

## MINUTES

### STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

January 11, 2011  
9:30 a.m.

Present: Mr. Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman  
Mr. John C. Austin, President  
Ms. Casandra E. Ulbrich, Vice President  
Mrs. Nancy Danhof, Secretary  
Mrs. Marianne Yared McGuire, Treasurer (via telephone)  
Mr. Richard Zeile, NASBE Delegate  
Mrs. Kathleen N. Straus  
Mr. Daniel Varner  
Mrs. Eileen Weiser  
Governor Rick Snyder, ex officio

Also Present: Ms. Matinga Ragatz, 2010-2011 Michigan Teacher of the Year

### **REGULAR MEETING**

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flanagan called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

#### II. COMMENTS BY GOVERNOR RICK SNYDER

Mr. Flanagan introduced Governor Rick Snyder, who was sworn into office on January 1, 2011. Mr. Snyder said he looks forward to the opportunity to learn from the State Board of Education and have a constructive dialogue regarding issues such as education reform. He said he believes in relentless positive action.

Board members said they look forward to working with Governor Snyder, and they shared comments regarding their commitment to bipartisanship, the P-20 educational system, high standards, and best practices. Board members said the Board developed the document, *Recommendations to Better Support Michigan's Education System – Reform, Restructuring and Revenues*, based on a series of presentations and public comment received during Board meetings devoted to the topic.

Mrs. Straus said she is delighted that Mr. Flanagan will serve as Governor Snyder's Education Advisor.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

**Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mrs. Danhof, 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. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Flanagan said Mrs. Straus was elected to the State Board of Education in 1992. He said she is the longest serving President of the Board; serving in 1997-1998, and from 2001 until the present.

Mrs. Straus said she has chosen not to seek the Presidency of the Board in 2011. Mrs. Straus's final President's Report included a review of the Board's activities over the past several years. She said she has enjoyed the opportunity to visit many schools and communities and interact with a variety of people to advance education. She said she is thankful for the trust placed in her and the support she has received.

Mr. Austin thanked Mrs. Straus for her leadership, noting policies established by the Board and awards she received during her tenure. Mr. Austin said Mrs. Straus will continue to fulfill her term as a member of the State Board of Education.

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

Mrs. Marilyn Schneider introduced members of the State Board of Education, Department of Education staff, and guests attending the meeting.

Mrs. Schneider said that Eileen Weiser and Richard Zeile are beginning their eight year terms on the State Board of Education, after taking the Oath of Office on January 1, 2011 during the Inauguration Ceremony.

VI. ELECTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICERS FOR 2011-2012

Mr. Flanagan said the By-laws of the State Board of Education (SBE) state that at the January meeting of each odd year, the voting members of the SBE shall elect from their membership, officers for a President or Co-Presidents, Vice President or Co-Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and National Association of State Boards of Education Delegate.

- A. Mr. Flanagan declared nominations open for the President of the State Board of Education.

**Mrs. Straus nominated Mr. John Austin for President of the State Board of Education for 2011-2012.**

Mr. Flanagan asked if there were additional nominations for President.

Mrs. Weiser said she would like to support Mr. Austin and also address the possibility of a Co-Presidency of the State Board of Education.

**Mrs. Weiser nominated Mr. John Austin and Mrs. Nancy Danhof for Co-Presidents of the State Board of Education for 2011-2012.**

Since there were no further nominations, Mr. Flanagan declared that the nominations be closed.

Mr. Flanagan asked if Mrs. Danhof would accept the nomination, and Mrs. Danhof said she would accept the nomination.

Mr. Flanagan asked if Mr. Austin would accept the nomination, and Mr. Austin said he would accept the nomination.

**A roll-call vote was taken on the motion of Mr. John Austin and Mrs. Nancy Danhof for Co-Presidents of the State Board of Education for 2011-2012.**

**Austin – Nay  
Danhof – Aye  
McGuire – Nay  
Straus – Nay  
Ulbrich – Nay  
Varner – Nay  
Weiser – Aye  
Zeile – Aye**

**The motion failed.**

**A roll-call vote was taken on the motion of Mr. John Austin for President of the State Board of Education.**

**Austin – Aye  
Danhof – Aye  
McGuire – Aye  
Straus – Aye  
Ulbrich – Aye**

**Varner – Aye  
Weiser – Aye  
Zeile – Aye**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Flanagan declared Mr. John Austin President of the State Board of Education.**

- B. Mr. Flanagan declared nominations open for the Vice President of the State Board of Education.

**Mrs. Weiser nominated Mrs. Nancy Danhof for Vice President of the State Board of Education for 2011-2012.**

Mr. Flanagan asked if there were additional nominations for Vice President.

**Mrs. McGuire nominated Ms. Casandra Ulbrich for Vice President of the State Board of Education for 2011-2012.**

Since there were no further nominations, Mr. Flanagan declared that the nominations be closed.

Mr. Flanagan asked if Ms. Ulbrich would accept the nomination, and Ms. Ulbrich said she would accept the nomination.

Mr. Flanagan asked if Mrs. Danhof would accept the nomination, and Mrs. Danhof said she would accept the nomination.

**A roll-call vote was taken on the motion of Vice President of the State Board of Education.**

**Austin – Ulbrich  
Danhof – Danhof  
McGuire – Ulbrich  
Straus – Ulbrich  
Ulbrich – Ulbrich  
Varner – Ulbrich  
Weiser – Danhof  
Zeile – Danhof**

**Mr. Flanagan declared Ms. Casandra Ulbrich Vice President of the State Board of Education.**

- C. Mr. Flanagan declared nominations open for the Secretary of the State Board of Education.

**Mr. Austin nominated Mrs. Nancy Danhof for Secretary of the State Board of Education for 2011-2012.**

Mr. Flanagan asked if there were additional nominations for Secretary.

Since there were no further nominations, Mr. Flanagan declared that the nominations be closed.

Mr. Flanagan asked if Mrs. Danhof would accept the nomination, and Mrs. Danhof said she would accept the nomination.

**A roll-call vote was taken on the motion of Secretary of the State Board of Education.**

**Austin – Danhof  
Danhof – Danhof  
McGuire – Danhof  
Straus – Danhof  
Ulbrich – Danhof  
Varner – Danhof  
Weiser – Danhof  
Zeile – Danhof**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Flanagan declared Mrs. Nancy Danhof Secretary of the State Board of Education.**

- D. Mr. Flanagan declared nominations open for the Treasurer of the State Board of Education.

**Ms. Ulbrich nominated Mrs. Marianne McGuire for Treasurer of the State Board of Education for 2011-2012.**

Mr. Flanagan asked if there were additional nominations for Treasurer.

Since there were no further nominations, Mr. Flanagan declared that the nominations be closed.

Mr. Flanagan asked if Mrs. McGuire would accept the nomination, and Mrs. McGuire said she would accept the nomination.

**A roll-call vote was taken on the motion of Treasurer of the State Board of Education.**

**Austin – McGuire  
Danhof – McGuire  
McGuire – McGuire  
Straus – McGuire  
Ulbrich – McGuire  
Varner – McGuire  
Weiser – McGuire  
Zeile – McGuire**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Flanagan declared Mrs. McGuire Treasurer of the State Board of Education.**

- E. Mr. Flanagan declared nominations open for National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Delegate of the State Board of Education.

**Mrs. Danhof nominated Mr. Richard Zeile for NASBE Delegate of the State Board of Education for 2011-2012. Mr. Austin seconded the nomination.**

Mr. Flanagan asked if there were additional nominations for NASBE Delegate.

Since there were no further nominations, Mr. Flanagan declared that the nominations be closed.

Mr. Flanagan asked if Mr. Zeile would accept the nomination, and Mr. Zeile said he would accept the nomination.

**A roll-call vote was taken on the motion of NASBE Delegate of the State Board of Education.**

**Austin – Zeile  
Danhof – Zeile  
McGuire – Zeile  
Straus – Zeile  
Ulbrich – Zeile  
Varner – Zeile  
Weiser – Zeile  
Zeile – Zeile**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Flanagan declared Mr. Zeile NASBE Delegate of the State Board of Education.**

VII. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – MR. MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN

Mr. Flanagan showed a video clip from the December 16, 2010, visit to the Michigan Department of Education by Governor Granholm and Governor-elect Snyder.

VIII. APPOINTMENT OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION EXECUTIVE

Mr. Flanagan said the By-laws of the State Board of Education state, "The members of the State Board of Education shall appoint a State Board Executive." He said the members of the State Board of Education have agreed to promote Marilyn Schneider to the position of State Board Executive following the retirement of Eileen Hamilton.

**Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mrs. Danhof, that the State Board of Education appoint Marilyn Schneider to the position of State Board Executive retroactive to December 26, 2010, and directs the Superintendent of Public Instruction to take whatever steps necessary to effect this appointment.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

IX. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 10:45 a.m.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

X. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flanagan called the Committee of the Whole to order at 10:46 a.m.

XI. PRESENTATION ON RESETTING CUT SCORES ON MEAP AND MME TO BE CONSISTENT WITH COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

Dr. Sally Vaughn, Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer; and Dr. Joseph Martineau, Director, Educational Assessment and Accountability; presented Resetting Cut Scores on Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) and the Michigan Merit Examination (MME) to be Consistent with College and Career Readiness.

Dr. Vaughn said in spring 2006, a MME pilot was run concurrently with the MEAP High School Test (HST). She said in November, 2006, the State Board of Education adopted cut scores for the MME equivalent in difficulty to the MEAP HST. Dr. Martineau said the Board requested to

revisit MME cut scores in future years to reflect college readiness and allow the full implementation of the Michigan Merit Curriculum.

Information on the impact of resetting the MEAP and MME cut scores was provided through a PowerPoint presentation.

This item will be presented to the Board for approval in February.

XII. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PRIORITIES AND PROCESS FOR MOVING FORWARD

There was Board consensus to remove this item from the agenda, due to time constraints. The item will be presented at the February meeting.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the Committee of the Whole at 12:01 p.m. to reconvene the Regular Meeting.

**REGULAR MEETING**

XIV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

- A. Ms. Mary Frances Williams, Detroit, Michigan. Ms. Williams provided verbal comments on school bus aides being removed from the buses of special needs school children.
- B. Ms. Sandra Hines, Detroit, Michigan. Ms. Hines, representing Coalition to Restore Hope to Detroit Public Schools, provided verbal comments on Detroit Public Schools.
- C. Ms. Marguerite Maddox, Detroit, Michigan. Ms. Maddox provided verbal comments on the safety of special needs students in Detroit Public Schools.
- D. Ms. Mary McKissic, Detroit, Michigan. Ms. McKissic provided verbal comments on testing expectations in Detroit Public Schools.
- E. Ms. Helen Moore, Detroit, Michigan. Ms. Moore, representing Keep the Vote, provided verbal comments and written information on Detroit Public Schools.
- F. Ms. Yolanda Payne, Detroit, Michigan. Ms. Payne provided verbal comments on bus aides in Detroit Public Schools.
- G. Mr. Russ Bellant, Detroit, Michigan. Mr. Bellant provided verbal comments on Detroit Public Schools.
- H. Ms. Bobbie Brown Beckley. Ms. Beckley provided verbal comments on special needs children in Detroit Public Schools.

- I. Ms. Frances Williams, Detroit, Michigan. Ms. Williams provided verbal comments on Individualized Education Plans for special needs students in Detroit Public Schools.
- J. Ms. Aurora Harris, Detroit, Michigan. Ms. Harris provided verbal comments on transportation of special education students in Detroit Public Schools.

XV. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 12:50 p.m. and reconvened at 1:35 p.m.

Mrs. McGuire ended her telephone connection at 12:50 p.m. and rejoined later in the meeting.

XVI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING (continued)

- K. Mr. Christopher White, Detroit, Michigan. Mr. White, representing the Coalition to Restore Hope to Detroit Public Schools, provided verbal comments on bus attendants for special needs students.
- L. Mr. Richard A. Smith II, Portland, Michigan. Mr. Smith provided verbal comments and written information on his experience with the Michigan School for the Deaf.
- M. Senator Bert Johnson, Lansing, Michigan. State Senator Johnson, representing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Senate District, presented verbal comments and written information regarding attendants for special needs children in Detroit Public Schools.
- N. Representative John Olumba, Lansing, Michigan. Representative Olumba, representing the 5<sup>th</sup> District, presented verbal comments regarding Detroit Public Schools.

XVII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR AND COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF DECEMBER 7, 2010

**Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Mrs. Straus, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 7, 2010.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Austin, Danhof, Straus, Ulbrich, Varner, Weiser, Zeile  
Absent During Vote: McGuire**

**The motion carried.**

## XVIII. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

### Reports

- D. Human Resources Update
- E. Report on the Lenawee Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services

### Grants

- F. Report on Grant Awards
  - 2010-2011 Title III – English Language Acquisition Program – Initial
  - 2010-2011 Title I, Part D, Subpart 1, Neglected and Delinquent Program for State Agencies – Initial
  - 2010-2011 Title I, Part D – Prevention and Intervention for Neglected and Delinquent – Amendment
  - 2010-2011 Title II, Part A – Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting – Initial
  - 2010-2011 Title III, Part A – Immigrant Program – Amendment
  - 2010-2011 Secondary Perkins State Leadership Grant – Continuation
  - 2010-2011 Pre-College Engineering Program Grants – Continuation
  - 2010-2011 Alternative Energy Training Programs Grant – Continuation
  - 2010-2011 Middle College Partnership Grant – Initial
  - 2010-2011 Title I School Improvement – Amendment
  - 2010-2011 Michigan Charter School Grant Program – Initial
  - 2010-2011 Michigan Charter School Grant Program – Amendment and Continuation
  - 2010-2011 Great Parents, Great Start Program Grants – Amendment

## XIX. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – MRS. KATHLEEN N. STRAUS

Mrs. Straus and other Board members said they are concerned about special education issues in Detroit Public Schools, as presented during public participation.

Dr. Eleanor White, Director of the Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services, said Michigan Department of Education staff has been working with Detroit Public Schools to address special education issues.

Mr. Flanagan said he will consult with Michigan Department of Education staff and update the State Board of Education.

Mrs. McGuire rejoined the meeting via telephone at 2:30 p.m. and Mrs. Danhof left the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

XX. REPORT OF MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Ms. Matinga Ragatz, 2010-2011 Michigan Teacher of the Year provided a verbal report on activities she participated in during the past month.

XXI. STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Ms. Lisa Hansknecht, State and Federal Legislative Director, presented the State and Federal Legislative Update. She provided an update on State and Federal leadership for the upcoming legislative sessions. She said national organizations are seeking input regarding the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and she urged Board members to contact the National Association of State Boards of Education.

XXII. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Ms. Ulbrich said the Civil Rights Commission is doing a public forum on bullying on January 25, 2011, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. She said verbal and written comments are being accepted, and she plans to represent the Board and invites others to join her.

Ms. Hansknecht said State Board and Education members and Legislators have received an invitation to an essential training seminar on education issues and laws in Michigan on February 15.

XXIII. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

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

XXIV. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Tuesday, February 8, 2011
- B. Tuesday, March 8, 2011
- C. Tuesday, April 12, 2011
- D. Tuesday, May 10, 2011

XXV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Danhof  
Secretary