

MINUTES

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

November 20, 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
Mr. Greg Tedder, representing Governor Rick Snyder, ex officio

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

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flanagan called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

Mr. Austin said that Item N – Discussion on Legislative Recommendations is listed as the first discussion item.

Mrs. Danhof 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.

Ayes: Austin, Danhof, McGuire, Straus, Ulbrich, Varner, Weiser
Absent: Zeile

The motion carried.

Dr. Zeile arrived at 9:40 a.m.

III. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Mrs. Marilyn Schneider, State Board Executive, introduced members of the State Board of Education and the Michigan Teacher of the Year.

IV. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – MR. MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN

Mr. Flanagan welcomed the newly elected State Board of Education members, Ms. Michelle Fecteau and Ms. Lupe Ramos-Montigny, who were attending the Board meeting. He said they won the November 6, 2012, general election and will begin their terms of office on January 1, 2013.

Mr. Flanagan said Ypsilanti and Willow Run school districts will consolidate, as determined by a vote of the public during the November 6, 2012, general election. He said it is a consolidation effort initiated by two districts that were struggling. Mr. Flanagan said it is a pioneering model for other districts as evidenced by great leadership from the local boards, superintendents, and the intermediate school district as well as support from the community.

V. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 9:44 a.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

VI. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flanagan called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

VII. DISCUSSION ON LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Flanagan said the Board's Legislative Committee met on November 19, 2012, and the Board is receiving an update on that discussion.

Mr. Martin Ackley, Director, Public and Governmental Affairs, said there are several bills regarding school reform that have been introduced.

Mrs. Danhof, Chair, State Board of Education Legislative Committee, said the legislation that the Board will be considering includes Senate Bill 1358 and House Bill 6004 regarding the Education Achievement Authority (EAA); House Bill 5923 regarding new forms of school; and Senate Bill 620 regarding conversion schools/parent trigger.

Senate Bill 1358/House Bill 6004 – Education Achievement Authority

A draft statement on Senate Bill 1358/House Bill 6004 was distributed for discussion.

Dr. Ulbrich said the Board's Legislative Committee met twice in November and discussed changes that need to be made regarding legislation. She said the EAA legislation needs changes made to the sections regarding school buildings, the removal of testing requirements, moving the appointment of the School Reform Officer from the State Superintendent to the Governor, moving schools to the EAA regardless of whether or not they are showing improvement, the plan for schools to get out of the EAA, adjunct instructors, and quality expectations.

Mrs. Weiser said she recently visited the Education Achievement Authority schools, and a provision for the EAA to share its curriculum with non-member schools should be included. She encouraged Board members to visit the EAA schools.

Mrs. Straus said she and Mrs. McGuire attended the House Education Committee hearing on November 19, and she opposes the legislation. She said the EAA has only been in operation for three months and it is too early to be established statewide. She said it establishes a parallel education system removing oversight from the Board and State Superintendent.

Dr. Zeile said the existing system has failed, but three months seems hasty. He said every public school that receives state funds should have clear accountability with the State Superintendent.

Mrs. McGuire said she supports the changes made to the Board's statement, but she does not support the EAA.

Mr. Varner said he supports codification of the EAA, but the existence of choice is not a super drug that will heal the patient. He said the EAA should be required to share its curriculum in the name of transparency and to benefit all Michigan students, supervision should be with the State Superintendent, and assessments should be required.

Dr. Ulbrich said she, Mr. Austin, and Mrs. McGuire attended the House Education Committee hearing on November 13. She said the EAA has only been operating schools for three months. She said the Board should take a position that the legislation is premature, but if the legislature chooses to move forward the Board offers the following recommendations.

Mrs. Danhof said there needs to be the opportunity to try something new because there is enough failure, but there have been many successes such as waivers from the State Superintendent. She said it is important that we give children, parents, schools and our state the chance to see what might work.

Mr. Tedder thanked the Board for its discussion at the Board meeting and testifying at House Education Committee hearings. He said the EAA concepts are not new and the platform they have been developing has been around for years. He said the con is waiting another year and letting students continue to fail.

Mr. Austin said he wants an effective EAA that can be an effective turnaround. He said the Board wants to support that type of learning.

House Bill 5923 – New Form Schools

A draft statement on House Bill 5923 was distributed for discussion, which Mr. Austin reviewed.

Mr. Austin said the legislation is a huge policy change in how schools are created and language needs to be considered much more thoughtfully in the context of how we fund all schools throughout the state.

Mrs. Straus said there are too many questions in the bill. She said she opposes the legislation, and supports the Board's statement for improvement.

Mrs. Danhof said the fractured nature of the bill concerns her. She said it is important that we move forward in trying to help all children succeed by providing them with what they need. She said it is important to engage people who have been on the sidelines. She said there have been many changes in the past five years, and the results of those changes need to be realized.

Mr. Varner said quality matters enormously and every school needs to meet a standard of quality.

Mrs. McGuire said the legislation will dismantle neighborhood schools.

Senate Bill 620 – Conversion Schools/Parent Trigger

A draft statement on Senate Bill 620 was distributed, which Mrs. Danhof reviewed.

Dr. Ulbrich said she does not support Senate Bill 620, because she does not believe a subset of the community should be able to take over property paid for by the entire community.

Mrs. Danhof said if teachers and parents say we want to do something different, and put their time and energy into it, that should be allowed to happen.

Dr. Zeile asked who will be the steward for the public trust.

Mr. Austin said there needs to be expectations that the new school would be of quality and support improved learning. He said there are many unattended issues that need to be considered.

Mrs. McGuire said she does not support the bill.

Mrs. Straus said the bill is unnecessary, and could be folded into other legislation.

Mr. Varner said the primary stakeholders are students and parents and they have a difficult time influencing the system we have developed, and that is a problem.

Mrs. Weiser said she would like a provision that taxpayer qualification be mandatory for the fifty-one per cent majority required to convert a school.

Statements were edited based on Board member comments, and were presented for action later in the meeting.

VIII. REORDERING OF AGENDA

Dr. Zeile moved, seconded by Mrs. Danhof, that the agenda be reordered to allow for Item C – Presentation on Early Childhood Standards of Quality as the next discussion item.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

IX. PRESENTATION ON EARLY CHILDHOOD STANDARDS OF QUALITY

Ms. Susan Broman, Deputy Superintendent, Office of Great Start; and Dr. Lindy Buch, Director, Early Childhood Education and Family Services; presented on Early Childhood Standards of Quality.

Mr. Flanagan said the State Board of Education adopts documents to support the learning and development of young children in high-quality programs. He said a comprehensive project led by the Office of Great Start and supported by the Early Learning Advisory Council has been focused on updating and revising *Early Childhood Standards of Quality for Infant and Toddler Programs*, and *Early Childhood Standards of Quality for Prekindergarten*.

Dr. Broman said the standards are the underpinning of all early learning environments and are guiding the work and quality across all early learning settings.

Dr. Buch provided information on the process for updating the standards through a [PowerPoint presentation](#).

Board member discussion included access to the documents by providers and families, the three tiered system of training, and research on early childhood education to align prekindergarten with kindergarten through twelfth grade.

This item will be presented to the Board for approval in early 2013.

X. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole at 12:14 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Mrs. Weiser and Mr. Tedder left the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

There were no comments during public participation.

XII. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

- E. Approval of Minutes of Committee of the Whole and Regular Meeting of October 9, 2012

Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Mr. Varner, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole and Regular Meeting of October 9, 2012.

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Austin, Danhof, Straus, Ulbrich, Varner, Zeile
Absent During Vote: McGuire
Absent: Weiser**

The motion carried.

XIII. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – MR. MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN

Mr. Flanagan introduced Ms. Holly LaBelle, a newly hired employee working the School Reform Office.

XIV. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 1:07 p.m. to reconvene the Committee of the Whole.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

XV. PRESENTATION ON REWARD SCHOOLS: BEATING THE ODDS

Dr. Sally Vaughn, Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer; and Dr. Venessa Keesler, Manager, Evaluation Research and Accountability; presented Reward Schools: Beating the Odds.

Dr. Vaughn said the Michigan Department of Education submitted an Elementary and Secondary Education Act Flexibility application which was approved. She said a federal requirement included the recognition of three types of Reward Schools: High Performing, High Progress, and Beating the Odds. She said the presentation will focus on Beating the Odds Schools.

Dr. Keesler provided information through a [PowerPoint presentation](#).

Ms. Linda Forward, Director, Education Improvement and Innovation, joined the presenters at the table to explain the process for sharing of information through discussions between Beating the Odds Schools and Priority Schools.

Board member discussion included culture of high expectations and empowerment, recognition presentations at schools, pairing Beating the Odds Schools as mentors to Priority Schools, and sharing information with foundations.

XVI. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole at 1:51 p.m. to reconvene the Regular Meeting.

REGULAR MEETING

XVII. STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Martin Ackley, Director, Office of Public and Governmental Affairs, presented the draft statements for Board action, which incorporated edits made during the discussion earlier in the meeting.

Mr. Ackley presented Draft State Board of Education HB6004/SB1358 "EAA" Legislation Recommendations. Dr. Ulbrich reviewed the changes related to pending Legislation on the Education Achievement Authority.

Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Mrs. Danhof, that the State Board of Education approve the Statement on House Bill 6004 and Senate Bill 1358, regarding recommendations concerning modifications to the legislation regarding the Education Achievement Authority.

Mrs. McGuire and Mrs. Straus said they support the changes to the statement, but oppose the Education Achievement Authority.

Mr. Austin said prior to the leaving the meeting, Mrs. Weiser said she supported the Board's statement.

Following discussion, the vote was taken on the motion.

Ayes: Austin, Danhof, Ulbrich, Varner, Zeile
Nays: McGuire, Straus
Absent: Weiser

The motion carried.

The Michigan State Board of Education Statement on House Bill 6004 and Senate Bill 1358 is attached as Exhibit A.

Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Dr. Ulbrich that the State Board of Education approve the Statement on House Bill 5923 that opposes the legislation on New Form Schools, as written.

The vote was taken on the motion.

Ayes: Austin, Danhof, McGuire, Straus, Ulbrich, Varner
Nay: Zeile
Absent: Weiser

The motion carried.

The Michigan State Board of Education Statement on HB 5923 is attached as Exhibit B.

Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Mrs. Danhof, that the State Board of Education approve the Statement on Senate Bill 620 that opposes the passage of Senate Bill 620, the Conversion Schools/"parent trigger" bill, as written.

Mrs. Danhof said it is important that the Board provides recommendations regarding changes to the legislation.

Mr. Varner said a vote to oppose legislation as written is not a vote to support it even with the proposed changes. He said Board members are still reserving the right to a future vote on a future version of the legislation.

Following discussion, the vote was taken on the motion.

Ayes: Austin, Danhof, Varner
Nays: McGuire, Straus, Ulbrich, Zeile
Absent: Weiser

The motion failed.

Mr. Varner suggested that the Board clarify its position.

Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Dr. Ulbrich, that the State Board of Education opposes Senate Bill 620, the Conversion Schools/"parent trigger" bill.

Dr. Zeile said he favors parental choice but the legislation regarding existing schools is not the correct venue, and it is not functional for improving students' education.

Mr. Austin clarified that the motion is to oppose Senate Bill 620.

Following discussion, the vote was taken on the motion.

Ayes: Austin, McGuire, Straus, Ulbrich, Zeile
Nay: Danhof
Abstain: Varner
Absent: Weiser

The motion carried.

XVIII. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 2:14 p.m. to reconvene the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

XIX. PRESENTATION ON SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENT CONSORTIUM SAMPLE ITEMS

By consensus, this item was removed from the agenda due to time constraints.

XX. DISCUSSION REGARDING CRITERIA FOR GRANT PROGRAM

Mrs. Danhof asked if the pending revision of the School Aid Act will have an impact on grant categoricals. Mrs. Wolenberg said since the revision is pending, that is not yet clear.

XXI. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the Committee of the Whole at 2:17 p.m. to reconvene the Regular Meeting.

REGULAR MEETING

XXII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Austin said in light of the potential changes for organizing and financing education, the Board should be involved in discussions to help shape education reforms in a positive way. He said this includes the creation of new choices, support for new effective and innovative schools, and improvement of educational performance and outcomes for all students.

XXIII. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Reports

F. Human Resources Report

Grants

G. Report on Grant Awards

- 2012-2013 Evaluation for 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Program – Continuation
- 2012-2013 Statewide Collaboration for Technical Assistance Grant for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Program – Continuation
- 2012-2013 Secondary CTE Perkins Grant Program – Amendment
- 2012-2013 Secondary Perkins State Leadership Grant – Initial
- 2012-2013 Secondary Perkins State Leadership Grant – Amendment
- 2011-2012 Michigan Charter School Grant Program – Amendment, Continuation
- 2012-2013 Michigan Charter School Grant Program – Amendment, Continuation
- 2012-2013 Mathematics and Science Centers – Initial

- 2011-2012 U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) – Amendment
- 2012-2013 U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) – Amendment
- 2012-2013 Safe and Supportive Schools Grant – Initial
- 2010-2011 Title II, Part A(3) – Improving Teacher Quality – Amendment
- 2011-2012 Title II, Part A(3) – Improving Teacher Quality – Amendment
- 2011-2012 IDEA, Part B Mandated Activities Projects – Amendment
- 2012-2013 IDEA, Part B Mandated Activities Projects - Initial

Mr. Flanagan said he appreciates the valuable discussion among Board members during the meeting regarding legislative issues. Mr. Flanagan also complimented Department staff on the quality of their work.

XXIV. REPORT OF THE 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 a review of her Teacher of the Year website www.bobbijokenyon.com.

XXV. APPROVAL OF MODEL POLICY ON QUALITY PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN SCHOOLS

Mrs. Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent; Mr. Kyle Guerrant, Director, School Support Services; and Ms. Noel Kelty, Supervisor, Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs; presented Approval of Model Policy on Quality Physical Education and Physical Activity in Schools.

Mr. Flanagan said the policy was presented to the Board at its June 12, 2012, meeting, public comment was gathered and revisions were made. He said pending Board approval, the model policy will serve as a guide to public school districts offering programs for the school and classroom environment.

Mrs. Wolenberg said the document includes revisions made as a result of comments from adults and students.

Mr. Guerrant said the health and physical education policies approved by the Board are part of the best practice incentive. He said this year forty schools have volunteered to participate in best practices.

Mrs. Danhof moved, seconded by Mr. Varner, that the State Board of Education approve the Policy on Quality Physical Education and Physical Activity in Schools, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated October 22, 2012.

Following discussion, the vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Austin, Danhof, McGuire, Straus, Ulbrich, Varner, Zeile
Absent: Weiser**

The motion carried.

XXVI. APPROVAL OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Dr. Sally Vaughn, Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer; Dr. Vince Dean, Director, Standards and Assessment; and Mrs. Margaret Madigan, Assistant Director, Field Services; presented Approval of English Language Development Standards for English Language Learners.

Mr. Flanagan said Board approval is being requested for the adoption of the World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment English Language Development Standards as a replacement of Michigan's current English Language Proficiency Standards.

Dr. Vaughn said the item was presented to the Board at its October 9, 2012, meeting and the Board requested additional information which was provided.

Mrs. Danhof left the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

Mrs. McGuire moved, seconded by Mrs. Straus, that the State Board of Education approve the adoption of the World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment English Language Development Standards, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated October 22, 2012.

Following discussion, the vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Austin, McGuire, Straus, Ulbrich, Varner, Zeile
Absent: Danhof, Weiser**

The motion carried.

XXVII. CONSENT AGENDA

Criteria

- K. Approval of Criteria for State Personnel Development Grant under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- L. Approval of Criteria for Grants to Legislatively Designated Entities in the State School Aid Act

Resolution

- M. Adoption of Resolution Regarding Inclusive Schools Week

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

- K. approve grant criteria for the State Personnel Development Grant under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, as presented in Attachment A of the Superintendent's memorandum dated October 22, 2012;**
- L. approve grant criteria for Grants to Legislatively Designated Entities in the State School Aid Act, as presented in Attachment A of the Superintendent's memorandum dated October 22, 2012; and**
- M. adopt the resolution regarding Inclusive Schools Week, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated October 22, 2012.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Austin, McGuire, Straus, Ulbrich, Varner, Zeile
Absent: Danhof, Weiser**

The motion carried.

The resolution regarding Inclusive Schools Week is attached as Exhibit C.

XXVIII. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Mrs. Straus said she wanted to highlight the importance of the Resolution Regarding Inclusive Schools Week that the Board passed as part of the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Varner asked if teachers are able to include Job Corps employment experiences to advance to Michigan's Professional Education certificate. Dr. Vaughn said that is allowed, and a clarifying memorandum will be sent to deans and directors of educator preparation institutions on November 21.

XXIX. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Mr. Flanagan said Board members have been contacted about rescheduling the January 8, 2013, State Board of Education meeting to January 15, 2013.

Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Dr. Ulbrich, that the State Board of Education reschedule its January 8, 2013 meeting to Tuesday, January 15, 2013.

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Austin, McGuire, Straus, Ulbrich, Varner, Zeile
Absent: Danhof, Weiser**

The motion carried.

XXX. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Tuesday, January 15, 2013 (9:30 a.m.)
- B. Tuesday, February 12, 2013 (9:30 a.m.)
- C. Tuesday, March 12, 2013 (9:30 a.m.)
- D. Tuesday, April 9, 2013 (9:30 a.m.)

XXXI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Danhof
Secretary

**Michigan State Board of Education
Statement on House Bill 6004 and Senate Bill 1358**

The Education Achievement Authority (EAA) was established to run schools in a state-wide district in order to raise the achievement of low-performing students and turn around persistently underachieving schools. It was established through an Interlocal Agreement between the Board of Regents of Eastern Michigan University and the School District for the City of Detroit. SB1358 and HB 6004 seek to codify the role and the work of the EAA within a new section of the Revised School Code Part 7C. The State Board of Education wants to see an EAA designed and focused to successfully execute its mission.

We believe this legislation may be premature, but if the Legislature chooses to move it forward, here are the State Board of Education's recommendations concerning how these bills should be modified.

Clarify the legislation's powers for new school authorization to be consistent with the focused work of the EAA to turnaround underperforming schools. The EAA was established to "assume operation of the lowest 5 percent of performing schools in the State of Michigan that are not achieving satisfactory results on a redesign plan or that are under an Emergency Manager." The proposed legislation opens the EAA up to include schools outside of the bottom 5 percent, and in conjunction with HB5923, could be interpreted to give the EAA authority to create their own schools, take over local public education buildings and make them available for other charter authorizers, and authorize unlimited charter schools anywhere in the state. Provisions allowing the EAA to provide its curriculum or other services to non-member schools should be retained.

The EAA, if it is given power to authorize, should be only authorized to replace or turnaround schools in the bottom 5% that have come under its authority. Any language that gives the EAA the authority to move beyond its original purpose should be stricken from the legislation, for example, Section 3 (2): Achievement School means a public school operated, authorized, established, or overseen by the achievement authority, "including but not limited to" a public school under the achievement authority under section 1280c.

Eliminate language regarding facilities that has nothing to do with the EAA and its school turnaround focus. Since the EAA is designed to work with already existing persistently underperforming schools, there is no need in this legislation for language regarding facilities. Any legislation to create opportunities for other charter authorizers and new schools to use existing school facilities should be dealt with in appropriate legislation. The SBE recommends removal of Sec. 1260 and Sec. 1260a.

Require the EAA to be part of common state-wide accountability, assessment and teacher evaluation systems

Currently, both House Bill 6004 and Senate Bill 1358 contain language that exempts EAA schools from certain portions of Michigan school code. This would provide, essentially, an opt-out of state assessments for the EAA, in addition to an opt out of the state's accountability system and proposed state-wide growth model data system under development by the Michigan Council for Educator Effectiveness. Parents need comparable information on school quality and accountability among all schools,

including the EAA. To avoid comparable assessments risks the loss of \$500 million of Title I dollars through non-compliance with federal assessments.

Appropriately align the role of the EAA with other Constitutional bodies as the state's turnaround district for underperforming schools. Proposed legislation creates the EAA as a new branch of government under direct Gubernatorial control. Legislation should be modified to:

- Affirm the district falls under the "leadership and general supervision" of the State Board of Education per Michigan's Constitution;
- retain the function of the Reform/Redesign Officer as appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction;
- maintain Reform/Redesign Officer discretion in assignment of schools to the EAA, to accommodate under-performing schools that may show considerable growth and progress in their turnaround; and
- broaden EAA Board governance. Legislation allows the Governor to appoint all 7 members with consent of the Senate (and two chosen from recommendations from the Leg leaders). The EAA would benefit from broader ownership of the state-wide reform district through appointments made by the Governor, Legislature and State Board of Education;

Clarify Requirements for Transfer Into and Out of the EAA. As written, schools can opt to stay in the EAA, but there is no clear understanding of what criteria allows a school to leave the EAA. Under this legislation, it is up to the Chancellor alone to decide when a school is eligible to return to self-governance.

Eliminate additional common language, references and explicit or implied connections to HB 5923, which creates new forms of schools. SBE recommends removal of any reference to, or common language linked to new school enabling legislation, which must be considered on its own merits, including:

- The aforementioned EAA authorizing powers, and facilities language;
- Language that describes the purpose of the EAA legislation: "To expand the number and types of public entities permitted to operate, manage authorize, establish and oversee public schools." (p.10 6004);
- And language repeated from HB 5923 allowing adjunct instructors to teach in EAA schools (P. 23 6004)

Set minimal quality standards for new schools created or authorized by the EAA. All new schools, and particularly those designed to replace or reboot chronically underperforming schools should be expected to meet an "as good or better" test to the schools they replace. The EAA legislation should include clear criteria and expectations for any new school operators and turnaround models that they have a credible expectation to deliver improved educational quality, and should prevent school operators with poor track records of performance from operating new schools.

Approved November 20, 2012

**Michigan State Board of Education
Statement on HB 5923**

The State Board of Education (SBE) is committed to fashioning an education system that is performance-driven and improves learning and educational outcomes for all students. We also are firmly committed to all parents and children having high quality choices for their education that meet their individual needs. However, we have significant concerns that HB5923, as written, is not the method for improving education outcomes for Michigan's students.

HB5923 does not provide needed limitations and regulations on the number and nature of new schools and learning options that can be created, including new on-line schools, for profit-run schools, schools run by businesses, universities, community organizations, and municipal governments. Without necessary guidelines and expectations for high quality education outcomes, HB5923 would allow new authorizers to create schools in any location, for any reason with little oversight.

The legislation as written does not include components we consider necessary for effective reform legislation:

- An analysis of how these new schools will contribute to overall improvement in quality of learning and outcomes for Michigan students;
- Guidelines to target new schools where there is the greatest need for education choices, based on current student performance outcomes in area schools;
- Defined expectations that new schools will provide similar or better education for enrolled students than existing area schools, including requiring minimum qualifications for authorizers and school managers based on credible expectations of outcomes.
- Consideration of the impact, financial and otherwise, on the existing public school system of the creation of this marketplace for education.

In addition, the SBE has significant concerns about the pace of development of compounding education reform legislation. Over the past three years, several education reform bills have been implemented. It's important to give these options time to work and evaluate the outcomes before implementing additional legislation. We anticipate that the proposed new school variants will require public resources that could have a significant impact on the maintenance, performance, and ability to improve existing public schools.

We believe that new choices in education delivery must be considered in the context of a coherent strategy for improving educational performance and outcomes for Michigan students—a strategy the State Board has supported in the past, and is prepared to help inform for the future.

The State Board of Education opposes House Bill 5923, as written.

Approved November 20, 2012

Michigan State Board of Education Resolution

**Inclusive Schools Week
December 3-7, 2012**

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education and Michigan Department of Education celebrate our nation's progress in providing a supportive and quality education to an increasingly diverse student population; and

WHEREAS, teachers in all schools recognize that each child is unique, learns differently, and, therefore, learns better if teaching is tailored to their abilities and interests and electronic and information technology is accessible; and

WHEREAS, teachers throughout Michigan are committed to providing all students a welcoming and inclusive environment in classrooms that include adaptive technology capable of successfully educating all children; and

WHEREAS, students will experience many transitions – from elementary to middle school, from middle to high school, and from high school to post-secondary education or work; and

WHEREAS, inclusive schools and communities guide students along a personalized and supportive path, which will ensure smoother transitions and ultimately, success; and

WHEREAS, teachers and families continually work to ensure that Michigan classrooms and schools provide equitable access and usability of electronic and information technology and are characterized as being high performing and inclusive; and

WHEREAS, through their efforts to make our schools and classrooms high performing and inclusive, educators and families have contributed significantly to building a stronger and more inclusive community; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of their important achievement, teachers and families deserve to celebrate their progress and success; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education proclaims the week of December 3-7, 2012, as Michigan Inclusive Schools Week in conjunction with National Inclusive Schools Week celebrating the theme, Social Inclusion: More Than a Seat in the Class; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That this special week serves as a fitting time for educators, students and parents in schools and classrooms across Michigan to celebrate progress in providing a supportive and quality education to all students, to discuss what else needs to be done to ensure continuing improvement in inclusive practices including consideration of the accessibility of electronic resources and information technology to promote student achievement, and to organize appropriate school and community activities in recognition of Inclusive Schools Week.

Adopted November 20, 2012