

MINUTES

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

February 14, 2012
9:30 a.m.

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

Also Present: Mr. Paul Galbenski, 2011-2012 Michigan Teacher of the Year

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flanagan called the meeting to order at 9:50 a.m.

II. INFORMATIONAL FOLDER ITEMS

- A. HealthierUS School Challenge Six Month Update
- B. 2010-2011 Carl D. Perkins Consolidated Annual Report

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

Mr. Austin requested that State Board of Education Resolution on Governor Snyder's Budget be added to the agenda under discussion/action.

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

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

IV. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS AND MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Mr. Flanagan welcomed Mr. Greg Tedder, Strategic Advisor to the Governor, who is representing Governor Snyder at the Board table.

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

V. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 9:55 a.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

VI. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flanagan called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 9:56 a.m.

VII. PRESENTATION ON FINANCIALLY TROUBLED DISTRICTS IN DISTRESS

Ms. Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent; Mr. Dan Hanrahan, Director, State Aid and School Finance; and Ms. Glenda Rader, Assistant Director, State Aid and School Finance; presented Financially Troubled Districts in Distress.

Mr. Flanagan said historically, the Michigan Department of Education staff has worked closely with districts that are in a deficit situation. He said based on experience with deficit districts, staff determined that a proactive and cross-agency approach to districts that could become or are financially troubled but not yet in deficit would be extremely beneficial at both the state and local levels.

Mr. Hanrahan and Ms. Rader provided information through a [PowerPoint presentation](#).

There was discussion about seeking the assistance of organizations while developing early warning indicators of financial distress and clear benchmarks regarding the length of time a district is in deficit.

Discussion included financial and academic viability of districts as new charter schools are added and student populations shift. Board members said it is important to keep community schools that are doing a good job and encourage educational progress during a time when parents are asking for more in education.

Mrs. Straus said the Board should initiate a study on financing needs for education and involve stakeholders in the process. Mr. Austin said it will be part of the discussion later in the meeting regarding the budget.

VIII. PRESENTATION ON MICHIGAN TEST FOR TEACHER CERTIFICATION
THREE YEAR CUMULATIVE REPORT FOR 2008-2011

Dr. Sally Vaughn, Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer; Dr. John VanWagoner, Interim Assistant Director, Professional Preparation Services; and Dr. Steve Stegink, Higher Education Consultant, Professional Preparation Services; presented Michigan Test for Teacher Certification Three Year Cumulative Report for 2008-2011.

Mr. Flanagan said the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification basic skills and content tests are required for teacher certification in Michigan. He said content tests are developed using K-12 State content standards and standards for teacher preparation, and the tests are aligned with national professional specialized associations' standards.

Dr. Vaughn said the current report provides data on individual teacher preparation institutions and aggregate content area test pass percentages for 2008-2011 as well as the three-year comparison cumulative pass rates for 2007-2010 and 2006-2009.

There was discussion regarding the use of report data in decision making. Dr. VanWagoner and Dr. Stegink provided clarifying information and answered questions from Board members.

IX. PRESENTATION ON CHILD AND ADULT NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Ms. Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent; Ms. Mary Ann Chartrand, Director, Grants Coordination and School Support; and Ms. Marla Moss, Assistant Director, Grants Coordination and School Support; presented Child and Adult Nutrition Programs.

Mr. Flanagan said a major portion of the Grants Coordination and School Support resources focus on child and adult nutrition. He said the presentation is an overview of the Child, Adult, and Nutrition Programs, including National School Lunch, Breakfast, and Afterschool Snacks; Child and Adult Care Food; Commodity Supplemental Food; The Emergency Food Assistance Program; and Summer Food Service. He said the presentation will also include Community Eligibility, Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer for Children, Michigan Farm to School, Team Nutrition grants, Fresh Fruit and Vegetable grants, and Food Distribution.

Ms. Chartrand and Ms. Moss provided information through a [PowerPoint presentation](#).

Mrs. Straus said she serves with Mrs. McGuire, Dr. Ulbrich, and Dr. Zeile on the School Health Committee. She said nutrition, classroom behavior and student achievement are interrelated.

There was discussion about increasing participation in child and adult nutrition programs. Board members said they would be willing to visit schools to encourage participation.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the Committee of the Whole at 12:35 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 1:55 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

XI. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

- D. Approval of Minutes of Committee of the Whole and Regular Meeting of January 10, 2012

Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Dr. Ulbrich, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole and Regular Meeting of January 10, 2012.

The vote was taken on the motion.

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

The motion carried.

Mrs. Danhof rejoined the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

XII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

- A. Ms. June Teisan, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan. Ms. Teisan, representing the Network of Michigan Educators, provided comments and written information on success stories.
- B. Ms. Emily Polanski, Fowlerville, Michigan. Ms. Polanski, representing the Network of Michigan Educators and Novi Public Schools, provided comments and written information on Partners in Excellence.
- C. Dr. Michael Libbee, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. Dr. Libbee, Co-Coordinator, Michigan Geographic Alliance, provided verbal comments regarding the Michigan Geographic Alliance.
- D. Mr. John Lauve, Holly, Michigan. Mr. Lauve provided comments and written information on the failed school system.

XIII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Austin said as a follow up to discussion during the Committee of the Whole, important issues to address in the future include finding high quality learning opportunities allowing school districts to keep students during a time of declining enrollment. He said there are opportunities for school districts to establish charters and rebrand, as well as offer virtual learning other opportunities.

Mr. Austin said Dr. Ulbrich, Mrs. Danhof, Mrs. Weiser, Mr. Flanagan, and he met with Governor Snyder on January 30 to discuss Board priorities and common ground, and listen to each other where there are differences. Mr. Austin said the meeting was fruitful and included discussion on a clear, coherent accountability system which can be addressed in the Educational and Secondary Education Act Flexibility request to the U.S. Department of Education. He said there was discussion on charter and cyber school legislation and the definition and expectation of quality schools. Mr. Austin said they discussed the Board's Budget Priority Recommendations and the need for investment in education. He said this includes staffing resources and state matching funds for grant opportunities. He said he looks forward to regular opportunities for the Board to meet with Governor Snyder and his staff.

Mr. Austin said the Board's Budget Priority Recommendations as approved on December 6, 2011, included a study on financing needs for education. He said it should be a holistic approach to P-20 education including resources necessary to provide quality education including new ways to deliver education. He said a committee of the Board, stakeholders, and the Department could work on development of the proposal.

Mr. Austin said Mr. Flanagan's annual evaluation will occur in March, and Board members will receive an evaluation instrument to complete.

Mr. Austin said he participated in school visits during the past month.

XIV. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Reports

E. Human Resources Report

F. Report on Department of Education Cosponsorships

Grants

G. Report on Grant Awards

- 2010-2011 College Access Challenge Grant – Amendment
- 2011-2012 Safe and Supportive Schools Grant – Amendment
- 2011-2012 Special Projects Grants Under Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Amendment
- 2010-2011 Title III, English Language Acquisition Program – Amendment
- 2011-2012 Title III, English Language Acquisition Program – Amendment
- 2011-2012 Great Start Readiness Program Evaluation Grant – Continuation
- 2011-2012 Michigan Charter School Grant Program – Continuation
- 2011-2012 Mathematics and Science Centers – Amendment

Mr. Flanagan provided a verbal report on Highland Park’s financial situation.

Mrs. Straus said she would like a presentation from the Educational Achievement Authority at a Board meeting and other Board members agreed. She said a state authorized body should be funded by the state, and she is concerned that private funds may be used for the Educational Achievement Authority.

Mr. Flanagan said Michigan Educational Assessment Program results will be released to the public on February 15. He said schools received Fall 2011 student-level results in December, which they were not permitted to share until verification occurred.

Mr. Flanagan said he agrees with Mr. Austin that the meeting with Board members and the Governor was beneficial.

Mr. Flanagan congratulated Lisa Hansknecht, State and Federal Legislative Director, on receiving Michigan’s Friend of School Social Work Award from the Michigan Association of School Social Workers; and Michigan eLibrary (MEL) on receiving the 2012 President’s Award from the Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL).

Mr. Flanagan said this year he is offering his presentation spot at the Governor’s Education Summit to the State Board of Education.

Mr. Flanagan said the ESEA Flexibility application deadline has been extended to February 28, giving one additional week to allow more time for prospective applicants to view the approved states’ applications.

Mr. Varner said the ESEA Flexibility request has come a long way in the past four months, and he thanked staff for their work. He said there should be clear consequences and supports for underperforming schools. He said it is important to build on the momentum that has been generated, and he looks forward to future discussions.

XV. REPORT OF THE MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Mr. Paul Galbenski, 2011-2012 Michigan Teacher of the Year, presented the Report of the Michigan Teacher of the Year. He provided a verbal update to his written report including Governor Snyder's Proclamation of February as Career and Technical Education Month, and February 18-25 as Entrepreneurship Week. Mr. Galbenski said he attended the National Teacher of the Year Program Conference in Dallas, Texas in late January, and he will join Teachers of the Year from other states at the White House in April.

Mr. Galbenski shared a video of America's Marketing High School College Road Trip and Super Bowl Commercial Survey Press Party.

XVI. 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 the Parent Empowerment Education Reform Package, and House Bill 5392 on seat time waivers.

Ms. Hansknecht said her written report includes a recommendation regarding dual enrollment from the State Board of Education's Legislative Committee that met on January 23, 2012.

Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Mrs. Straus, that the State Board of Education support the following statements on dual enrollment:

- **Dual enrollment opportunities for all students – We strongly support enhanced early college course taking and credit earning for all students, as a proven means to improve graduation rates, college attendance rates and student engagement for both at-risk and high-achieving students. We support necessary measures to ensure the success of dual enrollment that include:**
 - **widening eligibility to all high school students,**
 - **ensuring post-secondary institutions participate, establish enrollment criteria in collaboration with K-12 education, and accept credit for dual enrolled courses, and**
 - **creating incentives for postsecondary institutions to form more early and middle colleges.**

- **Finance structures for dual-enrollment – that create incentives for K-12 schools and postsecondary institutions to participate:**
 - **We recommend further that the means of paying for dual enrollment be changed to end the current disincentive for K-12 schools to facilitate student participation creating a positive incentive for K-12 schools and postsecondary institutions to help more students participate in dual enrollment courses.**

Mr. Austin said financial structures are not addressed in the current legislation and it does not correct the financial disincentive for dual enrollment. Ms. Hansknecht said in the best practices of the School Aid Executive Budget there is an incentive for schools to offer dual enrollment.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

There was discussion regarding the practice of college credits not being allowed to count toward high school credits. Mr. Flanagan said staff will explore this.

Dr. Zeile suggested that a test to demonstrate mastery of concepts taken in college courses may allow students to test out of taking the course in high school.

Ms. Hansknecht continued her report with an update on the budget.

XVII. PRESENTATION ON AND APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION ON GOVERNOR SNYDER’S BUDGET

Mr. Austin presented State Board of Education Resolution on Governor Snyder’s Budget.

Mr. Austin said the Board approved Budget Priority Recommendations in December, and it is important that the Board offer bipartisan reaction and encouragement to Governor Snyder’s Executive Budget.

Mr. Austin distributed and reviewed a draft document and invited discussion on the State Board of Education Resolution on Governor Snyder’s Budget.

During discussion, Board members offered edits to be included in the draft document.

Mrs. Weiser said the study on financing needs for education should be focused rather than a broad comprehensive attempt to do too much. She said she wants to have an impact on the things done next year.

Mr. Austin said the study would be guided by the Board to be a thoughtful, rigorous, independent look at key pieces of financial requirements for public education.

Mr. Varner moved, seconded by Mrs. McGuire, that the State Board of Education approve the State Board of Education Resolution on Governor Snyder's Budget, as modified by discussion.

Dr. Zeile said he is not convinced that universal preschool for all four-year-olds and mandated kindergarten for all children are for the benefit of all children. He said he supports preschool education for all four-year-old children who need it.

Following discussion, the vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

State Board of Education Resolution on Governor Snyder's Budget is attached as Exhibit A.

XVIII. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval

- I. Approval of Nominations to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Mrs. Danhof, that the State Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- I. approve five organizational nominees, three At-Large nominees and four Alternates, as listed in Attachment B of the Superintendent's memorandum dated January 23, 2012, to the Special Education Advisory Committee for the terms specified.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

XIX. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Mrs. Danhof reminded members that the Board's Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 27, at 10:30 a.m.

Dr. Ulbrich said she would like a future agenda item on teacher preparation institution training for school counselors so they are prepared to advise high school students on college and university entry.

Mrs. Weiser said on January 24 she attended the Education Alliance conference, "Michigan Educator Evaluation: Understanding Effective Instruction – Why Waiting is Not an Option." She said it was an evaluation conference that highlighted how good schools operate by nurturing teachers, supporting principals, and making sure children are learners. She said she will be sharing video links with Board members.

XX. 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 Mrs. Danhof with suggestions for agenda topics.

XXI. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Tuesday, March 13, 2012 (9:30 a.m.)
- B. Tuesday, April 10, 2012 (9:30 a.m.)
- C. Tuesday, May 8, 2012 (9:30 a.m.)
- D. Thursday, May 24, 2012 (9:30 a.m. State Board of Education Retreat)

XXII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Danhof
Secretary

**State Board of Education
Resolution on Governor Snyder's Budget**

The Michigan Constitution invests the State Board of Education (SBE) with *"leadership and general supervision over all public education,"* and states the SBE *"shall serve as the general planning and coordinating body for all public education, including higher education, and shall advise the legislature as to the financial requirements in connection therewith."*

Pursuant to its Constitutional duties, the State Board of Education made unanimous, bi-partisan recommendations to the Governor and Legislature on February 8, 2011 regarding *Education Improvement and Reform Priorities*. The Board also made unanimous, bi-partisan recommendations for *Budget Priorities for 2012 Budget* on December 9, 2011. http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-5373_5379-267577--,00.html

Included in these recommendations were a description of the threshold of needed educational services consistent with the Governor's call for a "pre-natal-to lifelong learning" education system.

We welcome the Governor's 2012 budget proposals to begin re-investing in public education. We appreciate the Governor's budget is responsive to some of the important strategic investment priorities recommended by the State Board of Education and the Superintendent/Michigan Department of Education:

We continue to support strong accountability reforms that hold students and teachers to high standards, and that encourage schools and districts to find efficiencies and cost-savings in non-instructional services, that can then better support classroom learning.

We remain concerned that in the context of strong accountability demands we are not yet providing the financial resources to support "the threshold elements of the P-20 education system needed in Michigan to provide individual opportunity and economic success" as stated in our prior recommendations to the Governor and Legislature. These elements include:

- Universally available preschool for families of all three-year-old and four-year-old children , and kindergarten available for all children;
- K-12 State Aid at funding level sufficient to provide quality instruction;

- A State commitment to quality, affordable post-secondary education that allows all citizens to achieve the needed new minimum threshold of a postsecondary education or technical training credential (as defined by Lt. Governor's Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth [2004]); and
- Higher Education operational support for Michigan's universities and community colleges at a level competitive with peer states and national state average for higher education support.

Appreciating there is legitimate debate about the scale of financial resources required to deliver "quality instruction", and the very definition of education quality itself; the State Board of Education during 2012 will contribute to the public understanding and inform future budgets and decision-making by the Governor and Legislature by:

- **Making Recommendations to the "Quality Schools" Legislative Committee**, based on the MDE framework developed for the federal waiver request from ESEA/NCLB provisions. (include link to ESEA Waiver materials).
- **Executing a Stakeholder-Informed Study on the Financial Requirements for Public Education** approved by the SBE in December, 2011; that will revise and update recommendations concerning the financial requirements of education to inform the Governor and Legislature as they develop budgets for the 2013-14 fiscal year. This project will:
 - Identify anew the key elements and requirements for an effective public education system, P-20;
 - Identify the financial resources required to deliver this education; and
 - Identify the combination of cost-savings/reforms, and additional revenues needed to deliver the education required.

We trust these actions will provide additional important understanding of the financial needs for the quality education system Michigan learners need and deserve.

Approved February 14, 2012