

WYOMING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
August 18th, 2016
WCA Regional Training Center
2220 Bryan Stock Trail
Casper, Wyoming

Wyoming State Board of Education members present: Pete Gosar, Ken Rathbun, Dicky Shanor, proxy for Jillian Balow, Sue Belish, Nate Breen, Scotty Ratliff, Jim Rose, Robin Schamber, Kathryn Sessions, Walt Wilcox and Belenda Willson (by phone)

Members absent: Hugh Hageman and Kathy Coon.

Also present: Chelsie Oaks, WDE; Lisa Weigel, WDE; Tom Sachse, SBE Coordinator; Mackenzie Williams, Attorney General's Office (AG); Katherine Leuschel, Attorney General's Office (AG); Mary Kay Hill, Governor's Office; Julie Magee, WDE; Mike Fliccek, WDE; Jo Ann Numoto, WDE; Brent Bacon, WDE; and Kathy Scheurman, WEA

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pete Gosar called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Nate Breen moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Sue Belish; the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the June 23-24, 2016 State Board of Education meeting were presented for approval. Sue Belish moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Dicky Shanor, proxy for Superintendent. Robin Schamber abstained; the motion carried.

Minutes from the July 8, 2016 State Board of Education meeting were presented for approval. Ken Rathbun moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Nate Breen. Robin Schamber abstained; the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

SBE Treasurer, Ken Rathbun, presented the summary review and expenditures report for board's budgets. He noted that some of the travel expenses were submitted after the biennium close out and that is why these charges are appearing in the new budget.

Scotty Ratliff moved to approve the presented Treasurer's Report, Sue Belish seconded; the motion carried.

BOARD REPORTS AND UPDATES

September 1 Legislative Report

SBE Coordinator, Tom Sachse, presented a draft of the September 1 Legislative Report regarding the Governance Structure of the State Board and the Need for an Independent State Board Coordinator.

The board discussed in detail the necessity and importance of an SBE coordinator position.

Sue Belish recommended revisions to the report that included: rearranging the order of the recommendations in the executive summary and the section about state boards in general. On the section on the need of an executive officer she suggested a description of the board coordinator and executive assistant should be included. Board Member Belish also recommended adding a paragraph in the report about how the position was eliminated in the first place, that the board did not support the elimination and that it was discussed outside of the board deliberations. Additionally she recommended emphasizing that the SBE used to have more staff prior to 2012.

Lastly, Sue recommended adding a paragraph for more partnering between the WDE and the coordinator and the report should also contain an opinion on the governance structure.

Discussion also took place around the SBE budget authority and the boards' wish to have more budgetary authority.

Sue Belish moved that her suggested changes be made to the report, Scotty Ratliff seconded. Dicky Shanor, proxy for State Superintendent, opposed. The motion carried.

Sue Belish moved that the recommendation of the State Board have budget authority over its own budget be included in the recommendations section of the report. Scotty Ratliff seconded. Dicky Shanor, proxy for State Superintendent, opposed; the motion carried.

Scotty Ratliff moved to recommend that the Dean of Education at the University of Wyoming be an ex-officio member of the board be added to the recommendation section of the report. Nate Breen seconded; the motion carried.

Scotty Ratliff moved to recommend that all ex-officio members not be voting members on the board. Pete Gosar seconded.

Sue Belish stated that she would not be voting in favor of the motion, that she felt the board and State Superintendent needed to be partners and if making ex-officio members full voting members of that board would help then that should be recommended.

The motion failed.

Ken Rathbun moved the board recommend in the report that all ex-officio members of the board be full voting members. Seconded by Nate Breen. Pete Gosar opposed; the motion carried.

WDE HIGHLIGHTS

Rob Black, WDE, was recently named the social studies consultant and has been working as the Native American Education consultant. Mr. Black gave highlights from the annual Native American Conference that took place on August 10-11, 2016 in Riverton and suggested that the board consider inviting the Triad to the SBE October meeting.

The board viewed a PBS video on the Wind River Reservation about Why Teach Native American History.

CONINUATION OF BOARD REPORTS AND UPDATES

NASBE Meetings

Tom Sachse gave an update on the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) New Member Institute he added in July and asked members to consider attending the annual conference in October that will take place in Kansas City, Missouri this year.

Strategic Action Plan

SBE Coordinator, Tom Sachse, reviewed the revised action plan with the board. He also noted that he has been working with Kelly Pascal Gould from Pascal Public Relations on blog posts.

Sue Belish requested that the board's mission and vision be handed out at each meeting, she thought this would make the board more accountable.

Legislative Action Plan

Tom Sachse reviewed the legislative action plan provided in the meeting packet with the Board. He will be adding the recommendations from the September 1 Legislative Report to the plan.

SBE Retreat

Tom Sachse discussed possible agenda items and topics for the upcoming SBE retreat.

Nate Breen requested an update on the WyCEL and ECHO project.

Belenda Wilson asked that information be provided on the future of SBE communications since the board will not be able to fund the communication contract for much longer.

Pete Gosar requested a presentation on the Every Students Succeeds Act (ESSA).

SBE Policies

SBE Coordinator, Tom Sachse, reported that he and Lisa Weigel, WDE Liaison, have been working together to edit the policies and presented sections 1, 2, 3,7,8, 19 & 22 for review.

To help condense the policies, Tom suggested that on each policy the legislation be removed and that a hyperlink to the statute be included instead.

Proxy for State Superintendent, Dicky Shanor, did not feel like the statutes belong in the policies.

Sue Belish noted that in her experience with local school districts, they usually reference statute that goes along with policy.

The board determined that sections 19 & 22 of policy would be reviewed again in the next SBE meeting.

Sue Belish wanted to know how the board would develop a policy around reviewing and approving executive session minutes. Mackenzie Williams, SBE Attorney, will work with the board coordinator on creating an appropriate policy.

Rules Update

Tom Sachse and Mackenzie Williams, gave an update on the status of the current Chapter 31 Rules and the ongoing dialogue that has taken place between the Legislative Service Office, WDE and SBE. Most recently, communication has been exchanged on what exactly is being expected in the revision of the rules. Mackenzie reviewed the two issues that needed to be addressed. With that understanding expect that the process will begin to move forward. Mackenzie advised the board to rescind the emergency rules and the proposed regular rules.

Specialty Task Forces

Deb Lindsey, WDE, gave an update on the status of the specialty task forces. Most of the recommendations will be coming out of the early childhood specialty task force.

Assessment Request for Proposal

Deb Lindsey, WDE, gave an update on the request for proposal (RFP) for the new assessment and that there will actually be two RFP's issued, one for grade 11th & 12th and the other for 1st-10th.

Mrs. Lindsey then highlighted the key components from the theory of action. The timeline for the next steps is that the RFP's will be released in early September and will be left out for responses for six weeks. Once those six weeks are up Deb will put together proposals for the review committee. Then the committee will determine the top two or three proposals, complete the final rating, and bring a recommendation to the SBE for final approval.

She did not want to over specify but wanted to make sure the board felt it had enough information.

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

Lisa Weigel and Brent Bacon presented on ESSA. They are working on keeping the ESSA website up to date at all times.

Brent Bacon talked about the internal work group at the WDE, which is composed of people from the whole department. The internal work group just received a template upon which the state plan will be submitted. Mr. Bacon noted that not everything is going to change but the biggest shift is from compliance based to responsibility based system. The state plan should be completed and submitted in the spring of 2017.

The board will have a complete timeline of ESSA at the September retreat.

ACCOUNTABILITY UPDATE

Julie Magee and Mike Flicek gave an update on Wyoming School Accountability. Mike Flicek reviewed the information that was provided in the meeting packet. The board thanked Mrs. Magee and Mr. Flicek for their time.

CHAPTER THREE RULES

Julie Magee, WDE, presented the Chapter 3 Rules on Rules of Practice and Procedure and gave a brief history of the rule review. The department did not receive a single comment on the rules, so there are no proposed changes to the rules. At this time the WDE would like to propose the rules for adoption.

Sue Belish moved that the board adopt the Chapter 3 Rules on Practice and Procedure as presented to the board, Scotty Ratliff seconded; the motion carried.

SBE POLICIES

Sue Belish moved to approve sections 1, 2, 3, 7 & 8 of the SBE policies. Scotty Ratliff seconded.

Dicky Shanor, proxy for State Superintendent, noted that with the discussed revision of section 19 earlier in the meeting he will support the motion.

The motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION OF COURT ORDERED PLACEMENT OF STUDENTS

Jo Ann Numoto, WDE, presented the Northwest Wyoming Treatment Center and the Piney Ridge Treatment Center/Summit Academy be approved facilities for Court Ordered Placement of Students.

Sue Belish moved that the State Board of Education (SBE) designate Piney Ridge Treatment Center/Summit Academy as an approved facility for Court Ordered Placement of Students and subsequent educational payments pursuant to Section 4 and 5 of Chapter 14, SBE Emergency Rules and Regulations and completion of the review.

Walt Wilcox seconded; the motion carried.

Walt Wilcox moved that the State Board of Education (SBE) designate Northwest Wyoming Treatment Center as an approved facility for Court Ordered Placement of Students and subsequent educational payments pursuant to Section 4 and 5 of Chapter 14, SBE Emergency Rules and Regulations and completion of the review.

Sue Belish seconded. Kathryn Sessions opposed; the motion carried.

SEPTEMBER 1 LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Tom Sachse suggested the board assemble a committee to review and approve the final edits of this report.

Chairman, Pete Gosar, thought the administration committee would be the best fit.

Sue Belish moved that the SBE administration committee be responsible for approving the final report before it is submitted to the Legislative Services Office on September 1st. Ken Rathbun seconded; the motion carried.

OTHER ISSUES

Sue Belish requested the Attorney General's Office staff provide all statutes that are referenced for accreditation of schools.

Walt Wilcox recommended that the administration committee assist Tom Sachse in choosing topics for the SBE retreat.

Mackenzie Williams reminded the board that it needed to make a decision on the Chapter 31 Rules.

Sue Belish moved to rescind the emergency rules and proposed regular rules for Chapter 31. Nate Been seconded; the motion carried.

NEXT MEETING

The Board's next meeting will take place at Eatons' Ranch in Wolf, Wyoming on September 22-23, 2016

The meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.