



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

May 11, 2010

The following is a summary of items addressed by the State Board of Education, with web links to electronic versions of those items. A video archive of the meeting is available at: <http://www.mistreamnet.com/videtail.php?who=sbe051110n01>

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

[Discussion Regarding State Board of Education's Recommendations Regarding School Reform/Finance](#)

The State Board of Education reviewed the final draft of *Recommendations to Better Support Michigan's Education System – Revenues, Reforms and Restructuring*.

The recommendations provide a balanced and bi-partisan plan to reform, restructure and finance Michigan's education system, from early childhood education to post-secondary education.

During the regular meeting, the Board adopted the recommendations (see page 3).

Update on Common Core Standards

Marianne McGuire gave a verbal report on the meeting she attended with John Austin and Deborah Clemmons, in St. Louis, Missouri sponsored by the National Association of State Boards of Education. Department staff also provided the Board with a verbal report on the status of the Common Core Standards and a timeline for approval.

[Presentation on Michigan's Phase 2 Race To The Top Application](#)

Michigan's second round application for Race to the Top is based on the consensus of education stakeholders including representatives from all the appropriate education associations. The stakeholders have been involved from the beginning and have been integral in writing the application.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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The final application was made available on the Department website on Friday, May 7, 2010, allowing districts ample time to review the full application and finalize their MOU's (memoranda of understanding). The U. S. Department of Education requires that both the local superintendent and board president sign, but leaves it up to states to determine whether or not to require local union president signatures. The stakeholder group decided, through consensus, that the MOU should include a signature line for union presidents to sign, but that Michigan Department of Education should accept the MOUs without union signatures.

The following organizations support Michigan's application and sent messages to their membership encouraging local support:

- American Federation of Teachers-Michigan
- Michigan Association of School Administrators
- Michigan Association of School Boards
- Michigan Association of Public School Academies
- Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals
- Michigan Education Association
- Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association
- Michigan Middle Cities Association

Michigan's Race to the Top application was signed earlier in the day by Governor Jennifer Granholm. Mike Flanagan, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Kathleen Straus, President of the State Board of Education, signed the application during the meeting.

During the regular meeting, the Board also adopted a resolution supporting Michigan's Race to the Top application.

REGULAR MEETING

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent notified the Board of his recent approval of the [Branch Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services](#), and [Administrative Rule Waivers](#).

In addition, the Superintendent provided the Board with information on several grants that have been awarded by the Michigan Department of Education including:

- [2009-2010 Title I, School Improvement Funds to Support Regional Assistance to High Priority Schools - Amendment](#)
- [2009-2010 Title I, Part A, Pilot ISD Partnership – Amendment and Continuation](#)
- [2009-2010 Safe and Drug-Free Schools Technical Assistance Grant – Initial](#)
- [2009-2010 Michigan Charter School Grant Program – Amendment and Continuation](#)

- [2009-2010 Title I Technical Assistance Grant – Amendment and Continuation](#)
- [2008-2009 Reading First – Amendment](#)
- [2009-2010 Title II, Part D, Enhancing Education Through Technology – Amendment](#)
- [2009-2010 Governor’s Discretionary Grant – Amendment](#)
- [2009-2010 Title I, Part C Summer Migrant Program Allocations – Amendment](#)
- [2009-2010 McKinney-Vento Homeless Students Assistance Grant – Amendment](#)

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Approval of State Board of Education’s Recommendations Regarding School Reform/Finance

The State Board of Education unanimously adopted the *Recommendations to Better Support Michigan’s Education System: Revenues, Reforms and Restructuring* a balanced and bi-partisan plan to reform, restructure and finance Michigan’s education system, from early childhood education to post-secondary education. The plan is a balance of broad education restructuring initiatives, as well as continued cost reductions and revenue increases. The State Board’s plan is a culmination of working together in a bi-partisan manner that focused on the overall need to accomplish real change.

The State Board now will present the plan to the Governor, and State Legislature, in accordance with the Board’s state Constitutional responsibility to advise the State Legislature on the financial requirements for Michigan education and post-secondary education.

The plan includes, among other things:

- Universal preschool for all four-year-olds;
- Mandated kindergarten for all children;
- Keep the K-12 funding levels prior to the fiscal year 2010 cuts;
- Strongly encourage districts to stop reducing the school year below 180 days;
- Encourage schools to continue to innovate and explore innovations such as year-round schooling, and alternative calendars that increase learning time and improve learning retention;
- Yearly progress requirements for schools and districts;

- Synch the state budget cycle with the budget cycle of local school districts, and a guarantee from the state that there be no mid-year pro-rated cuts in state funding;
- Incentives to provide a post-secondary education opportunity for every child;
- Urging local school districts to provide more education choices for their students by opening their own charter schools;
- Create strong incentives for school districts to consolidate services, and if progress is not made, establish a district consolidation process;
- Move newly-hired public school employees to a defined contribution pension system;
- Reform the health care benefit structures for school employees, consistent with the direction of reforms for all public employees;
- Maximize the capture of an Internet Sales and Use Tax for Michigan;
- Lower the state sales tax, and extend it to services;
- Tax private pensions;
- Reduce targeted tax credits and tax loopholes; and
- Implement a graduated income tax, taxing wealthier citizens at a higher rate, while reducing income tax rates for most citizens.

Approval of Letter of Support/Resolution Regarding Michigan's Race to the Top Application

The Board approved a resolution supporting Michigan's Phase Two Race to the Top Application and encouraged local school district superintendents, board presidents, and labor leaders across the state to support the application and sign their Memorandum of Understanding.

State and Federal Legislative Update

The Board was provided with an update on state and federal legislative initiatives including the Fiscal Year 2011 budgets, Senate Bill 757 – Curriculum, Financial Issues before the House Education Committee, State Board of Education Legislative Committee, and the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

At the recommendation of its Legislative Committee, the Board (1) supported House Bill 4580 and Senate Bill 275 (anti-bullying) as introduced, (2) supported House Bills 6008, 6009, and 6010 (shared superintendent between intermediate school districts and local districts); and (3) recommended to the Legislature that Public Act 72 be amended to clarify (a) the role of the Michigan Department of Education as it relates

to the roles and responsibilities of Emergency Financial Managers, (b) the role of Emergency Financial Managers between academic and fiscal responsibilities, (c) that the Michigan Department of Education focus on its role with academics and deficit elimination plans, and (d) that the Michigan Department of Treasury has responsibility for oversight of Emergency Financial Managers.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Board approved the following items on the consent agenda:

- [Approval of Presentation on 2009 Public School Academy Legislative Report](#)
Appendices to PSA Legislative Report
 - [List of Public School Academies](#)
 - [Statewide Profile](#)
 - Individual Public School Academy Profiles
[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E-G](#) [H-L](#) [M](#) [N-P](#) [Q-T](#) [U-Z](#)
- [Approval of State Board of Education Expense Report – January – March, 2010](#)
- [Adoption of Resolution Honoring Roberta E. Stanley](#)

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. [Tuesday, May 18, 2010](#) (9:30 a.m. – Retreat) **(POSTPONED)**
- B. [Tuesday, June 15, 2010](#) (9:30 a.m.)
- C. Tuesday, July 13, 2010 (9:30 a.m. – if needed)
- D. Tuesday, August 10, 2010 (9:30 a.m.)
- E. Tuesday, September 14, 2010 (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.