

MINUTES

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

September 11, 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
Dr. Richard Zeile, NASBE Delegate
Mrs. Kathleen N. Straus
Mr. Daniel Varner
Mrs. Eileen Weiser

Also Present: Ms. Bobbi Jo Kenyon, 2012-2013 Michigan Teacher of the Year

Absent: Mr. Greg Tedder, representing Governor Rick Snyder, ex officio

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flanagan called the meeting to order at 9:42 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

Mr. Flanagan requested that Approval of Criteria for Title IIA Statewide Technical Assistance Center Grants be removed from the agenda. He said it is listed on the agenda as Item C – third bullet, and Item R.

Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Dr. Ulbrich, 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.

III. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Mrs. Marilyn Schneider, State Board Executive, introduced members of the State Board of Education, and welcomed Ms. Bobbi Jo Kenyon, 2012-2013 Michigan Teacher of the Year, to the Board table.

IV. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – MR. MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN

Mr. Flanagan said it is unfortunate that Mrs. Danhof was not nominated for re-election to the State Board by her party. He said she has been a proponent for rigorous standards for schools, fair accountability for educators, and the highest quality education for all of Michigan's children. He said Mrs. Danhof and Mrs. McGuire will be missed when their terms expire at the end of the year.

Mr. Flanagan said September 11 through 17, 2012 is Michigan Patriot Week, which symbolically begins on September 11, 2012 and concludes on September 17, Constitution Day. He said that everyone is urged to recognize and participate by honoring and celebrating so that all may offer the reverence that is due to our free republic.

V. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 9:47 a.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

VI. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flanagan called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 9:48 a.m.

VII. PRESENTATION ON TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES

Dr. Sally Vaughn, Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer; Ms. Linda Forward, Director, Education Improvement and Innovation; Mr. Bruce Umpstead, State Director of Educational Technology; and Mr. Jamey Fitzpatrick, President and Chief Executive Officer, Michigan Virtual University; presented on technology initiatives.

Mr. Flanagan said the presentation is an update of initiatives that are integrating technology and evaluating its effectiveness. He said presentations will showcase the use of iPads, seat time waiver projects, flipped classrooms, and the Michigan Virtual University evaluation grant.

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

There was discussion regarding hybrid and blended learning; seat time waivers; highly qualified teachers; science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); technology infrastructure; showcasing best practices; teacher leaders; inservice opportunities; technology endorsement for teachers; accountability; and the time needed for implementation and support.

VIII. DISCUSSION ON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION INPUT TO THE STATE AID ACT REWRITE

Mr. Flanagan said the Governor's Office has announced a project designed to propose a Michigan education funding law to replace the 1979 State Aid Act with a modern education financing law that reflects the present structure of Michigan's public school system and allows for future changes reflecting Governor Snyder's vision for public education.

Mr. Flanagan said the project is different than the Board and Department study on education finance and innovation, but the projects are complementary.

Mr. Flanagan said the board item being presented is taken from the State Board of Education and Michigan Department of Education Goal and Reform Priorities approved by the Board on June 12, 2012.

Mr. Austin said the Board has made recommendations in the Goal and Reform Priorities document, and the Board should discuss how they should be applied. He asked Board members to state hopes and concerns that will be shared with the people working on the State Aid Act Rewrite project.

Ms. Susan Broman, Deputy Superintendent, Office of Great Start; Dr. Sally Vaughn, Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer; and Mrs. Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent; came to the table to provide clarification.

In answer to Dr. Ulbrich's question regarding the timeline for response, it was determined that Board input would be shared within the next month.

Mrs. Straus said the document, as proposed, is too vague. She said early childhood learning should be a budget priority, as well as closing the achievement gap and turning schools around.

Mrs. Weiser said it would be helpful to do an environmental scan of legislative priorities, so that the Board and Department can provide appropriate information to the Legislature.

Dr. Ulbrich said she agrees that the document is too vague. She said 1.c of the document should be clarified as financial barriers on the K-12 system. She said this is also an opportunity to highlight recommendations made in previous reports, and transparency requirements regardless of governance.

Mrs. McGuire said she agrees with previous comments. She said early childhood learning is important. She said with regard to technology, teachers need professional development and classroom needs met. She said there should be lower class sizes and paraprofessionals to assist teachers. She said cyberschools need to be properly monitored and evaluated.

Mr. Austin said he supports the general statements, but would like to provide specificity. He said 1.a and 1.b must be quality initiatives. He said with regard to 1.c other states have demonstrated many ways to remove barriers, but there must be funding. He said 2.a should be a way to reward performance outcomes for students, avoiding unintended consequences and using the savings to support learning progress for the lowest achieving students. He said 3.c and 3.d address early learning which needs to be a budget priority.

Mrs. Danhof cautioned against losing sight of the big picture. She said there should be a conversation with local districts about what a great school system looks like and per pupil expenditures as a whole that help all students succeed. She said she struggles to assign dollar amounts to educational concepts such as access and curriculum that have changed in the past several years.

Mr. Varner said it does not cost the same amount to educate elementary and secondary students, and there are current financial windfalls in which differential costs of instruction are not reflected in per pupil funding. He said disincentives should not be created preventing collaboration among institutions. He said there should be equitable financing in a way that improves the common good, which is different than equity. He said the system should be flexible and revisited on a regular basis.

Dr. Zeile said since it does not cost the same to educate preschool, elementary, and secondary students; perhaps a weighted or three-tiered system should be considered. He said if the funding of students more closely matches the cost, it may be an incentive to charter more high schools. He said the alternative may be to incent some of the Board's priorities, but this may be too complex.

There was discussing regarding the transition to new systems such as teacher and administrator evaluations, kindergarten, and early learning and the need for funding.

Following discussion, there was Board consensus that Mr. Austin summarize the discussion, and in a bipartisan way, share the Board's input with the people working on the State Aid Act Rewrite project.

This item was removed from the Consent Agenda.

IX. DISCUSSION REGARDING CRITERIA FOR GRANT PROGRAMS

Mrs. Danhof said grant award recipients should have a plan for program sustainability following the end of the grant funding cycle. Mr. Kyle Guerrant, Director, Office of School Support Services, said sustainability will be addressed.

Mrs. Weiser said Criteria for the 2012-2013 State School Act Section 99(7) Mathematics and Science Centers Support for the MI STEM Partnership is funding for one grant. She asked about coordination of a state system of math science centers, STEM, and any other resources. Ms. Forward said discussion in this area is evolving.

Mrs. Weiser suggested that matching funds be included in evaluation criteria. Ms. Linda Forward, Director, Office of Education improvement and Innovation, said language on partnerships can be included.

X. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole at 12:30 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 1:23 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

A. Ms. Matinga Ragatz, DeWitt, Michigan. Ms. Ragatz, representing the Network of Michigan Educators, shared verbal comments and written information on teaching success.

XII. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – MR. MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN

Mr. Flanagan said based on a request by Board members, new employees of the Michigan Department of Education have been asked to attend the Board meeting. The following employees introduced themselves: Ms. Rashell Bowerman, Ms. Jill Griffin, Ms. Megan Schrauben, Ms. Cindy Keller, Ms. Jeanne Anderson Tippett, Mr. Brian Barber, and Ms. Brandy Archer.

XIII. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

- D. Approval of Minutes of Committee of the Whole and Regular Meeting of August 14, 2012

Dr. Zeile moved, seconded by Mrs. Weiser, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole and Regular Meeting of August 14, 2012.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

XIV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Austin said school is back in session, and thousands of children are in school learning. He said the miracle of public education is due to the people that work in the schools and are committed to ensuring that students receive a great education. He said it is important to make sure that all children receive a great education.

Mr. Austin said he is disappointed that Mrs. Danhof did not receive the nomination of her party. He said Mrs. Danhof is a thoughtful, substantive, hard-working Board member. He said he appreciates her passion and leadership.

Mr. Austin said the Michigan Merit Curriculum is important to ensure that all young people are prepared for some form of post-secondary education. He said there is a responsibility to educate people for high-end, high-skilled, creative jobs.

XV. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Reports

- E. Human Resources Report
- F. Report on the Department of Education Cosponsorships
- G. Report on Property Transfer Decisions
- H. Report on Modifications to the Previously Approved Tuscola Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services
- I. Report on Modifications to the Previously Approved Lapeer Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services

Grants

J. Report on Grant Awards

- 2012-2013 IDEA, Part B Formula Grants – Initial
- 2012-2013 Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) – Initial
- 2012-2013 Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) Competitive – Initial
- 2011-2012 Great Start Collaboratives – Amendment
- 2012-2013 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Sec. 619 Preschool Grants – Initial
- 2012-2013 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Grant Program – Amendment, Continuation
- 2012-2013 Section 32p Early Childhood Block Grant – Initial
- 2011-2012 Child Care and Development Block Grant – Initial
- 2010-2011 Title I, Part D – Prevention and Intervention for Neglected and Delinquent – Amendment
- 2011-2012 Region 3 ISD Partnership Grant – Amendment, Continuation
- 2012-2013 Title I, Part A – Improving Basic Programs – Initial
- 2012-2013 Title II, Part A – Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting – Initial
- 2012-2013 Title I, Part C Regular Migrant Program Allocations – Initial
- 2012-2013 U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) – Initial
- 2011-2012 Title II, Part A(3) – Improving Teacher Quality – Initial
- 2012-2013 Secondary CTE Perkins Grant Program – Initial
- 2012-2013 CTE Perkins State Leadership Grant – Initial

Mr. Flanagan provided a verbal report on an achievement gap session, focus schools, and the passing of Dr. Elven Duvall who founded the Education Alliance.

Mrs. Weiser said the 2012-2013 Title II, Part A – Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting grant award is an example of a program that may be able to address technology training for teachers, as discussed earlier in the Board meeting. She said the Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting grant program has the potential to address several Board and Department Reform Priorities. Mr. Louis Burgess, Assistant Director, Office of School Support Services, said Board and Department Reform Priorities are reflected in all grant criteria.

Mrs. Straus said the Report on Modifications to the Previously Approved Lapeer Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services states that hearing impaired programs are not needed for the current school year. She asked what would happen the next year if hearing impaired students enrolled. Dr. Eleanor White, Director, Special Education Services, said students often receive services with the assistance of an interpreter in the general education classroom or on a tuition basis with a nearby program.

XVI. REPORT OF MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Ms. Bobbi Jo Kenyon, 2012-2013 Michigan Teacher of the Year, presented the Report of the Michigan Teacher of the Year. She provided a verbal update to her written report including the Michigan Fellowship of Instructional Leaders (MiFIL) summer institute for the Instructional Leadership Team of Ottawa Hills High School, and her Michigan Teacher of the Year presentation to MiFIL.

Ms. Kenyon said as a member of the MI Champions Team at Ottawa Hills High School, she is participating in a grant program to help teachers develop the skills needed to implement technology effectively in their classroom to improve student achievement.

XVII. APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 CAMP TUHSMEHETA (CAMP T) SPENDING PLAN

Mrs. Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent; and Mrs. Janet Lavery, Director, Financial Management; presented Approval of Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Camp Tuhsmeheeta (Camp T) Spending Plan.

Mr. Flanagan said the Michigan School for the Blind Trust Fund Committee met on August 20 to review the FY 2012-2013 spending plan for Camp Tuhsmeheeta (Camp T). He said the Board's Trust Fund Committee is comprised of Mrs. McGuire, Mrs. Straus and Mrs. Weiser, and they are recommending approval by the full Board.

Mrs. Lavery provided information through a video presentation of Camp T summer activities. She reviewed the spending plan for Camp T, stating that funds are generated from the Trust Fund.

Mrs. Weiser said last year there was discussion regarding Camp T usage by groups that are not part of the blind community. Mrs. Wolenberg said many outside groups are renting the camp for a small fee. Mrs. Weiser suggested that future presentations on the Camp T spending plan include a list of outside groups renting the camp.

In response to Dr. Zeile, Mrs. Lavery said the Camp was attended by 288 campers plus parent chaperones and staff.

Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mrs. McGuire, that the State Board of Education approve the FY 2012-2013 spending plan for Camp Tuhsmeheeta, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated August 27, 2012.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

XVIII. PRESENTATION ON SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dr. Sally Vaughn, Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer; Dr. Eleanor White, Director, Office of Special Education; and Ms. Dawn Bentley, Chairperson, Special Education Advisory Committee; presented on the Special Education Advisory Committee.

Mr. Flanagan said the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) is advisory to the State Board of Education, and it is required and regulated under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. He said SEAC provides periodic updates to the State Board of Education.

Dr. Vaughn said she has attended the Special Education Advisory Committee annual meeting for the past two years with Dr. Zeile.

Dr. White provided background information on the role and responsibility of the Special Education Advisory Committee.

Ms. Bentley provided an update on SEAC activities including special education rule changes and unmet needs related to serving students with disabilities. She said SEAC provided input on the Elementary and Secondary Education Act Flexibility Waiver Request.

Ms. Bentley said SEAC will be studying personal curriculum for students with disabilities, de facto suspensions of minority students, and service coordination for students with disabilities.

Mrs. Straus asked if Annual Performance Reports are shared with SEAC. Ms. Bentley said Annual Performance Reports are reviewed to determine if there are unmet needs.

Mrs. Danhof said she has been told by parents that it is difficult to obtain a Personal Curriculum for students. She suggested that best practices be shared with parents and school district personnel.

This was a presentation only, and no action was required.

XIX. STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Martin Ackley, Director, Public and Governmental Affairs, presented State and Federal Legislative Update.

Mr. Ackley said the House Education Committee is meeting on September 12 to discuss various House Bills related to the Michigan Merit Curriculum with the goal of forming one bill to be presented to the full Education Committee. He said State Board of Education members are among the stakeholders who will participate in the meeting. Discussion followed.

Discussion continued later in the meeting.

XX. MOTION TO EXTEND MEETING

Dr. Ulbrich moved, seconded by Mr. Austin, that the State Board of Education extend the September 11, 2012, State Board of Education Meeting beyond 3:00 p.m. to continue discussion of agenda items.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

XXI. STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE (continued)

This is a continuation of earlier discussion.

Mr. Ackley said the Michigan Council for Educator Effectiveness is piloting a study of educator evaluation tools in school districts during the 2012-2013 school year. Discussion followed.

This was a presentation only, and no action was required.

XXII. CONSENT AGENDA

Approvals

- N. Approval of State Board of Education and Michigan Department of Education Input to the State Aid Act Rewrite
- O. Approval of Request to Change Name of Mason-Lake Intermediate School District to West Shore Educational Service District

Criteria

- P. Approval of Criteria for Grant Programs to Support Coordinated School Health Initiatives and Safe and Supportive Schools Administered by the Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs Unit
- Q. Approval of Criteria for the 2012-2013 State School Aid Act Section 99(7) Mathematics and Science Centers Support for the MI STEM Partnership
- R. Approval of Criteria for Title IIA Statewide Technical Assistance Center Grants

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

- N. (this item was removed from the consent agenda);**

- O. approve the request of the Mason-Lake Intermediate School District to change its name to West Shore Educational Service District, as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated August 27, 2012;**
- P. approve the Criteria for Grant Programs to Support Coordinated School Health Initiatives and Safe and Supportive Schools Administered by the Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs Unit, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated August 27, 2012;**
- Q. approve the Criteria for the 2012-2013 State School Aid Act Section 99(7) Mathematics and Science Centers Support for the Michigan STEM Partnership, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated August 27, 2012; and**
- R. (this item was removed from the agenda).**

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

XXIII. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Mr. Flanagan introduced Melanie Kurdys, a Republican candidate for the State Board of Education, who was in attendance at the Board meeting.

Mrs. McGuire asked if a waiver has been given to the Education Achievement Authority. Dr. Vaughn said no waiver has been requested.

Mrs. Straus asked if there are criteria for granting waivers. Dr. Vaughn said there are criteria, and federal rules and law cannot be waived.

XXIV. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Mr. Flanagan said he is proposing that the November 2012 and November 2013 meeting dates be moved to the third Tuesday of the month to avoid having a meeting the day after a holiday.

Mrs. Danhof moved, seconded by Mr. Varner, that the State Board of Education reschedule its November 13, 2012, meeting to November 20, 2012; and its November 12, 2013 meeting to November 19, 2013.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

XXV. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Tuesday, October 9, 2012 (9:30 a.m.)
- B. Tuesday, November 20, 2012 (9:30 a.m.)
- C. Tuesday, December 11, 2012 (9:30 a.m.)

XXVI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Danhof
Secretary