School Excellence is working on this, and the Board will receive an informational update at a future meeting.

Mrs. Straus asked to see a written copy of the communications plan. Ms. Wong said Board members will receive a copy of the plan and frequently asked questions.

Mr. Watkins thanked the staff members of Center for Educational Performance and Information, Department of Information Technology, Michigan Educational Assessment Program, and the Michigan Department of Education for their collaborative efforts.

This was an update only and no action was required.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.

Mr. Watkins congratulated Dr. Lindy Buch, Supervisor of Early Childhood and Parenting Programs, who has been selected as one of 11 fellows to participate in an early childhood leadership forum sponsored by the Zero to Three Task Force of the National Governors Association.

APPROVAL OF CRITERIA FOR THE 2003-2004 GREAT PARENTS, GREAT START PROGRAM GRANTS

Ms. MaryAlice Galloway, Acting Director, Office of School Excellence; and Dr. Lindy Buch, Supervisor of Early Childhood and Parenting Programs; presented Approval of Criteria for the 2003-2004 *Great Parents, Great Start* Program Grants.

Dr. Buch said Section 32j of House Bill 4401, State School Aid, sets aside \$3,326,000 for 2003-2004 to be awarded through a competitive process to intermediate school districts. Dr. Buch said the new program will build upon the knowledge and experience gained from the All Students Achieve Program – Parent Involvement and Education (ASAP-PIE) grants that were available in 2000-2002. Dr. Buch said the purpose of the grants is to improve school readiness and foster the maintenance of stable families. She said the grants provide programming that will: (1) encourage positive parenting skills; (2) enhance parent-child interaction; (3) provide parents with information on child development from birth to age five; (4) provide learning opportunities to promote intellectual, physical, and social growth; and (5) promote access to needed community services through a community-school-home partnership.

Dr. Buch said criteria are proposed in anticipation of the Governor signing House Bill 4401, as the legislation required the application to be available by August 15, 2003.

Mrs. Curtin moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauer, that the State Board of Education approve the criteria for the 2003-2004 *Great Parents, Great Start* Program Grants, as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated July 24, 2003.

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

The motion carried.

XXII APPROVAL OF CRITERIA FOR THE 2003-2004 ENHANCING EDUCATION THROUGH TECHNOLOGY FREEDOM TO LEARN GRANT PROGRAM

Ms. Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent; and Ms. Mary Ann Chartrand, Supervisor, Grants Administration and Coordination; presented Approval of Criteria for the 2003-2004 Enhancing Education Through Technology – Freedom to Learn Grant Program.

Ms. Wolenberg said Freedom to Learn is a continuation of the pilot program, Learning Without Limits, which was initiated during 2002-2003 to develop, research, and demonstrate innovative and powerful models of virtual teaching and learning in Michigan.

Ms. Chartrand said Freedom to Learn is a competitive grant program focusing on the highest priority schools that will make use of technologies to expand educational opportunities for students, particularly those in grade six as specified in the successor to Section 98 of Public Act 191 of 2002 for 2003-2004. She said this program will distribute approximately \$17 million in federal grant funds and \$22 million in state funds to school districts.

Ms. Wolenberg said Michigan Virtual University is designated in the legislation as the coordinating agency to work with the Michigan Department of Education. Ms. Wolenberg said Michigan Virtual University would provide the day-to-day implementation as the project leader.

Mrs. Bauer moved, seconded by Mrs. Weiser, that the State Board of Education approve the criteria for the 2003-2004 Enhancing Education Through Technology – Freedom to Learn grant program, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated July 24, 2003.

Mr. Austin said Maine has been doing a similar technology program for several years, and he asked if there have been conversations with staff in Maine regarding implementation pitfalls. Ms. Chartrand said there has been a conference call with staff in Maine to discuss these issues.

Mrs. Bauer asked if there would be provision for technical support, software, and ownership of the computers. Ms. Wolenberg said there would be support.

The vote was taken on the motion.

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

The motion carried.

XXIII. CONSENT AGENDA

- I. Approval of Criteria for the 2003-2004 No Child Left Behind Act, Title II, Part A(1) for State Activities Developing Leadership of High Priority Schools**
- J. Receive the Annual Report on Activities of the Professional Standards Commission for Teachers**
- K. Adoption of Resolution Honoring Sharon L. Gire**

Mrs. Curtin moved, seconded by Dr. Moyer, that the State Board of Education approve the consent agenda as follows:

- I. approve criteria for the 2003-2004 No Child Left Behind Act, Title II, Part A(1): Improving Teacher Quality State Activities Competitive Grants Program, as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated July 18, 2003;**
- J. receive the 2001-2002 Annual Report of the Professional Standards Commission for Teachers, as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated July 9, 2003; and**
- K. (this item was moved to Discussion and was adopted earlier in the meeting).**

The vote was taken on the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Mrs. Straus said the Legislature should be reminded that the Professional Standards Commission for Teachers exists.

XXIV. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Reports

- L. Human Resources Report**
- M. Report on Administrative Rule Waivers**
- N. Report on Department of Education Cosponsorships**
- O. Report on Modification to the Previously Approved Clare-Gladwin Regional Education Service District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services**
- X. Report on Approval of Annexation Request – Northport Public School District to Traverse City Area Public Schools**

Grants

- P. 2003-2004 Title II, Part A – Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting – Initial**
- Q. 2002-2003 Comprehensive School Reform Program – Amendment**
- R. 2003-2004 Title I, Part A – Improving Basic Programs – Continuation**
- S. 2003-2004 Special Projects Grants Under Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Funding for FY 2004 – Initial**
- T. 2003-2004 Mandated Activities Projects, Part B – Initial**
- Y. 2003-2004 Title I, Part D – Prevention for Neglected or Delinquent Children – Initial**
- Z. 2003-2004 Title I Schoolwide Program Planning Grants – Initial**
- AA. 2003-2004 Title II, Part D, Enhancing Education Through Technology – Initial**

Mr. Watkins distributed copies of “Superintendent’s Report” dated July 24, 2003.

Mr. Watkins provided an oral report on the following:

A. Dr. Flora Jenkins Named Director of the Office of Professional Preparation

Mr. Watkins said Dr. Flora Jenkins has been named Director of the Office of Professional Preparation in the Michigan Department of Education. Mr. Watkins congratulated Dr. Jenkins and thanked her for her leadership.

B Mr. Stephen Hwang Volunteers in the Michigan Department of Education

Mr. Stephen Hwang is volunteering in the Michigan Department of Education. Mr. Watkins said Mr. Hwang, 15 year old son of Victoria Hwang, a Michigan Department of Education employee, is doing an excellent job.

C. Michigan Business Leaders for Education Excellence Thanked

Mr. Watkins thanked Mr. Jim Sandy and the Michigan Business Leaders for Education Excellence for their support in communicating information on *Education YES!* and the No Child Left Behind Act to the public.

D. Council of Chief State School Officers Thanked

Mr. Watkins thanked the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and MGT of America, Inc., for working with the Department to develop the online school improvement process. He said a new initiative with CCSSO & MGT involves an organizational review of the Department and the capacity to carry out the spirit of the No Child Left Behind Act. Mr. Watkins said discussions are under way with the Michigan Business Leaders for Education Excellence to support this endeavor.

XXV. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Mrs. Bauer said that she and Mrs. Curtin attended the New State Board Member Institute sponsored by the National Association of State Boards of Education on July 18-20, 2003, in Washington, D.C. Mrs. Bauer said it was a beneficial conference and a tremendous learning opportunity. She also noted that Georgia Board members are convening electronic board meetings.

Dr. Moyer said he appreciates the work of State Board of Education Legislative Subcommittee.

Mrs. Straus said she has been elected to the Board of the North Central Regional Educational Laboratory (NCREL), that Senator Ron Jelinek is a member of, and Mr. Watkins chairs. Mr. Watkins said NCREL is working on a policy forum of

State Board members, Legislators and the Governor's Office centering on a shared vision of the No Child Left Behind Act and a common agenda of legislative issues.

Mrs. Straus said she is writing a letter to Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Intermediate School District in response to their letter regarding the Board's resolution on American Indian mascots, nicknames, and logos.

XXVI. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Mr. Watkins said Mrs. Curtin has suggested a workshop on the legal role and responsibility of the State Board of Education in fulfilling its constitutional duties.

Mrs. Weiser asked about the status of the report of the capacity for providing highly qualified teacher certification. Mr. Watkins said it is scheduled for the August Board meeting.

XXVII. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. August 28, 2003
- B. September 25, 2003
- C. October 23, 2003 (Tentatively Scheduled in Evart)
- D. November 20, 2003

XXVIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn L. Curtin
Secretary

State of Michigan
State Board of Education

RESOLUTION

SHARON L. GIRE

WHEREAS, Sharon L. Gire is a graduate of Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science in Education and a graduate of Wayne State University with a Masters Degree in Social Work, Organization, and Administration; and

WHEREAS, demonstrating her commitment to the communities and people residing in Macomb County, Sharon L. Gire first worked as a program director and consultant for local and national YWCA organizations, then as an area supervisor for the county's Big Brothers Big Sisters program, and also as the Director of the Northeast Interfaith Center for Racial Justice – an organization committed to improving race relations and fostering racial justice; and

WHEREAS, Sharon L. Gire also has established a long record of dedication to her community through public service, including serving as a member of the Mount Clemens City Commission from 1977 to 1984, and a member of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners from 1984 to 1986; and

WHEREAS, from 1987 to 1998, Sharon L. Gire was elected as a member of the Michigan House of Representatives, representing the citizens of Macomb County and eventually serving as Associate Speaker Pro Tempore, and as chairperson of the House Education Policy Committee, and the House Committee on Human Services and Children; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure with the state Legislature, Sharon L. Gire initiated major reforms and provided leadership through establishing the Michigan High School Proficiency Test, and the Patient's Bill of Rights, and raised continued awareness of the issues surrounding domestic violence, child support enforcement, prescription drug diversion, and assaultive student behavior in public schools; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, Sharon L. Gire was elected to the State Board of Education for a term beginning January 1, 1999, serving as the Board's Delegate to the National Association of State Boards of Education in 1999-2000, and as Vice President of the Board in 2001 until her resignation to accept an appointment by Michigan Governor Jennifer M. Granholm as Director of the Office of Services to the Aging; she also served as Co-Chair of the Board's Integrating Communities and Schools Task Force; and

WHEREAS, during her five years of service on the Board Sharon L. Gire was a compassionate and caring voice for teachers, educational administrators, students, and parents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Michigan State Board of Education extends to Sharon L. Gire its highest regard and heartfelt gratitude for the dedication and expertise she has brought to the children of Michigan, their parents, and the millions of Michigan citizens her work has affected and impacted; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That the Michigan State Board of Education express its fervent wish that Sharon L. Gire enjoys many rewarding experiences after stepping down from the State Board of Education with her husband, Dana.



Adopted July 24, 2003

Kathleen N. Straus, President

Thomas D. Watkins, Jr., Chairman