

MINUTES

Wednesday and Thursday, June 14 and 15, 2017

Wednesday: Frost Fire – 12600 104th St NE, Walhalla ND

Thursday: Sanctuary Guest House – 403 Holly St, Walhalla ND

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order at 12:48 pm on Thursday, June 14, 2017, by Board chair Mary Eldredge-Sandbo. Board members present were Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Dinah Goldenberg, Kim Belgarde, Paul Stremick, Gary Thompson, Karen Christensen, Bob Toso, Kirsten Baelser.

Board members absent were: none

Also present were Rebecca (Becky) Pitkin and Mari Fridgen from ESPB.

June 14: Retreat

The retreat began with a short ice-breaker activity.

Non-negotiables were discussed. One was updated by the group:

Non-negotiables- We will not make decisions **solely** based on money.

Karen Christensen made a motion to accept the additions to the agenda with flexibility.

Dinah Goldenberg seconded. All Board members voted in favor, none opposed.

The Year in Review – Becky shared much of the past year focused on HB 1098 and soliciting stakeholder input. In addition, many things at ESPB were updated and continue to be updated. Becky shared her year in review: Record of ED Activities for the year. One element of the ED's activities of the year was a manual for ESPB Board members. A suggestion from the board was to leave out personal names from board manual and also add guidelines on how to talk to media.

The Year Ahead – Mission, Goals, Priorities –

The ESPB mission statement does need updating. A subcommittee will begin this work.

The former evaluation committee will tackle the mission, goals, and priorities.

Board Discussion Topics –

Budget - Licensure fees were discussed. At present, there will be no changes to licensure fees, except the sub license will be \$80 only because it will be for 2 years rather than 1 year. No salary increases were proposed to follow the state's lead. There was a FICA question in budget – Becky will research this and provide answers.

Model Code of Ethics - Continued ethics discussion on adoption of new Code of Ethics for Educators. ND United has offered a training using these new ethics. Becky did attend

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the training and she and others give it high reviews. ESPB Board members are interested in the training. The board asked Becky to solicit input from stakeholders regarding the Model code of ethics. Becky has tried to meet with organizations and has not received much feedback. She will continue to try to reach out to the other organizations. ESPB's role in professional development was discussed. ESPB advises on what professional development to take, however, they don't offer courses themselves. They do reach out to teacher candidates and provide training on licensure.

Licensure – Mari Fridgen from ESPB shared the different types of licenses that are currently available. Paul Stremick stated he would still like to see a real alternate license or certificate, and also questioned the Other State Educator License. ESPB does follow century code for the Other State Educator License. Micro-credentialing and badging was discussed. The Board voiced interest in learning more information on this issue. There will be a presentation on this at the September meeting

Teacher Preparation Program Standards – Becky and Mari have met with math, ELA, and social studies groups to review the teacher preparation program standards. The Board discussed learning more about the accreditation process. They want to know more and are open to being assigned times to be a part of upcoming accreditation visits.

Complaint Process for Cases – The Board discussed consistency with fines. The Board discussed what the process is when a person doesn't file a complaint. The flowchart that was prepared previously is misleading under a different practice. If the Board initiates a potential case, the name of the person is not going to be used in the future on the agenda as it has in the past. The Board will consult Edward about the correct procedure on board-initiated complaints.

Board Communication Protocols - Media protocol for board members was requested. Open meeting laws, recusal, and executive session protocol are additional topics to be outlined in the new member training.

June 15: Board Meeting

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) reconvened at 8:17 am on Friday, June 15, 2017, led by Board chair Mary Eldredge-Sandbo. Board members present were: Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Dinah Goldenberg, Kim Belgarde, Paul Stremick, Gary Thompson, Karen Christensen, Bob Toso, Kirsten Baelser. Board members absent were: none

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Also present were Rebecca (Becky) Pitkin and Mari Fridgen from ESPB.

Additions to the Agenda –

The following cases were added to the agenda:

Cynthia Wilder

Cairra Pfau

Rhonda Krein-Fool Bear

Eric Standing

Ashley Lemke

Michaela Murphy

Administrators:

Kevin Baumgarn

Charles Morin (2)

Removed Sheridan Tahista due to the fact that there was no request for inquiry. Paul Stremick suggested to remove the agenda item to elect officers.

Karen Christensen motioned to accept the additions to the agenda and Dinah Goldenberg seconded. All members voted in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

May Minutes, License, and Financial Report – Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to accept the May 2017 minutes. Motion seconded by Bob Toso. Board members all voted in favor. Motion passed.

The May 2017 financial report showed \$68,454.89 in total income received, \$62,997.52 in total expenses, with a net income of \$5,457.37. The May 2017 licensure report showed 890 total licenses issued. Gary Thompson made a motion to accept the May 2017 license and financial reports. Seconded by Carly Retterath. Board members all voted in favor. Motion passed.

2017-2018 Budget – There will be no salary increases for upcoming year to follow the state's lead.. Kim Belgarde questioned the past situation with the credit cards. Becky explained that the cards were locked away. The points accumulated are not being touched. Becky looked into using the "P Card" but as a pseudo-state agency, ESPB doesn't have to use that card. Kim Belgarde made the motion to accept the budget and Bob Toso seconded. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.

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Administrative Rules – Becky explained the administrative rules process and if we move forward, the rules would be effective Jan. 1, 2018. These are the changes that the board has been working on since September. The board reviewed many of the items again with the changes to administrative rule. Composite science and social studies areas moved from 12 to 8 Semester hours. The TAFE process was discussed. The rural flexibility and some special education licenses are removed as they no longer apply. Dinah Goldenberg made the motion to move ahead with the advice of our lawyer Edward, to start operating July 1 with the sub license changes. Kim Belgarde seconded. All board members voted in favor and the motion carried.

Further discussion was held on the timeline for administrative rule. Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to operate under the advice of our lawyer on administrative rules for this year. Gary Thompson seconded. Board members who voted in favor were: Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Dinah Goldenberg, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Gary Thompson, Bob Toso, and Mary Eldredge-Sandbo. Paul Stremick opposed. Motion carried.

Additional Discussion Item - Board discussed the option of having a new method of communication with electronic documents. Becky will do a trial run in August for sharing documents with the Board.

First Reading Policy – Carly Retterath made the motion to accept the PACC first reading, Bob Toso seconded and made an amendment that with the PACC members listed, PACC should be 11 members and not 10. Gary Thompson then made an amendment for PACC to be 9 members with 1 administrator and school board member. ESPB members who voted in favor were: Dinah Goldenberg, Amy Mann, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Paul Stremick, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, and Bob Toso. Board members opposed were: Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, and Gary Thompson. Gary Thompson then made a second motion to have the policy read 9 members with 2 school administrators or 1 school administrator and 1 school board member or 3 teachers. This means that in the reading, A would stay the same, B would be the same, C would be removed, and D would read that 1 of the 3 would be from a private institution. Bob Toso moved to table this PACC reading. Mike McNeff seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor and the motion to table and send the item back to the policy committee passed.

Executive Director Evaluation – Paul Stremick made a motion to approve the ED

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evaluation. Bob Toso seconded. All Board members voted in favor and the motion carried.

2017-2018 Meeting Dates – August meeting is the same date initially set at 9:00 am. Other dates will be determined in August. There is flexibility with meetings if there is not a great need.

Teacher Support System: Transition Plan – Erin Jacobson has been training with Laurie Stenehjem a few days. She then will take a few preplanned days off in Aug. On Monday, there is a training scheduled and Laurie will be recognized at that meeting. TSS budget will be approved in Aug.

Board Member Reports

NDACTE – Gary Thompson reported that NDACTE had a meeting on May 19th. CAEP data was discussed. Becky has been meeting with content standard groups to review the higher education standards due to new grade configuration.

Non-public Schools – Nothing new to report

School Administrators – Mike McNeff reported that the summer conference is now going on in Bismarck. Negotiations are also going on in many districts.

School Boards Association – Dinah Goldenberg reported they hired Alexis Baxley (petroleum industry) as the new SBA Executive Director.

ND United – Karen Christensen reported they just finished summer institute. Negotiations are wrapping up. Impasse hearings are occurring in a few districts. There are some book studies going on as well.

DPI – Kirsten Baelser shared that ESSA innovation and legislative interim committees have been created. Two education committees have been formed this year. Schaible and Owens will be chairs. Then Oban and Schreiber Beck will be chairs of the other committee. Governor also announced a task force on innovation in education. National Secretary's initial review is expected soon – very interested in whether or not the waivers will be approved.

Frontline was also discussed. This is an international database for teachers looking for jobs. Kirsten and Becky had a webinar on Frontline but it is very expensive.

Committee Reports

Evaluation – Nothing new – rubric still needs to be finished.

Policy/Budget – Already updated previously in minutes

Director's Report – Program reviews are listed for those members who are interested in training. CTE meeting was held in May. ESPB had hoped that work experience be counted. However, CTE crafted a CTE Alternate Access License in certain areas. There

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was little that changed but not what ESPB hoped for with honoring experience. ESPB will invite Wayne Kutzer to next meeting.

CASES

Edward phoned in to join the meeting from Bismarck.

Jenna Kost – Ms. Kost’s file was reviewed by the board due to her background check. Mike McNeff motioned to grant initial license but that she self-report in the future. Karen Christensen seconded the motion. The board members who voted in favor were: Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Amy Mann, Dinah Goldenberg, Kim Belgarde, Paul Stremick, Gary Thompson, Karen Christensen, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried.

Kacia Argall – Ms. Argall was granted a substitute license in August 2016 after the Board reviewed her file due to her background check. The Board had indicated that if she reapplied for a license, the Board would review her file again. This review was the purpose of her file being heard at this meeting as she is now applying for her initial teaching license. Dinah Goldenberg motioned to grant the license. Paul Stremick seconded the motion. The Board members voted in favor were: Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Dinah Goldenberg, Kim Belgarde, Paul Stremick, Gary Thompson, Karen Christensen, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried.

Zachary Teske – Mr. Teske’s file was reviewed by the board due to him seeking a driver’s education endorsement. Carly Retterath moved to grant. Gary Thompson seconded the motion. Board members voted in favor were: Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Dinah Goldenberg, Kim Belgarde, Paul Stremick, Gary Thompson, Karen Christensen, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried.

Cairra Pfau – Ms. Pfau’s file was reviewed by the board due to her self-report background check. Gary Thompson moved to grant and Paul Stremick seconded the motion. Board members voted in favor were: Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Dinah Goldenberg, Kim Belgarde, Paul Stremick, Gary Thompson, Karen Christensen, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried.

Cynthia Wilder – Ms. Wilder’s file was reviewed last month due to information in the news. The board had requested an inquiry be filed first before any action is taken. Minot Public school did provide additional information. Mike McNeff made the motion to table this case. Gary Thompson seconded the motion. Some discussion was had that there needs to be a signed complaint form filled out. All Board members voted in favor of tabling

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and the motion to table passed.

Rhonda Krein-Fool Bear – Ms. Krein-Fool Bear's file was reviewed due to a request for inquiry from Solen Public Schools. Paul Stremick made the motion to table this case and Mike McNeff seconded the motion. The Board members who voted in favor were: Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Mary Eldredge-Sandbo, Amy Mann, Dinah Goldenberg, Kim Belgarde, Paul Stremick, Gary Thompson, Karen Christensen, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried.

Ashley Lemke – Ms. Lemke's file was reviewed due to request for inquiry from ND Department of Correction and Rehabilitation. Mike McNeff motioned to table this case and Carly Retterath seconded the motion. The Board would like additional information before making a decision. All Board members voted in favor and the motion to table passed.

Michaela Murphy – Gary Thompson moved to dismiss as it was not on the agenda. Bob Toso seconded the motion. All Board members voted in favor of the motion and the motion carried.

Eric Standing – This was a past Board case and Becky updated the Board that ESPB had asked that Eric reach an agreement with the school district but that no such agreement had been reached. Becky will move forward and suspend his license.

Administrators:

Kevin Baumgarn – Mr. Baumgarn's file was reviewed by the Board due to his principal not having a valid license. Dinah Goldenberg moved to assign a fine of \$250 to this administrator as the principal has still not followed up to renew his license. Karen Christensen seconded the motion. Karen Christensen, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Paul Stremick, and Bob Toso all voted in favor of the fine and the motion carried.

Charles Morin (2) – Carly Retterath made the motion to table both items under Charles Morin. Bob Toso seconded the motion. All voting members approved the motion to table and the motion carried.

Concerns were discussed with Edward's timeliness. There are many letters that have not been sent from the Attorney General's Office. This is not the first time concerns were discussed. Becky has tried, as has Mary, to voice concerns to Edward's supervisor. Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to give Mary authority to contact Edward's supervisor regarding the Board's concerns. Bob Toso seconded the motion. All Board members

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voted in favor and the motion carried.

The Board thanked Mary Eldredge-Sandbo and Amy Mann for their great service on the ESPB Board. Their terms are now over.

The board meeting was adjourned at 11:27 am.