

MINUTES

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

November 19, 2013
9:30 a.m.

Present: Mr. Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman
Mr. John C. Austin, President
Dr. Casandra E. Ulbrich, Vice President
Mr. Daniel Varner, Secretary
Dr. Richard Zeile, Treasurer
Ms. Michelle Fecteau, NASBE Delegate
Ms. Lupe Ramos-Montigny
Mrs. Kathleen N. Straus
Mrs. Eileen Weiser
Mr. Craig Ruff, representing Governor Rick Snyder, ex officio

Also Present: Mr. Gary Abud, Jr., 2013-2014 Michigan Teacher of the Year

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flanagan called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m.

II. INFORMATIONAL FOLDER ITEMS

A. Information on the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)
Annual Report for 2012-2013 – Memorandum dated November 19, 2013

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Dr. Ulbrich, that the State Board of Education approve the agenda and order of priority.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

IV. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Mrs. Marilyn Schneider, State Board Executive, introduced members of the State Board of Education and the Michigan Teacher of the Year.

V. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN

Mr. Flanagan congratulated Ms. Ramos-Montigny on receiving the Dave and Carol Van Andel Leadership Award on November 14, 2013. Mr. Flanagan said the award recognizes individuals for positive impact in the community through their dedication and commitment to bettering the quality of life in the Grand Rapids area. Mr. Flanagan shared a photo of Ms. Ramos-Montigny speaking during the award ceremony at the Grand Rapids Public Museum Gala.

Mr. Flanagan said President Obama has declared November 18-22, 2013 as "American Education Week." He said it a great opportunity to thank school employees who provide us with a valuable public service.

VI. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 9:43 a.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

VII. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flanagan called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 9:44 a.m.

VIII. PRESENTATION ON 21ST CENTURY SCHOOL LIBRARIES RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Mrs. Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent, Administrative and Support Services; and Ms. Nancy Robertson, State Librarian; presented the 21st Century School Libraries Recognition Program.

Mr. Flanagan said the Library of Michigan has the 21st Century School Library Program, which is a voluntary measurement benchmark evaluation for the quality of school library programming in K-12 buildings. He said in order to ensure the continued relevance and usefulness for school administrators and library staff, the measures have been revised and updated.

Information was shared via a [PowerPoint presentation](#) and video.

Ms. Jeanna Walker, Teacher Media Specialist, Portage Public Schools, joined the presenters at the table to answer questions.

Board member discussion included the archival aspect of libraries, demographics associated with schools with full-time school librarians, data collection, the evolution of libraries that are not staffed, role of the Library of Michigan in brokering relationships between schools and public information, and librarians as team teachers.

IX. PRESENTATION ON ENHANCING EDUCATOR QUALITY

Dr. Joseph Martineau, Deputy Superintendent, Accountability Services; Dr. Venessa Keesler, Deputy Superintendent, Education Services; Dr. Flora Jenkins, Director, Professional Preparation Services; Ms. Leah Breen, Assistant Director, Professional Preparation Services; and Ms. Abbie Groff-Blaszak, Special Assistant, Accountability Services; presented Enhancing Educator Quality.

Mr. Flanagan said reforming educator preparation and enhancing educator effectiveness has been an ongoing initiative for many years. He said the State Board of Education, Governor, and State Superintendent have identified goals and objectives related to this reform initiative that Michigan Department of Education staff have been developing and implementing over the past three years.

Mr. Flanagan said the presentation covers various aspects of initiatives to enhance educator effectiveness. He said it will in part address new cut scores established and implemented for the October 2013 Michigan Test for Teacher Certification on newly-developed content tests and the revised Professional Readiness Examination which replaced the former Basic Skills Test.

Information was shared via a [PowerPoint presentation](#).

Dr. Steve Stegink, Higher Education Consultant, Professional Preparation Services, joined the presenters at the table to answer questions.

Board member discussion included alignment to the Common Core State Standards, payment options for Professional Readiness Examination, closing the achievement gap, clinical experiences in educator preparation, induction and mentoring, career satisfaction, and matching the best teachers to where they are needed the most, stakeholder involvement in the process, testing sites, appropriate use of evaluations for growth and development rather than punishment, dissemination of information to the public, preparation in content and pedagogy, reciprocity for teachers coming to Michigan, and student teaching as an apprenticeship.

X. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 12:33 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 1:21 p.m.

Mr. Ruff left the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

1. Ms. Cheryl Burley, Plymouth, Michigan. Ms. Burley, representing the Grosse Pointe Teacher Education Association, shared verbal comments on mandated teacher evaluations.
2. Ms. Jaleen Jenkins-Whall, Traverse City, Michigan. Ms. Jenkins-Whall, representing the Network of Michigan Educators, shared verbal comments and written information regarding instructional rounds and success in education.

XII. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 1:35 p.m. to reconvene the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

XIII. PRESENTATION BY UNITED WAY FOR SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN ON HIGH SCHOOL TURNAROUND AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Mr. Michael Tenbusch, Chief Impact Officer, United Way for Southeastern Michigan, presented on High School Turnaround and Early Childhood Education.

Mr. Flanagan said the presentation focusses on the work of United Way for Southeastern Michigan regarding high school turnaround and connecting that experience to an increased focus on early childhood education.

Mr. Tenbusch shared information via a PowerPoint and video presentation.

Board member discussion included strategies for increasing graduation rates, rate of policy changes, site based management, and services for special needs students.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 2:31 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting.

REGULAR MEETING

XV. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

- D. Approval of Minutes of Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 8, 2013

Ms. Ramos-Montigny moved, seconded by Mrs. Straus, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 8, 2013.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

XVI. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN

At the request of Mr. Flanagan, Mr. Martin Ackley, Director of Public and Governmental Affairs, introduced Mr. Bill Disessa, who is a new employee in the Office of Public and Governmental Affairs.

XVII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Austin thanked those involved for their good work and thoughtful attention in providing accurate information on the Common Core State Standards while under discussion in the Legislature.

He said there is a legislative requirement that the Michigan Department of Education provide a written report on assessment options to the Legislature by December 1, 2013, and he asked for an update.

Dr. Joseph Martineau, Deputy Superintendent, Accountability Services, provided an overview of the plan for gathering information from vendors to complete the report of Common Core Assessment Options for submission to the Legislature.

XVIII. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Report

E. Human Resources Report

Grants

G. Report on Grant Awards

1. 2011-2012 Child Care and Development Block Grant – Amendment
2. 2013-2014 Child Care and Development Block Grant - Initial
3. 2013-2014 Great Start Readiness Program Evaluation Grant – Continuation
4. 2013-2014 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Preschool Indicators Grant – Initial, Continuation

5. 2013-2014 Secondary Perkins State Leadership Grant – Amendment
6. 2013-2014 ISD Collaboration Grant – Initial, Continuation
7. 2013-2014 Regional Assistance to High Priority Schools – Initial
8. 2013-2014 Title I Statewide System of Support Technical Assistance Grant – Amendment
9. 2013-2014 IDEA, Part B Formula Grants – Initial
10. 2013-2014 IDEA, Part B Mandated Activities Projects – Initial
11. 2011-2012 Title II, Part A(3) – Improving Teacher Quality – Amendment
12. 2012-2013 Title II, Part A(3) – Improving Teacher Quality – Amendment
13. 2012-2013 Safe and Supportive Schools Grants – Amendment
14. 2013-2014 Child and Adolescent Health Centers – Initial
15. 2013-2014 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) – Amendment
16. 2013-2014 Hearing and Vision Screenings – Initial
17. 2013-2014 Safe and Supportive Schools Grant – Initial

Mr. Flanagan read a letter he received from a parent praising her son’s teacher for his great work as an educator. Mr. Flanagan said there are good news stories in education that need to be shared.

Mr. Flanagan said he completed a Memorandum of Agreement with Detroit Public Schools to lift the federal High Risk status. He said it took tremendous work by administrators and staff at Detroit Public Schools and Michigan Department of Education staff.

Mr. Flanagan said the Legislature has provided an affirmative action for the Department to continue the implementation of the Common Core. He said everyone working together had a tremendous impact on the end result. Mr. Flanagan said he appreciated the invitation from Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville and was glad to have had the opportunity for the team and he to speak to the Senate Republican Caucus on this issue. He said the expertise of our team was obvious at that meeting and it was helpful in getting the resolution passed allowing the Department to proceed.

Mr. Flanagan said a report from researchers at the University of Southern California and North Carolina State University, and published in the journal *Education Researcher*, recognized Michigan and Massachusetts as having the strongest state Accountability systems in the nation because the systems focus on performance in subjects other than math and language arts.

XIX. REPORT OF MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Mr. Gary Abud, Jr., 2013-2014 Michigan Teacher of the Year, presented the Report of the Michigan Teacher of the Year. He shared photos

highlighting his activities over the past month serving as Michigan Teacher of the Year.

XX. STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Martin Ackley, Director, Public and Governmental Affairs, presented the State and Federal Legislative Update.

Mr. Ackley said a Joint Statement on House Bills 5111 and 5112 was individually agreed to by all eight members of the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent on November 5, 2013. The statement opposes the bills as currently written. He said both bills are in the House Education Committee. He said House Bill 5111 focuses on mandatory retention in third grade, if a student is not proficient in reading; and House Bill 5112 turns the accountability system for schools into an A through F grading system.

Mr. Ackley said there is currently no word on the status of legislation regarding the Education Achievement Authority.

Dr. Ulbrich, Chair of the Board's Legislative Committee, said the Committee met on October 28 and November 15. Dr. Ulbrich said there were no action items for the full Board. She said the committee reviewed a memo that Mr. Flanagan was sending to Representative Bill Rogers, Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on School Aid, regarding ideas to stem the tide of deficit districts, as a follow up to discussion during the September 12, 2013 Quarterly Report to the Legislature. Mr. Flanagan thanked the committee for reviewing the document, and making recommendations.

XXI. CONSENT AGENDA

- J. Approval of State Board of Education and Michigan Department of Education Cosponsorship

Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mr. Varner, that the State Board of Education approve the consent agenda as follows:

- J. support the cosponsor of the 28th Annual Social Studies Olympiad, as described to the Superintendent's memorandum dated October 21, 2013.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

XXII. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Ms. Fecteau shared an update on the closing of Oakman School in Detroit. She said she is concerned about the services that special needs students

are receiving in their new schools. She said the Oakman School building is facing demolition.

Ms. Fecteau asked why the high risk status was removed from Detroit Public Schools. Mrs. Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent, said the high risk status was a designation by the federal government due to auditing issues which have been resolved resulting in the removal of the high risk status.

Mrs. Straus requested a copy of Detroit Public Schools' deficit elimination plan.

Ms. Ramos-Montigny said Union High School in Grand Rapids is making great progress due to the combined efforts of the Mayor, local school Superintendent and community.

Dr. Ulbrich left the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Ms. Ramos-Montigny congratulated Mrs. Straus on her upcoming birthday.

Mr. Austin invited members to represent the Board at Achieve's Annual Meeting for State Leadership Teams and National Partners on December 12 and 13.

Mrs. Weiser said the National Assessment Governing Board is hosting a one-day summit on January 13 to provide parent leaders with a forum to gather and think deeply about urgent steps needed to improve student achievement.

Dr. Zeile said he attended the South Wayne Chamber of Commerce meeting on November 18. Dr. Zeile said Taylor received three buildings when Inkster Public Schools closed. He said the buildings were listed as assets, although badly vandalized and neglected when they were abandoned. Dr. Zeile said Representative Douglas Geiss is urging the Legislature to reimburse Taylor for some of the costs associated with the buildings. Dr. Zeile said he also learned that many closed school buildings have served as community centers in times of emergency.

XXIII. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Mr. Flanagan said Board members may contact a member of the Agenda Planning Committee comprised of Mr. Austin, Dr. Ulbrich and Mr. Varner with suggestions for agenda topics.

XXIV. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Tuesday, December 17, 2013 (9:30 a.m.)
- B. Tuesday, January 14, 2014 (9:30 a.m.)

C. Tuesday, February 11, 2014 (9:30 a.m.)

XXV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

The video archive of the meeting is available at www.michigan.gov/sbe.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Varner
Secretary