

## MINUTES

### STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

March 14, 2018  
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  
Ms. Nikki Snyder, NASBE Delegate  
Dr. Pamela Pugh  
Ms. Lupe Ramos-Montigny  
Mrs. Eileen Weiser  
Mr. Tyler Sawher, representing Governor Rick Snyder, ex officio

Absent: Mr. Tom McMillin, Treasurer

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

### REGULAR MEETING

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Whiston called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

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

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

The vote was taken on the motion.

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

**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.

Mr. Whiston asked for the introduction of new employees.

Ms. Sheila Alles, Chief Deputy Superintendent, introduced Ms. Rebecca Wartella from P-20 Data, Information & Research Management.

Mr. Kyle Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent of Finance and Operations, introduced Ms. Leisa Gallagher from the Office of Health and Nutrition Services.

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 ON ESSENTIAL PRACTICES FOR LITERACY INSTRUCTION

Dr. William Miller, Executive Director, Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators, presented on the Essential Practices for Literacy Instruction.

Mr. Whiston said the Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators, through its General Education Leadership Network and Early Literacy Taskforce, has been instrumental in developing essential learning strategies for Michigan's students. He said beginning with K-3 and Pre-K, these educators have brought researchers and key stakeholders together to provide all Michigan educators with the essentials for every student, every classroom, every day. He said the presentation will focus on the work that they have been doing.

Dr. Miller and a team of presenters shared information via a [PowerPoint presentation](#). The following documents were distributed: (1) Michigan Literacy: From Lagging to Leading, (2) Building Capacity, and (3) GELN Essential Practices in Early and Elementary Literacy.

Board member comments included training for high-quality literacy coaches, experiential job-embedded learning, information available to parents via video modules and grants, strategy for partners, extra support for children with disabilities, prioritization for districts with large numbers of students not meeting third grade reading goals, additional credits in literacy for teacher preparation programs, effective instructional practices in early literacy, and ensuring that innovations are effective by being studied and compared to other practices.

VII. PRESENTATION ON HOPE NETWORK'S MICHIGAN EDUCATION CORPS: IMPLEMENTATION AND OUTCOMES OF READING CORPS

Dr. Holly Windram, Executive Director, Hope Network's Michigan Education Corps, presented on Hope Network's Michigan Education Corps: Implementation and Outcomes of Reading Corps.

Mr. Whiston said the Michigan Education Corps has had a legislative grant to provide additional supports to young readers. He said they began their work on the west side of the state and are now expanding to other districts. He said they work primarily with students in grades K-3 and strive to be that "something extra" that will help the most challenged young readers move forward.

Mr. Whiston said Ms. Ramos-Montigny and Mr. Sawher serve on the Michigan Education Corps Advisory Board.

Dr. Holly Windram shared information via a [PowerPoint presentation](#). A folder of information on Michigan Education Corps was distributed.

Board member comments included challenges and recommendations for sustained growth, alignment to Essential Practices in Early Literacy, goal of statewide coverage, availability of tutors in rural and urban settings, and student reaction to assessments.

VIII. PRESENTATION ON PARTNERSHIP DISTRICTS UPDATE

Dr. Venessa Keesler, Deputy Superintendent, Educator, Student, and School Supports; and Dr. Dedrick Martin, School Reform Officer and Director of the Office of Partnership Districts, presented Partnership District Model Updates.

Mr. Whiston said the presentation covers updates related to the Office of Partnership Districts along with examples of progress in districts.

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

Board member comments included role of district liaisons, essential elements of literacy, organized efforts of partners linked to specific points of improvement, strategic research, importance of school districts being in communication with all partners, guidance for boards in looking for

innovative leaders who can link to partners, substitute teacher shortage, reciprocating discussions with teachers and community, publicizing information from nine-month reviews to foster community dialogue, survey of teachers and principals, community member survey in the future, adding a student-led component to the partnership model, recruiting teachers, retaining teachers, and inequity of teacher pay.

IX. DISCUSSION REGARDING CRITERIA FOR GRANT PROGRAMS

Dr. Ulbrich asked for clarification on the Maryland-Ohio Pilot in the Criteria for Section 104(4) Kindergarten Entry Observation Pilot Project. Dr. Keesler said Maryland and Ohio are part of the consortium that have develop the kindergarten readiness assessment tool. She said there is strong interest in Washtenaw Intermediate School District and the Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators.

Dr. Zeile asked how many students would be involved. Mrs. Weiser said it is included in the support materials, and Dr. Ulbrich said at least 3,000 kindergarten pupils will participate.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the Committee of the Whole Meeting and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 11:45 a.m.

**REGULAR MEETING**

XI. VOTE TO CONVENE CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS ANNUAL EVALUATION OF STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**Dr. Zeile moved, seconded by Dr. Ulbrich, that the State Board of Education convene in closed session at the request of Brian Whiston, Superintendent of Public Instruction, in order to consider a periodic personnel evaluation of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, as provided in Section 8(a) of the Open Meetings Act.**

A roll call vote was taken on the motion.

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

**The motion carried.**

XII. RECESS

The Board recessed at 11:47 a.m., at which time the Board met in closed session until 12:30 p.m. The Board reconvened in open session at 1:13 p.m.

Ms. Ramos-Montigny left the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

XIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

1. Sherry Wells, Immediate Past Chair of the Green Party of Michigan, from Ferndale, Michigan, provided comments and written information on the election of the State Board of Education and Top 10 in 10.

XIV. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

- F. Approval of Minutes of Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 13, 2018

**Mrs. Weiser moved, seconded by Ms. Fecteau, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 13, 2018.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

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

**The motion carried.**

XV. REPORT OF THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Dr. Zeile said the Board, individually and together, just discussed the annual review of the State Superintendent's performance. He said the Board members are very thankful for Mr. Whiston's service, and they agree that he has done an outstanding job with the Michigan Department of Education.

Dr. Zeile said the Governor's Education and Talent Summit was held on March 12 and 13. He said State Board of Education members were members of a panel facilitated by the Network of Michigan Educators. He said topics included issues important to educators, and session attendance was doubled from the previous year.

Dr. Ulbrich said, by April 1 of each year, the Board does an annual evaluation of the State Superintendent. She said the Board met in closed session over the lunch hour. Dr. Ulbrich said she is proud and honored to say that State Superintendent Brian Whiston received a mix of excellent and outstanding ratings. She said the Board acknowledged Mr. Whiston for the work that he has done to return the School Reform Office to the Michigan Department of Education. She said Mr. Whiston has set a vision for the Michigan Department of Education that includes goals for Michigan as a Top 10 education state in 10 years, that were established with multiple entities and organizations. She said Mr. Whiston has been able to

move the culture of a large organization in a short amount of time. She said the Board will be voting to extend Mr. Whiston's contract one year, later in the meeting. Dr. Ulbrich congratulated Mr. Whiston.

Dr. Ulbrich said today, March 14, is a day for civic engagement of students exercising their First Amendment rights. She thanked students, teachers and administrators for making sure that it is a safe day. She said student civic engagement benefits all.

XVI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Reports

- G. Human Resources Report
- H. Report on Cosponsorships
- I. Report on Approval of Request to Change Name of Mid Michigan Community College to Mid Michigan College

Grants

- J. Report on Grant Awards
  - 1. 2017-2018 Section 35a(4) Intermediate School District Early Literacy Coaches – Amendment; \$5,700,000
  - 2. 2017-2018 Child Care and Development Block Grant - Initial; \$5,543,796
  - 3. 2017-2018 Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge - Initial; Continuation; \$5,372,751
  - 4. 2017-2018 Section 61c(7) Career and Technical Education Innovation and Equipment Competitive Grant - Initial; \$5,000,000
  - 5. 2017-2018 Section 64d-Information Technology Education Opportunities - Initial; \$1,000,000
  - 6. 2017-2018 Section 67a - Web-based Career Preparation and Readiness Platform - Initial; \$1,000,000
  - 7. 2017-2018 ISD Collaboration Grant - Amendment; \$330,000
  - 8. 2017-2018 Section 99s(2) and (3) - Michigan Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (MiSTEM) Advisory Council - Initial; \$2,850,000
  - 9. 2017-2018 Section 99s(6) and (7) - MiSTEM Network Regions - Initial; Continuation; \$1,274,636
  - 10. 2017-2018 Flint Declaration of Emergency Grants: Section 11s(2)- School Social Workers - Initial; \$1,980,000

11. 2017-2018 Flint Declaration of Emergency Grants: Section 11s- Nutritional Services - Initial; \$780,000
12. 2016-2017 Title I, Part A, Improving Basic Programs - Amendment; \$458,907,854
13. 2016-2017 Title I, Part A, Improving Basic Programs - Amendment (2); \$458,907,854
14. 2016-2017 Title II, Part A, Supporting Effective Instruction - Amendment; \$83,783,037
15. 2017-2018 ESSA Regional ISD Partnership Grant - Initial; Continuation; \$496,130
16. 2017-2018 Title I, Part D, Subpart 1, State Agency Programs for Neglected or Delinquent Children - Initial; \$1,041,068
17. 2017-2018 Section 21h: Partnership District Grant – Initial; \$1,999,451

Mr. Whiston said Governor Snyder has unveiled his vision for the transformation of education, talent, and economic success in Michigan recently with The Marshall Plan. He explained the plan and its alignment with the goals and strategies to make Michigan a Top 10 education state in 10 years, and the Michigan Pathways Alliance launched in the summer of 2017. He said the Department will continue to work with the Governor to provide opportunity to all Michigan students.

Mr. Whiston said school safety has been a concern, and the Michigan Department of Education convened a meeting of stakeholder agencies to discuss best practices. He said they will continue to meet and share information with school districts to help them better prepare for school safety challenges. He said a presentation is anticipated for the next Board meeting.

Mr. Whiston thanked the Board for the evaluation that they have given him. He said the partnership with the State Board of Education and the partnership with the Governor's Office helps make the State Superintendent successful. He said he has had leadership, support, and guidance from the Board as well as a great leadership team and staff at the Michigan Department of Education who are diligent and work very hard. He thanked the Board for its support and extension of his agreement that will be voted on later in the meeting. Mr. Whiston said he is battling cancer and will be taking a Long Term Disability leave in 30-60 days to attend to his health.

#### XVII. REPORT OF MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

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

Mr. Wilcox shared a PowerPoint presentation on the Governor's Education and Talent Summit, and the Teach to Lead brainstorming session.

XVIII. APPROVAL OF CORRECTION TO STANDARDS FOR THE PREPARATION OF TEACHERS OF HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Dr. Sarah-Kate LaVan, Manager, Professional Preparation and Learning Unit, Office of Educator Workforce; and Dr. Sean Kottke, Education Consultant, Professional Preparation and Learning Unit, Office of Educator Workforce; presented the Approval of Correction to Standards for the Preparation of Teachers of Health and Physical Education.

Mr. Whiston said at its June 13, 2017 meeting, the State Board of Education approved new Standards for the Preparation of Teachers of Health and Physical Education. He said Michigan Department of Education consultants discovered that standards included under the Professional Responsibility domain of the Physical Education standards were mistakenly omitted from the documentation presented to the Board and released for public comment. The Michigan Department of Education is seeking Board approval of these omitted standards.

**Dr. Zeile moved, seconded by Dr. Ulbrich, that the State Board of Education approve the proposed Michigan Standards for the Preparation of Teachers of Health and Physical Education, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated February 28, 2018.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

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

**The motion carried.**

XIX. 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 March 1, 2018. He said the Committee reviewed the 2016-2017 Annual Legislative Report for School Improvement Plans. He said the Board is required to submit the report to the Legislature annually. He said it is on the agenda for approval by the full Board today, and he is turning it over to the Chair for the motion and vote.

Mrs. Weiser said the staff has done a great job with the Annual Legislative Report for School Improvement Plans, and the Board's Legislative Committee is recommending approval by the full Board.

**Mrs. Weiser moved, seconded by Ms. Fecteau, that the State Board of Education approve the 2016-2017 Annual Legislative Report for School Improvement Plans, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated February 28, 2018, and submit the report to the Senate and House Committees on Education.**



The vote was taken on the motion.

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

**The motion carried.**

Mrs. Ackley provided an update on current legislation.

Mrs. Weiser said the State Board of Education Legislative Committee had a rich discussion on teacher preparation legislation, school safety and mental health during its meeting on March 1, 2018.

Mr. Whiston asked Ms. Snyder if there was anything to report from the National Association of State Boards of Education, and she said there was not.

XX. EVALUATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AND APPROVAL OF ADDENDUM TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOARD AND THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Whiston said earlier in the meeting, there was discussion regarding the evaluation of the State Superintendent and the intent to extend the agreement by one year.

**Dr. Ulbrich moved, seconded by Dr. Pugh, that the State Board of Education approve the Third Addendum to the Agreement between the Board and Brian J. Whiston which extends the agreement between the Superintendent and the Board to July 31, 2021.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

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

**The motion carried.**

Mr. Whiston said the Board's comments and action are deeply, deeply appreciated. He said he appreciates the partnership.

XXI. CONSENT AGENDA

N. Approval of Criteria for Section 104(4) Kindergarten Entry Observation Pilot Project, \$1,000,000

O. Approval of Criteria for Section 104e Assessment of Digital Literacy Pilot Project, \$250,000

Mrs. Weiser moved, seconded by Ms. Fecteau, that the State Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- N. Approve the Criteria for Section 104(4) – Kindergarten Entry Observation Pilot Project, as attached to the Superintendent’s memorandum dated February 28, 2018;
- O. Approve the Criteria for Section 104e Assessment of Digital Literacy Pilot Project, as attached to the Superintendent’s memorandum dated February 28, 2018; and

The vote was taken on the motion.

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

**The motion carried.**

Dr. Ulbrich said she is interested in learning about the Kindergarten Entry Observation Pilot Project during a future presentation.

XXII. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

There were no additional comments from State Board of Education members.

XXIII. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

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

XXIV. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Tuesday, April 10, 2018 (9:30 a.m.) Regular Meeting
- B. Tuesday, May 8, 2018 (9:30 a.m.) Regular Meeting
- C. Tuesday, May 22, 2018 (9:30 a.m.) SBE Retreat
- D. Tuesday, June 12, 2018 (9:30 a.m.) Regular Meeting

XXV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Fecteau  
Secretary