

WYOMING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
April 19-20, 2018
1000 W. 8th Street
Gillette

Wyoming State Board of Education members present: Chairman Wilcox, Sue Belish, Max Mickelson, Megan Degenfelder (proxy for State Superintendent Balow), Ryan Fuhrman, Ken Rathbun, Kathryn Sessions, Robin Schamber, Forrest Smith, Nate Breen and Scotty Ratliff via Zoom.

Members absent: Dan McGlade, Jim Rose, and Dean Ray Reutzel.

Also present: Kylie Taylor, WDE; Dr. Tom Sachse, SBE Coordinator; Dr. Julie Magee, WDE; and Adam Leuschel, Attorney General's Office (AG).

April 19, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wilcox called the State Board of Education to order at 11:41 a.m.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Scotty Ratliff moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Ryan Fuhrman, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the March 22, 2018 State Board of Education meeting were presented for approval.

Nate Breen moved to approve the minutes, Sue Belish moved to amend the March 22 minutes to include comments from board members on Computer Science and which grade levels will be required to take Computer Science courses, seconded by Robin Schamber; the motion to amend carried. Ken Rathbun moved to approve the minutes with Sue's amendment, seconded by Ryan Fuhrman; the motion carried.

Kylie Taylor indicated that Robin Schamber reached out to her and informed her Forrest Smith was not included as being present in the March meeting minutes, Kylie said she would be sure to change that.

TREASURER'S REPORT

SBE Treasurer, Max Mickelson, 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, seconded by Ken Rathbun; the motion carried.

BOARD REPORTS AND UPDATES

State System of Support Update

Shelly Andrews, WDE, presented via Zoom to the SBE. Shelly presented that in response to the school and district feedback contained within the Education Northwest program evaluation report, adjustments to program delivery were made in 2017-2018. The Statewide System of Support continues to provide programming to schools based on the four pillars of support: educational leadership, data analysis and school improvement planning's, assessment literacy and formative assessment development, and professional learning communities implementation.

There are two components of the program, statewide training for all district leadership, school leadership, and teachers, and cohort of 15 schools. Schools will apply to be part of this comprehensive program.

Sue Belish asked questions regarding schools that are meeting vs. partially meeting expectations and asked if there is a point when we have to require certain schools to participate. Sue indicated that the board needs to know this kind of information in order to know if there is progress being made.

Update on Public Input Received on Proposed Standards for Math, Social Studies, and Science Extended

Laurie Hernandez, WDE, updated the board on the three areas of standards that public input was received on. The Math Standards Review Committee reviewed the current 2012 Mathematics Standards and identified areas to revise and enhance the current standards.

Trent Vonburg, WDE, presented to the board that the Science Extended Standards Review Committee reviewed and extended the current 2016 Science Standards, making them accessible to students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

Max Mickelson suggested the WDE reach out to the Department of Health for guidance on specific science issues.

Rob Black, WDE, indicated the Social Studies Review Committee reviewed the current 2014 Social Studies Standards and identified areas to revise and enhance the current standards in order to meet the requirement of 2017 HEA 119, Indian Ed for All.

Nate Breen said Native American Studies should be recommended under the Social Studies Standards.

Coordinator Position

Sue Belish reviewed the Coordinator Priorities write-up that was included in the packet indicating the top priorities are the Professional Judgement Panel, Chapter 31, Statewide "Basket of Goods", Legislative issues, and Governance Policies.

Max Mickelson moved the board to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues, seconded by Sue Belish; the motion carried.

Committee Assignments

Chairman Wilcox presented the committee assignment spreadsheet with his recommendations for new committee members.

Kylie Taylor suggested to Chairman Wilcox the board move committee reports and updates up a day as Laurel Ballard was still traveling to Gillette to present on Chapter 29. Chairman Wilcox agreed, indicating having committee reports and updates next was a good place to move to given the previous presentation on assignments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

Administrative Committee

The administrative committee reviewed the draft April agenda, reviewed calendar for 2018-19 SBE meetings, revised Governance Policies, reviewed Coordinator priorities, and discussed “basket of goods” or common core knowledge and common core of skills.

The board had a discussion on the “basket of goods”, Nate Breen said teachers plates are getting too full with the addition of Computer Science.

Sue Belish said the board needs to identify the rationale for looking at the “basket of goods” and determine what the expectation is based on their conversations.

Chapter 29 Update

The Certified Personnel Evaluation System for Leaders Advisory Panel (CPES Advisory Panel-Leaders) met on April 3 to continue its extensive review of the statutory requirements and refining the Chapter 29 Rules to insure alignment. Laurel Ballard will have a finalized set of Rules for the SBE to vote on during their May meeting, these Rules will include recommendations from the Wyoming Association of School Administrators and the Curriculum Directors Conferences. The Rules will also be shared with school principals through their associations for additional input.

Max Mickelson said he finds the concept of this teacher evaluation system very stressful.

Communications Committee

Ryan Fuhrman gave an overview of the last communications committee meeting including an update on the stakeholder communications, website updates, and communication topics the committee is working on.

Ryan Fuhrman also asked board members to send him or Kylie pictures or information if they are out in the public doing things that could be posted to Twitter.

The State Board of Education recessed at 4:28 p.m.

April 20, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wilcox called the State Board of Education to order at 8:00 a.m.

The SBE received a presentation from the 2018 Wyoming Teacher of the Year, Sara Reed and Elementary STEM Teacher of the Year, Heather Gibson.

Many board members thanked Sara and Heather for their hard work and dedication to their students.

Coordinator's Report

Dr. Tom Sachse, SBE Coordinator, started his report by updating the board on the interim topics. Tom suggested the board have a full discussion regarding reporting duties the board will have. Tom said there is three actions the board might want to consider, the first being comparing to the requirements of other states. Second, Tom recommended the board may want to convene a committee of practitioners to discuss and make recommendations on the implications of the Chapter 10 standards. Lastly, Tom said the board may want to solicit input from around the state by holding meetings during the summer to determine if the basket of goods is getting too full. The three priorities the board will need report on during the interim is Computer Science, progress on Chapter 31, and WAEA.

Tom will present the suggested changes to the admin committee during their next meeting. The communications committee has been looking into whether the five or six policies addressing communication issues can be merged and simplified.

Tom and Dr. Julie Magee presented on the status of the BETA contract and action plan. The draft contract will get reviewed internally by the WDE, and the AG's office. The target date for the review and approval process is early May.

ACTION ITEMS

Chapter 6 – Accreditation

Dr. Julie Magee, WDE, presented the changes that were made to the Chapter 6 Rules on Accreditation. There was discussion about the accreditation criteria and whether they were required by statute. Dr. Magee confirmed that they are all tied to statute.

Board members made suggestions for additional changes during the presentation, and all of their suggestions were incorporated into the Chapter 6 Rules on Accreditation.

Sue Belish moved to keep language from Section 8-a and move it to Section 6-a IV new letter c "non-accredited." Seconded by Max Mickelson; the motion carried.

Max Mickelson moved to promulgate the Chapter 6 Rules on Accreditation, seconded by Ken Rathbun; the motion carried.

Chapter 31 – Graduation Requirements

Dr. Magee presented the Statement of Reasons to the board and indicated the biggest difference is computer science, allowing for high school level classes to count toward graduation. One difference that is not mentioned is Carnegie Unit reference which is tied to seat time and funding.

Chairman Wilcox said he's giving a thumbs up and strong endorsement for these Rules. A lot of collective hours have gone into working on Chapter 31 and he said this really supports students.

Sue Belish said this is a great example of what can happen when everyone collaborates together with different groups, she said we should continue to do work like this.

Nate Breen said he echoes what Sue said and said thank you to Adam Leuschel and Mike O'Donnell for their help and support.

Sue Belish moved to promulgate the Chapter 31 Rules on Graduation Requirements, seconded by Max Mickelson; the motion carried.

Chapter 10 – State Standards

Nate Breen moved to promulgate the Chapter 10 Rules for Wyoming Content and Performance Standards, seconded by Max Mickelson; the motion carried.

State Board Meeting Dates for 2018-19

Nate Breen moved to accept the presented draft SBE meeting calendar for 2018-19, seconded by Robin Schamber; the motion carried.

NEXT MEETING

The board's next meeting will take place on May 18, 2018 via teleconference

The State Board of Education adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

DRAFT