

MINUTES

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

March 13, 2007
9:30 a.m.

Present: Mr. Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman
Mrs. Kathleen N. Straus, President
Mr. John C. Austin, Vice President
Mrs. Carolyn L. Curtin, Secretary (via telephone)
Mrs. Marianne Yared McGuire, Treasurer
Mrs. Nancy Danhof, NASBE Delegate
Mrs. Elizabeth Bauer
Mr. Reginald Turner
Ms. Casandra Ulbrich
Mrs. Sue Carnell, representing Governor Jennifer M. Granholm,
ex officio

Also Present: Ms. Kim Kyff, 2006-2007 Michigan Teacher of the Year

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flanagan called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

II. INFORMATIONAL FOLDER ITEM

A. Information on Connections for Action: The Courage to Teach,
The Courage to Lead Network of Michigan Educators Conference

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

Mrs. McGuire moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauer, that the State Board of Education approve the agenda and order of priority.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

IV. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS,
DEPARTMENT STAFF, AND GUESTS

Mrs. Eileen Hamilton, State Board Executive, introduced members of the State Board of Education, Department of Education staff, a new employee who has joined the Department recently, and guests attending the meeting.

V. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – MR. MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN

Mr. Flanagan said Thomas Jefferson, portrayed by Bill Barker, the star of Colonial Williamsburg, visited the Michigan Department of Education on March 12, 2007. Mr. Flanagan shared a video of the portrayal of Mr. Jefferson and said the presentation for Department employees was one of several stops sponsored by Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies.

VI. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 9:49 a.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

VII. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flanagan called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 9:50 a.m.

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Report on English Language Arts (ELA) High School Course/Credit Content Expectations, the Power of Language Module and the Career and Technical Education ELA Units of Instruction for the Michigan Merit Curriculum

The following individuals presented:

- Dr. Jeremy Hughes, Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer
- Dr. Yvonne Caamal Canul, Director, Office of School Improvement
- Ms. Patty Cantu, Director, Office of Career and Technical Preparation, Department of Labor and Economic Growth
- Mr. Dennis Hunt, Communication Specialist, Calhoun Area Technology Center

High School Content Expectations for English Language Arts are taught every year with a greater degree of complexity at each grade level. Course credit requirements for English Language Arts have been developed into grade level model instructional units. The units are woven together into a coherent, integrated English Language Arts curriculum to address informational text comprehension and workplace reading and writing skill. Units for grades 9 and 10 were provided to the Board in August 2006. Units for grades 11 and 12 provide classroom teachers with details on how content expectations can be taught at each grade level. Sample career and technical education course units were distributed illustrating the integration of literature into the subject matter.

Board member comments and *staff clarifications* included:

1. students will be more engaged in learning, and career and technical education will come alive and flourish as a powerful way to deliver a set of expectations;
2. relevance is emphasized; career and technical skills are helpful for all students;
3. when will the other units be available – *sample units were presented; the other units are in the document and on the Department website;*
4. were jobs of the future that need to emerge in the new economy considered – *the first consideration was career and technical education programs that have established standards and that are common throughout the state such as auto technician; we are moving to emerging careers such as pre-engineering which can lead to biomedical engineering and health careers;*
5. there seems to be an imbalance favoring business and management in the materials presented – *this is a sample template; it is just one example of how a unit can be taught;*
6. the high school senior project is a great idea;
7. don't use the terms "regular classroom" and "career and technical"; they are both regular classrooms
8. there needs to be an expectation of students using informational text; if the expectation is not articulated and incorporated in the units of study, it will not be a goal;

9. career and technical education programs have changed drastically over the past 20 years; the rigor and relevance are astounding;
10. this is an excellent starting point for teachers; it will help students stay engaged in school;
11. this information is long-awaited and answers the question of how career and technical education programs can fulfill requirements of the new Michigan Merit Curriculum;
12. how will this information be incorporated in teacher preparation programs in higher education institutions – *through dialogue there needs to be a paradigm shift to preparing great teachers, rather than “regular classroom” teachers and “career and technical education” teachers;*
13. need to break down barriers with regard to highly qualified teachers so that credit can be obtained through the integration of more than one subject area; for example, a student could achieve credit in science, mathematics, and English language arts through an agriscience class;
14. the time is right for bold initiatives in teacher education; emerging jobs of the future may not fit into specific areas of certification; there is a need to reconcile the real world issues with the ideal world as laid off employees work toward teacher certification; and
15. members of Congress should be notified that there is a need for flexibility of highly qualified teacher status in the reauthorization of the No Child Left Behind Act.

IX. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole at 11:04 a.m. and reconvened at 11:07 a.m.

X. DISCUSSION ITEMS (continued)

- B. Federal Update – Discussion Regarding Additional Recommendations for Modifications to No Child Left Behind Act

The following individual presented:

- Ms. Roberta Stanley, Director, Administrative Law and Federal Relations

Ms. Stanley provided a verbal update to her written report. She also distributed copies of "School Nutrition Association of Michigan 2007 Legislative Issue Paper."

Board members continued discussion regarding "Recommended Modifications to the No Child Left Behind Act" as adopted at the February 13, 2007 State Board of Education meeting.

Board member comments and *clarifications* included:

1. priorities should be specified in the "Recommended Modifications to the No Child Left Behind Act;"
2. need more explanation of New School Definition – *it is explained more thoroughly in the Accountability Workbook that was submitted by the Department to the Federal Government;*
3. the definition of a new school will make a difference in assessment and Adequate Yearly Progress; it is important that there is an in depth understanding of each modification listed in the "Recommended Modifications to the No Child Left Behind Act;"
4. feel strongly that the Board should support a goal of 100% proficiency which means that everyone attains a basic level of the competencies, not that they need all A's; there is evidence that all children can attain proficiency and if that is not an expectation the goal is unattainable;
5. other states may not have standards as rigorous as Michigan yet they have 100% proficiency – *consensus to support 100% proficiency, and strongly encourage consistency across the states with regard to rigorous standards;*
6. *New School Definition in the Accountability Workbook proposes to maintain flexibility of states, and not promote a consistent definition across the states;*
7. consistency among states may beg the question of national standards;

8. *there is discussion at the federal level regarding a gauge for highly qualified teachers, highly qualified administrators (principals), and professional development geared toward specific deficiencies in schools;*
9. *Highly Qualified Effective teachers demonstrate some measure of effectiveness in the classroom as measured by student achievement; Title I schools must show that teacher salaries are equivalent to non-Title I schools;*
10. *portfolio assessment can be used for determining highly qualified teacher status – consensus to support highly qualified teacher status by portfolio or other method that demonstrates high performance that is defensible;*
11. *there needs to be some flexibility in the No Child Left Behind Act and Michigan teacher certification requirements to leave room for experimentation and new ways of doing things; for example, teachers of the Chinese language are needed, and there are groups willing to teach the language; but they are not certified teachers;*
12. *100% proficiency proposals being discussed at the national level include: (1) national standards for English language arts and mathematics; (2) requiring every state to align its standards to National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP); (3) school and district report cards would include Michigan NAEP scores as well as the MEAP state scores, district, and school averages in mathematics and reading;*
13. *what is the collective wisdom at the national level regarding national competency standards; whether the NAEP competencies or a different set of competencies is the better benchmark;*
14. *how is proficiency defined for students with disabilities – all means all, and families of students with disabilities do not want lower standards; if you expect more you get it;*
15. *are districts sanctioned for providing appropriate accommodations for students with special needs – students with disabilities participate in the MI-Access assessment at an appropriate level; there are very stringent federal requirements about the percentage of students that can be counted as proficient; so while all students can be given the appropriate assessment, they cannot all be counted as proficient; and*

16. *consensus to propose that adequate yearly progress (AYP) is consistent with what is allowed in a student's individualized educational program (IEP).*

There was consensus to add Recommendations for Modifications to No Child Left Behind Act to the Regular Agenda for discussion and possible action.

XI. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 12:01 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

XII. CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Danhof moved, seconded by Mr. Austin, that the State Board of Education convene in closed session, at the request of Mike Flanagan, 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:

**Austin – Aye
Bauer – Aye
Curtin – Aye
Danhof – Aye
McGuire – Aye
Straus – Aye
Turner – Aye
Ulbrich – Aye**

The motion carried unanimously.

XIII. RECESS

The Board recessed at 12:05 p.m. at which time the Board met in closed session until 12:55 p.m.

Mrs. Curtin ended her telephone connection at 12:35 p.m.

The Board reconvened in open session at 1:12 p.m. in the Ladislaus B. Dombrowski Board Room.

Mr. Turner left the meeting at 12:55 p.m. and returned at 1:40 p.m.

XIV. PRESENTATION BY DAVID HOLLISTER, PRESIDENT, PRIMA CIVITAS FOUNDATION

Mr. David Hollister, President, Prima Civitas Foundation, explained the Foundation's mission to help coordinate efforts, diversify Mid-Michigan's economy, and transform the region into one of the most innovative in the world. He said the Foundation is advancing strategies for community and economic development.

Mr. Hollister said Lou Anna K. Simon, President, Michigan State University, requested that research be done by Paul Hunt, Associate Vice President for Research, Michigan State University, to determine commonalities of thriving communities and the role of colleges and universities. He said Dr. Hunt reported thriving communities have four things in common: (1) non-traditional, entrepreneurial, fully engaged college or university, (2) they are configuring themselves in new regions, (3) their business community is providing leadership, and (4) the business community is organizing themselves around non-governmental organizations—usually non-profit organizations.

Mr. Hollister said Prima Civitas Foundation promotes a unified vision for a world-class, sustainable, entrepreneurial economy that enables cities, counties, and townships in Mid-Michigan to compete successfully—not against one another, but with regions across the globe.

Mr. Hollister shared business and education success stories that highlight the potential to market the Mid-Michigan region as a center of entrepreneurship, innovation, and growth.

Mr. Hollister said Mid-Michigan Innovation Team (MMIT) is a network of people, projects, and partners reinventing mid-Michigan's economy. He introduced Ms. Ellen Sluka, Assistant, Mid-Michigan Innovation Team. Ms. Sluka said MMIT is working in 13 counties anchored by Flint, Lansing, Midland, Saginaw, and the "thumb" area of Michigan. She said MMIT secured a \$15 million United States Department of Labor Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) grant at the beginning of 2006 designed to assist states most impacted by the downsizing of the auto industry. She said there is an additional \$35 million in partner commitments.

Mrs. Bauer said although local news is bleak, there is good news on the global stage. She said there is tremendous collaboration across companies, countries, and regions and tailoring to the local market is a losing strategy.

Mrs. Straus said it is encouraging to know that if we educate students for the jobs of the future, the jobs will be there. Mr. Hollister said he does not believe the Board can overclaim the profound impact of the High School Graduation Requirements. He said he sees plenty of evidence that people are focusing on the higher standards.

Mr. Austin said the Michigan Merit Exam, including the ACT test and WorkKeys, is welcomed by customers. He said employers and community colleges are finding WorkKeys assessments give students and workers reliable, relevant information about their workplace skills. Mr. Hollister said community colleges estimate a cost savings of one million dollars, if students are tested using WorkKeys at the high school level. Mr. Austin said the use of WorkKeys as one consistent assessment tool should be encouraged.

Ms. Carnell said there should be collaboration with Prima Civitas Foundation as it relates to emerging economic sectors, career and technical education, and general education.

This was a presentation and no action was required.

XV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

- A. Ms. Lily Au, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Ms. Au provided comments and written materials regarding mandating nutrition education in the elementary curriculum.
- B. Mr. George Wurtzel, Lansing, Michigan. Mr. Wurtzel, representing Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind, provided comments and written material regarding Camp Tuhsmeheeta.
- C. Ms. Mary T. Wood, Warren, Michigan. Ms. Wood provided oral and written information regarding public school academies.

Mrs. Curtin rejoined the meeting via telephone at 2:10 p.m.

XVI. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 2:10 p.m. and reconvened the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 2:11 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

XVII. REPORT ON MEAP PERFORMANCE LABELS

Dr. Jeremy Hughes, Chief Academic Officer; and Dr. Edward Roeber, Senior Executive Director, Educational Assessment and Accountability; presented Report on MEAP (Michigan Educational Assessment Program) Performance Labels.

Dr. Hughes said the United States Department of Labor, through the Office of Career and Technical Preparation has expressed concern regarding the use of the title "Apprentice" for the lowest level of MEAP achievement. Mrs. Straus said she has also heard from people associated with community colleges regarding the appropriate use of the term "Apprentice." Dr. Roeber said "Apprentice" is a word used generally to describe a program of post-secondary training in a particular skill area that involves formal instruction as well as on-the-job or in-the-field experience as a learning component. Dr. Roeber said the label "Apprentice" is subject to misinterpretation, and staff is recommending "Below Basic" as a substitute label.

After considerable discussion regarding wording of Performance Labels, agreement was not reached on a specific rewording of the label "Apprentice."

Dr. Roeber said he has communicated proposed label changes to the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability Advisory Committee in a memorandum dated March 1, 2007. He said he expects to receive feedback from them.

Mrs. Bauer said she will contact parents, students, and teachers for suggestions regarding rewording of label titles.

Mr. Flanagan said staff will continue to work on the rewording of the title "Apprentice" as the lowest level of MEAP achievement. He said alternate wording will be presented for consideration at the April Board meeting.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the Committee of the Whole Meeting 2:39 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 2:40 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

XIX. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

- A. Approval of Minutes of Committee of the Whole and Regular Meeting of February 13, 2007

Mrs. Danhof moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauer, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole and Regular Meeting of February 13, 2007.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

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

Mrs. Straus said the Board met in closed session to discuss the Evaluation of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Addendum to the Agreement Between the Board and the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Mrs. Straus said everyone had positive, complimentary comments regarding Mr. Flanagan's performance and the session ended with the Board giving him a "bravo."

Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauer, that the State Board of Education approve the addendum to the Agreement between the Board and Mike Flanagan which extends the agreement to May 1, 2010.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

XXI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- A. Making Michigan Competitive: Math & Science Education For the 21st Century Workforce

Mrs. Straus said she and Mrs. Bauer attended "Making Michigan Competitive: Math & Science Education For the 21st Century Workforce" on February 22, 2007 at the Lansing Center. She said Mr. Flanagan gave the welcome and the conference was

well attended by a diverse group of participants including teachers, administrators, the business community, and higher education. She said the focus was improving the teaching of mathematics and science, and the participants were very engaged and energized by the challenging presentations.

Mrs. Straus said as a follow-up she met with Mr. Mike Hutto, Chemical Educational Foundation, to discuss piquing the interest of students to study chemistry. She said Mr. Hutto shared "You be the Chemist Kit" for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. She said the kit includes lesson plans and creative ideas for teachers. She said Mr. Jim Nicholson, President of PVS Nolwood Chemicals, Inc., offers monetary awards to teachers to develop lesson plans in chemistry.

B. Michigan Council for the Social Studies Annual Professional Learning Conference

Mrs. Straus said she attended at the Michigan Council for the Social Studies Annual Professional Learning Conference "Meeting of Three Worlds: Business, Education and Government" at the Radisson Hotel in Lansing on February 27, 2007. She said Mr. Flanagan was a panelist with former Board member Judge Michael David Warren, Jr., Nolan Finley of the *Detroit News*, and Tom Walsh of the *Detroit Free Press*. She said Tim Skubick from *Off the Record*, moderated the panel.

C. Preparing Our Students for a Place in the World: Internationalizing Michigan Education

Mrs. Straus said she, Mrs. Bauer, and Mrs. Danhof attended "Preparing Our Students for a Place in the World: Internationalizing Michigan Education" at the Lansing Center on March 6, 2007. She said Mr. Flanagan welcomed the participants by video. She said speakers included Lou Anna Simon, President of Michigan State University; Yong Zhao, University Distinguished Professor, Michigan State University; Vivien Stewart, Vice President for Education, Asia Society and Executive Director, National Coalition on Asia and International Studies in the Schools; Gilbert Choy, CEO, Sun Wah Education Foundation, Hong Kong, China; James Epolito, CEO, Michigan Economic Development Corporation; Jamey Fitzpatrick, President and CEO, Michigan Virtual University; and Christopher Wigent, Superintendent, Calhoun Intermediate School District.

Mrs. Straus said three-year-old preschool children from the Chinese Immersion Project at Post Oak Elementary School in Lansing, performed songs in Chinese.

Mrs. Straus said she hopes "internationalizing Michigan education" can be a topic at the Board's April retreat.

D. Michigan Association of Community and Adult Education

Mrs. Straus said she spoke to the Michigan Association of Community and Adult Education on March 7, 2007. She said the members are concerned about how the new High School Graduation Requirements will affect adult and alternative education. Mrs. Straus said she shared information regarding adult education. She said she informed them that the Department is working with Congress regarding qualifications for alternative education teachers under the No Child Left Behind Act.

XXII. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Reports

- E. Report on Department of Education Cosponsorships
- F. Report on Property Transfers and Teacher Certification Revocations

Grants

- G. 2006-2007 Rural and Low Income School Program – Amendment
- H. 2005-2007 National Governor's Association (NGA) Subgrant – Amendment
- I. 2006-2007 Title II, Part A – Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting – Amendment
- J. 2006-2007 Mathematics and Science Centers – Initial
- K. 2006-2007 USDOE, Charter School Grant Program, Competitive Start-Up Grant – Twelfth Cycle – Continuation
- L. 2006-2007 Title V, Part A – Innovative Programs – Amendment
- M. 2006-2007 Title II, Part D, Enhancing Education Through Technology – Amendment
- N. 2006-2007 Special Projects Grants Under Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Initial
- O. 2006-2007 Michigan Teacher of the Year – Initial
- P. 2006-2007 Studies in Best Practices in Education – Initial

- Q. Report on Modifications to the Previously Approved Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services
- R. Report on a Modification to the Previously Approved Tuscola Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services
- S. Report on a Modification to the Previously Approved Cheboygan-Otsego-Presque Isle Educational Service District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services

Mr. Flanagan provided a verbal report on:

- A. Chinese Immersion Preschool Program

Mr. Flanagan said students from East Lansing Public School's Chinese Immersion Preschool sang songs at the conference titled "Preparing Our Students for a Place in the World: Internationalizing Michigan Education" at the Lansing Center on March 6, 2007. He suggested that the students be asked to perform at a State Board of Education meeting.

- B. Travel Restraints

Mr. Flanagan said stringent travel restraints are in effect due to the dire circumstances of the state budget, and staff members are encouraged to use more technology to participate in meetings, conferences, and training sessions.

- C. Bay-Arenac Skill Center Visit

Mr. Flanagan said he visited Bay-Arenac Skill Center, and he agrees with the comment Mrs. Bauer made regarding transformation of career and technical education over the past 20 years. He said he also finds the programs to be relevant and rigorous, and encouraged Board members to visit their local career and technical education centers.

XXIII. REPORT BY MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Ms. Kim Kyff, 2006-2007 Michigan Teacher of the Year, presented Report by Michigan Teacher of the Year.

Ms. Kyff said she saw a first year teacher at Forest Hills Eastern High School using flash cards on ipods to teach students world languages.

She said the teacher is writing a grant to fund purchase of ipods for students.

Ms. Kyff said she visited Maybury Elementary School in Detroit where students are participating in the Kids Against Hunger project that distributes food to people in the United States and throughout the world. She said the community service project is a partnership with Hillside Elementary School in Northville. She said this project is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, and students package a rice and soy mixture for distribution to people in poverty.

XXIV. NOMINATIONS FOR 2008 NASBE BOARD 2007 AWARDS

Mrs. Danhof presented Nominations for 2008 National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Board of Directors and 2007 Awards.

Mrs. Bauer moved, seconded by Mrs. McGuire, that the State Board of Education nominate Congressman Dale Kildee for the NASBE Policy Leader of the Year Award.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Turner moved, seconded by Mr. Austin, that the State Board of Education nominate Eileen Lappin Weiser for the NASBE Distinguished Service Award.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

There were no nominations for the Friend of Education Award.

XXV. APPROVAL OF REVISED GRANT CRITERIA FORMAT

Mr. Flanagan presented Approval of Revised Grant Criteria Format.

Mr. Flanagan said the Board approved the current Grant Criteria format at its February 14, 2002 meeting. He said the Board discussed and reviewed a Revised Grant format at its Retreat in November 2006, and the format has been revised based on that discussion.

Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Mrs. Danhof, that the State Board of Education approve the revised Grant Criteria format as attached as Exhibit B to the Superintendent's memorandum dated February 26, 2007.

Mrs. Danhof asked what determines whether or not grant criteria are approved by the Board. Ms. Mary Ann Chartrand, Director, Grants Coordination and School Support Services, said in some instances statute stipulates or it may be a formula grant.

Mrs. Danhof asked how often criteria are to be reviewed. Mrs. Hamilton said every four years. Mrs. Wolenberg said if this criteria document is approved, the "Grant Award Approval Form" will be revised.

Mrs. Bauer said in October 2005 the Board adopted the Universal Education Vision and Principles as a framework for policy development.

Mrs. Bauer proposed a friendly amendment to add a statement regarding the Vision and Principles of Universal Education to the revised grant criteria format.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

The Revised Grant Criteria Format is attached as Exhibit A.

XXVI. APPROVAL OF REVISED CRITERIA FOR THE DOROTHY BEARDMORE SERVICE TO EDUCATION AWARD

Mrs. Straus presented Approval of Revised Criteria for the Dorothy Beardmore Service to Education Award.

Mrs. Straus said that at the February 13, 2007, State Board of Education meeting she appointed a Board Committee to review the criteria for the Dorothy Beardmore Service to Education Award, and make recommendations for the Board's consideration.

Mrs. Straus said she and Committee members Nancy Danhof, Marianne McGuire, and Casandra Ulbrich met on February 28 with Jean Shane, Eileen Hamilton, and Marilyn Schneider. She said they reviewed the nomination packet for the award, and made several modifications for presentation to the Board. She said there is a new emphasis on the nominee's volunteer activities.

Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mrs. Bauer, that the State Board of Education approve the selection criteria for the Dorothy Beardmore Service to Education Award, as attached to the President's memorandum dated March 2, 2007.

Mrs. Bauer proposed the following friendly amendments:

- B.1. providing VOLUNTEER leadership in developing education policy; or positively impacting the education system;**
- B.2. contributing to the improvement of education through involvement on local, state, or national commissions, task forces, or significant leadership or community organizations; ~~or~~ AND**

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

XXVII. CONSENT AGENDA

Criteria

- Z. Approval of Criteria for a Competitive Grant for the Early On Michigan Personnel Development System for FY 2007-2008 Under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- AA. Approval of Criteria for a Competitive Grant for Child Find, Public Awareness, Information and Referral for FY 2007-2008 Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- BB. Approval of Criteria for a Grant for the Continuous Improvement and Monitoring System Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004)
- CC. Approval of Criteria for a Grant for an Information Dissemination Network Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004)
- DD. Approval of Criteria for a Grant for Secondary Transition Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004)

Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Mr. Turner, that the State Board of Education approve the consent agenda, as follows:

- Z. approve the criteria for a Competitive Grant for the Early On Michigan Personnel Development System for FY 2007-2008 under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated February 26, 2007;**

- AA. approve the criteria for a Competitive Grant for Child Find, Public Awareness, and Information and Referral for FY 2007-2008 under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated February 26, 2007;**
- BB. approve criteria for a grant to support the Continuous Improvement and Monitoring System development and implementation activities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated February 26, 2007;**
- CC. approve criteria for a grant for information dissemination under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004), as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated February 26, 2007; and**
- DD. approve criteria for a grant to support secondary transition under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004), as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated February 26, 2007.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

XXVIII. STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Ms. Lisa Hansknecht, Legislative Director, presented State Legislative Update.

Ms. Hansknecht said there was a House Education Committee hearing today, March 13, 2007, on the Anti-Bullying Legislation, and testimony was received from students and families who had been the victims of bullying. She said the vote is expected the week of March 19. She said she told the Committee that Board members would have testified today had there not been a State Board of Education meeting.

Ms. Hansknecht said the Senate Health Policy Committee is exploring the issue of childhood obesity and how it is being addressed in schools. She said this may be a joint presentation between the Departments of Education and Community Health.

Ms. Hansknecht said the Legislative Committee of the Board met on March 9, 2007. She said Board members are being asked to provide her with issues and names of legislators that Board members feel comfortable contacting regarding educational issues.

Mrs. Danhof said it would be helpful to have the latest version of the Anti-Bullying Legislation, the Board's Model Anti-Bullying Policy, as well as a list of talking points. Mrs. Straus said a roster of membership on Legislative Committees would also be helpful.

Mrs. Carnell said the following resources may be useful: Bully Police, a watch dog organization advocating for bullied children that reviews legislation. She said when addressing childhood obesity the Senate Health Policy Committee should consult: (1) The Role of Michigan Schools in Promoting Healthy Weight – A Consensus Paper, September 2001; and (2) the Policy on Coordinate School Health Programs to Support Academic Achievement and Healthy Schools, as approved by the Board on September 25, 2003.

XXIX. DISCUSSION REGARDING ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MODIFICATIONS TO NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT

Dr. Jeremy Hughes, Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer; and Ms. Roberta Stanley, Director, Administrative Law and Federal Relations; provided Talking Points on Michigan's Message on No Child Left Behind.

Discussion Regarding Additional Recommendations for Modifications to No Child Left Behind Act.

Dr. Hughes said there was Board consensus at the February meeting to continue discussion at future meetings regarding additional recommendations for modifications to the No Child Left Behind Act. He said based on the discussion during the Committee of the Whole, proposals are being presented to address 100% proficiency; and rigorous national academic achievement standards in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science.

Mr. Austin said supplemental educational services should first be provided to public schools in need of improvement, and school choice should be an option if supplemental educational services do not foster improvement.

Ms. Danhof said support should be targeted to the specific needs of the students and school.

There was Board consensus supporting additional flexibility in statewide accountability systems to assess students with disabilities on appropriate alternate assessments and count their test scores when the state can document the necessity for more than 1% or 2% of students with severe cognitive impairments.

Dr. Hughes said Michigan could justify an increase in the percentage based on the following: (1) Michigan serves birth to 26 year olds in need of special education services; and (2) Michigan is a border state with a long-time history of providing excellent special education services, and families have moved to Michigan to partake of the services.

Mr. Austin said Michigan has a transparent, defensible system for determining which students would fit into this category requiring an alternate assessment.

Mr. Flanagan said no formal action is required, and additional recommendations for modifications to the No Child Left Behind Act will be discussed at future Board meetings as deemed necessary.

The revised Talking Points on Michigan's Message on NCLB is attached as Exhibit B.

XXX. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

A. Board Resolution for National Days of Remembrance for Holocaust Victims – Mrs. Nancy Danhof

Mrs. Danhof said that on March 8, 2005 the Board passed Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust Resolution. She said she will again be attending the national ceremony, and she would like to present a resolution from the Board to the Chairman of the Holocaust Commission. She said when she presented the resolution in 2005, she was told Michigan was the only State Board of Education to adopt such a resolution. There was Board consensus to adopt a resolution at the April Board meeting.

B. Mathematics/Science Conference – Mrs. Elizabeth Bauer

Mrs. Bauer said she attended "Making Michigan Competitive: Math & Science Education For the 21st Century Workforce" on February 22, 2007 at the Lansing Center. She said one of the speakers was Dr. Leon Lederman, who received a Nobel Prize in Physics. Mrs. Bauer said Dr. Lederman said mathematics is the foundation of all science and mathematics, and then physics should be taught. She said he believes after mathematics and physics are mastered, then chemistry should be taught; and biology can only be fully understood after mathematics, physics, and chemistry are mastered.

Dr. Caamal Canul said a sequence was not suggested by the Department. Mr. Flanagan said course content expectations will allow for the sequence, and a possible podcast will be done explaining the preferred sequence.

XXXI. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Mr. Flanagan asked Board members to submit agenda topics for future Board meetings to Mrs. Straus, Mr. Austin, or Mrs. Curtin, who serve as members of the agenda planning committee.

XXXII. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. April 10, 2007
- B. April 12-13, 2007 – State Board of Education Retreat
- C. May 8, 2007
- D. June 12, 2007

XXXIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn L. Curtin
Secretary