

Education Standards and Practices Board

MINUTES

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Brynild Haugland Room, State Capitol, Bismarck

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order at 9:02am by board chair, Mary Eldredge-Sando. Board members who attended were Karen Christensen, Carly Feiler, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Paul Stremick, Gary Thompson and ex-officio board member Kirsten Baesler. Others who attended the meeting were Mari Fridgen, Laurie Stenehjem, Amy Folkestad and Janet Welk from ESPB, Christopher Joseph and Edward Erickson from the Attorney General's Office, Patty Barrette and Jane Rupprecht from ND United, Gail Schauer from DPI, Bill Martin, Margaret Fitzgerald, Tom Hall and Ann Clapper from NDSU, Brenda Werner, Carmelita Lamb, and Rod Jonas from University of Mary, Jim Stenehjem from ND Lead Center, Tamara Uselman from Bismarck Public Schools, Jeff Schatz from Fargo Public Schools, David Flowers from West Fargo Public Schools, Josh Johnson from Oakes Public Schools, Cory Steiner from Northern Cass Public Schools, Aimee Copas from NDCEL, Rocky Brown and Kelly Brown.

Board member Laura Mihalick did not attend the meeting.

Introductions were held.

The only change to the agenda was to remove Timothy Stathis from the administrative cases.

CASES

Brown, Rocky – Motion by Carly Feiler to offer a letter of warning and that Mr. Brown needs to self-disclose any other issues for the remainder of his licensure period. Motion was seconded by Gary Thompson. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Carly Feiler, Dinah Goldenberg, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Karen Christensen abstained from voting. Motion carried. Mr. Brown's license was before the board due to a Request for Inquiry filed by Wishek Public School due to a possible Code of Ethics violation.

Frank, Stephanie – Amy Mann made the motion to issue a one-year Interim Substitute license. Seconded by Paul Stremick. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Carly Feiler, Dinah Goldenberg, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Motion carried. Ms. Frank's application for licensure is before the board due to her background check.

Larson, Lori – Kim Belgarde made a motion to dismiss the case. Seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Carly Feiler, Dinah Goldenberg, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Motion carried. Ms. Larson's license was in front of the board due to a Request for Inquiry filed by Tate Topa Tribal School for breach of contract.

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McEvers, Jessica – A motion was made by Kim Belgarde to offer a settlement agreement of \$100 fine. Seconded by Carly Feiler. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Carly Feiler, Dinah Goldenberg, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Motion passed. Ms. McEvers's license was being reviewed by the board for potential violation for teaching without a current license. NDCC 15.1-13-25(1)(h) and 15.1-13-17(1). A motion was made by Kim Belgarde to offer a settlement agreement of \$100 fine. Seconded by Carly Feiler. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Carly Feiler, Dinah Goldenberg, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Motion passed. Ms. McEvers's license was being reviewed by the board for potential violation for teaching without a current license. NDCC 15.1-13-25(1)(h) and 15.1-13-17(1). Ms. McEvers is employed by Oak Grove Lutheran School as a religious education teacher.

Dinah Goldenberg made an additional motion to initiate a Request for Inquiry against the administrator at Oak Grove to seek more information regarding placing a teacher in the classroom without a license. Motion seconded by Mike McNeff. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Carly Feiler, Dinah Goldenberg, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Motion carried. Motion seconded by Mike McNeff. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Carly Feiler, Dinah Goldenberg, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Motion carried.

Paintner, Nancy A motion was made by Paul Stremick offer settlement agreement and to suspend Ms. Paintner's license for 2 weeks. Seconded by Mike McNeff. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Carly Feiler, Dinah Goldenberg, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Karen Christensen made a motion to amend the original motion so suspension would start after last day of Ms. Paintner's school year. Seconded by Kim Belgarde. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Carly Feiler, Dinah Goldenberg, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, and Gary Thompson. Paul Stremick voted no. Motion carried. Ms. Paintner is employed by the Griggs County Central School District. Ms. Paintner's file was reviewed by the board due to a self-reported background offense.

Ploium, Corey – Christopher Joseph from the Attorney General's office reported on this case and will visit with Mr. Ploium to see if he will voluntarily surrender his teaching license. If Mr. Ploium does not voluntarily give up his license, the board can file a complaint against him and he will have 20 days to respond before the case proceeds to a hearing. Mr.

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Ploium was formerly employed by the Oberon Elementary School.

Poitra, Monte – Mr. Poitra's file was reviewed by the board due to self-reported background check offenses. Mike McNeff made a motion to table until the board finds out if Mr. Poitra has been convicted of the charges. Seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. After further discussion and finding additional information submitted by Mr. Poitra, Mike McNeff withdrew his motion. Carly Feiler made a motion to grant a five-year renewal. Seconded by Kim Belgarde. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Carly Feiler, Dinah Goldenberg, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Motion carried.

Spencer, Jonathan – Case was addressed in January and the board has since received updated information showing that Mr. Spencer's most recent background check offenses have been dismissed. Carly Feiler made a motion to grant Mr. Spencer a two-year reciprocal license with condition that we monitor him yearly until his renewal. Seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Carly Feiler, Dinah Goldenberg, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Motion carried. Mr. Spencer's license application was reviewed by the board due to his background check.

Wible, Garrett – There was no action taken on Mr. Wible's case.

Administrative Cases

Cavanaugh, Kay – Paul Stremick made a motion to contact Eight Mile Public School District for more information and to find out if it is the principal or superintendent's responsibility for placing teachers in the classroom. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Administrative board members who voted yes were Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff and Paul Stremick. Motion carried. Ms. Cavanaugh is employed by Eight Mile Public School in Trenton and her file was reviewed by the administrative board for knowingly placing a teacher in a classroom while not having a valid North Dakota teaching license.

Miller, Charles – Karen Christensen moved to fine Mr. Miller \$100 for placing a teacher in the classroom without a valid teaching license. Seconded by Paul Stremick. Administrative board members who voted yes were Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff and Paul Stremick. Motion carried. Mr. Miller is superintendent at Nedrose Public Schools. His file was reviewed by the administrative board for knowingly placing a teacher in a classroom while not holding a valid North Dakota teaching license.

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Ploium, Gerald (Kenneth) – Mr. Kenneth Ploium's case was removed from agenda due to no action on Corey Ploium case.

NDSU Teacher Leader Standards Pilot Presentation – NDSU Faculty and Administrators from Fargo, West Fargo, Oakes, and Northern Cass – Introductions were held. In 2013 the board voted to allow NDSU to develop a program based on Teacher Leader Standards. Panel members are Bill Martin, Margaret Fitzgerald, Tom Hall and Ann Clapper from NDSU. Administrators included were Jeff Schatz from Fargo Public Schools, David Flowers from West Fargo Public Schools, Josh Johnson from Oakes Public Schools, and Cory Steiner from Northern Cass Public Schools.

Executive Director Search Sub-committee Report – The Sub-committee has developed topics that they would like to discuss with applicants during the interview process. Interview questions will be developed and sent to the board for final review. Depending on the number of qualified applicants the sub-committee decides should be interviewed, specific times for the interviews will be determined. Interviews for the Executive Director will be conducted by the full board. The sub-committee would also like to give applicants the opportunity to tour the office and have them meet office staff.

A motion was made by Karen Christensen and seconded by Mike McNeff to approve the **March minutes with corrections. Motion to accept the financial and licensure reports** by Kim Belgarde, seconded by Mike McNeff. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Carly Feiler, Dinah Goldenberg, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Motion carried. The March 2016 financial report showed \$53,226.84 in total income received, \$61,454.27 in total expenses with a net income of minus \$8,227.43. The March 2016 licensure report showed 842 total licenses issued.

Paul Stremick made a motion to ask for ESPB employee Diane Weber's resignation. Motion seconded by Carly Feiler. Board members who voted yes were Kimberly Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Carly Feiler, Dinah Goldenberg, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Paul Stremick and Gary Thompson. Motion carried. Carly Feiler made a suggestion to check with auditors to make them aware of credit card points that are earned so they can focus on the issue, and to check into obtaining a p-card for the office.

Board Member Reports

ND School Boards Association – School Boards Association conference was in Austin, TX, the weekend of April 9, 2016. The conference had a good turnout from ND school

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districts. The conference included much discussion on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

North Dakota United – The North Dakota United delegates' assembly will be held on Saturday, April 16th.

Department of Public Instruction – North Dakota is 42% complete with state assessments for the school year. Results will hopefully be back by end of June 2016. Regional Spring workshops were held across the state and went well.

Mary Eldredge-Sandbo made a correction to the board member sub-committees and noted that Amy Mann has been appointed to the Professional Development Sub-Committee instead of Mike McNeff.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:43pm.

Chair

Secretary/Executive Director