

**State Board of Education Work Session and Business Meetings**  
Thursday-Friday, March 5-6, 2020  
State Board Meeting Room, Lincoln, Nebraska Department of Education  
[Link to Agenda and Attachments](#)  
[Link to Video of Meeting](#)

Publicized notice of the work session and business meeting was given by posting notice on the Department's website; emailed to news media requesting notification, and posting a copy of the agenda in the Office of the Commissioner of Education, which gave the date, time, and location of the meetings.

**STATE BOARD WORK SESSION, Thursday, March 5, 2020, 10:00 a.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER** – President Maureen Nickels called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

John Witzel	Maureen Nickels	Patricia Timm
Rachel Wise	Robin Stevens	Deborah Neary
Patsy Koch Johns	Lisa Fricke	

Commissioner Blomstedt was also present.

1.2 President Nickels announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

**2. BUSINESS**

2.1 Nebraska Instructional Materials Collaborative Demonstration

Cory Epler, Department of Education representative, provided information on the Nebraska Instructional Materials Collaborative.

2.2 Approval, Accreditation, Accountability Policy Discussion

Rachel Wise, Strategic Planning, Performance and Improvement Committee chair and Commissioner Blomstedt, presented on Rule 14 and Rule 10. Specifically, they discussed what was presented on the SPPI Committee's work to date and approval, accreditation and accountability.

**3. ADJOURNMENT**

President Nickels adjourned the State Board Legislative Priorities Work Session at 12:15 p.m.

The regularly scheduled business meeting of the State Board of Education will begin at 9:00 a.m. on March 6, 2020, State Board Meeting Room, State Office Building, Sixth Floor, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln.

## STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, Friday, March 6, 2020, 9:00 AM.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER – President Maureen Nickels called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

#### 1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

John Witzel	Maureen Nickels	Patricia Timm
Rachel Wise	Deborah Neary	Robin Stevens
Patsy Koch Johns	Lisa Fricke	

Commissioner Blomstedt was also present.

#### 1.2 President Nickels led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### 1.3 President Nickels announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

#### 2.1 Request for Special Appearance

There were no requests for Special Appearances.

#### 2.2 Public Comment

There were no requests for Public Comment.

### 3. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT AND AGENDA OVERVIEW

#### 3.1 Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process

Commissioner Blomstedt reviewed the process for consent agenda items.

##### 3.1.A. Commissioner's Recommendations and items to be removed from the consent agenda.

No consent agenda items were removed.

#### 3.2 Report on Rules

Commissioner Blomstedt provided a report on the status of Rules 11, 24 and 21. Rule 11 is waiting on approval by the Governor. Rule 24 and Rule 21 are waiting on State Board of Education approval.

Commissioner Blomstedt provided an update on Coronavirus (COVID-19) and what is being done to help schools prepare for a possible outbreak. The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) has created a public health website (<https://www.education.ne.gov/publichealth/resources/>) with resources and updates for schools and districts.

### 3.3 Board Operations Information

Ryan Foor, Department of Education Representative, provided an overview of the upcoming conferences: Date Conference, Kearney, NE, April 6-7, 2020; NASBE State Education Conference, Omaha, NE, November 2020; NASBE Legislative Conference, Washington, DC, March 22-24, 2020.

### 3.4 NDE & CCPE Joint Dual Credit Initiative Report

Lisa Fricke and Patsy Koch Johns, Nebraska State Board of Education Members, met with the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education (CCPE) to discuss ideas on how to improve the dual credit programs in Nebraska. The committee defined desired outcomes for five priority areas: access, qualified instructors, credit transfer, affordability, data collection and reporting.

## 4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### 4.1 NASBE Legislative Conference

President Maureen Nickels recognized Robin Stevens, Deb Neary, Rachel Wise, John Witzel and Patsy Koch Johns for attending the NASBE Legislative Conference in Washington, DC March 22-24, 2020.

### 4.2 NRCSA Conference

President Maureen Nickels recognized Patsy Koch Johns, Lisa Fricke, Rachel Wise, John Witzel, Patricia Timm, Robin Stevens and herself for attending the NRCSA Conference in Kearney, NE March 26-27, 2020.

### 4.3 Priorities for 2020

President Maureen Nickels asked for questions or input on the Board Priorities document that she handed out last month. Board Members worked on approval and accreditation with regard to AQUeSTT Framework in the State Board of Education Work Session.

## 5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda passed with a motion by Patricia Timm, second by Patsy Koch Johns.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Yea
Rachel Wise:	Yea
John Witzel:	Yea

## 6. HEARINGS (NONE)

At 10:11 a.m., President Nickels called for a break. The meeting resumed at 10:21 a.m.

## 7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 7.1 Policy Committee

- 7.1.A. Patricia Timm, Chair reported that the Committee reviewed State Board Position Statement S10, Coordinated School Health, which is scheduled to expire 5/5/2021, and will be forwarding this Position Statement to the Student Success, Access and Support Committee for review and recommendations.
- 7.1.B. The Committee also reviewed State Board Position Statement S12, Position Statement on Assessment of Student Learning, which is scheduled to expire 9/8/2021, and will be forwarding this Position Statement to the Teaching, Learning and Serving Committee for review and recommendations.
- 7.1.C. The Committee recommends adopting the revisions to State Board Policy B6, Professional Personnel Hiring, with one additional change resulting from yesterday's meeting.

Approval to adopt the proposed revisions to Board Policy P6 passed with a motion by Patricia Timm and a second by Rachel Wise.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Yea
Rachel Wise:	Yea
John Witzel:	Yea

### 7.2 Legislative Committee

- 7.2.A. Robin Stevens, Chair reported that the Committee has reviewed and discussed the status of bills for which the NDE appeared as a proponent or opponent at hearings held by the Legislature. The Legislature has completed all hearings on bills, has designated priority bills for this session, and has less than 25 legislative days left this year for debate on any bills. Next week the Legislature's Appropriations Committee will report the budget bill to the Legislature, and debate on the budget will begin later in March.

The Committee has no action items to report to the Committee and will be monitoring the Legislature from this point forward in the session.

- 7.3 **Commissioner's Appraisal Committee** – Patricia Timm, Chair reported that the Committee is finalizing preparations for the Commissioner's performance evaluation for 2019-20. Board members will receive the link to the electronic appraisal on April 3rd and the Board Members will have two weeks to complete it. As was done last year, the Board Members will be provided with some written guidance to assist them with navigation. In addition, Joel Scherling, from Human Resources, will provide a brief demonstration of the electronic appraisal system at next month's meeting.

Board Members will receive a report of the appraisal results around May 1st and will discuss the Commissioner's performance at the May board meeting. The Board will take action on the Commissioner's contract at the June meeting.

#### 7.4 **AQuESTT Teaching, Learning and Serving Domain Committee**

Lisa Fricke, Chair reported that the Committee received the final recommendation for the adoption of revisions to Rules 21 and 24; the public hearings for both rules were on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. The summary of revisions to both rules are included in the attached support materials and the committee recommends approval of both of these rules.

7.4.A. Adopt proposed revisions to Rule 21 (92 NAC 21), Regulations for the Issuance of Certificates and Permits to Teach, Provide Special Services, and Administer in Nebraska Schools passed with a motion by Lisa Fricke and a second by Rachel Wise.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Yea
Rachel Wise:	Yea
John Witzel:	Yea

7.4.B. Adopt proposed revisions to Rule 24 (92 NAC 24) Regulations for Certificate Endorsements passed with a motion by Lisa Fricke and a second by Rachel Wise.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Yea
Rachel Wise:	Yea
John Witzel:	Yea

7.4.C. The Committee heard information on the draft revisions made to the Nebraska Teacher and Principal Performance Framework, which were last revised by the Board in 2017. The Committee recommends that Board members review the draft revisions and provide feedback by March 13 and that the revised Nebraska Teacher and Principal Performance Framework come before the Board for approval at the April meeting.

Kim Snyder, Department of Education representative, presented information on the Nebraska Teacher and Principal Performance Standards revisions, showing feedback from 2017 and revisions made in 2020 and an implementation timeline.

7.5 **AQuESTT Student Success, Access and Support Domain Committee** – Patsy Koch Johns, Chair, reported that the Committee reviewed the consent agenda item to fund ESU 13 for a Nebraska Multi-tiered System of Support (NeMTSS) State Leadership position.

7.5.A. The committee discussed the three states that were selected to participate in the Leading for Equity and Excellence Program (LEEP). The Committee discussed the mission of Nebraska's team which is to create a tool to guide leaders to consider, collaborate, and commit to advancing educational equity in Nebraska.

7.6 **Budget and Finance Committee** – John Witzel, Chair reported that the Committee reviewed the year to date budget report through December 31, 2020. The NDE highlighted and explained major changes from the prior year or amounts that exceeded 50% of spending for current year. No concerns were noted with the budget status as of December 31, 2019.

7.6.A. The Committee reviewed the monthly board travel expense report and had no concerns.

7.6.B. The Committee reviewed in-state travel authorization reports and had no concerns.

7.6.C. Accept the 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) Audit

Bryce Wilson, Department of Education representative, discussed the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) Audit. The Committee recommends accepting the 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) Audit.

Approval to accept the 2019 CAFR Audit passed with a motion by John Witzel and a second by Patricia Timm.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Yea
Rachel Wise:	Yea
John Witzel:	Yea

At 11:18 a.m., President Nickels called for a break. The meeting resumed at 11:24 a.m.

7.7 **Strategic Planning, Performance and Improvement Committee**

7.7.A. Rachel Wise, Chair reported that the Committee discussed a new rule structure to guide the approval, accreditation and accountability processes for Nebraska schools. The Committee requests time at the April work session to continue this conversation.

7.7.B. A final draft of the Perkins V State Plan was received for review including a review of how stakeholder input was considered. The Committee recommends Board members review the draft plan and share feedback by March 13. Further, in order to be in compliance with the Federal law, the Committee recommends the Board consider approval of the State Plan at the April meeting.

Katie Graham and Sydney Kobza, Department of Education representatives, provided copies of the Perkins V State Plan, which includes final revisions, a sample copy of the application, local needs assessment and how the State Plan was developed and written.

7.7.C. Approve the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) portion of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Combined State Plan.

The Committee received a recommendation from staff on the approval of the VR portion of the WIOA state plan, including a review of stakeholder input. The Committee recommends approval of this item at this meeting.

Lindy Foley, Department of Education representative, discussed the VR portion of the WIOA Combined State Plan.

Approval of the VR portion of the WIOA Combined State Plan passed with a motion by Rachel Wise and a second by Robin Stevens.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Yea
Rachel Wise:	Yea
John Witzel:	Yea

**8. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

Commissioner Blomstedt discussed the Agreement between the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the NDE to authorize the NDE to oversee and administer the schools and education programs provided by the DHHS facility-based schools, Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Centers (YRTC), the Hastings Regional Center Juvenile Chemical Dependency Program (JCDP), the Lincoln Regional Center-Whitehall Campus, and any additional facility-based schools DHHS may operate during the term of this Agreement. The NDE will provide school administrators, including a director and assistant director, who would act similar to a superintendent and principal for the DHHS facilities.

8.1 Grant the Commissioner the authority to enter into an Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to formalize collaboration between the DHHS and the NDE, and to authorize the NDE to oversee and administer the schools and education programs provided by the DHHS facility-based schools passed with a motion by Lisa Fricke and a second by John Witzel.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Yea
Rachel Wise:	Yea
John Witzel:	Yea

8.2 Authorize the Commissioner to contract with an individual yet to be named to serve as Assistant Director for the DHHS facility-based schools passed with a motion by Robin Stevens and a second by Patricia Timm.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Yea
Rachel Wise:	Yea
John Witzel:	Yea

- 8.3 Authorize the Commissioner to contract with individuals or entities yet to be named to fulfill the terms of the agreement for the DHHS facility-based schools passed with a motion by Patricia Timm and a second by John Witzel.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Yea
Rachel Wise:	Yea
John Witzel:	Yea

## 9. SPECIAL PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSIONS (NONE)

## 10. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

President Nickels referred board members to review the information items and reports.

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

President Nickels adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, April 3, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. at the Nebraska State Office Building, Nebraska Department of Education, Sixth Floor, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE 68509. A work session will be held as needed on Thursday, April 2, 2020 at a time to be determined at the Nebraska State Office building, Nebraska Department of Education, Sixth Floor, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE 68509.