

## SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

Date:	Thursday January 15, 2015 - 2:00 p.m. Central Standard Time
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Location: MacKay Building, Library Commons, First Floor  
800 Governors Drive, Pierre, South Dakota

Public telephonic access:  
1-866-410-8397/conference code: 8381998525

Present: Kelly Duncan, Member  
Glenna Fouberg, Member  
Marilyn Hoyt, Member  
Donald Kirkegaard, President  
Julie Mathieson, Member  
Stacy Phelps, Member (joined the meeting at 2:12 p.m.)  
Deb Shephard, Member  
Patricia Simmons, Vice-President

Absent: Terry Sabers, Member

DOE Staff: Melody Schopp, Becky Nelson, Keley Smith-Keller, Laura Scheibe, Jan Martin, Sam Shaw, Tiffany Sanderson, Steve Fiechtner, Abby Javurek-Humig, Bobbi Rank, Ferne Haddock, and Holly Farris.

Others in

Attendance: Mary Scheel-Buyse, Diana Wilson, Mark Wilson, Greg Von Wald, Michelle Nelin-Maruani, Terri Jorgenson, JoAnne Bohl, Frances Linn, Rep. Jacqueline Sly, Ben Jones, and other members of the public personally present and by telephone.

### **Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call:**

President Kirkegaard called the meeting to order at approximately 2:01 p.m. CST.

### **Adoption of Agenda:**

An additional agenda item was added to discuss the location of the July 2015 Board meeting.

Motion by Hoyt, second by Mathieson, to adopt the January 15, 2015, proposed agenda. Voice vote, all present voted in favor. Motion carried.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

The date of the July meeting was corrected from July 22, 2015, to July 27, 2015, in the November 17, 2014, minutes.

## **SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

Motion by Simmons, second by Duncan, to approve the November 17, 2014, minutes as corrected. Voice vote, all presented voted in favor. Motion carried.

### **Membership Update**

Deb Shephard was introduced as a new member of the board filling the seat formerly held by Richard Gowen. Board officers for the 2015 calendar year were recognized: Don Kirkegaard, president, and Patricia Simmons, vice president. Legal counsel Bobbi Rank administered the oath of office to the board.

### **Western Dakota Tech (WDT) Bonding Project Approval**

Tiffany Sanderson, DOE director of career and technical education, and Mark Wilson, WDT president, testified in favor of WDT's request for approval to issue bonds for its proposed project. The proposal was amended from a September presentation to reflect renovation of those plans. In addition, section 2.5 of the proposed resolution clarifies a resolution passed by the board in November which authorized bond refunding on the 2008 series.

Motion by Shepard, second by Mathieson, to approve the proposed resolution. Voice vote, all present voted in favor. Motion carried.

### **Northern State University (NSU) Educator Preparation Unit and Programs**

Steve Fiechtner, DOE, and Dr. Connie Geier, Dean of the NSU School of Education, presented information on the review of the NSU Educator Preparation Program. The onsite review of the NSU program took place in April 2014. The NSU program complied with all standards and was approved by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education in the summer of 2014. Fiechtner requested Board approval of the NSU Educator Preparation Program for an additional seven years.

Motion by Hoyt, second by Duncan, to approve the NSU Educator Preparation Unit and Programs for an additional seven-year period. Voice vote, all present voted in favor. Motion carried.

### **Sisseton Wahpeton College (SWC) Birth-Age 8 Early Childhood Educator Preparation Program**

Steve Fiechtner presented information on the request submitted by Sisseton Wahpeton College to begin offering a Birth-Age 8 Early Childhood Educator Preparation Program. SWC seeks to offer a Birth-Age 8 program to expand on current offerings, which currently consists only of an elementary education program.

In response to Board questions, Fiechtner noted that projections for interest in the program are strong, and no concerns about oversaturation have been expressed.

## **SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

Motion by Duncan, second by Phelps, to approve the SWC of a Birth-Age 8 Early Childhood Educator Preparation Program. Voice vote, all present voted in favor. Motion carried.

### **Smarter Balanced Achievement Levels**

Jan Martin, DOE assessment administrator, presented information on the Smarter Balanced Achievement Levels in English Language Arts and Mathematics for grades 3-8 and 11. The Smarter Balanced Consortium finalized and approved the cut scores for the achievement levels on November 14, 2014. The Board was presented with that information at the November 17, 2014, board meeting. Martin requested the Board's approval of the cut scores.

In response to Board questions, Martin pointed out that the Smarter Balanced Consortium may revisit and review the cut scores on an as-needed basis and that every state in the consortium has the same cut scores to allow for useful comparison from state to state. Martin also discussed the window for testing, which is based on a percentage of completion of the school year, and the adaptive nature of the test. Dr. Melody Schopp, Secretary of Education, noted that South Dakota teachers had input on the achievement level cut scores.

Motion by Duncan, second by Simmons, to approve the achievement level cut scores. Voice vote, all present voted in favor. Motion carried.

### **Proposed Accountability Rule Changes and Special Meeting**

Laura Scheibe, DOE accreditation and accountability administrator, presented information on the proposed accountability administrative rules changes. The proposed changes stem from ESEA waiver changes presented to the Board in 2013 and approved by the U.S. Department of Education (US DOE) in June 2014. The U.S. DOE issued guidance on the waiver renewal in December 2014. Scheibe requested a special board meeting to present a first reading of the proposed rule changes.

The Board deferred scheduling of the special meeting until later during the meeting.

### **Build Dakota Scholarship Report**

Keley Smith-Keller, DOE, presented a report on the Build Dakota Scholarship Program. The program was established with a \$25 million donation and matching funds from the South Dakota Future Fund to provide scholarships to technical institutes. The aim of the program is to grow the South Dakota workforce. A review of high need areas will target areas of study in need of training development. A program goal is to award 300 scholarships for Fall 2015. The program will be open to both in-state and out-of-state applicants.

In response to Board questions, Smith-Keller discussed groups which would be targeted to apply for and receive the scholarships.

## **SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

### **Technical Institute Continuing Program Review**

Keley Smith-Keller presented the annual review of technical institute programs. Smith-Keller noted that no technical institute programs required the Board's attention and that all technical institute programs are performing well.

### **Reduced-Rate Dual Credit Program Report for Fall 2014**

Erin Larsen, DOE, presented a report on the Reduced-Rate Dual Credit Program Fall 2014 data. The program allows students in grades 11 and 12 to take post-graduate course work at a reduced tuition rate. The program began in Fall 2014 with 1,077 students enrolled. The majority of participating students came from public schools, with private school, tribal school, and home school students also enrolled.

### **Mitchell Technical Institute (MTI) Program Expansion—Industrial Maintenance Technician**

Tiffany Sanderson, DOE director of career and technical education, and Greg Von Wald, MTI president, testified in favor of expanding the MTI Industrial Maintenance Technology program from a diploma program into an A.A.S. degree program. Von Wald noted that the demand for workers with a more comprehensive industrial maintenance education is high.

Motion by Duncan, second by Fouberg, to approve MTI expanding the Industrial Maintenance Technology diploma program to an A.A.S. degree program. Voice vote, all present voted in favor. Motion carried.

### **Vocational Education System Fund Statements Report**

Tamara Darnall, DOE director of finance and management, presented the Vocational Education System Fund Statements Report.

### **Southeast Technical Institute (STI) Equipment Approval**

Tiffany Sanderson, STI president Jeff Holcomb (via phone), and STI vice-president of academic affairs Jim Jacobsen (via phone), testified in support of STI's request for equipment funds from the technical institute equipment fund. The Sioux Falls School Board approved the request at its December 8, 2014, meeting.

Motion by Simmons, second by Mathieson, to approve STI's equipment approval request. Voice vote, all present voted in favor. Motion carried.

### **Scheduling of Special Meeting**

## SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

Motion by Fouberg, second by Duncan, to schedule a special meeting of the Board for January 29, 2015, at 4 p.m. CST. Topics to include first reading of rules and other potential matters. Voice vote, all present voted in favor. Motion carried.

### **Secretary's Report**

Dr. Schopp recognized the South Dakota Teachers of the Year in attendance and discussed current events of the legislative session.

President Kirkegaard declared a recess at approximately 3:18 p.m. CST.

President Kirkegaard declared the Board back in session at approximately 3:58 p.m. CST.

### **Public Hearing—Standards: Science, K-12 Educational Technology, Fine Arts, and Social Studies**

The Board of Education convened a public hearing at approximately 3:58 p.m. CST, January 15, 2015, on the following proposed standards: Science, K-12 Educational Technology, Fine Arts, and Social Studies.

#### Fine Arts

Becky Nelson, DOE director of learning and instruction, testified in favor of the proposed standards. A workgroup of South Dakota educators and business partners met to review and revise the current fine arts standards in the areas of music, theater, media arts, visual arts, and dance. Each area has common threads through the artistic processes of creating, performing, responding, and connecting. Each standard is broken down into outcomes by grade levels.

Fine Arts Exhibits 1-7 were addressed at the September 15, 2014, and November 17, 2014, public hearings and are part of the record. Public comments marked as Fine Arts Exhibits 8 and 9 were received into the record and addressed. The comments raised concerns about how the standards were worded and broken down in certain areas. The comments will be referred to the workgroup members.

There was no opponent testimony.

#### K-12 Educational Technology

Becky Nelson testified in favor of the proposed standards. A workgroup of South Dakota educators and partners met to review and revise the current standards. The standards include six different strands that are consistent through all grade levels, with outcomes banded by grade.

No new public comments were submitted since the last public hearing.

## SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

There was no opponent testimony.

### Science

Sam Shaw, DOE team leader for learning and instruction, testified in favor of the proposed standards. A workgroup met to review the current standards of science education in South Dakota and formulated a set of criteria to ensure any referenced standards met certain requirements. Shaw referenced the science standards fact sheet and comparison document.

Science Standards Exhibits 1-16 were addressed at the September 15, 2014, and November 17, 2014, public hearings and are part of the record. Public comments marked as Science Exhibits 17-20 were received into the record and addressed. The comments raised concerns about the effect of the proposed standards on creative ability and specificity in the area of engineering. The comments will be referred to workgroup members.

Dr. Mike Amolins, teacher, parent, and workgroup member, testified in favor of the proposed standards via telephone. Amolins noted that past comparisons of the proposed standards to Common Core standards are not accurate and that the workgroup referenced multiple sources and looked at best practices in the field. Local control and flexibility are given to the districts through the standards. Amolins pointed out that the workgroup took special care to comply with SB 64. Amolins stated that, as a professional scientist, he is confident the proposed standards will create capable workers in this area. The proposed standards are not content-focused but skills-focused, and will result in competent problem-solvers.

Matt Miller, educator and workgroup member, testified in favor of the proposed standards via telephone. Miller noted that the proposed standards will increase expectations of students and increase the emphasis on science in schools. Surveys he conducted in his current position at South Dakota State University indicated serious problems with science education and showed the need for increased rigor. The proposed standards will help students improve because it will engage them. The crosscutting concepts are also important in today's world.

Liz McMillan, parent, educator, and workgroup member, testified in favor of the proposed standards. McMillan testified that the proposed standards create a wide range of opportunities for teachers to teach within their unique situations. She also pointed out that local teachers could not come up with standards on their own, as they do not have enough time. McMillan noted that adopting the standards now would allow for review in a few years to see where modification is needed, and that the proposed standards teach kids to think on their own rather than through rote memorization.

Frances Linn, high school science teacher and workgroup member, testified in favor of the proposed standards. Linn noted that the workgroup was diligent and careful about the work they did. She stated her opinions that there are no hidden sexuality standards within the proposed standards and that the standards don't enforce a certain stance on climate change,

## SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

which schools have flexibility in addressing. Linn also noted that the proposed standards are sensitive to diversity of faith regarding topics like evolution. Linn stated that the standards are South Dakotan, and that while costs were saved by referencing the best standards in the field, those standards were reviewed and modified to make them appropriate for South Dakota students.

Terri Jorgenson, Concerned Women for America of South Dakota, testified in opposition to the proposed standards. Jorgenson stated that there is a genuine effort to improve quality of science standards in South Dakota, but that she sees a bias in the workgroup's major source document, specifically in regard to global warming as settled science without opposing viewpoints. A more balanced view of global warming should be stated.

### Social Studies

Sam Shaw testified in favor of the proposed Social Studies standards. A workgroup met to formulate the proposed standards by looking at a number of sources. Each existing standard was examined. The workgroup looked at vertical alignment of the standards as well.

Social Studies Standards Exhibits 1-10 were addressed at the September 15, 2014, and November 17, 2014, public hearings and are part of the record. Public comments marked as Social Studies Standards Exhibits 11-13 were received into the record and addressed. Some of the comments expressed concern with specific areas of the standards and will be referred to the workgroup.

Shaw also noted that the workgroup is working on securing a grant from the South Dakota Humanities Council to integrate the Oceti Sakowin ("Essential Understandings") into the process for disaggregating the proposed standards.

JoAnne Bohl, teacher and workgroup member, testified in favor of the proposed standards. Bohl pointed out that two critical areas are improved by the proposed standards: increased rigor in government and economic content, and the creation of skill sets to make students into problem solvers. Bohl noted that the C3 framework was referenced, but the workgroup referenced many resources. The suggestions pulled from C3 are basic skills that students should possess.

Michelle Nelin-Maruani, teacher and workgroup member, testified in favor of the proposed standards. Nelin-Maruani testified that the proposed standards apply disciplinary concepts that historians and geographers apply in the field, while also teaching writing and communicating.

Ben Jones, parent, educator, and workgroup member, testified in opposition to the proposed standards. Jones believes the high school U.S. history standards are mistaken. He also stated that he believes students should have to pass a civics citizenship test. Jones believes the standards should entail comprehensive timeframes of history studied by the various grades.

## SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

In response to questions from the Board, Shaw discussed the workgroup's processes and formulation of the standards in early, comprehensive, and modern U.S. history. The proposed U.S. history standards are supported by a majority of the workgroup. The workgroup arranged the U.S. history standards for increased flexibility for school districts to offer standards in early, modern, and/or comprehensive history. A number of Board members requested that the DOE formulate a survey to send to districts to gather information about how modern and comprehensive history standards should be arranged for the Board's review at its March meeting.

The standards hearing closed at approximately 5:39 p.m. CST.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m. CST.

DRAFT