

Minutes

MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RETREAT

James B. Henry Center for Executive Development
Michigan State University
Quad Room
3535 Forest Road
Lansing, Michigan

May 22, 2018
9:30 a.m.

Present: Ms. Sheila A. Alles, Chairperson
Dr. Casandra E. Ulbrich, Co-President
Dr. Richard Zeile, Co-President
Ms. Michelle Fecteau, Secretary
Mr. Tom McMillin, Treasurer
Ms. Lupe Ramos-Montigny, NASBE Delegate
Dr. Pamela Pugh
Ms. Nikki Snyder
Mrs. Eileen Weiser
Mr. Tyler Sawher, representing Governor Rick Snyder, ex officio

Staff Present: Mr. Mr. Kyle Guarrant, Deputy Superintendent, Finance and Operations
Dr. Venessa Keesler, Deputy Superintendent, Educator, Student & School Supports
Mr. Martin Ackley, Director, Public and Governmental Affairs
Ms. Wendy Larvick, Chief of Staff, Superintendent's Office
Mr. Mark Howe, Chief of Staff, Chief Deputy Superintendent's Office
Ms. Alisande Shrewsbury, Special Assistant, Superintendent's Office
Mr. Scott Blakeney, Director, Strategic Planning and Implementation
Ms. Marilyn Schneider, State Board Executive
Ms. Jennifer Cook, Administrative Assistant

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Sheila A. Alles, Chairperson and Interim State Superintendent called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

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

The vote was taken on the motion to approve the agenda and order of priority.

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

Absent: Weiser

The motion carried.

III. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS, STAFF AND GUESTS

Ms. Alles invited Board members, staff and guests to introduce themselves, and they did so.

IV. TOP 10 IN 10 MOMENTUM

A. INTRODUCTION

Ms. Alles thanked the Board for the confidence and faith they placed in her by appointing her as Interim State Superintendent following the passing of State Superintendent Brian Whiston. She said Superintendent Whiston was an exceptional leader and a true visionary. She said her goal and priority is to provide stability and maintain momentum that Mr. Whiston created through the plan to make Michigan a Top 10 education state in 10 years.

Ms. Alles said she has eight Cs: Continuity of direction to implement Top 10 in 10, customer service, communication, collaboration, connecting, climate and culture, continuous improvement, and commitment.

Mrs. Weiser arrived at 9:45 a.m.

Ms. Alles shared information on the Top 10 in 10 via a [PowerPoint](#). She distributed a handout on strategic goals, an example of Way of Work, and an organizational chart.

Discussion followed.

B. ACTION PLAN

Mr. Kyle Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent, Finance and Operations; and Dr. Venessa Keesler, Deputy Superintendent, Educator, Student & School Supports; presented action plan updates. Mr. Guerrant shared the update from P-20 System & Student Transitions, in the absence of Interim Deputy Superintendent Ms. Shulawn Doxie.

Discussion followed.

C. DATA THROUGH THE EYES OF THE BEHOLDER

Dr. Katharine Strunk, Co-Director, Education Policy Innovation Collaborative (EPIC), and Clifford E. Erickson Distinguished Professor of Education Policy, Michigan State University, presented on research informing education policy in Michigan.

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

Discussion followed.

D. ALIGNING GOALS WITH THE EVALUATION CYCLE

Ms. Alles said there is a need to better align goals with the timeline of the annual evaluation cycle of the State Superintendent. She said goals culminate in July, and the State Superintendent is evaluated in February and March before the end of the annual goals cycle.

Following discussion, there was Board consensus that the Board would establish overarching goals, and the Department would establish more specific goals aligned with the overarching goals.

V. DISCUSSION ON THIRD GRADE READING LITERACY

Dr. Brandy Archer, Literacy Manager, Michigan Department of Education led the Discussion on Third Grade Reading Literacy.

Information was shared via a [PowerPoint presentation](#). The following documents were distributed: Facts for Families, 3rd Grade Reading Law Funding Comparison, Third-Grade Reading Law Frequently Asked Questions.

Discussion followed.

VI. WORKING LUNCH - DISCUSSION ON PARENT DASHBOARD FOR SCHOOL TRANSPARENCY

Dr. Venessa Keesler, Deputy Superintendent for Educator, Student & School Supports; Mr. Chris Janzer, Assistant Director, Educational Assessment and Accountability; and Ms. Alisande Shrewsbury, Special Assistant, Superintendent's Office; led the Discussion on Parent Dashboard for School Transparency.

Information was shared via a [PowerPoint presentation](#). A policy status update was distributed.

Discussion followed.

VII. MARSHALL PLAN POTENTIAL GRANT DETAIL

Mr. Tyler Sawher, Senior Strategy Advisor for Education and Career Connections, Executive Office; and Ms. Wendy Larvick, Chief of Staff, Superintendent's Office; presented Marshall Plan Potential Grant Detail.

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

Dr. Pugh left the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Discussion followed.

VIII. VOTE TO CONVENE CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS MEMORANDUM OF LEGAL ADVICE WITH COUNSEL

Dr. Zeile moved, seconded by Dr. Ulbrich, that the State Board of Education meet in closed session under §8(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure under §13(1)(g) of the Freedom of Information Act; specifically, the Office of the Attorney General's memorandum of legal advice to the Board, which is subject to the attorney-client privilege.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

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

The motion carried.

IX. RECESS

The Board recessed at 2:27 p.m., at which time the Board met in closed session until 3:29 p.m. The Board reconvened in open session at 3:32 p.m.

X. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Ramos-Montigny said it was a great meeting. She said staff did a great job with the presentations.

Dr. Zeile said local districts must develop a mission and vision to inspire current and future employees. He said most teachers enter the teaching profession as an inspiration.

Ms. Fecteau spoke of the disillusionment experienced by some teachers.

Dr. Ulbrich said many teachers have taken multiple concessions.

Ms. Ramos-Montigny said teachers must keep their respect and dignity intact. She said her visits to schools are inspirational, and she praised those involved.

XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

There were no members of the public who wished to offer public comment.

XII. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Tuesday, June 12, 2018 (9:30 a.m.) Regular Meeting
- B. Tuesday, August 14, 2018 (9:30 a.m.) Regular Meeting
- C. Tuesday, September 11, 2018 (9:30 a.m.) Regular Meeting

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McMillin moved, seconded by Dr. Ulbrich, that the meeting be adjourned.

The vote was taken on the motion.

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

Absent: Pugh

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Fecteau
Secretary