

NCAE SBE Review

The State Board of Education met in Raleigh, March 4-5, 2009. The following actions took place.



Leadership & Innovation

1. Approved the report of the 1:1 Laptop Initiative.
2. Approved a two year extension for Torchlight Academy Charter School with the following provisions:
 - School must submit an audit to the Local Government Commission by October 1 annually
 - School must follow generally accepted accounting principals, noting that any audit deficiency may result in disciplinary action, up to and including revocation of the charter
 - School shall resolve deficiencies noted previously by 4/6/09
 - School shall receive no further deficiencies noted by DPI OCS
 - School shall submit a restructuring plan for Title I by 4/6/09
3. Approved the following Cooperative Innovative High School Programs: Cabarrus-Kannapolis Early College, Early College EAST High School (Craven), Franklin County Early College High School, Granville County Early College High School, Henderson Early College, Mayland Early College (Mitchell, Avery, Yancey Counties), Stokes County Early College High School, Wake NCAE State University Early College High School, Roanoke Valley Early College, Wilkes Early College High School, Wilson Early College Academy, James Kenan Early College High School (Conversion Site),
4. Received an informative report on the NC Virtual Public School, which included information regarding their recent advisory board meeting, noting that the elementary and middle school courses are complete, and shared the use of iTouches in schools.
5. Received information on the four low performing charter schools (Academy of Moore, PreEminent Charter, Healthy Start and Haliwa-Saponi Charter Schools) and the progress the schools are making.
6. Received information on the District and School Transformation work from Pat Ashley; Ms. Ashley shared that there is a comprehensive needs assessment currently taking place in 24 schools across the state, and the office is beginning conversations with urban superintendents regarding priority schools.



Healthy Responsible Students

1. Approved the "newly improved" consolidated data report on Crime and Violence, Suspensions, and Expulsions and Dropout Rates and Counts for the Legislative Education Oversight Committee. There are 17 reportable acts of crime and violence. Ten of the 17 acts are defined as violent offenses, which represented 3.2% of the total reportable acts. LEAs with the LOWEST rates included: Macon, Tyrell, Hyde, Camden, Clay, Cherokee, Pasquotank, Richmond, Washington & Yadkin. LEAs with HIGHEST rates of crime included : Weldon, Mitchell, Transylvania, Robeson, Watauga, Halifax, Polk, Pamlico, Swain, and Hoke. The suspensions/expulsions numbers decreased 0.5% for the 2007-08 school year. The dropout data was presented at an earlier SBE meeting. Congratulations to Yadkin County, the only LEA that was reported on the "top ten" lists of low rates in all three categories!



Globally Competitive Students

1. Received as information the 2009 Invitation to Submit Textbooks for Mathematics 6-12, Second Languages 6-12, English Language Development (ESL) K-12, and Agriculture Education 7-12. Several SBE members remarked that schools need to be notified that they do not have to purchase books, but can purchase instructional supplies, meaning technology tools. Many of the publishers are creating DVDs that a class of up to 30 students can have independent log-in codes to use the resource material. It was also noted that school leaders **must listen to teachers** as instructional supplies are recommended and purchased.
2. Discussed the policy allowing retest results in the calculation of performance composites of the ABCs and AYP. The current policy states ALL students in grades 3-8 not scoring a Level III or higher on an assessment must be retested. Retest score 1 will count toward the school and student. There is concern over students who may never score a Level II or III due to cognitive issues and having to participate in a retest. The policy may change to read that students scoring a Level II must be retested. The policy can be found at http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0903/gcs/03gcs04.pdf.
3. Received information on the new *DRAFT* math standards that have been created to address the Framework for Change and Essential Standards for 21st Century Skills. The *DRAFT* standards were written with the assistance of practicing mathematics teachers. If you would like to **provide feedback**, please use this link and then e/mail your concerns to Dr. Everly Broadway at ebroadway@dpi.state.nc.us The link is http://community.learnnc.org/dpi/math/archives/2009/02/essential_stand.php or <http://community.learnnc.org/dpi/math/>
4. Received information on how Durham Public Schools has launched a community effort to support the NC Graduation Project. DPS has created a very useful resource. Please check out www.dpsnc.net/graduationproject. Kudos to Durham Public Schools!



21st Century Professionals

1. Approved a fourth Regional Alternative Licensure Center due to the huge case load for the Charlotte area. The new RALC will be located in the Catawba County Central Office. At least three days a month, the RALC Specialist will travel to Buncombe County and work to serve western lateral entry candidates.
2. Approved the policies on teacher evaluation with no changes after the 60 day public hearing process! The teacher evaluation policy connects to the new McREL teacher evaluation instrument. The policy states that:
 - Administrators must share the new instrument and process with staff within the first two weeks of school,
 - When a teacher is being formally observed and there is a pre and post conference; the post conference is to take place within 10 working days.
 - The previous policy of placing someone on an action plan if they were below standard has been changed to reflect the new evaluation language.
 - Also, instead of an action plan all teachers across the state will use the Individual Growth Plan (IGP) template. The three categories of the IGP are;
 - Regular IGP for the teacher who is successful and needs no extra support,
 - Monitored IGP will be used for a teacher who needs some support or time to grow in a specific area and,
 - Directed IGP will be for a teacher who is not growing or moving on the rubric within a standard.

- The new teacher evaluation policy can be found at http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0903/tcp/03tcp03.pdf

NCAE members who are in LEAs implementing the new evaluation tool in Phase II next school year, PLEASE let the NCAE Center for Teaching and Learning know if you need support. Currently, there are seven NCAE Staff that are McREL trained trainers.

3. Heard a presentation from professors at ASU, Campbell, and ECU on how the schools have been revisioning their MSA programs. The current Administrator Praxis test will no longer be a requirement to complete a program. Instead, schools are using the new Administrator standards and creating courses connecting to themes of 21st Century Leaders. Internships will no longer have the requirement to just complete a set number of hours but instead will consist of modules connected to the themes and the product portfolio the candidate must complete. Schools of Education must have their programs realigned and implemented in 2010.



Other news!

1. The SBE recognized outgoing Deputy State Superintendent JB Buxton with a resolution in honor of his dedication to public education.
2. The SBE recognized outgoing SBE Chair, Howard Lee with a resolution in recognition of his service to NC. The NCASA Director Bill McNeal, Senator Lee with their Champion for Children Award for 2009.
3. The Honorable Carl Fox conducting the swearing in of the new SBE Chair and Chief Education Officer of DPI, Dr. Bill Harrison.
4. Dr. June Atkinson provided an up date on President Obama's American Recovery & Reinvestment Act. Stimulus funds for NC will cover:

Education for the Disadvantaged

- Part 1 and 2: Title 1-A Targeted Grants and Education Finance Incentive Grants
- Part 3: School Improvement Grants

Students with Disabilities

- Part 1: IDEA, Part B
- Part 2: IDEA Preschool Grants under Part B
- Part 3: Part C, IDEA – Infant and Toddlers
- 3. Education Technology (Title II-D, ESEA)

- 4. Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- 5. Impact Aid
- 6. Teacher Incentive Fund
- 7. State Longitudinal Data Systems

Purpose of Stabilization Funding

- To prevent reductions in critical education and other services (competitive)
- Maintenance of state effort
- Teacher effectiveness and distribution
- Data systems
- Academic assessments
- Standards
- School improvement
 - Links for information www.ed.gov and www.recovery.gov OR www.nea.org/home/ns/29549.htm.

NCAE will be providing members with more data and details soon. Stay tuned to the **NCAE Daily Political Briefings** to make sure you have the facts and can stop some of the rumors regarding budget issues.