

MINUTES – ESPB Special Meeting

Thursday, March 18, 2021

Teams Video Conference

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) special meeting video conference was called to order at 8:00am.

Board members present were Andrea Fox, Kathy Lentz, Carly Retterath, Jessica Rush, Joshua Standing Elk, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, Brenda Tufte, and Superintendent Kirsten Baesler.

Board members were absent were Ben Johnson and Bob Toso.

Also present by video conference were Executive Director Rebecca Pitkin, Assistant Director Mari Riehl and Amy Bigelow from ESPB, Allyson Hicks from Attorney General's Office, and Tracy Becker from CTE as tech support.

Ditmars, Richard – Mr. Ditmars has been charged with offenses that could cause his license to be revoked under NDCC 15.1-13-26. Attorney Allyson Hicks recommended similar to other cases in the past, a settlement agreement be issued to Mr. Ditmars to suspend his license until outcome of his court case. His license would be revoked upon conviction. Kraig Steinhoff made a motion to offer a settlement agreement to suspend Mr. Ditmars' license and include language that if convicted, his license would be revoked. Seconded by Brenda Tufte. Board members who voted yes were Andrea Fox, Kathy Lentz, Carly Retterath, Joshua Standing Elk, Patti Stedman, Kraig Steinhoff, and Brenda Tufte. None opposed. Motion carried. Jessica Rush was not present for the vote.

SB 2332 – Changes have been made to the bill since Becky last testified neutrally. Special education added back in, clinical experience removed and Teacher Support System mentoring, and accreditation/program approval requirement has been removed. After much discussion, consensus was that Becky should provide information to the committee that the items that have been changed in the bill should be reinstated.

Superintendent Baesler and Kathy Lentz left the meeting at 8:22am.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25am.

Chair

Secretary/Executive Director