

WYOMING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
November 18, 2016  
GoToMeeting

Wyoming State Board of Education members present: Pete Gosar, Kathy Coon, Ken Rathbun, Jillian Balow, Sue Belish, Scotty Ratliff, Robin Schamber, Kathryn Sessions, Walt Wilcox, and Belenda Willson

Members absent: Nate Breen and Jim Rose

Also present: Chelsie Oaks, WDE; Lisa Weigel, WDE; Thomas Sachse, SBE Coordinator; Katherine Leuschel, Attorney General's Office (AG); Julie Magee, WDE; Laurie Hernandez, WDE; Bob Jensen, Holland & Hart.

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CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, Pete Gosar, called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Chelsie Oaks conducted roll call and established that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Scotty Ratliff moved to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Kathy Coon.

Pete Gosar requested that an action item be added for "December Meeting".

Scotty and Kathy accepted the amendment.

The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the October 13-14, 2016 State Board of Education (SBE) meetings were presented for approval.

Walt Wilcox moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Ken Rathbun; the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

SBE Treasurer, Ken Rathbun, presented the summary review and expenditures report for board's budgets and noted that there was a slight glitch in the expenditure reporting but that the issue would be fixed within the Department. Sue Belish moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Belenda Willson; the motion carried.

WYOMING STATE SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

State Superintendent, Jillian Balow, updated the board that the Governor has signed a Hathaway Scholarship Day proclamation and that the department is continuing to grow the program and the day. She also updated the board on The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) roundtable discussions that have been held around the state and mentioned that the board would be hearing a bill around Native American education and from Bob Jensen on a proposed civics education bill. Jillian stated that with these two bills the board needs to consider a process for a trigger of the off cycle review of standards.

Sue Belish congratulated Jillian on the success of the round table and town hall discussions around ESSA and requested that the WDE provide the SBE with a proposal of what the triggers and process of an off cycle review would look like. Sue then requested more information on the Superintendent Policy Summit.

Jillian stated that the summit will be held January 12-13, all members of the board are invited to attend and the focus this year will be around ESSA, Career Technical Education and creating strategic partnerships across the state. Kari Eakins will forward each member information about the summit.

Laurie Hernandez, WDE, added that she had done some work on options for the trigger of an off cycle review process last spring and will be prepared to bring it forward to the board in the next SBE meeting.

Lastly, Pete Gosar said that any priorities can be put on the agenda and that this board should be transparent as possible.

## BOARD REPORTS AND UPDATES

### Legislative Agenda

Tom Sachse SBE Coordinator, reviewed the memo provided in the meeting packet and the current bills that pertain to education and the SBE.

The board discussed a bill that proposed American Indian education program. Scotty Ratliff noted that the latest version of the bill was made by the Tribal Relations Committee and that universally the communities are excited about the proposed legislation. He also added that the main concern is making certain the bill doesn't mandate curriculum. The board further discussed concerns with the SBE's responsibilities listed in the draft bill and the possibility of opening up all the state standards and the current timeline provided. Kathryn Sessions stated that this bill is draft legislation and is changing and will continue to change throughout the legislative session.

Discussion continued around proposed legislation on education accountability, leader accountability, state board of education membership and the bill that was removed in Joint Education Committee that would have given the SBE a coordinator position.

### Long-Term and Interim, Goals

Tom Sachse asked members to review the memo provided in the meeting packet. He discussed how he and the WDE Liaison, Lisa Weigel, felt that the board should slow down with the implementation of its own goals to better align with those of the WDE.

### SBE Policy Manual

SBE Coordinator, Tom Sachse, proposed the board approve the revised sections 23 and 24 of its policy manual.

The board had discussion around section 23, voting method, and the last sentence that stated "Votes may be cast by board members in person only."

Sue Belish suggested to revise the last sentence to read "Votes may be cast by members in attendance except as defined by law."

### Chapter 31 Corrections

Katherine Leuschel, attorney for SBE, addressed that the statement of authority had been mistakenly deleted in the previous approved version of Chapter 31 rules on graduation requirements. A vote will be requested today to resubmit the rules.

Julie Magee, WDE, added that in addition to the statement of authority added back in, there is word smithing for the November 1 deadline, and changes to the statement of reasons as a result of the Joint Education Committee meeting. Julie reviewed the revised Chapter 31 rules, provided in the meeting packet, with the board.

### Assessment Update

Laurie Hernandez, WDE, reviewed the assessment request for proposal (RFP) timeline provided in the meeting packet. Board members that serve on the RFP review committees are Kathryn Sessions, Grades 1-10, and Walt Wilcox, College Entrance and Career Readiness.

## SBE COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Communication Committee

Kelly Pascal Gould, Pascal Public Relations, reported that she and Tom Sachse have been working on blog posts and a transition plan for Tom taking over the public relations work when Kelly's contract is over and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the board. They are going to ask the Governor to do a proclamation and create a highlight sheet of board accomplishments over the years.

Robin Schamber asked that a recording be made of the ceremony.

Chelsie Oaks will conduct a Doodle Poll on member availability for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

Board members talked about inviting previous state superintendents and board members.

### Administrative Committee

Sue Belish reported that the committee meets the first Monday of every month, a November meeting overview is provided in the packet, and to let her or any committee member know if they have any questions.

### Advisory Committee

Sue Belish noted that her full report from the Advisory Committee on Accountability for November 2016 is in the meeting packet for board members review, but asked that members refer to the last page and the last paragraph. A new chapter in rules might be needed around accountability, because currently there is not one.

#### NEXT MEETING

Pete Gosar stated that he felt that an in person December meeting might be warranted. Members agreed that if agenda items were deep enough that they would meet.

#### CIVIC EDUCATION

Bob Jensen, Holland and Hart, presented on a civic education initiative that would require a students to pass the U.S. citizenship civic test as a graduation requirement. There could be proposed legislation around this initiative in the upcoming session.

Members of the board gave their concerns about Bob's proposal.

Mr. Jensen noted that he felt the board's comments were appropriate. He stated that this is an effort to give every student a better platform to understand the importance of civics. Additionally, Bob noted that North Dakota has this requirement in its legislation.

Chairman, Pete Gosar, thanked Bob for the presentation and welcomed him to come back before the board if he wished to continue the discussion.

#### HOT SPRINGS BOCES AGREEMENT

Katherine Leuschel, SBE attorney, stated that the attorney general's office recommends approving the proposed agreements.

Belenda Willson moved to approve the Hot Springs BOCES Agreement provided in the meeting packet, seconded by Ken Rathbun.

Sue Belish thanked Katherine on the information she provided the board on the agreement.

The motion carried.

#### CHAPTER 31 REVISIONS

Julie Magee stated that there is no additional information to provide since the previous discussion.

Sue Belish moved to promulgate the proposed revisions to the Chapter 31 Rules, seconded by Kathryn Sessions. The motion carried.

## SBE POLICIES

Tom Sachse referenced Section 23 and 24 of the SBE policies in the meeting packet for approval.

Robin Schamber moved to approve the sections but to amend Section 23 for the last sentence to read "Votes may be cast by members in attendance except as defined by law." Seconded by Ken Rathbun; the motion carried.

## DECEMBER MEETING

Pete Gosar, Chairman, requested the board schedule a face to face meeting in December.

Sue Belish moved to have a SBE meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup> in Casper, Wyoming. Scotty Ratliff seconded.

Members discussed availability on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Sue Belish withdrew her motion and requested that several dates be sent out in a Doodle Poll for the second and third week of December for a one day meeting in Casper.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was given.

The meeting adjourned at 3:53 p.m.