

NCAE *State Board Review*

Provided by the NCAE Center for Teaching and Learning

January 2009



The State Board of Education met in Raleigh January 7-8, 2009. The following actions took place.

21st Century Professionals Committee

1. Approved the revised teacher education specialty area standards. These standards are the core content area standards for pre-service teachers. Over 60 NCAE members assisted with these revisions. The new standards are aligned to the NC PTSC Standards and will impact the new NC Standard Course of Study. The standards can be found: http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0901/tcp/01tcp01.pdf
2. Discussed the State Evaluation Teacher Education Committee recommendations on Teacher Ed programs, as well as the proposed Alternative Lateral Entry Program being presented by Moore County and Sandhills Community College.
3. Received as information an update on the new NC McREL Teacher Evaluation Instrument. The panel consisted of members of the NC PTSC, and educators in the following LEAs that are in Phase I; Wilson, Alexander, and Newton-Conover. Over all the information provided was positive. Teachers are encouraged by the new process because the tool creates opportunities for real conversations between administrators and teachers about learning and working conditions. The new process helps teachers to better focus on how to grow and become better. A few said the process had already made them more reflective on what they are doing to engage students. A few concerns over the new tool; more professional development is needed to ensure clear understanding of the components and what each category really means and for schools with many new ILTs it is very time consuming for the principal.

Business, Finance and Advocacy Committee (21st Century Systems)

1. Approved a new funding formula for More At Four (MAF) programs. In response to SL 2008-107 Section 7.17. (b), the funding methodology utilized for the 2008-09 program year was adjusted to reflect the interest of the General Assembly. County MAF slot rates are supplemented based on the percentage of children being served in the private sector. The supplement is weighted based on child care subsidy market rates and applied to all slots within a county. Rates are then differentiated at the local level. Therefore the new formula is a base rate plus market value for child care in the private sector. This formula will ensure the program continues and children are provided the services needed.
2. Approved the new NC Virtual Public School Advisory Board membership. This Advisory Board has a diverse membership, ranging from a student advisor, teachers, administrators, superintendents, business, DPI and our own NCAE Center for Teaching and Learning staff member, Elic Senter.
3. Approved Personal Financial Literacy Teacher & Collaborative Partners Grants. Twenty-six applications representing the eight districts of North Carolina were submitted to DPI, with sixteen applications reviewed and seven grants awarded.

Jones Sr. High - \$2042, Western Harnett High in Sanford - \$2200, North Carolina Economic Council for District 3 - \$10,000, North Carolina Bar Association for District 3 support - \$3100, Community Reinvestment Association of NC to support District 3 - \$4000, NCCAT to support all eight districts - \$10,000, Eagles Youth Council: Occaneechi Band of Saponi Nation - \$8600.

4. Received an NC WISE update; thirteen LEAs are in the last wave and should be online by March.
5. Received the news that the November 2008 Budget shortfall for North Carolina was \$520 million.

Healthy Responsible Students Committee

1. Accepted the report on Gang Prevention and Intervention. The report can be found at http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0901/hrs/01hrs01.pdf.
2. Approved the recommendation from NC DPI that Neal Middle School be placed on probationary status for the 2008-09 school year due to persistently dangerous acts. This Persistently Dangerous Schools status is a component of NCLB. According to State Board of Education policy, a "persistently dangerous school" is a public elementary, middle or secondary school or a charter school in which a total of five or more violent criminal offenses was committed per 1000 students (0.5 or more per 100 students) during each of the two most recent school years and in which the conditions that contributed to the commission of those offenses are likely to continue into another school year.

Globally Competitive Students Committee

1. After much discussion and public input regarding allowing **student retest results** to be used in the calculation of performance composites on the ABCs and AYP, the **SBE approved** the following policy change. **"Any student who scores at Achievement Level III on their first retest of an end-of-grade test (EOG), grades 3-8, shall be included in the Student Accountability Standards [SAS] as proficient for the school's ABCs performance composite and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) purposes. Effective: 2008-09 school year." The ten high school EOCs will not have retesting this year.**
2. Approved the report on the Implementation of the ABCs and the Statewide Consolidated Assistance Program. There are schools receiving support with academic coaches, some schools are receiving focused support with new programs and some LEAs are receiving support with District Coaches. The full report can be found at http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0901/gcs/01gcs03.pdf.
3. The SBE continues to discuss the pro and cons of NC participating in the American Diploma Project Algebra I and II Exams. To be a part of this nationally normed test, there must be 25 schools and at least 4,000 students participating in these tests. One con is that right now the students would have to take both ADP and NC DPI tests.

Leadership for Innovation Committee

1. Approved the following enrollment increases above the normal 10% adjustment or grade expansions for these charter schools; Carter Community in Durham, Gray Stone Day School in Stanly, Lake Norman Charter in Mecklenburg, Lincoln School in Lincoln, Queen's Grant in Mecklenburg, Quest Academy in Wake, Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy in Rutherford, Highland Charter in Gaston, Socrates Academy in Mecklenburg, and The Children's Village in Lenoir.
2. Approved the 2006-07 LEA Technology Plans.
3. Approved expansion of the NC 1:1 Learning Initiative Pilot Program, which provides computers to schools for students, in Asheville and Mooresville City Schools.
4. The SBE is discussing the status of several charter schools that are up for a five or ten year charter renewal. There are a few schools that may not be awarded a renewal and thus the schools would have to close at the end of this year. The vote on the schools will come next month.

Other SBE News!

- The SBE has a new member representing **Region 2**, which is the southeastern part of North Carolina. The new member's name is **Ray Durham** from Jacksonville, NC.
- Introduced the new Local School Board Advisor to the SBE, Mr. Wendell Hall of Hertford County.
- Honored former SBE Executive Director, Dr. Weaver Rogers; in memoriam with a resolution for his family and a special marker for the Department of Public Instruction.
- Received a report on **Ensuring US Students Receive a World-Class Education**. The report contains information from the National Governor's Association work. The five action steps the report recommends includes items such as upgrading state standards by adopting a common core of internationally benchmarked standards in math and language arts, leverage states' collective influence to ensure textbooks, digital media and curricula draw on lessons from high-performing nations and states. To revise state policies on recruiting and preparing teachers. Hold schools accountable on more than just a test score and ensure students are learning 21st Century skills. North Carolina is ahead in many of these actions with the new Framework for Change and the revamping of the current Standard Course of Study.
- Using Internationally normed tests the United States ranked 25th in Math in 2006, 21st in Science in 2006, 15th in Reading in 2003 and 24th in Problem Solving in 2003.
- The NC Professional Performing Arts Teachers presented Chairman Howard Lee their Advocacy Award for Dance and PE.
- Ann MacArthur gave a final update on the NC Teacher Working Conditions Survey and said how proud she has been to work for Governor Easley these last eight years. The NC TWC Survey is now being implemented in 15 other states. It is a powerful tool to address learning and working conditions.