

## MINUTES

### STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Kent Intermediate School District  
Grand Room  
2930 Knapp Street NE  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

October 10, 2017  
9:30 a.m.

Present: Mr. Brian J. Whiston, Chairman  
Dr. Casandra E. Ulbrich, Co-President  
Dr. Richard Zeile, Co-President  
Ms. Michelle Fecteau, Secretary  
Mr. Tom McMillin, Treasurer  
Ms. Nikki Snyder, NASBE Delegate  
Dr. Pamela Pugh  
Ms. Lupe Ramos-Montigny  
Mrs. Eileen Weiser

Also Present: Mr. Luke Wilcox, 2017-2018 Michigan Teacher of the Year

Absent: Mr. Tyler Sawher, representing Governor Rick Snyder, ex officio

## REGULAR MEETING

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Whiston called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. He thanked Superintendent Ron Caniff and the staff of Kent Intermediate School District for hosting the State Board of Education meeting.

### II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

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

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Fecteau, McMillin, Ramos-Montigny, Snyder, Ulbrich, Zeile  
Absent: Pugh, Weiser**

**The motion carried.**

III. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS AND STAFF

Mrs. Marilyn Schneider, State Board Executive, introduced members of the State Board of Education.

Mrs. Weiser arrived at 9:32 a.m.

Mr. Whiston invited the audience members to introduce themselves. He said audience members should complete public participation forms, if they wish to offer comments during the public participation portion of the meeting.

IV. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 9:34 a.m. and convened the Committee of the Whole.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

V. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Whiston called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

VI. PRESENTATION BY KENT COUNTY SCHOOLS ADDRESSING TOP 10 IN 10

Mr. Whiston said the State Board of Education welcomes the opportunity to be in Kent County to see firsthand what local districts are doing to help Michigan become a Top 10 education state within 10 years.

Mr. Whiston said Mr. Ron Caniff, Superintendent, Kent Intermediate School District, organized a presentation from four local school districts highlighting approaches that have made a difference in student success.

Dr. Pugh arrived at 9:38 a.m.

Mr. Caniff introduced the presenters, and each shared information via a PowerPoint presentation of local initiatives aligned to Top 10 in 10 goals.

Dr. Michael Shibler, Superintendent, Rockford Schools; and Dr. Doug VanderJagt, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; presented the Rockford Action Model for Success strategic plan. Dr. Shibler distributed the RAMS IX document.

Dr. Tom Reeder, Superintendent, Wyoming Public Schools, presented the Reading Now Network, Early Literacy and Literacy Coaching.

Mr. Bill Fetterhoff, Superintendent of Schools, Godwin-Heights Public Schools; Dr. Derek Cooley, Director of Special Education; and Ms. Michelle Krynicki, Director of Instruction; presented the school improvement plan.

Mr. Kevin Polston, Superintendent, Godfrey-Lee Public Schools; and Dr. Carol Lautenbach, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning; presented on Educating the Whole Child – Success Skills and the Kent School Services Network. Mr. Polston distributed Confidence to Succeed: The Story of Godfrey-Lee Public School’s Learner Profile.

Board member comments included diversity and emerging issues, survey participation rate, consistency and inclusiveness, special education funding gap, impact of community input process, goals, benchmarking, evaluation transparency, lab schools, correlation between literacy scores increasing and other scores increasing, unintended consequences, kindergarten play and creativity, student enjoyment of learning, strategic planning to select focus, school improvement cycle, student ownership of learning and supports needed, wholistic teacher evaluation process built on trust and assistance, funding for design thinking funding, classroom instruction, concerns regarding theoretical approach, and educators making a positive difference.

## VII. PRESENTATION ON COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION

Mr. Whiston said Competency-Based Education and personalized learning systems are gaining traction across the state. He said the presentation provides an overview by Michigan Department of Education staff, and three local examples of implementation to provide further information related to how districts and schools are personalizing learning through Competency-Based Education in Michigan.

Ms. Linda Forward, Director, Office of Education Improvement and Innovation, Michigan Department of Education; and Dr. Gregg Dionne, Supervisor, Curriculum and Instruction, Michigan Department of Education; provided an overview on Competency-Based Education.

Dr. Gerald Hopkins, Superintendent, Kenowa Hills Public Schools; Dr. Michael Burde, Assistant Superintendent, Kenowa Hills Public Schools; Dr. David Richards, Superintendent, Fraser Public Schools; Dr. Michael Yocum, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, Oakland Schools; and Ms. Marlana Krolicki, Dean, Oakland Opportunity Academy, Oakland Schools; presented local examples of Competency-Based Education.

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

Board member comments included mastery resulting in more freedom, teacher engagement, content, determination of competencies, school visit to competency-based site, mastery of content standards and facts, mastery by students who may need additional time, class sizes, teacher workload and use of data to target instruction, data collection and privacy, transcript design, seat-time waivers, and flexibility of competency-based education.

VIII. DISCUSSION REGARDING CRITERIA FOR GRANT PROGRAMS

Dr. Ulbrich asked if there is a maximum funding amount for Section 21j Competency-Based Education District Grants. Ms. Forward said there is no maximum amount, and grants are intended for experienced and novice programs.

In response to Dr. Zeile, Mr. Kyle Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent, Finance and Operations, said that the total amount of funding is listed in the grant titles.

Mr. McMillin asked how many criteria are defined by legislation and how much was added. Mr. Guerrant said the information is defined by bullet points in the grant criteria.

IX. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole at 12:34 p.m. to reconvene the Regular Meeting.

**REGULAR MEETING**

X. STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Whiston asked Mr. Ackley, Director of Public and Governmental Affairs, to provide an update on State and Federal Legislative issues.

Mr. Ackley said the Board's Legislative Committee met on September 28, 2017. He said discussion included House Bills 4977-4982 addressing school environmental quality.

Mrs. Eileen Weiser, Chair of the Board's Legislative Committee, asked if the bills are being heard by the House Education Reform Committee. Mr. Ackley said not at this time. Following discussion, Mrs. Weiser said the State Board of Education Legislative Committee could wait one month to see if the bills are scheduled. If so, Michigan Department of Education staff will be asked to do an analysis. If not, it will be determined if the State Board of Education should be advocating for the bills.

Mr. Ackley said the Board's Legislative Committee also discussed House Bill 4805, which would prohibit the requirement of Educational Development Plans for homeschool students enrolled in shared time.

Mr. Ackley said the Career Pathways Alliance Initiative was also discussed.

Discussion resumed regarding House Bills 4977-4982. Mrs. Weiser asked Dr. Pugh for her thoughts on school environmental quality. Dr. Pugh said Mr. Emile Lauzzana, U.S. Green Building Council, is in attendance. Mr. Whiston invited him to speak during public participation.

Dr. Pugh said a caucus has been formed among Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Michigan Department of Education to address questions on environmental quality. Dr. Pugh and Ms. Fecteau said school environmental quality is an urgent issue.

XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

1. Emile Lauzzano, representing U.S. Green Building Council, Ann Arbor, Michigan, provided comments on the school environmental quality bills package.
2. Rich Fink, Hudsonville, Michigan, provided comments on the Belle Curve, developmentally-appropriate instruction, and testing.
3. Eric-John Szczepaniak, Chairperson, Grand Valley State University (GVSU) Student Senate Educational Affairs Committee, Grand Rapids, Michigan, provided comments on GVSU funding from the state.

XII. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 1:05 p.m. and reconvened the Committee of the Whole at 1:50 p.m.

Mrs. Weiser left the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

XIII. PRESENTATION ON TRANSPARENCY DASHBOARD UPDATES

Dr. Venessa Keesler, Deputy Superintendent, Educator, Student, and School Supports; and Mr. Chris Janzer, Assistant Director, Educational Assessment and Accountability; presented Transparency Dashboard Updates.

Mr. Whiston said the presentation covers several updates related to work on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Transparency Dashboard, including a general status update, parent feedback and screenshots of the latest designs. He said there will be monthly updates on the Transparency Dashboard.

Information was shared via a [PowerPoint presentation](#). Two documents were distributed: School Transparency Dashboard, and Parent Focus Group Findings I.

Board member comments included clarification of parent feedback and dashboard components, timeline for approval of Michigan's ESSA plan, diverse parent input, webinar for parents, additional parents in focus groups, virtual participation in focus groups, communication to facilitate full conversation, inclusion of parents who do not access technology, availability in multiple languages, and an update on accountability legislation.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the Committee of the Whole at 2:50 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting.

**REGULAR MEETING**

XV. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

F. Approval of Minutes of Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 12, 2017

**Dr. Zeile moved, seconded by Dr. Ulbrich, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 12, 2017.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Fecteau, McMillin, Pugh, Ramos-Montigny, Snyder, Ulbrich, Zeile**

**Absent: Weiser**

**The motion carried.**

XVI. REPORT OF THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Dr. Zeile said Detroit Public Schools Community District exceeded its enrollment projection. He congratulated Superintendent Nikolai Vitti.

Dr. Ulbrich said there is a movement to eliminate the State Board of Education. She said the State Board of Education is the most consistent aspect in education. She said over the years there have been many changes in education such as the Proposal A school funding system, Executive Orders 1996-11 and 1996-12 governance reorganization, unlimited growth of choice, cyber schools, takeover of school districts, the Educational Achievement Authority, high poverty, lead in drinking water, term limits, and high-stakes testing of students.

Dr. Ulbrich said the State Board of Education has selected great State Superintendents, developed and implemented strategies for Michigan to be a Top 10 state in education in 10 years, worked toward accountability, and authorized a transparency dashboard for school reporting to the community.

Dr. Ulbrich said the Board should not be eliminated, because citizens have the ability to influence education through the publicly-elected Board. She said restoring authority to the Board would be the right thing to do. She said she is planning to put her thoughts in writing to be shared with the Legislature and perhaps an Op-Ed. She invited others to join her.

Dr. Zeile said he agrees with many of the points made by Dr. Ulbrich.

## XVII. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

### Reports

#### G. Human Resources Report

### Grants

#### H. Report on Grant Awards

1. [2017-2018 Section 32p Grants - Initial; \\$2,200,000](#)
2. [2016-2017 National School Lunch Program \(NSLP\) Equipment Assistance Grant - Initial; \\$751,010](#)
3. [2017-2018 Application for School Bus Driver Safety Education Program - Initial; \\$2,025,000](#)
4. [2017-2018 Application for School Bus Inspection Program - Initial; \\$1,705,300](#)
5. [2017-2018 Secondary CTE Perkins State Leadership Grant - Initial; \\$969,609](#)
6. [2017-2018 IDEA, Part B Formula Grants - Initial; \\$368,945,684](#)
7. [2016-2017 Flint Declaration of Emergency Grants: Section 11s\(3\) - Early Childhood Services - Supplemental - Initial; \\$812,500](#)
8. [2017-2018 Section 32p Grants - Initial; \\$10,900,000](#)
9. [2017-2018 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant Program - Initial; Continuation; \\$33,550,356](#)
10. [2017-2018 Title I, Part A, Improving Basic Programs - Initial; \\$389,799,730](#)
11. [2017-2018 Title II, Part A, Supporting Effective Instruction - Initial; \\$67,360,000](#)

Mr. Whiston shared an update on Blue Ribbon Schools, Michigan's Every Student Succeeds Act Plan, the Partnership Model, Susan Broman receiving the 2017 Sharon Parks Award from the Michigan League for Public Policy, and Jereme Vanden Heuvel receiving an Appreciation Award from the Michigan Alliance for Environmental and Outdoor Education.

XVIII. REPORT OF MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Mr. Luke Wilcox, 2017-2018 Michigan Teacher of the Year, provided his report.

Mr. Wilcox shared information on the partnership with Van Andel Institute to support teacher leadership in West Michigan.

XIX. APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 CAMP TUHSMEHETA (CAMP T) SPENDING PLAN

Mr. Whiston said at the September 15, 2017 Michigan School for the Blind Trust Fund Committee meeting, members Ms. Michelle Fecteau and Ms. Nikki Snyder reviewed the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 spending plan for Camp Tuhsmeheeta, also known as Camp T.

He said Camp T, which is located in Greenville, Michigan provides an outdoor education setting for students with visual impairments and is owned and operated by the Michigan Department of Education – Low Incidence Outreach. He said the program is overseen by the State Board of Education.

**Dr. Ulbrich moved, seconded by Ms. Fecteau, that the State Board of Education approve the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 spending plan for Camp Tuhsmeheeta, as attached to the Superintendent’s memorandum dated September 26, 2017.**

Ms. Fecteau said she visited Camp T on October 9, and Roxanne Balfour and Dan Giese were her tour guides. Ms. Fecteau said the camp is a wonderful space providing many activities and a chance for children, parents and families to bond. She encouraged people to visit Camp Tuhsmeheeta.

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Fecteau, McMillin, Pugh, Ramos-Montigny, Snyder, Ulbrich, Zeile**

**Absent : Weiser**

**The motion carried.**

XX. CONSENT AGENDA

J. Approval of Criteria for Title I, Part C Migratory Education Program Identification and Recruitment Centers, \$490,000

K. Approval of Criteria for USDA Farm to School Grant, \$70,280

L. Approval of Criteria for Section 21j, Competency Based Education District Grant, \$500,000



- M. Approval of Criteria for Section 99s(6) and 99s(7) Michigan Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (MiSTEM) Network Regions, \$1,400,000

**Dr. Zeile moved, seconded by Ms. Ramos-Montigny, that the State Board of Education approve the consent agenda as follows:**

- J. Approve the Criteria for Title I, Part C Migratory Education Program Identification and Recruitment Centers, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated September 26, 2017;**
- K. Approve the Criteria for USDA Farm to School Grant, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated September 26, 2017;**
- L. Approve the Criteria for Section 21j, Competency Based Education District Grant, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated September 26, 2017; and**
- M. Approve the Criteria for Section 99s(6) and 99s(7) Michigan Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (MiSTEM) Network Regions, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated September 26, 2017.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Fecteau, McMillin, Pugh, Ramos-Montigny, Snyder, Ulbrich, Zeile**  
**Absent: Weiser**

**The motion carried.**

**XXI. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS**

Mr. McMillin said he enjoyed hearing about local programs from local people. He said there is a need to bring back the joy of teaching and learning.

Mr. McMillin said he would like to hear more about Partnership Districts at future Board meetings.

**XXII. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

Mr. Whiston said Board members may contact him or the Co-Presidents with suggestions for future agenda topics.

Mr. Whiston thanked Kent Intermediate School District for hosting the State Board of Education meeting.

XXIII. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Tuesday, November 14, 2017 (9:30 a.m.) Regular Meeting
- B. Tuesday, December 12, 2017 (9:30 a.m.) Regular Meeting
- C. Tuesday, January 9, 2018 (9:30 a.m.) Regular Meeting
- D. Tuesday, February 12, 2018 (9:30 a.m.) Regular Meeting **at Wayne RESA**

XXIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

The video archive of the meeting is available at the [Michigan State Board of Education website](http://www.michigan.gov/sbe) (www.michigan.gov/sbe).

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Fecteau  
Secretary