

MINUTES

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

September 8, 2015  
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

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

**REGULAR MEETING**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Whiston called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

**Mrs. Straus 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: Austin, Fecteau, Ramos-Montigny, Straus, Ulbrich, Zeile**

**Absent During Vote: Pugh**

**Absent: Weiser**

**The motion carried.**

III. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Mrs. Marilyn Schneider, State Board Executive, introduced members of the State Board of Education. Mrs. Schneider invited guests to introduce themselves.

IV. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – BRIAN J. WHISTON

Mr. Whiston said today is the first day of school and he wishes everyone a successful school year. He said he encourages parents to participate with their schools and set aside time each day to read to their children and play math games.

Mr. Whiston said Board meetings will continue to be a place of respect and civil discussion where people are free to express differing opinions.

V. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 9:40 a.m. to convene the Committee of the Whole.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

VI. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Whiston called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 9:41 a.m.

Mrs. Weiser arrived at 9:41 a.m.

VII. PRESENTATION ON OK2SAY

Ms. Katharyn Barron, Chief, Consumer Protection Division, Attorney General's Office; and Mr. Kyle Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent, Administration and School Support Services, presented on OK2SAY.

Mr. Whiston said Michigan's student safety initiative, OK2SAY, is a comprehensive communication system that enables Michigan students, parents and school personnel to confidentially report student safety threats to trained program operators. He said the operators evaluate and then forward the tips to local law enforcement agencies, school officials, or community mental health service programs as appropriate. He said this initiative through the Attorney General's Office, is supported in a collaboration with the Michigan Department of Education and Michigan State Police.

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

Board member comments included outreach to schools, presentation requests, number of tips, analysis of outcome reports for patterns, and student and parent tips.

VIII. PRESENTATION ON EARLY LITERACY

Mrs. Norma Jean Sass, Deputy Superintendent, Education Services; and Ms. Linda Forward, Director, Education Improvement and Innovation; presented on Early Literacy.

Mr. Whiston said in the most recent round of budget legislation calls for a focus on early literacy. He said grant criteria are being developed and submitted to the Board for approval. He said staff are working on implementation of all elements of early literacy and the presentation is an update on the progress to date.

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

Board member comments included Michigan's low ranking in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading proficiency, supports for students and educators, funding, rankings by grade level, kindergarten entry age, home visits, ReadyKits, supports and access beyond fifth grade, and promising practices.

IX. PRESENTATION ON EDUCATOR EVALUATIONS

Due to time constraints, this item will be presented during the October 13, 2015 meeting.

X. PRESENTATIONS ON MICHIGAN AS A TOP TEN EDUCATION PERFORMING STATE IN TEN YEARS

Mr. Whiston said the shared goal of the State Superintendent and the State Board of Education is to develop Michigan into a Top Ten education performing state over the next ten years. He said as a step toward this goal, organizations have been asked to share three to five ideas on how to achieve this goal. He said the presentations began at the August 11, 2015, Board meeting and will continue during the morning and afternoon portions of today's meeting.

Mr. Whiston said input is being gathered from Michigan Department of Education staff, and the field. He said he expects the overall plan will be finalized by the end of the year.

The following presentations occurred:

1. West Michigan Talent Triangle  
Peter Haines, Superintendent, Ottawa Area Intermediate School District  
Kevin Stotts, President, Talent 2025  
Chris Glass, Director of Legislative Affairs

2. Michigan Association of Colleges for Teacher Education  
Karen Obsniuk, Dean of Education, Madonna University  
Thomas Bell, Director of Accreditation
3. [Michigan's Children](#)  
Matt Gillard, President and CEO
4. Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education  
Dawn Bentley, Past President of MAASE and Executive Director of Special Education, Livingston ESA  
Eric Hoppstock, President-Elect of MAASE and Assistant Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer, Berrien RESA
5. [Michigan Assessment Consortium](#)  
Kathryn Dewsbury-White, President/CEO
6. Partnership for Music Education Policy Development  
Mitch Robinson, Board Member of PMEPPD and Chair of Music Education, Michigan State University  
Cynthia Taggart, Board Member of PMEPPD and Professor of Music Education, Michigan State University

Presentations continued in the afternoon.

#### XI. KEY FINDINGS FROM THE SPECIAL EDUCATION LISTENING TOUR AND SURVEY

Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley presented Key Findings from the Special Education Listening Tour and Survey.

Mr. Whiston said Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley has been travelling across the state listening to families and he has also made a survey available on the topic of special education. Mr. Whiston said Board members Michelle Fecteau and Kathleen Straus have also participated in the listening tour.

Lieutenant Governor Calley shared information via a [PowerPoint presentation](#).

Mr. Austin thanked Lieutenant Governor Calley for his leadership and presenting the findings of the Special Education Listening Tour and Survey.

Discussion followed regarding the manner in which the hearings were held and the openness to solving problems.

#### XII. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole at 12:30 p.m. and reconvened at 1:07 p.m.

XIII. PRESENTATIONS ON MICHIGAN AS A TOP TEN EDUCATION PERFORMING STATE IN TEN YEARS

This is a continuation of the morning presentations.

The following presentations occurred:

1. Children's Leadership Council of Michigan  
Paula Cunningham, Co-Chair
2. The Center for Michigan  
John Bebow, President and CEO
3. Michigan Association of Nonpublic Schools  
Brian Broderick, Executive Director
4. [Education Trust-Midwest](#)  
Amber Arellano, Executive Director  
Sunil Joy, Data and Policy Analyst
5. League of Women Voters  
Judy Karandjeff, President
6. Michigan Association of School Boards  
Don Wotruba, Executive Director
7. [Michigan Association of School Administrators](#)  
Chris Wigent, Executive Director
8. [Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators](#)  
Bill Miller, Executive Director
9. Michigan Protection and Advocacy Services  
Mark McWilliams, Director of Education Advocacy
10. Michigan PTA  
Sandra York, Executive Director
11. [Public Sector Consultants](#)  
Jeff Guilfoyle, Vice President
12. [Citizens Research Council](#)  
Craig Thiel, Senior Research Associate
13. Michigan Association of Public School Academies  
Dan Quisenberry, President
14. Michigan Education Association  
Steve Cook, President
15. AFT Michigan  
David Hecker, President

XIV. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole at 3:16 p.m. to reconvene the Regular Meeting.

**REGULAR MEETING**

XV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

1. Mrs. Elizabeth Bauer, Ferndale, Michigan. Mrs. Bauer shared verbal comments and a written information on Michigan becoming a Top Ten Education State.

Mrs. McPhee left the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

2. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce and Gina Umpstead, DeWitt, MI. Mr. and Mrs. Umpstead shared verbal comments and written information on Michigan becoming a Top Ten Education State and High Tech High School in San Diego, California.
3. Mr. Lawrence A. Millben, Detroit, Michigan. Mr. Millben, representing Davis Technical Advisory Board and Davis Aerospace Community PTA, shared verbal comments on Davis Aerospace High School.
4. Ms. Sherry Wells, Ferndale, Michigan. Ms. Wells provided verbal comments on the education of minorities.
5. Mr. John Bindas, Grand Blanc, Michigan. Mr. Bindas, representing School Community Health Alliance of Michigan, provided verbal comments on school based health centers.
6. Dr. Linda Brundage, East Lansing, Michigan. Dr. Brundage, Executive Director, Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence, provided verbal comments and written information regarding gun violence prevention.
7. Mr. John Tierney, Rochester, Michigan. Mr. Tierney shared verbal comments and a written information on Michigan becoming a Top Ten Education State.
8. Ms. Sharon Toth, Okemos, Michigan. Ms. Toth, representing the United Dairy Industry of Michigan, shared verbal comments and written information on Fuel Up to Play 60.
9. Ms. Marcie Lipsitt, Franklin, Michigan. Ms. Michelle Fecteau read a statement from Ms. Lipsitt regarding special education.

XVI. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 4:09 p.m. to convene the Committee of the Whole.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

XVII. DISCUSSION REGARDING CRITERIA FOR GRANT PROGRAMS

There were no comments from State Board of Education members.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 4:10 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting.

**REGULAR MEETING**

XIX. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

H. Approval of Minutes of Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of August 11, 2015

**Mrs. Weiser moved, seconded by Dr. Ulbrich, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of August 11, 2015.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

XX. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Austin said in the interest of time, he would forego his President's Report.

XXI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Report

I. Human Resources Report

Grants

J. Report on Grant Awards

1. 2014-2015 Title II, Part A(3) Improving Teacher Quality – Amendment; \$2,458,371

2. 2015-2016 Secondary CTE Perkins Grant Program – Initial; \$20,776,601
3. 2015-2016 Secondary Perkins State Leadership Grant – Initial; \$1,353,344
4. 2015-2016 IDEA, Part B Formula Grants – Initial; \$353,680,106
5. 2015-2016 Allocation of Title I School Improvement Funds to Support Regional Assistance to Priority and Focus Schools – Initial; \$16,378,000
6. 2014-2015 Title I, Part C Summer Migrant Program – Amendment; \$5,089,613
7. 2014-2015 Great Start Readiness Program Grants – Amendment; \$220,584,875
8. 2015-2016 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC) Grants – Initial; Continuation; \$37,096,773
9. 2015-2016 Great Start Readiness Program Grants – Initial; \$229,274,000
10. 2015-2016 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B, Section 619 Preschool Grant – Initial; \$10,695,850
11. 2015-2016 Distribution of Federal Funds Awarded to Michigan Through Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act – Initial; \$9,497,391

Mr. Whiston said at the August 11, 2015, State Board meeting, Social Studies Standards and Science Standards were presented, and several public information sessions across the state were announced. He said the Department is also holding sessions for legislative staff members. He said people have been attending the sessions and offering input.

XXII. REPORT OF MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Mr. Rick Joseph, 2015-2016 Michigan Teacher of the Year, was absent due to the first day of school; therefore, no verbal report was provided. A written report was included with the agenda.

XXIII. 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 Board's Legislative Committee met on September 2, 2015, and discussed pending legislation on educator evaluations, third grade reading level, and open carry of handguns in schools.

Mr. Austin said the Board supported the recommendations of the Michigan Council for Educator Effectiveness (MCEE) to support high-quality educator evaluations. He said the Board would encourage legislation reflective of the MCEE recommendations.

Dr. Ulbrich said there may be further discussion by the Legislative Committee on open carry of handguns on school grounds, depending on whether legislation is moving. Mrs. Straus and Ms. Ramos-Montigny said the Board should make a statement on the issue. Mr. Austin said the Board would be willing to consider a statement from the Legislative Committee at a future meeting.

Mrs. Straus said during the monthly conference call of the NASBE Governmental Affairs Committee, she learned that the House and Senate have not yet named the conference committee. She said there was discussion that the federal budget will take precedence over education.

Discussion followed.

XXIV. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2016

Mr. Whiston said the State Board Executive has proposed a meeting schedule for 2016.

**Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Ms. Ramos-Montigny, that the State Board of Education approve the State Board of Education meeting schedule for 2016, as attached to the State Board Executive's memorandum dated August 25, 2015.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

The State Board of Education Meeting Schedule for 2016 is attached as Exhibit A.

XXV. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE BOARDS OF EDUCATION BYLAWS, PUBLIC EDUCATION POSITIONS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ms. Lupe Ramos-Montigny led the discussion on National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Bylaws, Public Education Positions and Board of Directors.

Ms. Ramos-Montigny said she and Dr. Zeile will attend the NASBE annual conference on October 22-24, 2015.

Ms. Ramos-Montigny said State Board of Education members have received an electronic communication from NASBE regarding elections for the Board of Directors, as well as proposed changes to the NASBE Bylaws and proposed Public Education Positions on School Funding and Teacher Equity. She said voting will occur at the annual conference.

Mr. Austin said the country would benefit from the leadership of Dr. Zeile.

**Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Mrs. Weiser, that the State Board of Education cast ballots for Richard Zeile as President-elect of NASBE, Scott Johnson as Secretary-Treasurer of NASBE, and Brooke Axiotis as Central Area Director of NASBE.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**Ms. Ramos-Montigny moved, seconded by Dr. Zeile, that the State Board of Education approve the proposed changes to the NASBE Bylaws and Public Education Positions on School Funding and Teacher Equity, as attached to the NASBE Delegate's memorandum dated August 25, 2015.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

XXVI. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – DR. RICHARD ZEILE

Dr. Zeile asked for clarification regarding Great Start Readiness Program grants. Ms. Susan Broman, Deputy Superintendent, Great Start, provided additional information.

XXVII. CONSENT AGENDA

N. Approval of Michigan Department of Education and State Board of Education Cosponsorship

O. Approval of Criteria for the Van Andel Education Institute, \$250,000

P. Approval of Criteria for Science Olympiad, \$250,000

Q. Approval of Criteria for Michigan Education Corps, \$1,000,000

R. Approval of Criteria for Civics Education, \$60,000

**Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Mrs. Weiser, that the State Board of Education approve the Superintendent's recommendation for the consent agenda as follows:**

**N. support the cosponsorship of the 2016 Michigan Career Education Conference, as described the Superintendent's memorandum dated September 1, 2015;**

**O. approve the Grant Criteria for the Van Andel Education Institute, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated August 25, 2015;**

**P. approve the Grant Criteria for Science Olympiad, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated August 25, 2015;**

**Q. approve the Grant Criteria for the Michigan Education Corps, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated August 25, 2015; and**

**R. approve the Grant Criteria for Civics Education, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated August 25, 2015.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

XXVIII. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Mrs. Weiser said she, Ms. Fecteau and Mrs. Straus attended the public information sessions on social studies standards and science standards that were held at the Michigan Science Center. She said the sessions were informative, people were encouraged to provide feedback, and she believes the process is working. She encouraged the public to participate in future sessions. A list of session locations, dates and times was displayed on the presentation screen.

Mrs. Straus said she has questions about the standards and she will get clarification from staff.

Ms. Ramos-Montigny said she attended a science event in Grand Rapids, and she was very impressed by Department staff.

XXIX. 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.

XXX. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Tuesday, October 13, 2015, Regular Meeting (9:30 a.m.)
- B. Tuesday, November 10, 2015, Regular Meeting (9:30 a.m.)
- C. Tuesday, December 8, 2015, Regular Meeting (9:30 a.m.)
- D. Tuesday, January 12, 2016, Regular Meeting (9:30 a.m.)

XXXI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

The video archive of the meeting is available at [www.michigan.gov/sbe](http://www.michigan.gov/sbe).

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Fecteau  
Secretary

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MEETING SCHEDULE**

**CALENDAR YEAR 2016**

**January 12, 2016**  
Second Tuesday

**February 9, 2016**  
Second Tuesday

**March 8, 2016**  
Second Tuesday

**April 12, 2016**  
Second Tuesday

**May 10, 2016**  
Second Tuesday

**May 24, 2016 (Board Retreat)**  
Fourth Tuesday

**June 14, 2016**  
Second Tuesday

**August 9, 2016**  
Second Tuesday

**September 14, 2016**  
Second Wednesday

**October 11, 2016**  
Second Tuesday

**November 15, 2016**  
Third Tuesday

**December 13, 2016**  
Second Tuesday

Approved September 8, 2015