

MINUTES

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

January 12, 2016
9:30 a.m.

Present: Mr. Brian J. Whiston, Chairman
Mr. John C. Austin, President
Dr. Casandra E. Ulbrich, Vice President
Ms. Michelle Fecteau, Secretary
Dr. Pamela Pugh, Treasurer
Ms. Lupe Ramos-Montigny, NASBE Delegate
Mrs. Kathleen N. Straus
Mrs. Eileen Weiser
Dr. Richard Zeile
Mrs. Karen McPhee, representing Governor Rick Snyder, ex officio

Also Present: Mr. Rick Joseph, 2015-2016 Michigan Teacher of the Year

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Whiston called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

II. INFORMATIONAL FOLDER ITEM

1. Information on the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification Three-Year Cumulative Report for 2012-2015

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

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

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Austin, Pugh, Ramos-Montigny, Ulbrich, Weiser
Absent: Fecteau, Straus, Zeile**

The motion carried.

IV. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Mrs. Marilyn Schneider, State Board Executive, introduced members of the State Board of Education and the 2015-2016 Michigan Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Schneider invited guests to introduce themselves.

Dr. Zeile and Mrs. McPhee arrived at 9:45 a.m.

V. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – BRIAN J. WHISTON

Mr. Whiston said Lupe Ramos-Montigny was featured in the West Michigan magazine, *Farandula*, as a true leader, champion, volunteer and activist and among the strongest leaders in West Michigan.

VI. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 9:46 a.m. to convene the Committee of the Whole.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

VII. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Whiston called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 9:47 a.m.

VIII. UPDATE ON LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S SPECIAL EDUCATION TASK FORCE

State Board of Education Members Mrs. Eileen Weiser and Ms. Michelle Fecteau provided an update on Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley's Special Education Task Force.

Mr. Whiston said Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley convened a Special Education Task Force and its membership includes State Board of Education members Michelle Fecteau and Eileen Weiser as well as Michigan Department of Education Special Education Director Teri Chapman.

Ms. Fecteau and Mrs. Straus arrived at 9:55 a.m.

Mrs. Weiser and Ms. Fecteau shared information via a [PowerPoint presentation](#). They said the final report of the Lieutenant Governor's Task Force on Special Education is expected to be released in early February 2016.

IX. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – BRIAN J. WHISTON

Mr. Whiston introduced Ms. Kathy Lester and Ms. Gwenn Marchesano who presented Ms. Michelle Fecteau with the Outstanding Governmental Official Award from the Michigan Association of Media in Education.

X. PRESENTATION ON NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE BOARDS OF EDUCATION (NASBE) REPORT ON CAREER READINESS AND PIPELINE 2 PROMISE

Dr. Pam Pugh, State Board of Education Member, presented on the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Report on Career Readiness; and Dr. Beverly Walker-Griffea, President, Mott Community College, presented on Pipeline 2 Promise.

Mr. Whiston said Dr. Pugh was a member of the Career Readiness Study Group convened by NASBE, and she will share information on the study group report titled, Bolstering the Second C in College and Career Readiness.

Dr. Pugh shared information on the NASBE Career Readiness Study Group report via a [PowerPoint presentation](#).

Dr. Walker-Griffea shared information on the Pipeline 2 Promise via a [PowerPoint presentation](#).

Board member comments included Pipeline 2 Promise participation, funding and indicators of success.

XI. PRESENTATION ON STUDENT SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

Mr. Kyle Guarrant, Deputy Superintendent, Administration and School Support Services; and Mr. Tom Howell, Director, Center for Educational Performance and Information; presented on Student Suspension and Expulsion.

Mr. Whiston said the presentation will provide information on data collection regarding suspensions and expulsions.

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

Board member comments included distance learner statistics, transfer students, financial ramifications to schools, clarification of regions, mental and physical health of parents related to absenteeism, Pathways to Potential, programs and services affecting expulsions, teaching and learning from absenteeism rather than punishing, and availability of suspension and expulsion data.

XII. PRESENTATION ON FLINT WATER SUPPLY RESPONSE

Mr. Kyle Guarrant, Deputy Superintendent, Administration and School Support Services; and Dr. Eden Wells, Chief Medical Executive, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services; presented on the Flint Water Supply Response.

Mr. Whiston said the presentation on the response to the Flint water supply will focus on what is being done now and into the future to protect children in Flint.

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

Additional information is available at www.michigan.gov/flintwater.

Board member comments included investments and supports for communities and families, future increased demands on special education, interagency coordination, testing protocols, long-term effects of elevated blood lead levels, nutrition, absenteeism, water filters, numbers of children and schools tested, donation centers, mitigating consequence in schools, and other areas of the state affected by lead and chemicals.

XIII. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole at 12:30 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 1:32 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

XIV. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – MR. BRIAN J. WHISTON

Mr. Whiston asked Deputy Superintendents to introduce employees recently hired by the Michigan Department of Education.

Ms. Susan Broman, Deputy Superintendent, Great Start, introduced Ms. Tekela Odneal from Child Development and Care.

Mr. Kyle Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent, Administration and School Support Services, introduced Ms. Anna Neveau from State Aid and School Finance, Ms. Aimee Haapala from School Nutrition, and Ms. Lynn Cavett from the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

XV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

A. Mr. Rojelio Landin, Detroit, Michigan. Mr. Landin, representing PerformanceED, shared verbal comments regarding resource equity and the new state guidelines and strategic goals and the Every Student Succeeds Act.

B. Mr. LaMar Lemmons, Detroit, Michigan. Mr. Lemmons, representing the Detroit School Board, shared verbal comments regarding Detroit Public Schools.

XVI. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 1:46 p.m. and reconvened the Committee of the Whole at 1:47 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

XVII. PRESENTATION ON FINAL APPROVAL OF THE COLLEGE FOR CREATIVE STUDIES AS AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION INSTITUTION

Ms. Leah Breen, Director, Professional Preparation Services; and Dr. Sean Kottke, Education Consultant, Professional Preparation Services; presented on the Final Approval of the College for Creative Studies as an Educator Preparation Institution.

Mr. Whiston said the State Board of Education granted preliminary approval to the College for Creative Studies to prepare and recommend teachers in 2003. During its periods of preliminary and probationary approval, the College has continued to develop its program in response to the Committee of Scholars' criteria. He said the Committee of Scholars is now recommending that the College for Creative Studies be granted final approval as a Michigan Educator Preparation Institution.

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

Board member comments included 100 percent graduation rate, and the focus of College for Creative Studies on art production and Wayne State University on art therapy.

Board action for final approval will be requested at the February 9, 2016 meeting.

XVIII. PRESENTATION ON FINAL APPROVAL OF BAKER COLLEGE AS AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION INSTITUTION

Ms. Leah Breen, Director, Professional Preparation Services; and Dr. Sean Kottke, Education Consultant, Professional Preparation Services; presented on the Final Approval of Baker College as an Educator Preparation Institution.

Mr. Whiston said the State Board of Education granted an extension of probationary approval to Baker College to prepare and recommend teachers on October 14, 2014, for a period of three years. He said during its period of probationary approval, Baker College's Educator Preparation Institution Performance Score status has shown steady improvement and has now posted multiple years at the satisfactory level. He said the Committee of Scholars is now recommending that Baker College be granted final approval as a Michigan Educator Preparation Institution.

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

There were no Board member comments.

Board action for final approval will be requested at the February 9, 2016 meeting.

XIX. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole at 12:30 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 1:32 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

XX. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

G. Approval of Minutes of Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 8, 2015

Mrs. Weiser moved, seconded by Mr. Austin, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 8, 2015.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

XXI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Austin said it was helpful to have a presentation at today's Board meeting regarding the Flint water supply. He said it is important to aggressively work together to meet the needs of the children and families in Flint. He said the State Superintendent is a member of the interagency group working to address these issues.

Mr. Austin said the Detroit education system continues to be a major issue, and legislation to soften the current financial and organizational problems has not yet been introduced. He said there is an urgency with regard to the structural issues affecting what is now a financial and learning crisis. He said the teachers' sick out, although not condoned, is drawing attention to the issues affecting learning. He said the Board needs to encourage attention and action regarding finances, debt and organization of the public school marketplace that aids in the expectation of quality education. He said the Board may convene a special meeting dedicated to this topic.

Mr. Austin said strategies for developing Michigan into a Top 10 Education State in 10 Years will be presented at the February Board meeting, so that together we can move proactively to positively impact education in Michigan.

Mr. Austin said the Every Student Succeeds Act, is newly enacted federal legislation. He said Michigan has the chance to develop an accountability system that will work toward improved learning outcomes, and he knows stakeholders will be involved in that process.

Mr. Austin said the recommendations in the report, "Reaching for Opportunity – An Action Plan to Increase Michigan's Postsecondary Credential Attainment," focus on helping more Michigan youth and adults participate in postsecondary education, and complete degrees and credentials. He said this is also a component of the work that is being done to develop Michigan into a Top 10 Education State in 10 Years.

XXII. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Reports

- H. Human Resources Report
- I. Report on Property Transfer
- J. Report on Teacher Revocation Decision
- K. Report on Modifications to the Previously Approved Midland County Educational Service Agency Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services

Grants

- L. Report on Grant Awards
 - 1. 2015-2016 Training and Technical Assistance for 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Program – Initial; \$607,025
 - 2. 2015-2016 Promoting Adolescent Health in Michigan through School-Based HIV/STD Prevention and School Based Surveillance – Initial; \$7,500
 - 3. 2015-2016 Title I, Part A – Improving Basic Programs – Amendment; \$465,580,322
 - 4. 2015-2016 Title I, Part C Migrant Education Programs – Amendment; \$3,630,842
 - 5. 2015-2016 Title I, Part D, Subpart 2 – Prevention and Intervention for Neglected and Delinquent – Initial; \$7,058,628
 - 6. 2015-2016 Title II, Part A – Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting – Amendment; \$85,434,253
 - 7. 2015-2016 Title VI, Part B, Rural and Low-Income School Program – Initial; \$2,526,474
 - 8. 2015-2016 Office of Special Education (OSE) Adolescent Literacy Model Demonstration Projects – Initial; \$788,095

9. 2015-2016 Section 55 Conductive Education Evaluation Project – Initial; \$150,000
10. 2015-2016 Michigan Education Corps – Initial; \$1,000,000
11. 2015-2016 Michigan STEM Partnership – Initial; \$52,877
12. 2015-2016 Section 99h: Competitive FIRST Robotics Grants – Initial; \$2,177,500

Mr. Whiston said the Department is convening a social studies education focus group of 15 participants representing people from various perspectives including local school districts, intermediate school districts, colleges, universities, civil rights, law and legislators. He said there will be a series of meetings to identify issues with articulation, content, grade level appropriateness and other concerns. He said it is anticipated that the result will be an updated set of proposed social studies standards that will be ready for public comment and presentation to the State Board of Education in the spring.

Mr. Whiston said he is continuing the process for including stakeholder involvement in the development of Michigan into a Top 10 Education State in 10 Years. He said there will be a presentation at the February Board meeting. He said following the Board meeting there will be a strategic plan to operationalize the plan and move forward. He said there will be documents to determine what can be done by the Board and Department, and what would be requested from the Governor, Legislature and interest groups. He said it has been an energizing process to develop Michigan into a Top 10 Education State in 10 Years.

Mr. Whiston said the Top 10 work aligns with the new federal Every Student Succeeds Act, which includes much more flexibility. He said it will allow Michigan to use the Top 10 plan to drive the direction of Michigan educationally.

Mr. Whiston said as a result of the recent sick outs by Detroit teachers, he has sent out press releases encouraging Detroit teachers to be in the classroom teaching. He said students need to be in class learning, and he also appreciates and wants to understand what teachers are going through. He said he attended a session on January 11th and heard from teachers, and he and others will be attend a meeting in Detroit to discuss the issues and gain understanding. He said he will have discussions with the Board and Department staff to determine what can be done to influence the situation in a positive way.

XXIII. REPORT OF MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Mr. Rick Joseph, the 2015-2016 Michigan Teacher of the Year, provided his report. Mr. Joseph shared a video presentation highlighting his activities during the past month as the Michigan Teacher of the Year. He said he is trying to visit all areas of the state.

Mr. Joseph said his Junkyard Wonders Literacy Project promotes the fact that all students are geniuses and teachers help bring that out in their students. He said he is fortunate that the project is receiving books from various donors.

XXIV. STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Martin Ackley, Director, Public and Governmental Affairs; Dr. Casandra Ulbrich, Chair, State Board of Education Legislative Committee; and Mrs. Kathleen Straus, NASBE Governmental Affairs Committee; presented the State and Federal Legislative Update.

Mr. Ackley said the Legislature passed Senate Bill 571 at the end of the December session, and it was awaiting the Governor's signature when the Board's Legislative Committee met on January 4, 2016.

Dr. Ulbrich said since the timing of the bill signing was imminent, during the January 4th meeting the State Board of Education's Legislative Committee passed the following motion by a vote of 3-1 (Ayes – Ulbrich, Ramos-Montigny, Straus; Nay – Weiser):

The State Board of Education Legislative Committee urges Governor Snyder to veto Senate Bill 571. This bill would prohibit the use of public funds to provide information to voters related to a local ballot question within 60 days of an election. We are concerned about the impact this will have on the electorate's ability to make informed decisions that impact their local communities.

She said Governor Snyder subsequently signed the bill into law.

Mr. Whiston said he contacted the Governor's office and asked for a veto of the legislation.

Mrs. Weiser said the legislation does not prohibit website communication. She said it prohibits paid communication. She said it doesn't prohibit news outlets or other groups from sending information.

Mrs. Weiser suggested that legal clarification be sought, and Mr. Whiston said staff will seek clarification.

Dr. Ulbrich read a draft Statement on House Bill 4552, a bill to require training in the college preparation and selection process for school counselors.

Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Ms. Fecteau, that the State Board of Education (SBE) supports passage of House Bill 4552, a bill to require training in the college preparation and selection process for school counselors. However, we encourage the

Legislature to specify any funding requirements for this legislation as well as adjust implementation dates to reasonably correspond to the actual passing of the legislation. As an added note, the SBE encourages the Legislature to address the high student-to-counselor ratios experienced in Michigan public schools as part of an overall strategy.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Straus said NASBE has been providing updates on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). She said ESSA keeps a lot of what was in the No Child Left Behind Act. She said standardized testing is still included, but states can designate their own tests. She said the United States Department of Education is working to transition in a reasonable way with gradual implementation determining how to treat waivers.

Ms. Ramos-Montigny asked how tests will be designed. Mr. Whiston said the state department will design the tests, which will include a thorough process with stakeholder input.

XXV. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Ms. Ramos-Montigny said Ms. Esther Torres was recently introduced at a State Board of Education meeting, and it was noted that she was studying to become a citizen of the United States. Ms. Ramos-Montigny said Ms. Torres received citizenship in December and visited her family in Mexico during the holidays.

Ms. Fecteau asked if the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) includes consequences based on test scores. Dr. Keesler said ESSA maintains the concept of low performing but there is the opportunity to determine how schools are identified.

Mr. Austin asked who is involved in developing the ESSA state plan. Dr. Keesler said it encompasses a very large variety of stakeholders.

Dr. Pugh asked that there should be follow up on several issues related to the Flint water supply and the Detroit education system.

Dr. Zeile said the Report on Grant Awards for Title I, Part A, Improving Basic Programs shows meaningful support in the amount of \$465,580,000.

Mrs. Straus said she is concerned about Detroit Public Schools and would like to be involved in meetings. She said it is sad to see a district that was once a leader disintegrate.

XXVI. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Mr. Whiston asked the Board to notify him of agenda topics they would like included on a future agenda. He provided the upcoming State Board of Education meeting dates.

XXVII. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Tuesday, February 9, 2016, Regular Meeting (9:30 a.m.)
- B. Tuesday, March 8, 2016, Regular Meeting (9:30 a.m.)
- C. Tuesday, April 12, 2016, Regular Meeting (9:30 a.m.)

XXVIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Fecteau
Secretary