

NCAE SBE Review

Provided by the NCAE Center for Teaching and Learning

The NC State Board of Education met on June 3-4 in Raleigh. During the two-day meeting, the Board met in committees, which:

Globally Competitive Students

- Heard a report from Steven Ross and Martha Allberg of the University of Memphis regarding Supplemental Educational Services (a requirement for schools in Level II of sanctions of NCLB). NC is one of 20 states in the country that has been evaluating SES. In 2007-08, nearly 9,000 students were served in 71% of school districts in North Carolina, at a cost of \$13 million. Teachers surveyed expressed concern about communication with SES providers. (Providers that fail to improve student success rates in two successive years should be removed.) From the research, there is no detectable increase in student achievement.
- Approved changes to the achievement level descriptors for NCEXTEND2 for the 2009-10 school year. You can find those changes [here](#).
- Approved allowing middle school students to take high school social studies courses and receive high school credit for those courses. The student must achieve level III or IV on an EOC (if an EOC is available), or the course shall be aligned with the NC SCOS for grades 9-12.
- Discussed changes to the NC Academic Scholars program. Those changes included re-aligning the mathematics requirement to the Future Ready Core Curriculum requirements. Also realigned were the requirements for second languages and electives, providing two options – (1) taking two second language courses and four electives (including one from CTE, JROTC, Arts Education Second Languages or any other subject area), or (2) AP, IB, Advanced CTE or online courses **and** completion of the NC Graduation Project. These options were created to allow for those schools who are currently implementing the NC Graduation Project. Also, changes include an overall unweighted GPA of 3.500 (previously the GPA could be weighted). In 2008-09, approximately 18% of graduates will receive seals of the NC Academic Scholars Program.
- Approved the proposed policy revision with regards to standards to be incorporated in electronically generated transcripts. This will be reviewed again once such changes are made to determine if options currently provided through NC WISE are effective.
- Approved a report after hearing an update on the legislative report (an evaluation on the services to students with hearing and/or visual impairments). Recommendations of the report were to leave residential programs with DHHS, as well as the Early Intervention

Program for Children who are deaf and hard of hearing, and the Governor Morehead Preschool, and to move to DPI the non-residential programs.

- Approved as the State Board of Career and Technical Education a new policy requiring NCCER accreditation for teachers and school programs in carpentry, electrics and masonry so that students are certified and able to enter community college. The total cost per school is less than \$350. This was moved to action on first read, and then approved.
- Discussed new AIG standards as proposed by DPI staff, and heard background on current AIG legislation. The item will move to be voted on by the SBE in July.
- Approved a policy language update to the occupational course of study curriculum to allow 360 hours of paid employment as an option.
- Discussed releasing new forms of EOC/EOGs on the DPI website (including answer keys and FAQs); there is a cost associated with doing such, including \$50,000 per year in copyright payments to include items on the DPI website. The recommendation was to move forward, but to not release further versions until the economic situation improves. The recommendation was approved.

Twenty First Century Systems

- Approved the Even Start Family Literacy Program 2009-10 Grants totaling \$1.5 million to 12 LEAs (5 continued funding, 7 new grants); the 2009-10 Equipment Assistance Grant to 109 schools with up to 50% free/reduced lunch for food preparation and service equipment; and the 2009-10 Reading First funding adjustment due to a school in Northampton County closing, and transferred such funding (\$5,969.40) to other schools.
- Pre-approved the Financial and Business Service Policy Manual.
- Approved as action on first reading the discussed membership on the State Advisory Council for Indian Education. Three members terms have ended, three have completed one term and are recommended to complete a second term, and one member cannot complete his/her term. Recommended for appointment were Audrey Hunt (Lumbee), Tiffany Graham-Locklear (Waccamaw-Siouan), Katherine Hernandez (Coharie) and Joseph O. Richardson (Haliwa-Saponi).
- Heard recommendations for two new members for the Governor's School Board of Governors, and noted four additional vacancies in Districts 2, 4, 5 and 8. Action will be taken once there are recommendations for all vacancies.

Twenty First Century Professionals

- Approved the recommendation to accept the Administrative Law Judges decisions in two cases against DPI/SBE.

- Discussed Teacher Education Program approval for Campbell University, Elizabeth City State, and UNC-Chapel Hill.
- Heard two presentations on Alternative and Innovative Lateral Entry Programs that have received approval from the State Teacher Evaluation Committee and the NC Professional Teaching Standards Commission. Charlotte-Mecklenburg School plan is targeting Career and Technical Education Department Lateral Teacher Assistance Program will support 50 to 60 CTE lateral entry teachers with three separate strands that include traditional course work conducted by Central Piedmont Community College, induction and new teacher support provided by CMS and mentor and teacher practicum guidance. Mount Olive College along with Clinton City Schools, Duplin County, Sampson County and Wayne County Schools has created a CORE program that is a Consortium for Orchestrating Regional Education. This Lateral Entry Program is a fast track one year holistic approach to ensure lateral entry teachers gain the basic skills necessary to be successful before earning a SP1L. The seminars will be offered on Saturdays at Mt. Olive College with practical assignments to be completed during the week.

Leadership for Innovation

- Approved charter school technology plans for Healthy Start Academy in Durham and Kinston Charter School in Kinston.
- Approved updates to the policy governing criminal history checks for employment applicants and individuals handling fiscal matters in charter schools, to include fingerprinting.
- Recommended for preliminary approval Lake Lure Classical Academy, Henderson Collegiate, and Bear Grass Charter Schools. This item will then move to the full State Board of Education for discussion and review for 30 days, to be voted on by the full SBE in July.
- Discussed standardization of waivers or exemptions for the Cooperative Innovative High School program applications. DPI staff recommended that the initial calendar waiver (CA-1) for CIHS programs on community college campuses would accommodate any issue that might arise. DPI staff also recommended that the waiver (TST-3) for dual enrollment be removed from the standard list of waivers. The practice for this waiver already exists, given that the score already resides with the base school of the student. The remaining list of six standard waivers will be brought to the full board for a vote in July.
- Heard a report from Pat Ashley regarding district and school transformation. She noted that every month in the Chairman's Remarks, there will be an update on the Halifax County Schools reconstitution. The department is working to virtually support the 363 schools in 42 districts that are currently receiving support. Also, the department is seeking support from Cambridge Education to assist and support schools and school systems in performing a comprehensive needs self assessment.
- Heard a report from Dr. Bryan Setser of the NC Virtual Public School. Dr. Setser gave an update regarding NCVPS enrollment (which has increased), and noted that NC DPI,

NCASA and NCAE are providing updates on the SBE meeting via Twitter. Also heard a report from Ms. Debra Peterson from Learn and Earn Online (which is housed under NCVPS), who began her position on April 1. LEO achieved a 108% growth in enrollment in the past year. UNC-G iSchool anticipates it will exceed 8,000 registrations for next year. Buncombe, Union, Currituck, Catawba and Union have the largest LEO enrollment. Superintendent Atkinson noted that for the first time, there is a mechanism by which a student's address does not impact his or her access, and that cuts to such a program would be perilous.

- Superintendent Atkinson also noted that the local superintendents have been asked to have a press conference similar to Monday's press conference to replicate the message that we must continue to support our public schools. She noted that groups such as NCAE, NCASA, PTA and others should come together locally to reinforce a similar message.
- Mr. Jack Moyer brought forth a list of two schools up for charter renewal in 2010. Those schools included Cape Lookout (Morehead City) and the Academy of Moore County.

In other business...

- Dr. Shirley Prince, outgoing Superintendent Advisor, Dr. Debra Morris, outgoing Principal of the Year advisor, and NCAE member and former Edenton-Chowan local president James Bell, outgoing Teacher of the Year advisor, were recognized for their service to the State Board of Education by Chairman Harrison.
- Mr. Ray Durham, District 2 SBE Member, was recognized with a resolution of the State Board of Education as his term will end in July (at which the SBE meeting will be a conference call).
- The SBE heard the annual report on the State Advisory Council on Indian Education.
- The SBE heard an update on the School Executive Evaluation process and the Teacher Evaluation process that are both currently being rolled out across North Carolina. In the report, Cheryl Fuller noted that NCAE and NCCAT were part of the 2700 people trained in 2008-09 to support the new teacher evaluation instrument.
- The SBE heard an update on the Framework for Change (ACRE), current legislation issues, and the state's work in Halifax County.
- The SBE heard from Superintendent Atkinson that there was a webinar highlighting 21st Century Skills and what was being done across the country to impact such; Superintendent Atkinson participated along with SBE Member Tricia Willoughby. Also, on Monday, June 1, NC PTA, NCASA, NCSBE, NCAE, and the NC Public School Forum participated in a conference calling on the State Legislature to protect public education funding. Also, NC DPI received over \$500,000 for the Clean Bus Initiative, and Superintendent Atkinson recognized a student from Wayne County as having been named #1 in the nation in entrepreneurship through DECA.

