

## **MINUTES – Board Meeting**

**Thursday August 9, 2018**

Sakakawea Room, State Capitol, Bismarck

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order at 9:02am by Chair Carly Retterath. Board members present were Mike McNeff, Dinah Goldenberg, Bob Toso, Carly Retterath, Brenda Tufte, Jessica Rush, Andrea Fox, Ben Johnson, Superintendent Kirsten Baesler. Board member Kim Belgarde was absent.

Also present were Amy Folkestad and Becky Pitkin from ESPB, Jim Uppgren from DPI, Jason Eitner, Erin Jacobson and Marijke Leibel from TSS, LeeAnn Nelson and Katy Brock from University of Jamestown.

Introductions were held.

**Additions/Changes to the Agenda** – Items to add to the agenda include Teacher Support System 2018-2019 budget, discussion on alternate access license possibilities for Augustus Kueber and Tory Danielson and board cases for Jason Eitner and Amanda Starr. All Board members voted to accept agenda with changes, none opposed. Motion carried.

### **June and July Minutes, License, and Financial Report –**

The June 2018 financial report showed \$126,274.72 in total income received, \$58,734.70 in total expenses, with a net income of \$67,540.02. The June 2018 licensure report showed 963 total licenses issued.

The July 2018 financial report showed \$75,332.21 in total income received, \$66,481.00 in total expenses, with a net income of \$8,851.21. The July 2018 licensure report showed 919 total licenses issued.

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

**Policy First Reading** – Bob Toso made a motion to approve the first reading of policy to allow ESPB to withdraw investments for one-time expenditures that are not in the annual budget. Only earned money/interest can be withdrawn. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Board members who voted in favor were Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Director's Report** – We continue to work with Nexus Innovations on programming for electronic licenses and hope to have that completed this month. ESPB's Operational plan has been included in the meeting materials for review. Becky would like a committee to look at removing impediments to licensure for military spouses. Dinah Goldenberg, Jessica Rush, and Andrea Fox agreed to serve on this committee.

- Kirk Ham – Mr. Ham has submitted a request to the Board to waive the late fee that was assessed because his license lapsed. Brenda Tufte made a motion to deny the request to waive the late fee. Motion seconded by Jessica Rush. Board members who voted in favor were Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson,

Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte.  
Motion carried.

- Safe Spaces Teacher Training Course –This course is being offered through a partnership between NDSU and Planned Parenthood. A concerned citizen contacted the office regarding “Planned Parenthood’s attempt to reach students through teachers.” The Board agreed that this course would continue to be accepted toward license renewal, as it is a transcribed education course from NDSU, an accredited institution.

**Augustus Kueber** – Warwick Public School has submitted a request for the Board to consider issuing Mr. Kueber an alternate access license for physical education. Administrative Rule states that alternate access must be issued in documented shortage areas, however, additional consideration can be given in cases where near shortages exist. For the 2018-2019 school year, physical education is not considered a shortage area. Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to make an exception and to grant Mr. Kueber an alternate access license for physical education. Motion seconded by Mike McNeff. Board members who voted in favor were Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Tory Danielson – GPA Exception** – Mr. Danielson would like to apply for an alternate access license but does not have a GPA of 2.5. Administrative Rule outlines the minimum GPA required for initial licensure, but not for an alternate access license. Rolla Public School would like to hire Mr. Danielson to teach business on an alternate access license. Bob Toso made a motion to waive the 2.5 GPA to allow for an alternate access license and to review Mr. Danielson’s case again in one year along with his approved Teacher Education Program of Study from the college or university he will be working with to earn his teacher education degree. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Board members who voted yes were Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Jessica Rush, and Bob Toso. Carly Retterath and Brenda Tufte voted no. Motion carried.

**Teacher Support System (TSS) Update** – Erin Jacobson and Marijke Leibel from TSS presented on the work currently going on. Marijke is the new Teacher Support System assistant director and started in July. Carol Sloan retired at the end of June. Currently, there are 206 first year teachers enrolled to be mentored for 2018-2019. This is ahead of the numbers from this time last year.

Special Education mentoring pilot is up and running. Teacher Support System will be working with Iridium Learning to provide professional development to mentors of beginning special education teachers.

Survey results from New Teacher Center third party survey have been completed. TSS

is using the feedback and results to look at possible changes.

Erin has been presenting as often as possible at conferences to provide information to stakeholders on what TSS has to offer.

**Teacher Support Budget** – Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to approve the 2018-2019 TSS budget. Motion seconded by Brenda Tufte. Board members who voted in favor were Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried. Changes to the budget for 2018-2019 are increasing the amount available for Beginning Teacher Network grants from \$30,000 in 2017-2018 to \$60,000 for 2018-2019. For 2018-2019, reimbursement to districts for substitute teacher pay will be added back into the TSS budget.

Marijke went over Beginning Teacher Network Grant – additional funding for REAs and districts to develop network for First Year Teachers as a supplement to TSS Mentoring Program. Deadline for grant applications is August 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **CASES**

**Taragos, Mitchell** – Mr. Taragos' file was reviewed by the Board due to a background offense he self-disclosed on his renewal application. Mike McNeff made a motion to grant Mr. Taragos' renewal. Motion seconded by Andrea Fox. Board members who voted yes were Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Rust, Richard** – Mr. Rust's file is being reviewed by the Board due to his background check. He has applied for an Other State Educator License. Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to grant the license, subject to the receipt of a satisfactory mental health evaluation, which was a stipulation of his disposition from the court. Motion seconded by Jessica Rush. Board members who voted in favor were Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Grothe, Elena** – Ms. Grothe has applied for and Out-of-State Reciprocal License and disclosed on her application that, in 2014, her license was suspended in Vermont for 30 days. Bob Toso made a motion to approve Ms. Grothe's application for an Out-of-State Reciprocal License. Motion seconded by Ben Johnson. Board members who voted yes were Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Magnani, Trey** – Mr. Magnani's file was reviewed by the Board due to his background check. Brenda Tufte made a motion to deny Mr. Magnani's application for a license, with the option of re-evaluation in 1 year. Motion seconded by Andrea Fox. Board

members who voted yes were Andrea Fox, Ben Johnson, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. Dinah Goldenberg and Mike McNeff voted no. Motion carried.

**Starr, Amanda** – Becky brought Ms. Starr’s file to the Board to ask for their consideration to issue a 40-day provisional license while Ms. Starr’s background check processes. She has self-disclosed previous background offenses. Bob Toso made a motion to allow the issuance of a 40-day provisional license for Ms. Starr. Dinah Goldenberg seconded the motion. Board members who voted yes were Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE CASES**

**Carlson, Mary Beth** – Ms. Carlson’s file was reviewed by the Board after a Request for Inquiry was received for a possible Code of Ethics violation. Bob Toso made a motion to dismiss the case. Motion seconded by Carly Retterath. Administrative Board member who voted yes were Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, and Bob Toso. None opposed, motion carried.

**Eitner, Jason** – Carly Retterath made a motion to move into executive session. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Administrative Board members who voted yes were Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried. The topic/purpose for the executive session was for attorney consultation (NDCC 44-04-19.1). Executive session began at 11:18am. Administrative Board Chair Mike McNeff noted that executive session ended at 11:53am.

Carly Retterath made a motion to deny Mr. Eitner’s license based on falsified information provided on his North Dakota Educator’s Professional License application. Motion seconded by Bob Toso. Administrative Board member who voted yes were Dinah Goldenberg, Ben Johnson, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, and Bob Toso. Mike McNeff also noted that there is an appeal process, should Mr. Eitner choose to do so.

### **Board member reports**

#### **NDACTE –**

- Educators from higher education institution across the state met in Valley City on August 7<sup>th</sup> for a day of CAEP accreditation training.
- Minot State, Mayville State, Dickinson State University and the University of Mary, along with ESPB donated their time on August 2 to offer a one-day boot camp for newly hired alternate access candidates. Eight teachers from Wolford, McKenzie County, Devils Lake, Hope-Page, Rugby, Tioga, and Ashley attended. Feedback surveys indicated that they found it helpful and would have liked it to be more than one day.

- NDACTE members are developing a dispositions assessment instrument for pre-service teachers that will be shared with all of the universities in the state.

**Association of Non-Public Schools** – The past year was spent focusing on membership. Jessica hopes to have something new to report next month.

**ND Association of School Administrators** – Nothing new to report.

**School Boards Association** – Dinah Goldenberg attended part of the Educator Ethics course presented by NDUnited in June. She reported the training included interesting conversation and good discussion.

**DPI** – Interim Education Funding committee met, went over new Teacher Shortage Loan Forgiveness program. NDUS has policies and procedures – no admin rule in place. Looking at placing it within Admin Rule and with DPI in the future, to help clean it up. School Safety is a big topic – will be in Bismarck, Fargo, Valley City, Dickinson, Williston, Rugby. Listening sessions. Kirsten will send info to Amy so I can send to Board.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:07pm.