

MINUTES

Thursday, August 10, 2017

Fort Totten Room, State Capitol, Bismarck

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order at 9:04am by ESPB Executive Director Becky Pitkin. Board members present were Mike McNeff, Jessica Rush, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Bob Toso, Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, and Brenda Tufte. Carly Retterath joined at 10:30am. Superintendent Kirsten Baesler was absent.

Also present were Amy Folkestad, Mari Riehl, and Becky Pitkin from ESPB, Patty Barette from NDUnited, Alexis Baxley from School Boards Association, and Gail Schauer from DPI and Amanda Sajdak. Wayne Kutzer from CTE joined at 10:30am.

Becky reminded the board of non-negotiables that were determined in August 2016 – keep in mind what’s best for kids, respect the input of content experts/stakeholders, no decisions will be based on budget, and keep excellence in education.

Additions to the Agenda – Becky would like to add board case Rhonda Krein-Fool Bear, in addition to the ED evaluation procedure and a savings account reserve. Mike McNeff would like to add discussion about mental health requirements for pre-service teachers and counselors. Bob Toso made a motion to approve the agenda with flexibility, seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. All voted in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Vice Chair Karen Christensen took over the meeting at 9:14am. Election of officers was moved until Carly Retterath’s arrival.

Reserve Savings Account – Becky attended a regulatory board meeting in July and learned that the majority of boards have funds set aside for litigation. If an amount is earmarked in the budget – it needs to be used specifically for that purpose.

Edward Erickson recommended, “A single highly contested case could cost more than \$10,000. I recommend that amount as a minimum for litigation reserve. I like Senator Anderson’s comment about the Pharmacy Board having a reserve of one year’s budget. If possible, that would be a good measure for reserve funds”

Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to earmark the money in a savings account for litigation costs. Seconded by Bob Toso. Budget committee should have a conversation about how this needs to be maintained. Board members who voted in favor were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. Motion carried.

Election of Officers – Elected positions board needs to appoint are President and Vice President. Kim Belgarde made a motion to nominate Mike McNeff for Board President. Motion seconded by Carly Retterath. Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to nominate Carly Retterath for Board President. Seconded by Kim Belgarde. Mike McNeff requested to

August 2017

Page 2

withdraw his name and moved to a unanimous vote. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. All board members voted in favor of nominating Carly Retterath for Board President. None opposed. Motion carried.

Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to nominate Karen Christensen for Board Vice President. Motion seconded by Mike McNeff. Bob Toso made a motion to cease nominations and make a unanimous vote for Karen Christensen. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. All Board members voted in favor of nominating Karen Christensen for Board Vice President. None opposed. Motion carried.

June Minutes, June and July License and Financial Report – Mike McNeff made a made a motion to set aside statement in June 2017 minutes regarding PAAC until policy committee brings options back to the board. Bob Toso seconded. All voted in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. Have Becky/Mari look at the June minutes on page 4 regarding PAAC to get language correct. Make corrections to Karen's name, ED Evaluation Policy vs Procedure, and note the Policy Committee will continue conversation on the members of PAAC committee

Becky went over the new format of the budget that is being presented to the board. Ben Johnson expressed that he wants to stress the importance of attending trainings/conferences so we can stay up to date on current trends and issues in education, since we are in the profession of training teachers. Becky also pointed out that we were only \$845.54 over in the projected 2016-2017 budget.

The June 2017 financial report showed \$213,820.04 in total income received, \$106,143.70 in total expenses, with a net income of \$107,676.34. The June 2017 licensure report showed 938 total licenses issued.

The July 2017 financial report showed \$76,726.05 in total income received, \$71,299.47 in total expenses, with a net income of \$5,426.58. The July 2017 licensure report showed 968 total licenses issued.

Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to accept the June and July 2017 license and financial reports. Seconded by Bob Toso. All voted in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

2017-2018 Teacher Support System Budget – There was carryover into the TSS budget, so the funds were drawn into new TSS budget. If that continues to happen, the Board can continue to factor that in when developing the TSS budget. Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to accept the TSS Budget. Seconded by Bob Toso. All voted in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

August 2017

Page 3

ED Evaluation Procedure – Rubric had not been determined previously, but is now complete. Full Executive Director Evaluation Policy and Procedure has now been developed.

Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to approve ED Evaluation Procedure with grammar cleanup, which includes rubric. Seconded by Brenda Tufte. All voted in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Senate Bill 2185 (math/computer science licensure) – Gail Schauer from DPI presented on SB 2185. This is part of Century Code falls under curriculum and what students need to graduate from high school in North Dakota. The requirements used to include 3 units of math and now includes 3 units of math, which may include one unit of computer science. When SB 2185 was passed, a steering committee came together and decided some computer science courses could count as math. Intent of legislation was to use a computer science class as a math course and that math standards would be followed. DPI found that very few teachers are qualified to teach both computer science and math. Gail presented some different options that are currently available for a teacher to become qualified in both areas, as well as a draft of course codes that will be proposed that will count for math or computer science credits.

CTE Alternative Licenses – CTE Director Kayne Kutzer presented on CTE Alternate Access licenses in Ag, business, FACS, marketing, Tech and Engineering.

Mike McNeff reiterated ESPB's motion from October 20, 2016, which included the statement that the board wanted to allow field experience/non-teaching experience to lead to licensure in these areas, and that is not included in CTE's alternate access license. CTE board met and the consensus was that a bachelor's degree in a relevant area would be needed. Wayne mentioned differentiating licenses (micro-licensing) for different content areas – horticulture, foods, textiles, ect, and how it's not necessarily workable. Wayne will bring the question back to his board and this is something they will continue to look at. It could be a possibility to include these things under the T&I area to get very content specific.

Board Education – Micro-credentials – this has been in the news lately that some states are using at the district level for professional development. Some states are considering using it toward re-education credits. Micro-credentials are “bite-sized” modules that are used to show teacher competencies in certain areas. These are not connected to transcripts.

Some school districts have used micro-credentials toward professional development and salary increases. Tennessee is doing a pilot program this summer to use for credentialing

August 2017

Page 4

and Massachusetts is using them for partial re-education requirements.

Ben Johnson said Bismarck Public Schools has started moving toward using micro-credentials and is developing the trainings themselves.

New Website Update – Mari Riehl showed an update of ESPB’s pilot website. Having control of our own website will significantly cut down on technology costs and what we currently pay to have our website updated each month.

Mental Health Competency – ESPB has started collecting data on all Initial licensure applications to get information on what kind of mental health competency trainings are being completed. ESPB has been told by higher education that this component is being covered in coursework and we are now asking applicants to provide information on this. Mike McNeff would like to see that the mental/behavioral health component be emphasized for school counselors. This may be an issue that should be addressed by DPI, as they take care of the counseling credential and also have schools report their mental health professional development hours. Becky will visit with Robin Lang at DPI to see how this is being addressed and bring that information back to the board.

Re-Education Credits – A higher education professor has contacted Becky about using her work as writing syllabi and developing courses toward her re-education credits. Our law currently states that re-education credits must be transcribed through a college or university. Mike McNeff stated that teachers have to teach and also must keep learning. Dinah Goldenberg asked that more investigation be done so the board can make a more informed decision.

Karen Christensen moved that due to Administrative Rule restrictions and lack of research on the topic, the board will refrain from accepting this proposal at this time. Dinah Goldenberg seconded. Those who voted in favor were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. Mike McNeff voted no. Motion carried.

PAAC Meeting Update – Becky gave a brief overview of the PAAC meeting.

A group met in June on math, English, and social studies standards. The group looked to see what needs to be updated in the standards since middle school is now included with all elementary licenses and at the content specific level for secondary teachers.

Minimal changes to actual content were recommended. If PAAC agrees, this would go back to higher ed and they would have two years to include the changes in their programs. Consensus of the committee was that the language used is broad enough to cover the multiple strategies used for the content areas – not elementary or secondary specific.

August 2017
Page 5

Social Studies – No specific standards revisions were made.

Math – The committee recommended minor wording changes.

English Language Arts – Wording was added to address pre-adolescence, middle level, language development and analyzing writing. Standard 05020.6 was deleted because it is duplicated in the INTASC standards.

PAAC needs to be rebuilt, with three new members being needed.

Meeting Dates for 2017-2018 – Board members would like the regular meeting to be held on September 19, the same date at the Joint Boards meeting, instead of September 14. Becky will send out a timeline for the meetings once more details are determined. Regular ESPB meeting dates will be September 19, October 12, November 9, December 14, January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12, May 10, and June 14.

2016 Audit Reports – We are now up to date with all audit reports. Auditors had no recommendations on the 2015-2016 report.

2017 Licensure Patterns – Licensure patterns so far this year have been fairly steady, in comparison to other years. Becky has received a number of questions on teaching in minor content areas.

CASES

Board attorney Edward Erickson phoned in to join the meeting.

Lemke, Ashley – Ben Johnson excluded himself from discussion and voting on this case. Ms. Lemke's file was reviewed in June due to a Request for Inquiry that had been filed by ND Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Case was tabled in June to seek additional information. Bob Toso made a motion to suspend Ms. Lemke's license for 3 years. Seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Board members who voted no were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. Motion defeated.

Bob Toso made a 2nd motion to revoke Ms. Lemke's license. Motion seconded by Kim Belgarde. Board members who voted in favor were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. Motion carried.

Drexler, James – Mr. Drexler's file was reviewed by the Board due to his background

August 2017

Page 6

check. Kim Belgarde made a motion to dismiss the case and issue Mr. Drexler's Initial CTE License. Seconded by Bob Toso. Board members who voted in favor were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. Motion carried.

VanBuren, David – Mr. VanBuren's file was reviewed due to his background check and because he has had licenses suspended or denied in other states. Kim Belgarde made a motion to not grant a North Dakota Educator's Professional License to Mr. VanBuren. Motion seconded by Mike McNeff. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. Motion carried.

Lizakowski, Kyle – Mr. Lizakowski's file was reviewed by the Board due to his background check. Much discussion by the board. Karen Christensen made a motion to grant the license, requiring Mr. Lizakowski to self-report any future offenses and that he complete a background check in one year with his renewal. He will also be required to submit mandatory written updates from his supervisor at the end of each semester. Motion seconded by Bob Toso. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, and Bob Toso. Andrea Fox, Mike McNeff, and Brenda Tufte voted no. Motion carried.

Strom, Patricia – Ms. Strom's file was reviewed by the Board due to her background check and because her license had previously been revoked in North Dakota. Mike McNeff made a motion to maintain the revocation. Seconded by Karen Christensen. After further discussion, Mike and Karen withdrew their motions.

Kim Belgarde made a motion to grant the license. Seconded by Brenda Tufte. Again, after further discussion, Kim and Brenda withdrew their motions.

Kim Belgarde then made a motion to grant the license with a 10 day suspension, with Ms. Strom's file to be flagged and checked again in one year. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Board members who voted in favor were Kim Belgarde, and Ben Johnson. Board members who voted no were Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. Motion failed.

Mike McNeff made a motion to issue Ms. Strom's license with a \$250 fine, requiring her to self-report any future offenses, and that her file be flagged. Board members who voted yes were Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, and Bob Toso. Board members who voted no were Kim Belgarde, Dinah Goldenberg, and Brenda Tufte. Motion carried.

August 2017

Page 7

Gilbertson, Cassy – Karen Christensen made motion to grant Ms. Gilbertson's Initial In-State Educator License. Seconded by Brenda Tufte. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. Motion carried. Ms. Gilbertson's file was reviewed by the Board due to her background check.

Kostelecky, Lukas – Mr. Kostelecky's file was reviewed by the Board due to a new background check offense that has been covered in the media. Bob Toso made motion to revoke Mr. Kostelecky's CTE license. Seconded by Jessica Rush. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. Motion carried.

Poock, Lindsay – At the April 2017 Board meeting, the Board voted to suspend Ms. Poock's license for a period of 3 years. Ms. Poock has not signed her settlement agreement. Kim Belgarde made a motion to proceed to a hearing. Motion seconded by Bob Toso. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. Motion carried. As we move toward litigation, Board attorney Edward Erickson stated that there are many eyewitnesses who wrote letters regarding the case and would be willing to testify.

Krein-Fool Bear, Rhonda – Ms. Krein-Fool Bear's file is being reviewed by the board due to recent criminal offenses. Bob Toso made a motion to revoke Ms. Krein-Fool Bear's Educator's Professional License. Seconded by Ben Johnson. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. Carly Retterath abstained from voting. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE CASES

Morin, Charles – Mr. Morin's file has been reviewed by the Board due to a Request for Inquiry that was filed regarding a possible Code of Ethics violation for Commitment to the Profession. Bob Toso made a motion to dismiss the case. Seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Administrative Board members who voted yes were Karen Christensen, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, and Bob Toso. Motion carried.

Kim Belgarde left the meeting at 2:20pm

Committees – Board President Carly Retterath and Becky will work together to develop a

August 2017

Page 8

survey to gauge interest in which committees Board members would like to serve. This will include policy/budget, ED evaluation/ESPB mission and goals, and alternate access license committee.

Executive Director Evaluation – Board has decided that it would be the duty of the Board President to administer the ED evaluation. At the June meeting it was also determined that the ED Evaluation committee would continue working on ESPB goals, mission, ect.

Director's Report – Becky has worked to develop an operational plan for 2017-2018 and presented it to the Board. A public hearing was held for comment on the intent to adopt administrative rules and had 2 attendees.

Board Member Reports –

NDACTE –

- NDACT is working together to gather data on finisher's ability to impact student learning in the field. Processes for gathering data on candidates varies from institution to institution and a shared survey of employers has been developed.
- CAEP standards for advanced programs are official in September, 2017 and are posted on the CAEP site. Teacher prep programs offering advanced programs have them available if the consensus of the board is to use those standards. <http://caepnet.org/standards/standards-advanced-programs>
- New licensure changes will require programmatic changes in undergraduate programs to be sure that candidates are fully prepared to serve the grade levels for which they are incensed to teach (1-8 and 5-12). NDACTE agreed that teacher prep programs would work with current teachers in those areas.
- The NDACTE developed instrument for evaluating student teachers which all of the teacher prep programs and was piloted last year. The evaluation instrument was assessed for validity and reliability and aligned to CAEP standards. Some initial feedback received noted that the length was rather arduous for cooperating teachers and the standards very rigorous perhaps even beyond what is reasonable for pre-service teachers. After implementing it, consensus seems to be that despite the length, it takes less time than anticipated. Reliability and validity scores were high.

Non-Public Schools – Nothing to report.

School Administrators – Legislative focus group has met already for 2019. Working with interim education committee to study funding formula. They have also been working on behavioral health training.

School Boards Association – New Executive Director has started.

ND United – Meeting with Senator Heitkamp next week. Starting NDU membership drive.

August 2017
Page 9

A new Uniserv Director has been hired.

DPI – Gail Schauer provided an update on ESSA. DPI had a conference call this week with the Department of Education and have a few things that need to be addressed in North Dakota’s ESSA plan. DPI will be responding back in the coming week and is hoping to have receive approval by September 1. Will be looking at administrative credentials this next year. Also looking at professional development for educators and determining what is being found as the biggest need thru evaluations. This year, DPI will be collecting more data on teacher shortage areas in STARS system.

The board meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm.

Chair

Secretary/Executive Director