

**MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOVEMBER 2, 2007**

The State Board of Education met for its regular meeting in Room 12 of the Legislative Plaza, Nashville, Tennessee, at 8:30 a.m., CST, on November 2, 2007.

Present..... 10	Absent.....1
Mr. Fielding Rolston, Chair	Dr. Richard Rhoda, Ex-Officio
Mr. Jim Ayers	
Mr. Flavius Barker	
Ms. Carolyn Pearre	
Mr. Richard Ray	
Dr. Jean Anne Rogers	
Dr. Valerie Rutledge	
Ms. Sharon Thompson	
Dr. Melvin Wright	
Ms. Caroline Hadley	

Chairman Rolston called the meeting to order and welcomed members of the audience.

Chairman Rolston congratulated Dr. Melvin Wright for his recognition at Tennessee State University the prior evening for the Agricultural Award.

Chairman Rolston indicated that changes were being made to the agenda by deleting Item IV.F. – Category II Non-Public School Accrediting Agency Renewal, moving Item V.B. – Guidelines for Differentiated Pay Plans – Public Chapter 376 to first reading Item IV.O., and by adding Report Item III.B. – BEP Review Committee Report.

I. Consent Items

- A. Adoption of Agenda**
- B. Approval of Minutes from August 10, 2007**

ACTION: **Dr. Rutledge** moved acceptance. **Dr. Wright** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Special Recognition

- A. Patsy Garriott**

Chairman Rolston then recognized **Ms. Patsy Garriott** for her dedicated service to the Advisory Council on Teacher Education and Certification for twenty plus years and presented her with a gift from the members and staff of the State Board of Education.

Ms. Garriott thanked the Board and recognized the members of the Advisory Council, staff of the State Board of Education and other

resource people, i.e., Tennessee School Board Association, staff of the Department of Education and others and thanked them for assisting her in her role as Chair of the Advisory Council.

Chairman Rolston then introduced Ms. Garriott's husband, Dr. Garriott and thanked him for his support for so many years.

III. Report Items

A. *Alternative Paths to a Diploma Report*

Dr. David Sevier, State Board of Education, presented the report. He outlined the framework for developing changes to the requirements necessary for graduation from Tennessee high schools.

B. *BEP Annual Review Committee Report*

Mr. Art Fuller, State Board of Education, presented the immediate priorities of the fourth annual BEP review committee report.

These priorities are as follows:

- ❖ Continue phase-in of Public Chapter 369 of the 105th General Assembly.
- ❖ Reduce, by at least 2 to 3 students, the class size ratios used to generate instructional positions (including vocational positions) in grades 7 – 12. This reduction in class size ratios should apply only to the method used to generate funds in the BEP and should not impact existing minimum class size ratios as defined by the Education Improvement Act of 1992.
- ❖ Incorporate current SACS accreditation ratios in the method used to generate Assistant Principal positions in the BEP.
- ❖ Establish new BEP components for professional development and mentoring. It is recommended that teacher professional development be funded at 1 percent of instructional salaries. It is recommended that mentoring for new teachers and principals be funded at a ratio of 1 mentor per 12 professionals, assuming at least 1 mentor per school system.
- ❖ Reduce funding ratios for Nurses from 1:3,000 towards 1:1,500.
- ❖ Reduce funding ratios for Technology Coordinators from 1:6,400 towards 1:2,500.
- ❖ Increase funding for teacher materials and supplies from \$200 to \$300.

IV. Action Items (First Reading)

- A. *Family & Consumer Sciences Curriculum Standards***
- B. *Agricultural Education Curriculum Standards***
- C. *Technology Engineering Education Curriculum Standards***

ACTION: **Mr. Ray** moved acceptance of **Items IV.A., IV.B., and IV.C.** on first reading. **Dr. Wright** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- D. *Career and Technical Course Title Changes to Rules and Regulations of the State Board of Education***

Ms. Lynne Cohen, Department of Education, presented this item. She noted that the changes to the list of career-technical course titles aligns with the Board's Rules and Regulations.

ACTION: **Mr. Ray** moved acceptance on first reading. **Ms. Thompson** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- E. *Science Curriculum Standards, 9-12***

Ms. Linda Jordan, Department of Education, presented this item. Her comments focused on the rigor of the new standards. She gave examples of the revised standards and noted the embedded technology and engineering components contained within the standards.

Mr. Ray asked how the Principles of Technology I and II related for credits.

Ms. Jordan responded that taken successively they fulfilled a Physics credit.

Mr. Ray then asked if we should have both Principles of Technology I and II and Conceptual Physics.

Ms. Jordan responded that the Department would bring back a response for final reading.

ACTION: **Mr. Barker** moved acceptance on first reading. **Dr. Rogers** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- F. *Category II Non-Public School Accrediting Agency Renewal***

This item was been removed from the November 2007 agenda – to be resubmitted at a later meeting

- G. *Pre-Participation Sports Physicals, Rule***

Dr. Sevier presented this item on behalf of the Governor's Office of Children's Care Coordination. The purpose of this rule change is to promote healthier students and to provide added meaning to the pre-participation sports physical that student athletes are currently required to have. He noted that he has worked with stakeholders including the Tennessee Academy of Pediatrics, the Governor's Office of Children's Care Coordination, The Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association, and the Tennessee Athletic Director's Association. He anticipates further discussion with these and other groups before the next State Board of Education meeting.

ACTION: **Dr. Wright** moved acceptance on first reading. **Dr. Rutledge** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

H. *High School Transition Policy, Rule*

Dr. Gary Nixon, Executive Director, State Board of Education, presented this policy. He noted that this item is both policy and rule and that it outlined the new standards for those graduating from Tennessee high schools. He stated that it specifically addresses the concept of score disparities between teacher-assigned grades and the results from standardized tests and how this disparity might be addressed.

Chairman Rolston stated that it is important to recognize the significance of this policy – it is a major step forward.

ACTION: **Dr. Rutledge** moved acceptance on first reading. **Dr. Wright** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

I. *Education Leadership Redesign: Standards for Instructional Leadership Standards*

Dr. Zeidner indicated that the Tennessee Instructional Leadership Standards are the core part of the Education Leadership Redesign. These standards reflect the consensus of the Instructional Leadership Commission regarding the principles upon which the redesign of education leadership programs will take place. The standards are used to align preparation, licensure, induction, evaluation and professional development in order to create a cohesive, well articulated, standards based-system of instructional leadership development. Included with the standards are indicators for each standard as well as a glossary of important terms and concepts.

J. *Education Leadership Redesign: Professional Development for Instructional Leaders*

Dr. Zeidner presented this agenda item as one of the major components of the Education Leadership Redesign. The recommendation to the Board is to adopt the new High Quality Instructional Leader Professional Development Guidelines which are aligned to the new standards and are

results-driven, provide continuous school improvement, linked to research and embedded in practice, tailored to individual needs while providing and are data-driven.

ACTION: **Dr. Rutledge** moved acceptance of **Items IV.I. and IV.J.** on first reading. **Ms. Thompson** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

K. *Advisory Council on Teacher Education & Certification Bylaws*

Dr. Zeidner noted that the Advisory Council on Teacher Education and Certification has been in existence since 1986 and has not had, until now, any bylaws or procedures to guide the composition of their membership, their work and their recommendations. He presented to the Board a set of bylaws and guidelines that indicate the Council's purpose, its membership, officers and their duties, meetings, and voting procedures, with a suggestion that these be in place by the beginning of 2008.

ACTION: **Dr. Wright** moved acceptance on first reading. **Ms. Thompson** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

L. *Algebra I Employment Standards, Rule*

Dr. Nixon stated that this item allows those teachers endorsed through 8th grade, who pass the middle grades math PRAXIS, and who complete training provided by the State Department of Education to teach Algebra I in the 9th grade.

Dr. Robert Greene, Department of Education, commented that this item will help local districts meets the current and future need for mathematics teachers.

Mr. Ray stated that he was concerned that we were going to use teachers who do not have a math background to fill in the gaps and that middle schools will continue to decline.

Mr. Ayers asked if math deficiencies in middle schools would be alleviated by this change.

Chairman Rolston stated that the Board did not want to try and micromanage the LEA's and that this gives them options.

ACTION: **Dr. Wright** moved acceptance on first reading. **Dr. Rutledge** seconded. The motion passed by majority vote with **Mr. Ray** casting a dissenting vote and **Vice Chair Pearre** passing.

M. *English Curriculum Standards, 9-12*

Dr. Scott Eddins and **Ms. LaQuisha Oliver**, Department of Education, presented the standards for math and language arts respectively. **Dr.**

Eddins noted that these revisions are major components of the Tennessee Diploma Project. **Ms. Oliver** outlined the process of standards revisions and how the standards are organized.

N. Mathematics Curriculum Standards, 9-12

ACTION: **Dr. Wright** moved acceptance on first reading of **Items IV.M. and IV.N.** **Dr. Rutledge** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

O. Guidelines for Differentiated Pay Plans – Public Chapter 376

Mr. Fuller reviewed the guidelines for differentiated pay plans, noting Section 5 of Public Chapter 376.

() Develop guidelines for the establishment by LEAs of differentiated pay plans, including plans which offer bonuses, including performance bonuses, that are supplemental to the salary schedules required under §49-3-306. Such plans shall address additional pay for teaching subjects or teaching in schools for which LEAs have difficulty hiring and retaining highly qualified teachers. The state board of education shall develop the guidelines by December 31, 2007.

Mr. Fuller reviewed the following sections of the recommended guidelines:

All LEAs should move through three stages in the decision making process before submitting such plans to the Tennessee State Department of Education for approval.

- ❖ *Adhere to a shared set of overarching principles*
- ❖ *Determine LEA's specific needs*
- ❖ *Customize a local solution based on the identified areas(s) of need.*

LEAs shall follow a data-driven decision making process related to their areas of need.

Appropriate data sources to determine need shall include but not be limited to:

- ❖ *Achievement on state and national performance indicators,*
- ❖ *Staffing vacancies,*
- ❖ *Teacher recruitment and retention,*
- ❖ *School free / reduced priced lunch percentages.*

Submitted plans should address one of the following areas of need.

- ❖ *Recruiting teachers to hard to staff schools*
- ❖ *Recruiting new teachers*
- ❖ *Filling LEA specific academic shortage areas*
- ❖ *Retaining effective teachers*

ACTION: **Dr. Rutledge** moved acceptance on first reading. **Dr. Wright** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Action Items (Final Reading)

A. Non-Public School Approval, Rule

Mr. Rich Haglund, State Board of Education, explained that this rule change allows for Category III approval for schools accredited by any of the five regional accrediting agencies (not just SACS) and changes the attendance reporting to the district where the student resides, rather than where the school is located.

ACTION: **Dr. Wright** moved to approve. **Dr. Rutledge** seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

	Yes	No	Absent
Jim Ayers	X		
Flavius Barker	X		
Carolyn Pearre	X		
Dick Ray	X		
Jean Anne Rogers	X		
Fielding Rolston	X		
Valerie Rutledge	X		
Sharon Thompson	X		
Melvin Wright	X		
Caroline Hadley	X		

The motion passed unanimously.

B. Guidelines for Differentiated Pay Plans – Public Chapter 376

THIS ITEM WAS BEEN MOVED TO 1st READING AS ITEM IV.O.

C. Science Curriculum Standards, K-8

D. Official List of Textbooks for Section IV (Social Studies)

ACTION: **Vice Chair Pearre** moved to approve **Items V.C. and V.D.** **Mr. Barker** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

After approval, **Dr. Rutledge** commented that many schools still have not received resources and materials from the last textbook adoption.

E. English Language Development Assessment (ELDA) Standards for English as a Second Language (ESL)

Dr. Julie McCargar, Department of Education, presented this item on behalf of the State Department of Education. She outlined the process for assessing students with limited English proficiency.

ACTION: **Vice Chair Pearre** moved to approve. **Dr. Rutledge** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Marketing Education: Personal Finance and Building Wealth Curriculum Standards

Ms. Cohen noted that this course creates additional flexibility and allows marketing teachers to teach this course for marketing credit. **Ms. Lisa Jones** from the Department clarified the necessity for the course in response to **Mr. Ayer's** concerns regarding the construction of the course.

Mr. Ayers further commented that students would be well-served to take a half year of Personal Finance and that a Building Wealth course might benefit students later in their schooling.

Miss Hadley asked for clarification regarding using this item as part of a student's elective focus.

ACTION: **Mr. Ray** moved to approve. **Dr. Rutledge** seconded. The motion passed by majority vote with **Vice Chair Pearre** casting a dissenting vote.

G. K-5 Theatre Curriculum Standards

Dr. Susan Bunch, Department of Education, noted that these standards are updated from the 1994 standards and reflect national standards in the area of theatre instruction.

ACTION: **Mr. Ray** moved to approve. **Dr. Rutledge** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

H. Tennessee School Bus Specifications

Mr. Fuller recommended the Tennessee School Bus Specifications for second reading and final approval.

Mr. Ayers asked where the adoption of these specifications place Tennessee in comparison to the nation.

Mr. Fuller stated that the adoption of these standards places Tennessee alignment with national standards and also noted a minimum requirement of school bus crossing control arms were to be added to all new buses with a body build date after July 1, 2008.

ACTION: **Mr. Ray** moved to approve. **Dr. Rutledge** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

I. Requirements for Licensure Endorsements, Rule

Mr. Haglund explained that this cleaned up rule provisions that have become obsolete through changes in license endorsement standards.

Ms. Thompson asked if this would help speed up the processing of applications. **Mr. Haglund** replied that that was not related to this rule change.

ACTION: **Dr. Wright** moved to approve. **Dr. Rutledge** seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

	Yes	No	Absent
Jim Ayers	X		
Flavius Barker	X		
Carolyn Pearre	X		
Dick Ray	X		
Jean Anne Rogers	X		
Fielding Rolston	X		
Valerie Rutledge	X		
Sharon Thompson	X		
Melvin Wright	X		
Caroline Hadley	X		

The motion passed unanimously.

J. Specific Learning Disabilities Eligibility Standards (SLD)

Ms. Kathy Strunk, Department of Education, presented for final reading revisions to the eligibility standards for specific learning disabilities.

Dr. Rogers asked if the teachers were ready to handle these standards.

Ms. Strunk answered that training will be provided.

Vice Chair Pearre asked at what age would learning disabilities be determined.

Ms. Strunk replied that it would be determined in the 4th or 5th grade.

ACTION: **Vice Chair Pearre** moved that the Board wait to vote until second reading. **Dr. Rogers** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Teacher License Actions

A. Ault, Margie – Revocation, minimum three (3) years

- B. Brimmer, Julie L. – Suspension, two (2) years**
- C. Brown-Gearheiser, Nancy – Reinstatement**
- D. Farmer, Bryan D. – Revocation, permanent**
- E. Haynes, William S. – Revocation, permanent**
- F. Masters, Carl J. – Revocation, minimum five (5) years**
- G. McEwen, Dana M. – Denial, permanent**
- H. Smith (Poston), Rachael – Revocation, permanent**

Mr. Haglund noted that the first two actions were based on TCAP security breaches, the next a reinstatement, and the remainder were based on inappropriate relations with students (most of which had resulted in criminal convictions or children's services findings). **Mr. Haglund** also reported that he was working with the Office of Teacher Licensing to help them get more staff that might be able to do more of the investigative part of case management.

ACTION: **Mr. Ray** moved to approve. **Dr. Rutledge** seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

	Yes	No	Absent
Jim Ayers	X		
Flavius Barker	X		
Carolyn Pearre	X		
Dick Ray	X		
Jean Anne Rogers	X		
Fielding Rolston	X		
Valerie Rutledge	X		
Sharon Thompson	X		
Melvin Wright	X		
Caroline Hadley	X		

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Adjournment

Chairman Rolston then thanked the Board members for their thoughtful deliberations and announced that the Board will meet next on January 24-25, 2008.

Approved by: _____ Date: _____