

MINUTES

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

March 10, 2020
9:30 a.m.

Present: Dr. Michael F. Rice, Chairperson
Dr. Casandra E. Ulbrich, President
Dr. Pamela Pugh, Vice President
Ms. Michelle Fecteau, Secretary
Mr. Tom McMillin, Treasurer
Ms. Tiffany Tilley, NASBE Delegate
Dr. Judith Pritchett
Ms. Lupe Ramos-Montigny
Ms. Nikki Snyder
Ms. Brandy Johnson, representing Governor Gretchen Whitmer, ex officio

Also Present: Ms. Cara Lougheed, 2019-2020 Michigan Teacher of the Year

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Rice called the meeting to order at 9:44 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

Dr. Ulbrich moved, seconded by Ms. Ramos-Montigny, that the State Board of Education approve the agenda and order of priority.

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Fecteau, McMillin, Pritchett, Ramos-Montigny, Snyder,
Ulbrich**
Absent: Pugh, Tilley

The motion carried.

III. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS AND STAFF

Dr. Rice asked that the members of the State Board of Education be introduced. Mrs. Marilyn Schneider, State Board Executive, introduced the members of the State Board of Education.

Mr. Kyle Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent of Finance and Operations introduced Mr. Scott Hutchins from the Office of Health and Nutrition Services.

Dr. Scott Koenigsknecht, Deputy Superintendent of P-20 System and Student Transitions, introduced Ms. Sheila Yott from the Office of Career and Technical Education, and Ms. Debra Belavek from the Office of Special Education.

Dr. Venessa Keesler, Deputy Superintendent of Education, Student, and School Supports, introduced Ms. Michelle Mattson from the Office of Educational Supports, and Ms. Kathleen Robinson from the Office of Educator Excellence.

Dr. Rice invited the audience to complete public participation forms if they plan to offer comments during the public participation portion of the meeting.

Ms. Tilley arrived at 9:50 a.m.

IV. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 9:49 a.m. and convened the Committee of the Whole.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

V. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Rice called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 9:50 a.m.

VI. PRESENTATION BY STUDENTS FROM WILLOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, LANSING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Samaria Patterson, Demar Atwater, Anthony Atwater, Sierra Beard, Braelyn Henke, 2nd and 3rd grade students; Charles Williams, brother of Samaria, Bena Hartman, Literacy Coach/Interventionist; Jaclyn Gregoricka, Early Childhood Interventionist; and Steve Lonzo, Principal, Willow Elementary; presented.

Dr. Rice welcomed the students, staff and administrators from Willow Elementary School in the Lansing School District. He said the presentation is informational and requires no Board action.

Students, staff and administrators celebrated March is Reading Month by sharing their joy and passion for reading, and habits they have learned to use to strengthen reading capacity. They distributed a Willow Lions bookmark, invited board members to read to students, and participate in a literacy event on March 27 at Willow Elementary School.

VII. PRESENTATION ON TOP 10 IN 10 STRATEGIC EDUCATION PLAN

Ms. Sheila Alles, Chief Deputy Superintendent; and Ms. Kelly Siciliano Carter, Director, Office of Strategic Planning and Implementation; presented on the Top 10 in 10 Strategic Action Plan.

Dr. Rice said the presentation provides additional survey results on Michigan's Top 10 in 10 Strategic Education Plan and continues discussion with the board regarding Top 10 goals.

Dr. Rice said the informational presentation is one in a series of presentations.

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

Dr. Pugh arrived at 10:25 a.m.

Board member comments included clarification of the definition of whole child; wrap around services including psychologists, social workers, and dental assistants; addressing the needs of small groups of students who may get lost in the majority; increasing supports for students of color and the achievement gap; advocating for adequate funding to provide supports for students; expanding secondary learning opportunities; bullying prevention; numbers of parents who responded to the survey who do not have another title; priorities may be different by geography and race; identification of urban, suburban and rural survey responses; secondary programming; high school graduation rates; 60% of adults with a postsecondary credential by 2030; early childhood education; taking on goals outside of the board's control; and health, safety and wellness.

VIII. UPDATE FROM THE OFFICE OF PARTNERSHIP DISTRICTS

Dr. William Pearson, Director, Office of Partnership Districts; presented the Update from the Office of Partnership Districts.

Dr. Rice said the presentation is an overview of the recent 18-month Review of Goal Attainment (RGA) structured conferences for Rounds Two and Three districts, as well as the results of Round One RGA conferences.

Dr. Rice said the presentation is informational and requires no Board action.

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

Board member comments included clarification of goals, defining student outcomes, adjustment of goals, environment of schools on track, the importance of process goals, poverty and transience of students, high stakes testing, and confirmation that districts helped set goals and had an opportunity to adjust goals based on established metrics.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the Committee of the Whole Meeting and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 11:52 a.m.

REGULAR MEETING

X. VOTE TO CONVENE CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS ANNUAL EVALUATION OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (STATE SUPERINTENDENT)

Dr. Ulbrich moved, seconded by Ms. Snyder, that the State Board of Education convene in closed session at the request of Dr. Michael Rice, Superintendent of Public Instruction, in order to consider a periodic personnel evaluation of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, as provided in Section 8(a) of the Open Meetings Act.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

**Fecteau – Aye
McMillin – Aye
Pritchett – Aye
Pugh – Aye
Ramos-Montigny – Aye
Snyder – Aye
Tilley – Absent
Ulbrich – Aye**

The motion carried.

XI. RECESS

The Board recessed at 11:55 a.m., at which time the Board met in closed session from 12:07 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. The Board reconvened in open session at 1:18 p.m.

Ms. Johnson left the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

XII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

1. Ms. Teri Pettit, Facilitator of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), from Fenton, Michigan, provided comments on SEAC's response to Senate Bill 657 and the shortage of teachers in Michigan. She distributed *Retention and Recruitment of Teachers for Michigan's Special Needs Students – Recommendations for the State Board of Education, Legislators, Michigan Department of Education & Constituent Organizations*.
2. Mr. Bob Wright from Milan, Michigan, provided comments on gun safety education.

XIII. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

Approval of Minutes of Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 11, 2020

Dr. Ulbrich moved, seconded by Ms. Ramos-Montigny, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 11, 2020.

The vote was taken on the motion.

Ayes: Fecteau, McMillin, Pugh, Ramos-Montigny, Snyder, Tilley, Ulbrich

Absent During Vote: Pritchett

The motion carried.

XIV. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Ulbrich said March is Reading Month as well as Women's History Month. She said election day is today, March 10th, and she reminded people to vote.

Dr. Ulbrich said the state is taking the lead to prepare for the coronavirus pandemic, and universities and others are doing the same. She said the National Association of State Boards of Education Legislative Conference has been cancelled, as well as many other conferences.

Dr. Ulbrich said the State Board of Education made recommendations on public school academies and lease agreements in 2013-2014, which she may bring up for review.

XV. REPORT OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Reports

F. Human Resources Report

G. Report on Approved Changes to the West Shore Educational Service District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services

H. Report on Approved Changes to the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services

I. Report on Property Transfer

J. Report on Teacher Certification Revocation

Grants

K. Report on Grant Awards

1. 2019-2020 Section 35a(4) – Intermediate School District Early Literacy Coaches - Initial; \$31,500,000 (Educational Supports – Paula Daniels)
2. 2019-2020 Section Section 99s(4) and (5) – MiSTEM Network Regions - Initial; \$3,834,300 (Educational Supports – Paula Daniels)
3. 2019-2020 Section 99s(6) – MiSTEM Network Regions Support for the Michigan Merit Curriculum - Initial; \$750,000 (Educational Supports – Paula Daniels)
4. 2019-2020 Great Start Parent Coalitions Trusted Advisors Grant - Amendment; \$1,329,688 (Early Child Development & Family Education – Scott Koenigsknecht)
5. 2019-2020 Criteria for Career Pathways - Initial; \$450,000 (Career and Technical Education – Brian Pyles)

Dr. Rice said he visited and read to students in Harper Creek, Flint and Benton Harbor schools. He congratulated Paw Paw Public Schools for retiring their Native American mascot. He said Flint Community Schools has a bond proposal on the March 10, 2020, ballot seeking to stabilize funding, and he wished them well.

Dr. Pearson shared information on the Community Engagement Advisory Committee for Benton Harbor Area Schools.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Kyle Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent, Finance and Operations, provided a coronavirus update.

XVI. REPORT OF THE MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Ms. Cara Lougheed, 2019-2020 Michigan Teacher of the Year, provided the Michigan Teacher of the Year Report. Ms. Lougheed provided an update on the National Education Association Foundation Gala in Washington, D.C., and her trip to Google headquarters in Palo Alto, California. She thanked the Council of Chief State School Officers, MEEMIC Insurance, and the Michigan Department of Education for their support of the Teacher of the Year.

Ms. Katie Farrell, Region 3 Teacher of the Year, a first grade teacher at Bauer Elementary School in Hudsonville Public Schools, introduced herself and provided a report.

XVII. APPROVAL OF STANDARDS FOR THE PREPARATION AND PRACTICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION ADMINISTRATORS

Dr. Venessa Keesler, Deputy Superintendent of Educator, Student, and School Supports; Ms. Leah Breen, Director, Office of Educator Excellence; Dr. Sean Kottke, Education Consultant Manager, Office of Educator Excellence; and Mr. Sungti Hsu, Education Consultant, Office of Educator Excellence; presented Approval of Standards for the Preparation and Practice of Special Education Administrators.

Dr. Rice said the Standards for the Preparation and Practice of Special Education Administrators were presented to the board on August 13, 2019. He said two rounds of public comment were solicited in August through October 2019, and December through January 2020.

Dr. Rice said the Board is being asked to approve the standards today.

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

Discussion followed.

Ms. Ramos-Montigny moved, seconded by Dr. Pritchett, that the State Board of Education approve the Michigan Standards for the Preparation and Practice of Special Education Administrators, as attached to the Superintendent’s memorandum dated February 25, 2020.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

XVIII. APPROVAL OF STRENGTHENING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY ACT (PERKINS V) PLAN

Dr. Scott Koenigsknecht, Deputy Superintendent, P-20 System and Student Transitions; and Dr. Jill Kroll, Supervisor, Grants Assessment, Monitoring, and Evaluation, Office of Career and Technical Education; presented Approval of Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) Plan.

Dr. Rice said on February 11, 2020, the final draft of the Perkins V State Plan was presented to the State Board of Education, and the board is being asked to approve the plan today.

Dr. Koenigsknecht and Dr. Kroll shared information.

Dr. Ulbrich moved, seconded by Ms. Fecteau, that the State Board of Education approve the 2020-2023 Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) Plan, as attached to the Superintendent’s memorandum dated February 25, 2020.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

XIX. EVALUATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (STATE SUPERINTENDENT)

Dr. Ulbrich said the agreement between the board and Dr. Rice stipulates that based on a satisfactory annual performance evaluation of State Superintendent Dr. Rice, the agreement shall be extended by one year making the new ending date July 31, 2023.

Dr. Ulbrich moved, seconded by Ms. Ramos-Montigny, that pursuant to the agreement between the State Board of Education and Dr. Michael Rice, Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Board of Education has engaged in an annual evaluation of Dr. Rice, and has found his performance to be satisfactory.

Dr. Ulbrich said the overall consensus of the board was extremely positive noting Dr. Rice's communication style, leadership style, rapport with students, and work on student achievement. She said he has done many school visits during his first seven months on the job, works with many different constituencies, is highly accessible and responsible, and he has grace and patience.

Mr. McMillin said satisfactory does not mean that Dr. Rice has not done a really good job. He said the agreement says satisfactory, and that does not diminish the outstanding review.

Dr. Pugh said Dr. Rice has an outstanding evaluation, and she appreciates his energy and the way he communicates with others.

Mr. McMillin said no one liked the A-F accountability system, but he engaged all of the board members, and he is doing a good job leading.

Dr. Pritchett said leadership matters, and Dr. Rice is an education leader advocating for students first and all educators.

Ms. Fecteau said one of the reasons she advocated for hiring Dr. Rice was his strong leadership experience, which he has built upon for the benefit of the whole state.

Ms. Ramos-Montigny said she appreciates that Dr. Rice has not held grudges toward people who did not vote to hire him. She said that is a sign of true leadership. She said he takes advice from staff, surveys, and board members, and helps them get well prepared.

Ms. Tilley thanked Dr. Rice for going above and beyond the job description. She said his heart is in his job.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Rice said it is an honor to work with the State Board of Education on behalf of 1.5 million children.

XX. STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dr. Rice asked Ms. Lupe Ramos-Montigny, Chairperson of the Board's Legislative Committee, to lead the discussion on State and Federal Legislation.

The Legislative Committee report, Board legislative priorities, and the State Board of Education Legislative Committee Issues Form were distributed.

Ms. Ramos-Montigny asked Board members to complete the State Board of Education Legislative Committee Issues Form to submit items for consideration. She said new items will be considered during the next State Board of Education meeting.

Mr. Martin Ackley, Director, Office of Public and Governmental Affairs, provided an update on the legislation and information contained in the Legislative Committee report.

Discussion followed.

Ms. Fecteau said Ms. Teri Pettit, Facilitator for the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), spoke during public comment and distributed *Retention and Recruitment of Teachers for Michigan's Special Needs Students – Recommendations for the State Board of Education, Legislators, Michigan Department of Education & Constituent Organizations*. Ms. Fecteau reported on the SEAC meeting held on March 4, 2020, of which she was a participant, and the report. She said the report is related to Senate Bill 657, which was introduced to allow for alternative teaching certification for special education teachers. She said in the past alternative teaching certifications excluded special education.

Discussion followed

Dr. Rice thanked board members for submitting legislative items for discussion eight days prior to the State Board of Education meeting, allowing staff time to research and provide information to board members the Friday before the board meeting.

XXI. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Dr. Pritchett reminded people to vote before the polls close.

Ms. Tilley said she proposed a presentation by Math Hoops. Dr. Rice said staff has a meeting scheduled with Math Hoops.

Ms. Ramos-Montigny said Paw Paw Public Schools changed their mascot, and Godfrey-Lee Public Schools will be changing their mascot.

Ms. Ramos-Montigny said the Cesar Chavez celebration in Grand Rapids will be on March 19, and it includes a social justice march and luncheon.

Ms. Snyder said Anthony Atwater, one of the student presenters, was reading a book on bullying, *We're All Wonders*, which is a good book for children.

Dr. Pugh said there was a social media post on a classroom out of control. She said educators need to be adequately trained and supported.

XXII. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Tuesday, April 14, 2020 (9:30 a.m.) Regular Meeting
- B. Tuesday, May 12, 2020 (9:30 a.m.) Regular Meeting
- C. Wednesday, May 20, 2020 State Board of Education Work Session (9:30 a.m.)

XXIII. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Dr. Rice asked Board members if there are additional agenda topics they would like to be considered for future meeting agendas. He said they may contact Mrs. Schneider.

XXIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

The video archive of the meeting is available on Michigan's State Board of Education website (www.michigan.gov/sbe).

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Fecteau
Secretary