

SBE Review

March 4 - 6, 2008 Meeting

In this issue:

... read about the roll out plan for training administrators on the new evaluation tool, discover the details for the NC TWC Survey, and find out which charter school has turned in their charter due not having 75% of their staff highly qualified.

**Globally
Competitive
Students**



- Approved that revisions begin for the K-5 Math curriculum, but hold off on the 6-12 until the SBE has more discussion on the Blue Ribbon Testing Commission recommendations.
- Approved the waiver for five LEAs to continue the pilot process for RtI. The waiver will allow all schools in the LEA to participate. The pilot is being continued because data shows that in the 10 pilot schools, RtI has improved student performance – thus, early intervention really is making a difference! The five pilot LEAs in which all schools may now participate are Bertie, Burke, Guilford, Harnett and New Hanover.
- Discussed beginning the process of new textbook adoptions in Math (K-5), Healthful Living (K-12), Career Development (6-12), Health Occupations (6-12) and Trade and Industrial (9-12).

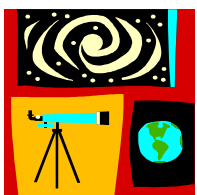
**Business,
Finance and
Advocacy**



- Received an evaluation report on the eleven IMPACT Grant schools. The evaluation covered three specific years from 2000-2006. In the eleven pilot schools data shows higher retention rates for new teachers and accomplished teachers. The results showed that teachers bought into the new methods of teaching, the interaction among staff and the empowerment to create engaging lessons. The student data shows more students reached Level III and IV and did not slip back to Level II and the gap closed in reading scores. The IMPACT model affords a school community the technology tools needed to create engaging lessons and time for teachers to work together on common tasks.
- Approved these grants.
- Approved the supplemental budget request to be sent to Governor Easley.
- Heard updates from the 2008 Intern Program, the Communications department (there will be a link for the Graduation Project, a Financial Literacy website, and the webnews will be revamped), and heard that EC issues would be heard next week at the Legislature.

**21st Century
Systems**

**21st Century
Professionals**



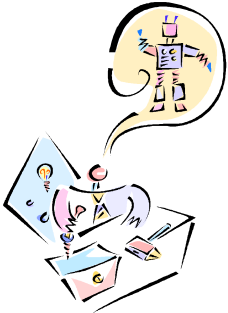
- The Fourth NC Teacher Working Conditions Survey will be administered online March 17th – April 21st. Over 120,000 letters have been mailed to NCAE Association Representatives and/or School Level Teacher's of the Year. The letters contain the codes for each certified staff member in the school. If a school does not receive enough confidential codes please call 1 877-NCT-WC08 or use the web site www.ncteachingconditions.org to request more codes. Schools need at least 40% participation to glean data that will be useful for school reform and/or the SIT. Schools that achieve 100% will be eligible for weekly drawings where the school could receive a cash award of \$1,000.00 to address a working/learning condition and each week a teacher or administrator could win \$1,000.00 cash prize. The grand prize drawing will be a cash award of \$2,000.00 to the school and a plasma TV to one educator.

Please note: that the codes are confidential and to prove this, have the certified staff to draw a code out of a bowl or hat. Encourage your staff to meet in the

computer lab and complete the survey before they go home. The survey will take about 20 minutes and the data is not valid until you hit the submit button.

- The School Executive Evaluation Instrument has been validated. One major change will be the name, Principal Evaluation Instrument. A cadre of 60 trainers who will participate in a week long train the trainer session in May. All school administrators will select a training date provided by the Cadre to LEAs regionally during June and July. The dates are: June 23-24, June 25-26, July 7-8, 9-10, 14-15, 16-17, 21-22, and July 23-24. There will be follow-up sessions through out the year based on the need of principals as the new tool is administered across the state.
- Passed a revision to the policy for the State Teacher of the Year position to include that the teacher must hold a Standard SP2 License, be employed full time and be in the classroom 70% of the day.
- Passed on first reading the recommendation that an exam and passing score be adopted for those individuals who wish to add Latin to their teaching license. Expired testing requirements were also deleted in this process.

Leadership for Innovation



- Omuteko Gwamaziima Charter School has turned in their charter and will close the school in June 2008. The school has been out of compliance in regards to highly qualified staff for several years and was not able to reach the minimum threshold of 75% of all teachers being licensed.
- Passed on first reading the waivers requested and other items regarding Cooperative Innovative High Schools.
- Voted to not approve read calendar waivers for educational purposes for Alamance Burlington Schools (Cummings High, Eastlawn Elementary and Haw River Elementary).
- Approved charters for Endeavor Charter School in Raleigh and Triad Math and Science Academy Charter School in Greensboro.

Other News

US Secretary of Education, Margaret Spellings, met with the SBE on Wednesday. She noted that she wished other states where pioneers in standard setting and assessment as NC. NC was her 15th NCLB stop, since January. NC has programs and results that are working and there is more to praise here than to criticize. The growth model is one that she hopes all states will be able to replicate. We should not be satisfied with our progress but pleased with what has been accomplished. The SBE asked about the funding, the flexibility, the high school reform mandates and resources; with no real solutions or answers provided. Spellings noted that she had hoped the NCLB Act would be re-authorized before the end of President Bush's term. There is a new game in town and she joked that in DC it is said that Republicans don't like anything that impacts a national standard and Democrats don't like standards. This was in response to why doesn't the Federal Government move toward a national set of standards and tests. After her meeting with the SBE she met with the press and a small focus group on what needed to be changed in regards to the NCLB Act. NCAE was not invited to participate in the focus group.

NCHSAA is still working on revamping the districts, which will be effective from 2009-13. The SBE shared its appreciation for such.

Mary Watson has been elected President of the Association of State Directors of Special Education. Congrats Dr. Watson!

CISCO Fellows were honored for moving connectivity in our state forward.

NC Prevention Partners were honored for supporting healthy students.

