

WYOMING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
June 22, 2017  
201 North Connor St.  
Sheridan, Wyoming

Wyoming State Board of Education members present: Walt Wilcox, Ken Rathbun, State Superintendent Jillian Balow, Sue Belish, Nate Breen, Scotty Ratliff, Ryan Fuhrman, Dan McGLade, Max Mickelson (via Zoom Meeting), Jim Rose, and Belenda Willson (via Zoom Meeting).

Members absent: Robin Chamber, Kathryn Sessions

Also present: Kylie Taylor, WDE; Thomas Sachse, SBE Coordinator; Katherine Leuschel, Attorney General's Office (AG); Kari Eakins, WDE; Dicky Shanor, WDE Chief of Staff.

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June 22, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Walt Wilcox called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Kylie Taylor conducted roll call and established that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Superintendent Balow moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Scotty Ratliff; the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the May 18-19, 2017 State Board of Education meeting were presented for approval.

Sue Belish moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Scotty Ratliff; the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

SBE Treasurer, Ken Rathbun, presented the summary review and expenditures report for the board's budgets, and went over the remaining balances and time left in the current biennium.

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

WYOMING STATE SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

State Superintendent, Jillian Balow, gave an update regarding the national educational policy and that she had the privilege of serving on an education panel in Washington, DC. Superintendent Balow also gave an update on the Summer Technical Assistance Retreat that the WDE hosts every summer that provides

support to districts on the use of federal funds and implementation of the related federal programs. Superintendent Balow attended recalibration in Riverton where the committee hashed through the finer details of our funding model throughout the course of the day. The last update Superintendent Balow gave was on the public comment that is in full swing for the American Indian Education Program, there has been great attendance and input from all of the community meetings.

## BOARD REPORTS, UPDATES & COMMENTS

### **Coordinators Report**

Tom Sachse, SBE Coordinator, gave his coordinators report on his presentation to the JEIC, the report on Leader Accountability progress which is consisted of identifying job titles for the accountability system, tendency for individuals to conflate the evaluation system with accountability system, the 2014 Wyoming Standards for Educational Leaders is preferable to the national Professional Standards for Educational Leaders, what other states are doing, and the challenges. Tom also reported on the changes that have been made to Chapter 31 and the work that has been done surrounding that. The final piece of Tom's report was in regards to the Professional Judgement Panel and planning that is taking place to prepare for the July meeting.

### **Joint Education Interim Committee Reports**

Dicky Shanor, WDE Chief of Staff, reported on the on the memos that were submitted to the JEIC. The first memo was in regards to Education and Military and what the WDE has done to bring Wyoming into compliance with the Every Student Succeeds Act. The next memo discussed Computer Science Education and the work that is being done at the WDE to strengthen computer science for Wyoming students.

### **Advisory Committee and Professional Judgement Panel**

Dicky Shanor reported the work that is being done by the Advisory Committee to meet requirements of both ESSA and WAEA. Much of the work has been completed including consensus on the definition for Post-Secondary Readiness. A meeting with the PJP has been scheduled for July 13-14, with the immediate priority to align state and federal accountability models.

### **Alternative Schedule and School Performance Ratings**

Based on the information that was requested by the State Board at the May 2017 meeting, Dicky Shanor reported on school's performances that have an alternative schedule. Wyoming Statutes 21-2-304(b)(viii) and 21-4-301 provide the opportunity for school districts to apply for a waiver to the statutory requirement for schools to be in session for 175 student contact days each year.

### **Every Student Succeeds Act Update**

Kari Eakins, WDE Communications Director, reported on the public comment that was received by the WDE on the draft ESSA State Plan. Public comment was taken from April 24 to June 8, 2017 through four public meetings, an online survey, and several additional stakeholder meetings. There were 40 attendees at the public meetings, 20 comments were received through the online survey, and three stakeholder groups provided formal comments. Kari attached the most relevant comments to her memo for the Board to review.

## COMMITTEE UPDATES

### **Administrative Committee**

Sue Belish, SBE, discussed the most recent meeting the Administrative Committee had. During the meeting the committee discussed what the Advisory Committee on Accountability met and focused on and what the postsecondary readiness index will be in percentage of each school's 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who meet the state's definition of postsecondary ready based on three different options. The committee briefly discussed whether the Board should add completion of High School Equivalency Certificates to the calculations for graduation rates in the accountability system. The next topic was the work the WDE has done in facilitating the work on Leader Accountability, a group of school board members, superintendents, curriculum directors, and others are working to define who would be subject to the accountability system. The committee discussed the next steps to take with Chapter 31, JEIC reports, the PJP, June SBE meeting agenda items, technology assists, SBE staffing contracts, and set out a regular monthly administrative committee meeting schedule going forward.

### **Communications Committee**

Ryan Fuhman, SBE, gave an overview of what was discussed during the communications committee meeting. Tom Sachse distributed the communications plan to everyone that was in attendance at the committee meeting, because of the length and complexity of the plan, Tom suggested everyone read it on their own time and plan to discuss at a later time. It was suggested during the committee meeting to look at the website and conduct a review on what could be added/changed. Kenny Rathbun reviewed the original plan to use \$14,500 in the NASBE grant for communications purposes before the grant closes to new expenditures by July 15. Kenny and committee members reviewed the communications proposal that was reviewed and approved at the May State Board meeting. Kylie reported that she had nearly completed work on the Pascal continuation contract. Tom reported on the WPR interview that he had with Tennessee Watson regarding Wyoming Accountability in WAEA.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Court Ordered Placement of Students Facility**

The WDE recommended that the State Board of Education designate G4S Youth Services LLC as an approved facility for court ordered placement of students and subsequent educational payments pursuant to Wyoming Statue 21-13-315.

Kenny Rathbun moved to approve G4S Youth Services LLC as an approved facility for court ordered placement. Scotty Ratliff seconded, the motion carried with all Board members in favor.

#### **Accreditation**

Dianne Frazer, WDE, presented on the accreditation process in Wyoming, the Accreditation Section manages the accreditation process for institutional schools each year through accreditation reviews and follow-up provided by contractor Advanc-Ed.

Dianne gave the Board a proposed motion that the following Wyoming institutional schools be granted full accreditation as well as districts from around the state: C Bar V Ranch, NE BOCES, Powder River Basin, Red Top Meadows, Wyoming Boys School, St. Stephen's Indian School, Cathedral Home, Northwest WY BOCES, Big Horn Basin, St. Joseph's Children's Home, Wyoming Girls School, Fremont County BOCES, Normative Services, Wyoming Behavior Institute, and Youth Emergency Services, Inc.

Because of conflicts of interest within some of these school districts, the Board split motions.

Sue Belish moved to approve Crook County, Superintendent Balow seconded, Kenny Rathbun abstained from the vote; the motion carried.

Sue Belish moved to approve Laramie County, Superintendent Balow seconded, Nate Breen abstained from the vote; the motion carried.

Sue Belish moved to approve Natrona County, Superintendent Balow seconded, Chairman Wilcox abstained from the vote; the motion carried.

Sue Belish moved to approve Sheridan County, Superintendent Balow seconded, Ryan Furhman abstained from the vote; the motion carried.

Sue Belish moved to approve Sweetwater County, Superintendent Balow seconded, Max Mickelson abstained from the vote; the motion carried.

Sue Belish moved to approve Unita County, Superintendent Balow seconded; the motion carried.

After the vote on Unita County Tom Sachse read a letter from Unita County Superintendent Colby Gull regarding accreditation in his county.

Sue Belish moved to approve full accreditation of the thirteen Wyoming institutional schools, Kenny Rathbun seconded; the motion carried.

#### NEXT MEETING

The Board's next meeting will take place via teleconference on July 20, 2017

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.