

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OLIVER HODGE EDUCATION BUILDING:  
2500 NORTH LINCOLN BOULEVARD, ROOM 1-20  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA**

**September 28, 2011**

The State Board of Education met in regular session at 9:35 a.m. on Wednesday, September 28, 2011, in the Board Room of the Oliver Hodge Education Building at 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The final agenda was posted at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 27, 2011.

The following were present:

Ms. Connie Holland, Chief Executive Secretary  
Ms. Terrie Cheadle, Administrative Assistant

Members of the State Board of Education present:

State Superintendent Janet Barresi, Chairperson of the Board  
Mr. Lee Baxter, Lawton  
Ms. Amy Ford, Durant  
Mr. Phil Lakin, Tulsa  
Mr. William Price, Oklahoma City

Members of the State Board of Education not present:

Mr. William "Bill" Shdeed, Oklahoma City

Others in attendance are shown as an attachment.

**CALL TO ORDER  
AND  
ROLL CALL**

Superintendent Barresi called the State Board of Education regular meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Ms. Holland called the roll and ascertained there was a quorum.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, OKLAHOMA  
FLAG SALUTE, AND MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Superintendent Barresi led Board members and all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag, and a salute to the Oklahoma Flag, and a moment of silence.

**AUGUST 25, 2011 REGULAR BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES APPROVED**

Superintendent Barresi said in view of the fact this is nearly a new Board she asked Ms. Connie Holland, Chief Executive Secretary, State Board, if she found the minutes to be an appropriate reflection of the recording of the previous meeting.

Ms. Holland said yes.

Superintendent Barresi said with the Board's approval it is stipulated the minutes are an accurate reflection of the recording of the meeting.

**STATE SUPERINTENDENT**

**Information from the State Superintendent**

Prior to the meeting Superintendent Barresi introduced and swore in Mr. William Price, Ms. Amy Ford, Mr. Phil Lakin, and MG (R) Lee Baxter to the State Board of Education.

Superintendent Barresi said there has been a lot of activity throughout the state regarding waivers under No Child Left Behind and Oklahoma was asked to submit a waiver request, in what is called the 'early approval group'. The waiver request is based on the amount of education reform that is taking place in Oklahoma, and must be submitted before November 14, 2011. It will be with the philosophy of setting a high bar for expectations for students, educators, the Department, and parents; and a high bar regarding accountability, and transparency. We are very excited and honored to be asked to submit the application. We will receive notification on the application in January 2012. It was previously thought the waivers would go into effective in the 2012-2013 school year, but the United States Department of Education (USDE) has stated the waivers can be enacted in the spring of this school year. Our staff is working diligently on this and we will be accessing our REAC<sup>3</sup>H Network. The Board will be brought in on the orientation of what the REAC<sup>3</sup>H Network is and ways to reach out to all school districts and parents, students, and community members to get input on the waiver application. Oklahoma would have the flexibility on procedures and accountability of expending federal dollars to support the reforms in the state. This was not a rollback and,

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as a matter of fact, the USDE was very specific that waivers will not be granted to all states that make a request. Only states that have shown a firm commitment for reform will be considered and continue along that trajectory. It was made clear that the waivers would be removed if a stepping back from the reforms occurred. We are excited and ready for the challenge to move forward and honored that Oklahoma was asked to participate.

Superintendent Barresi said Governor Fallin has decided to enter Oklahoma in the Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant. The Governor has asked the SDE to be the lead agency to work on the grant in a collaborative effort with the Department of Human Services, Department of Health, Department of Mental Health, and SmartStart. The grant application is due October 19, 2011.

Superintendent Barresi introduced Ms. Maridyth McBee, Interim Director, Accountability and Assessment and asked her to give an overview on the data report from Pearson.

Ms. McBee said we now have accurate data certified by independent agency HUMRO for Grades 3 through 8 students who tested last spring. This has allowed the Department to produce accountability reports. School districts should receive their accountability reports indicating their adequate yearly progress and who is on the low performing lists. Districts will have 10 days or until October 11, 2011, to make any changes.

Superintendent Barresi said she was invited by NBC to serve on a panel at the Education Nation Summit held in New York and was honored to represent Oklahoma. It was a great opportunity and interesting experience to interact with individuals from across the country. Governor Fallin also served on a panel of Governors.

A joint statement was issued by the Governor, House, and Senate Leadership regarding the flexible benefit allowance. They are dedicated to pushing legislation forward that will not only fund the fiscal year under the flex benefit allowance, but will bring the contract year in alignment for teachers which will omit and a facilitate budget planning in the next legislative session. In addition, after revenues are ascertained and a better idea about revenue streams, they are also focused on assuring the remainder of the calendar year, this year for teachers, also receives....dedicated to finding funding to assist with that as well. We were pleased to be a part of that and this is reform that is long overdue and she appreciated the leadership of Speaker Steele, President Pro Temp Bingman and Governor Fallin on committing to do this necessary reform that will help us fulfill our.... to bring all these calendars within line to be more efficient and effective as we plan and administer this budget. She said she supported this effort and when the Board approved the budget we immediately began to work on what could be done about that. Several Legislators have expressed interest in assuring that as a state to fulfill our commitment to the National Board Certified Teachers currently holding certification. She supports this and will work to assure the legislation is passed.

Superintendent Barresi issued the most updated Department organizational chart to Board Members and advised them a few more tweaks may be done but for the most part the chart was an accurate representation of the reorganization of the Department. She announced that Dr. Chris Caram will be joining staff as Deputy Superintendent in mid-October. Dr. Caram has had an impressive career that began in an Oklahoma

classroom then as a principal, and superintendent. She also served in North Carolina and is returning to Oklahoma from Arkansas.

**Recognition of the 2012 Teacher of the Year,  
Kristin Shelby, Sallie Gillentine Elementary School,  
Hollis Public Schools**

Superintendent Barresi introduced and presented a Resolution to Ms. Kristin Shelby the 2012 Teacher of the Year. The Teacher of the Year ceremony was held September 20, 2011, at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds.

Ms. Shelby and her guests Ms. Jennifer McQueen, Superintendent, Hollis Public Schools, and Ms. Amy Estes, Principal, Sallie Gillentine Elementary School, were present.

Superintendent Barresi asked Ms. Kerri White, Assistant Superintendent, Student Support to report on the Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Commission, which meets today at 1:30 p.m.

Ms. White reported the Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Commission has a Webpage on the SDE Website. To date the commission has met five times and this morning two more members have been appointed. The Commission has been focused on the implementation of state law related to teacher and administrator evaluation systems which include professional growth components. A public comment request has recently been released that explains in detail the work of the Commission. Comments can be made by an online survey, email, or in writing. State law requires the evaluation system be comprised of 50 percent qualitative measures, 35 percent quantitative measures of student academic growth, and 15 percent quantitative measures of other academic factors. The Commission's focus, to date, is around the qualitative component and the two preliminary recommendations seeking public comment on those related to qualitative components. The quantitative component work starts today. The Commission is recommending the Board approve their final recommendations to adopt a short list of approvable frameworks for teacher evaluation, and a short list of approvable frameworks for leader evaluation; and select one of those to be a default. The default would be the framework that the SDE implement and would provide training to districts. If the districts choose one of the other options they can use local funding to support the work. Several frameworks have been reviewed by the Commission for both teachers and leaders, and the criteria checklist is available on the SDE Website. They have selected three frameworks that meet the criteria for teacher evaluation and three that meet the criteria for leader evaluation. The second preliminary recommendation states that any modification to any of the frameworks must be approved by the Board. Final recommendations for final adoption of the Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Evaluation System will be presented at the December 15, 2011, State Board meeting.

Board Member Baxter asked if best practices from other states that have effective systems in place were reviewed?

Ms. White said yes. State law does require that the system adopted be based on national best practices. The criteria used to evaluate the frameworks include national best practices as well as statutory requirements.

Superintendent Barresi said the REAC<sup>3</sup>H Network will be accessed to get this type of public comment input. Teachers have been asked to be a part of this and provide input as well. She was excited to be defining for the first time effective teaching practices in Oklahoma which is what we are really about. It is not about setting a low bar to find a way to fire a bad teacher. It is a way to set the bar so that all teachers can aspire to that bar. The qualitative is a comprehensive system and the quantitative is detailed and full of technique, and hopefully not too controversial. The biggest issue or focus of the quantitative components will be how to do the quantitative assessment for teachers that are in non-tested grades and subjects.

Ms. White said webinars and video conferences are being held on the information and invited anyone to join in those. The survey sent out earlier this week has received over 800 responses and the majority was from teachers.

## **TEACHER CERTIFICATION**

### **Recommendations from the Teacher Competency Review Panel Approved**

Mr. Jeff Smith, Director, Teacher Certification, presented the recommendations from the Teacher Competency Review Panel for 52 applicants to receive a license.

Board Member Ford made a motion to approve the recommendations from the Teacher Competency Review Panel. Board Member Lakin seconded the motion.

Board Member Baxter said this is the kind of item that needs to be on the Consent Docket of the agenda. If the submissions have passed the Department requirements he did not see why Board members would need to pull the item from the agenda to review in detail.

Superintendent Barresi said based on Board Member Baxter's comment a discussion was started with staff and asked Legal Counsel for direction.

Ms. Lisa Endres, Legal Counsel, said the Board can select any Consent Docket agenda item for review and discussion. We will meet with Mr. Smith and determine if those items can statutorily be placed on the Consent Docket. We should have an answer by the October 27, 2011, State Board meeting.

Board Member Baxter said if we are going to operate with a Consent Docket agenda Board members will need to have the information sooner than we are currently receiving it to better make a decision to pull an item for review and discussion. This will facilitate things better.

Board Member Price said the Board definitely has to approve the request. The Consent Docket speeds the meeting up but the items still have to be approved by the statutes.

Board Mr. Lakin asked for more detailed information to include the hometown, and congressional district number of the applicants.

The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Lakin, yes; Ms. Ford, yes; Mr. Price, yes; and General Baxter, yes.

### **Exceptions to Teacher Certification Regulations Approved**

Mr. Smith presented an exception request for Ms. Meghan Bartow and Ms. Karen Knepper, Tulsa Public Schools, to serve as school psychologists. Mr. Smith reviewed the requirements for the 60 credit hour specialist level training in the school psychology graduate program, national practice exam, and the state and national regulations to serve a post graduate one-year internship. Oklahoma does not have a certificate that allows automatic issuance, therefore, the reason for requesting an emergency certificate. Applicants will be eligible for standard certification upon fulfilling the one-year internship. The SDE is considering devising an internship permit so that the requests will not require Board approval in the future. He said the request for Tulsa Public Schools is slightly different because the national examination has not been passed. Ms. Janice Graham, Lead School Psychologist, Tulsa Public Schools and Ms. Bartow were present for questioning.

Ms. Graham said Tulsa Public Schools has an allocation for 32 school psychologists and currently 25 on staff. There is a shortage statewide. Tulsa Public Schools work with the Oklahoma State University graduate program where Ms. Bartow has met all the criteria and worked an internship at Stillwater Public Schools, and at Tulsa Public Schools where she will be under Ms. Graham's supervision. Once she completes the one-year (1200 hrs) internship and passes the national exam in October she is qualified for both state and national certification.

Mr. Smith presented an exception request for Ms. Stacy Lee, Bartlesville Public Schools, to serve as school psychologist. Ms. Lee was granted an exception last year to complete the 1200 hour internship and has to complete a three-hour course on her dissertation before the University will submit a recommendation.

Ms. Vicki Hampton, Director of Special Services, Bartlesville Public Schools, said Ms. Lee was with the district last year and completed her Doctorate degree, completed the dissertation which was approved and is online, and she has passed all tests. Because of a technical error three credit hours of her dissertation were not applied to her transcript.

Board Member Baxter said he was bothered that applicants had to drive from Bartlesville to tell their story. It is a waste of everyone's time and a better way to deal with these type issues must be found. He would look to the SDE staff to bring the information to the Board for review and recommendation on the Consent Docket. Requiring people to appear during the school year to discuss errors on a transcript is counter intuitive. It is obvious Ms. Lee is well qualified to perform the job.

Board Member Price said he agreed with Board Member Baxter. All the exception requests were highly justifiable.

Board Member Baxter said in Mr. Smith's role in the Department his judgment makes a difference because he is the more qualified. He hoped to be able to move to a more efficient system and not require applicants to appear.

Superintendent Barresi said we continue to work through this process. Previous Board members had specific requests regarding this exception request process. Mr. Smith has worked hard and continues to work with his staff to streamline the process. We will adjust procedures accordingly for the Board.

Mr. Smith reviewed the Chinese Guest Teachers Exchange program and the issuance of a visiting teacher permit in the future. He presented exception requests to teacher certification that included the following:

Ms. Holli Bade, Keyes Public Schools, to teach biological sciences and physical science;  
Ms. Kelly Rohde, Keyes Public Schools, to teach English;  
Ms. Kathleen Ward, Deer Creek Public Schools, to teach elementary education;  
Ms. Jenny Miller, Deer Creek Public Schools, to teach mathematics; and  
Six Chinese Guest teachers to teach in school districts as part of the College Board Teacher Exchange Program and the National Committee on US-China Relations.

Mr. Smith said at this time exceptions to certification requirements statutorily must be presented to the Board.

Board Member Baxter made a motion to approve the exception requests and Board Member Ford seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: General Baxter, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Ms. Ford, yes; and Mr. Lakin, yes.

## **LEGAL SERVICES DIVISION**

### **Emergency Adoption of Rules Approved**

Superintendent Barresi said item 6(d) will be omitted at this time due to the need for further review and adjustment.

Ms. Lisa Endres, General Counsel, said information on items 6 (a) (b) and (c) were outlined in the Board packets. These are emergency rules adopted and approved by the Board, in July and August. They were submitted to the Governor's office, however, the Governor's office instructed slight language changes needed to be made. Each of the Board approved emergency rules were revised and are outlined for the Board's review. She noted the Governor's requests consisted of a one word change and the word was stricken; other changes added language that made the rule(s) more consistent with the statute.

Ms. Endres presented a request to approve the revisions of the following Board approved-emergency adopted rules:

Title 210: Chapter 1. State Board of Education; Subchapter 3. Departmental precepts which clarify the eligibilities and procedures to obtain severance pay from the State Board of Education for employees of an annexed and/or consolidated school district.

Title 210: Chapter 1. State Board of Education; Subchapter 5. Due Process – clarifies the due process procedure for districts to apply to all teachers recommended for dismissal or non-reemployment.

Title 210: Chapter 15. Curriculum and Instruction; Subchapter 27. Reading Sufficiency Act – clarifies allowable expenses for districts consistent with Senate Bill 346, 2011 Legislative Session.

Board Member Baxter asked were there any substantive changes in what the Board previously passed?

Ms. Endres said no, there were no substantive changes.

Board Member Baxter asked the changes have satisfied the Governor's office?

Ms. Endres said yes. We had communication with the Governor's office regarding the preferred changes and the rules were withdrawn. Changes that were discussed with the Governor's office were made and the rules are presented for approval today.

Board Member Baxter motioned to approve the amendments pertaining to Subchapter 3, Title 210 Chapter 1. Board Member Price seconded the motion.

Superintendent Barresi said the Board can vote on all three rules together.

Board Member Baxter amended the motion to include Subchapter 5, and Subchapter 27. Board Member Price seconded the amendment.

The motion passed with the following votes: Mr. Lakin, yes; Ms. Ford, yes; Mr. Price, yes; and General Baxter, yes.

Ms. Endres introduced and welcomed Ms. Kim Richey, the new Assistant General Counsel. Ms. Richey was previously the General Counsel of CLEET, is a certified teacher, and worked for the USDE in Washington. Ms. Richey will be the contact person for the agency rule writing.

## **FIRST-YEAR SUPERINTENDENTS**

First-year superintendent(s) attending the meeting were Mr. Donald Pullen, Superintendent, Wickliffe Public Schools; Mr. Greg Gregory, Superintendent, Gage Public Schools; Mr. John Truesdell, Superintendent, Midway Public School.

## **FINANCIAL SERVICES**

### **Payment of Late Federal Program Claims Approved**

Mr. Chad Bratton, Executive Director, Financial Accounting, presented a request to reimburse 35 federal claims. Mr. Bratton the internal management tool used per the Administrative Code to assure school districts give due diligence to making sure the funds are accounted for properly before the federal deadline of September 30.



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Superintendent Barresi said she has discussed with Mr. Bratton and the Comptroller the need for better communication, a tighter timeline for the districts and raising our expectations of districts. This number is still not acceptable even though the numbers are decreasing.

Board Member Price asked under the federal claims if funds are not spent on time, school districts do not receive funds?

Mr. Bratton said the school district expenditures must be reclassified to their local funds. If they are allowed to carryover the federal funds they can use it as carryover to the next year. They may or may not do so depending on where the grants are out. September 30 is the federal deadline for the ARRA stimulus funds and school districts have been frantically scrambling to try to close out the previous fiscal year and move on to 2012.

Board Member Lakin asked the vote will grant reimbursement because they did not apply by the August 1 deadline? If granted they will receive the \$1.5 million dollars?

Mr. Bratton said yes.

Board Member Lakin made a motion to approve the payment request of late federal program claims as described. Board Member Ford seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: General Baxter, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Ms. Ford, yes; and Mr. Lakin, yes.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m. Board Member Ford made a motion to adjourn and Board Member Lakin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Thursday, October 27, 2011, at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will convene at the State Department of Education, 2500 North Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

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Janet Barresi, Chairperson of the Board

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Connie Holland, Chief Executive Secretary