

MINUTES – Retreat and Board Meeting

Wednesday June 13, 2018

Fargo Public Schools District Office, Board Room, Fargo ND

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) retreat was called to order at 12:19pm by Chair Carly Retterath. Board members present were Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Jessica Rush, Andrea Fox, Bob Toso, Karen Christensen, Carly Retterath, Kim Belgarde.

Board members absent were Ben Johnson and Brenda Tufte.

Also present were Amy Folkestad and Becky Pitkin from ESPB, Nicholas Bellack from ETS, Gail Schauer from DPI, Patty Barrette from NDUnited.

Introductions were held.

Retreat

Year in Review – Becky reviewed what is ESPB doing, where are we going, and non-negotiables from the 2017-2018 year. Becky thanked Karen Christensen for serving on the board, as her 2nd term is up at the end of June 2018. ESPB is waiting to hear from Governor's office regarding a new teacher representative and Dinah Goldenberg's term, as she is no longer a school board member for Fargo Public Schools. Becky presented an overview of license numbers from the past 4 years, customer service survey results, mental health competency, types of cases that are reviewed by the board and the reason for board review.

ESPB has had many accomplishments over the 2017-2018 year. These include:

- Adoption of the Model Code of Ethics for Educators (MCEE)
- Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) manual and training for North Dakota
- Working with DPI to set the ground work for a North Dakota Teacher of the Year (TOYs) chapter
- Becky is the NASDTEC Central Region Coordinator and 2019 conference planning Chair
- Collaboration with stakeholders to modify standards to reduce barriers
- Electronic licenses
- ESPB has been asked to partner with Ontario Teachers College for research presentation

The Year Ahead – Moving Forward:

- Work to determine retention rate of National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs)
- Collaborate with NDUnited to develop cohorts for National Board
- Provide list of NBCTs to NDACTE for pre-service placement
- Ask TOYs to consider teacher recruitment as part of their agenda when developing a chapter
- Gather data on reasons for teachers leaving districts
- Work on developing a teacher leader continuum – develop leaders in small communities and learn what makes teachers more likely to stay in those small communities

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ETS Presentation, Nick Bellack – Review of Computer Science Test: Options and Adoptions - Nick reviewed the process that ETS goes through to develop tests and cut scores. The current Computer Science test that North Dakota uses will be phased out by the end of August 2018. New test will be released September 2018.

Ethics Presentation, Patty Barrette - NDUnited – NDUnited has been offering an Educator Ethics course based on the Model Code of Ethics for Educators. Patty presented an overview of the course and examples of cases that are discussed and referenced back to the Principles of the MCEE.

Thursday June 14, 2018

Board Meeting

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) regular Board meeting was called to order at 8:03am by Chair Carly Retterath. Board members present were Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, Andrea Fox, Karen Christensen, Carly Retterath, Kim Belgarde. Brenda Tufte joined by phone. Superintendent Kirsten Baesler joined at 9:50am.

Board member absent was Ben Johnson.

Also present were Amy Folkestad and Becky Pitkin from ESPB, Nicholas Bellack from ETS, Gail Schauer and Kay Mayer from DPI, and Patty Barrette from NDUnited. Edward Erickson from Attorney General's Office joined for cases at 9:50am.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda – Items to add to the agenda include a Board case review for Shannon Dahlberg and discussion on Mitchell Taragos file, ETS Computer Science test, discussion on the Model Code of Ethics for Educators and Praxis test scores.

May Minutes, License, and Financial Report –

The May 2018 financial report showed \$92,027.64 in total income received, \$85,039.48 in total expenses, with a net income of \$6,988.16. The May 2018 licensure report showed 828 total licenses issued.

All voted to accept the May minutes, license, and financial report. None opposed. Motion carried.

2018-2019 Budget – Policy/budget committee recommended a budget for the 2018-2019 year. Karen Christensen made a motion to accept the budget, as recommended by the committee. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

School Psychology Standard – A change has been proposed to amend

Administrative Rule to add language that would allow someone who has completed a specialist degree in school psychology from an institution that is not national association of school psychology-accredited, with expectation of obtaining national certification within two years. Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to accept the change. Motion seconded by Bob Toso. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

First Reading Policy – A policy to allow ESPB to withdraw investments for one-time expenditures that are not in the annual budget was reviewed as a first reading. The expenditures the withdrawn investments will be used to pay must be approved by the budget committee. Bob Toso made a motion to amend the policy to include a statement that only earned money/interest can be withdrawn. Motion seconded by Dinah Goldenberg. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

After amendments are made, the policy will need to come back to board for first reading again.

2018-2019 Meeting Dates – Board reviewed possible dates for 2018-2019 meetings. ESPB meeting dates will be August 9, September 6, October 4, November 8, December 6, January 17, February 14, March 14, April 11, and May 9. The June meeting and retreat will be June 19-20.

2018-2019 Election of Officers – Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to reappoint Carly Retterath as Board Chair. Motion seconded by Bob Toso. Board members who voted in favor were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Karen Christensen made a motion to nominate Brenda Tufte for Board Vice-Chair. Seconded by Mike McNeff. Board members who voted in favor were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

ETS Computer Science Test – Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to accept the new ETS computer science test and accept the recommended cut score of 149. Motion seconded by Bob Toso. Board member who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Bob Toso, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried.

Director's Report – Little Free Pantry has been installed outside the office and we have been stocking it with food items. The office has also notified other tenants in the building and asked them if they would like to contribute.

Programming for electronic licenses is in progress and is nearing completion. In May,

18 National Board Certified Teachers were paid stipends. Staff summative evaluations were completed this month. Office staff will complete CPR training in the fall.

Much work continues to be done on program reviews in preparation for accreditation visits. University of Jamestown has returned their rejoinders. All NDSU programs have been reviewed and they will now work on their self-study. This fall will be very intense, with four accreditation visits scheduled.

Teacher Support System Report – No report.

Model Code of Ethics for Educators – Becky reviewed the process for implementing Model Code of Ethics for Educators. Training will be done to increase awareness of the MCEE for pre-service teachers as they enter the profession.

Praxis Core Academic Skills Composite Score – ETS is no longer calculating passing combined scores on the Core Academic Skills Test scores. ESPB has been working with ETS on a solution.

At their May meeting, NDACTE passed a recommendation that 2 of 3 scores must be passing with no single score on any section being more than 7 points lower than the required score and total combined score must be 466 or above. In the draft that was received from ETS, the requirement of passing 2 of the 3 tests was missing. Meeting of NDACTE will be called so they can review the possible changes and it will come back to the board for further review.

Discussion on Mitchell Taragos – Mr. Taragos has submitted a renewal application for his license that expires July 10, 2018, and he is scheduled to teach second semester summer school. When he submitted his application, he self-disclosed a background offense. Bob Toso made a motion to review Mr. Taragos' file as a board case in August due to his self-disclosed background offense. Motion seconded by Kim Belgarde. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, and Bob Toso. None opposed, motion carried.

Board member reports

NDACTE –

- The NDACTE board met at UMary in May. We discussed the Core Praxis cut scores for North Dakota. The board voted to pass the following:
 - North Dakota licensure for all areas requires (1) meeting the passing score of 156 for Core Academic Skills for Educators: Reading (5712), meeting the passing score of 160 for Core Academic Skills for Educators: Writing (5722) and meeting the passing score of 150 for Core Academic Skills for Educators: Mathematics (5732) or (2) meeting the passing

scores on any two of the three sections while achieving a combined total score of at least 466 with no single score on any section being more than 7 points lower than the required score.

- To note: There will be some instances when the ND passing rates could be higher than ETS. The result of this proposal is less discrepancy among the content area scores.
- State CAEP training will be held on Aug. 7th at Valley City State University.
- A subcommittee on Alt. Access preparation consisting of Andi Dulski-Bucholz (Mayville State), Kevin Moberg (Dickinson State), Erik Kana (Minot State), Mari Riehl (ESPB), and Brenda Tufte (U Mary) and we will be offering the following:
 - Faculty from Dickinson State University, Mayville State University, Minot State University and the University of Mary in collaboration with ESPB and the NDACTE are hosting a 1-day Bootcamp to support Alternate Access licensed teachers hired to begin their first teaching assignment this fall.
 - Location: University of Mary, Bismarck, ND
Date: Thursday, August 2nd 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Personalized instructional support will be available and scheduled if requested
post-bootcamp.
Cost: \$25 per participant (this includes lunch, am /pm snacks and materials)
 - Information may be accessed at the link below:
 - <https://goo.gl/forms/02OGBb7ss63mccM23>

Association of Non-Public Schools – New president is Gerald Vetter from Light of Christ Catholic Schools in Bismarck.

ND Association of School Administrators – Upcoming study council meeting in Medora in July. Will have many new faces – 6 new superintendents in organization. As always, they are gearing up for the upcoming legislative session.

School Boards Association – School board elections for the year have been completed.

NDUnited – Professional Growth Institute was well attended and well received.

DPI – Teacher evaluation reports are due. A survey was sent to administrators in April to gather information on what needs are, based on evaluations – student assessment, student behavior, communication with families, tracking student progress.

Principal credentials changes are being discussed. DPI is working to gather information and feedback from the field.

Introduction to Education course codes have been developed for high school students who take the course to see if they would be interested in a career in the education field.

Committee Reports –

Budget/Policy – Budget/Policy Committee has been working on developing the budget for 2018-2019.

Alternate Access – Committee has not recently met. Mike McNeff would like to see a narrow license area option developed with only requirement being pedagogy instead of further content area courses being also required.

CASES

Kittelson, Miranda – Ms. Kittelson’s attorney proposed some wording changes to the settlement agreement as it had been written. Ms. Kittelson would be eligible to reapply for licensure after March 2021 and would need to submit a completed renewal application when she chooses to apply. Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to accept amended settlement agreement as outlined by Board attorney Edward Erickson. Motion seconded by Bob Toso. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, and Bob Toso. None opposed, motion carried.

Dahl, Bryton – A letter was received from a school district letting ESPB know they would no longer hire Mr. Dahl as a substitute teacher due to corruption of a minor charges. At the April 2018 meeting, the Board voted to initiate a Request for Inquiry. Request for Inquiry was sent but was returned to the office in the mail with no response. Attorney Edward Erickson asked that a copy of Request for Inquiry be sent to him, so it can be sent to Mr. Dahl through his attorney. Dinah Goldenberg made a motion to table the case until August and see if a response is received. Seconded by Bob Toso. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, and Bob Toso. Andrea Fox voted no. Motion carried.

Dahlberg, Shannon – ESPB received a request from Ms. Dahlberg, who would like a substitute teaching license in North Dakota. She voluntarily disclosed that her teaching and administrative licenses in Minnesota have been suspended, though the formal settlement agreement and suspension process has not taken place yet. Bob Toso made a motion that the Board will not consider granting the application until Ms. Dahlberg’s MN suspension is completed. Motion seconded by Karen Christensen. Board members who voted yes were Kim Belgarde, Karen Christensen, Andrea Fox, Dinah Goldenberg, Mike McNeff, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, and Bob Toso. None opposed. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:36am.