



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

## **BOARD BRIEFS**

MICHIGAN  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

December 8, 2009

The following is a summary of items addressed by the State Board of Education, with web links to electronic versions of those items—as provided to the State Board. A video archive of the meeting is available at:

<http://www.mistreamnet.com/videtail.php?who=sbe120809n01>

### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

#### **2009 Dorothy Beardmore Service to Education Award**

The Dorothy Beardmore Service to Education Award is named after the late Dorothy Beardmore, Past President and member of the State Board of Education. The award is given annually to a person for (1) providing volunteer leadership in developing education policy, or positively impacting the education system; or (2) contributing to the improvement of education through involvement on local, state, or national commissions, task forces, or significant leadership or community organizations; and (3) volunteering at the local, state, or national level.

This year's recipient is **Mr. David Borth**, Chair, of the Network of Michigan Educators, Director of the Hawthorn Learning Center, adjunct professor at Ferris State University, and former administrator for Big Rapids Public Schools.

The award was presented to Mr. Borth at the December 1, 2009, Network of Michigan Educators Banquet.

#### **Project ReImagine Demonstration Districts**

Project ReImagine is driving grass-roots education reform in Michigan. These school districts are incubators of reform that will push the current limits and eventually can be replicated in schools across Michigan.

#### **STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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A total of 71 proposals were submitted to the Michigan Department of Education. The following ten local district proposals were selected and four of the 14 proposals are intermediate school districts (ISDs), which brings the total number of districts involved in Project ReImagine to 65.

Armada Area Schools • Battle Creek Lakeview School District  
Comstock Park Public Schools • Detroit Public Schools • Farwell Area Schools  
Grand Rapids Public Schools • N.I.C.E. Community School District (Ishpeming)  
Oxford Community Schools • Utica Community Schools  
University Preparatory Academy (Detroit) • Ingham Intermediate School District  
Mason-Lake Intermediate School District (in partnership with Oceana ISD)  
Saginaw Intermediate School District  
Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District

### [Presentation of the Draft 2010 State of Michigan Educational Technology Plan](#)

The State of Michigan Educational Technology Plan, was last approved by the Board in March 2006. The proposed revisions in the Plan align the State's educational technology goals and objectives with those of the Michigan School Improvement framework and update the Plan's action steps to reinforce and enhance the state's school improvement efforts and set forth a clear, ambitious roadmap for transforming teaching and learning in Michigan. The draft Plan will be available for public comment from December 15, 2009 to January 19, 2010, and then returned to the Board for approval at its February 2010 meeting.

[Click here for the PowerPoint presentation.](#)

### **Report by SBE Regarding NASBE Study Groups and Annual Conference**

Kathleen Straus, John Austin, Carolyn Curtin, Nancy Danhof, and Reginald Turner all attended the Annual Conference of the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) held October 15-17, 2009, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Governor Granholm received the Policy Leader of the Year award at the conference. Board members reported that Governor Granholm's acceptance speech was a conference highlight.

## **REGULAR MEETING**

### **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

The Superintendent notified the Board of his approval of the [Mason-Lake Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services](#), approval of a modification to the previously approved [Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services](#); and recent [Property Transfer Decisions](#).

In addition, the Superintendent provided the SBE with information on several grants that have been awarded by the MDE including:

- [2009-2010 Enhancing Education Through Technology, Title II, Part D, Competitive Programs – Initial](#)
- [2009-2010 Enhancing Education Through Technology, Title II, Part D, Competitive Program – ARRA – Initial](#)
- [2009-2010 \*Early On\* Formula Allocation Grants \(Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act\) for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act \(ARRA\) of 2009 – Amendment](#)
- [2009-2010 Mandated Activities Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act \(IDEA 2004\), Part C – Continuation](#)
- [2009-2010 Title I, Part C Regular Migrant Program Allocations – Amendment](#)
- [2009-2010 Title I, School Improvement Funds to Support Regional Assistance to High Priority Schools – Initial](#)
- [2009-2010 U. S. Department of Agriculture \(USDA\) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program \(FFVP\) – Initial](#)
- [2010-2011 Mathematics and Science Partnership \(MSP\) Grant Program \(Title II \(B\)\) – Initial](#)
- [2009-2010 Great Start Readiness Program \(GSRP\) – Initial](#)

## **REPORT OF MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

Mr. Rob Stephenson, 2009-2010 Michigan Teacher of the Year, provided a report on his activities both as Teacher of the Year and in his classroom at Wardcliff Elementary School, Okemos Public Schools.

## **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

### **Update on American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009**

Department of Education staff provided the Board with an update on Phase I and Phase II of the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund. In addition, information was provided on the four reform goals under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)—standards and assessments, data systems, effective teachers and leaders, and support for struggling schools and districts.

An overview of the Race To The Top application was provided including the point system and considerations, requirements for the memorandum of understanding required of local school districts in order to receive Race To The Top funds, and other components of Michigan's application which must be submitted by January 19, 2010.

[Click here for the Stabilization Fund PowerPoint Presentation.](#)

[Click here for the Race To The Top PowerPoint Presentation.](#)

## **State and Federal Legislative Update Including Positions on Bills Required for Race To The Top Application**

The Board was provided with an update on state and federal legislative initiatives required to be eligible for Race To The Top funding since its November 24, 2009 Retreat.

After considerable discussion, the Board adopted the following motion:

The State Board of Education supports and urges prompt action on the following legislative proposals needed to position Michigan to compete for federal Race To The Top funding.

We support measures before the Legislature currently designed to: turnaround underperforming schools and districts (HB 4787, as passed the House; and SB 981, as passed the Senate); require administrator certification (HB 5623 [H-1]; and SB 981, as passed the Senate); develop high quality alternative routes for administrator and teacher certification at all levels (HBs 5623 [H-1]; and 5596 [H-1]); and to connect student performance as one component in teacher and administrator evaluations (SB 981, as passed the Senate; and HB 5623 [H-1]).

## **Approval of Accountability Workbook Amendments for 2009-10**

The Accountability Workbook is the annual negotiation of the details of the state's plan. The Board is being asked to approve the amendments. The Board has supported the requested amendments in past years. The U. S. Department of Education has asked every state to provide a detailed worksheet to request an amendment for cohort graduation rates. In addition, the MDE is adding four amendments to clarify current practices.

## **Approval of Finlandia University as a Teacher Preparation Institution with Probationary Approval**

At its October 13, 2009, meeting, the Board was asked to grant probationary approval to Finlandia University as a teacher preparation institution. The Board did not grant the request and asked for clarification on a number of issues. The revised report included the information requested by the Board at its October meeting.

The Board appointed a Committee of Scholars in 2001 to review Finlandia University's application, which was prior to the moratorium issued by the Board in 2005. The Committee of Scholars has conducted two on-site reviews and prepared a report detailing their findings. The Committee of Scholars recommended that Finlandia be granted three-year probationary approval and has developed specific criteria before a request for full approval will be considered.

The Board granted probationary approval to Finlandia University. Final approval will be requested in three years if all requirements are met.

## [Adoption of Resolution Regarding Michigan State University's Deaf Education Teacher Preparation Program](#)

At its November 24 State Board of Education Retreat, the Board asked staff to draft a resolution regarding the decision by Michigan State University to eliminate its Deaf Education Teacher Preparation Program. The Board adopted a resolution to request MSU to reconsider its decision to terminate the Deaf Education Teacher Preparation and American Sign Language Programs.

[Click here for the resolution as adopted.](#)

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

As part of its Consent Agenda, the Board approved the following grant criteria:

- [Approval of Competitive Grant Criteria for \*Early On\* Under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act \(IDEA\) for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act \(ARRA\) of 2009](#)
- [Approval of Criteria for Training and Technical Assistance for William F. Goodling Even Start Family Literacy Programs](#)
- [Approval of Criteria for Application for School Bus Driver Safety Education Program](#)
- [Approval of Criteria for Statewide Collaboration for Technical Assistance Grant for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Program](#)
- [Approval of Criteria for Grants to Create and Implement Middle College High Schools Focused on the Field of Health Sciences or Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics \(STEM\)](#)
- [Approval of Criteria for Title I Statewide System of Support Technical Assistance Grant](#)
- [Approval of Grant Criteria for Migrant Education Program Identification and Recruitment Centers](#)

### **FUTURE MEETING DATES**

The next meeting of the Board is **Tuesday, January 12, 2010**. The meeting will convene at 9:30 a.m.

This publication is an effort to provide information on State Board of Education meeting highlights. The Board is interested in your feedback. Please direct your feedback to Eileen Hamilton, State Board Executive, at [hamiltone@michigan.gov](mailto:hamiltone@michigan.gov)