

## State Board of Education Business Meeting

Friday, April 3, 2020

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 20-03 by a combination of videoconferencing and teleconferencing at

<https://www.education.ne.gov/live-video-stream/>

[Link to Agenda and Attachments](#)

[Link to Video of Meeting](#)

Publicized notice of the 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 OF EDUCATION MEETING, Friday, April 3, 2020, 9:00 AM.

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER – President Maureen Nickels called the meeting to order at 9:07 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 that information regarding the Open Meetings Act is linked on the April Board Agenda in Sparq, the electronic meeting software and the Open Meetings Act is also posted on the State Board of Education's website: <https://www.education.ne.gov/stateboard/>.

#### 2. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Blomstedt noted the importance of the State Board being able to meet via Zoom, pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 20-03 surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. This demonstrates that the NDE can continue its major work and major functions.

Commissioner Blomstedt noted the efforts of the NDE staff in moving to a remote work environment and the changes in how staff needs are addressed.

Commissioner Blomstedt noted the efforts of the NDE staff with the change of support provided to Nebraska schools.

##### 2.1 Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process

Commissioner Blomstedt reviewed the process for consent agenda items.

##### 2.2. Report on Rules

Commissioner Blomstedt provided a report on the status of Rules 11, 24 and 21. The Governor approved Rule 11 on March 19, 2020, with an effective date of March 23, 2020. Rule 24 and Rule 21 are waiting on approval from the Attorney General's Office.

2.1.A. Commissioner’s Recommendations and items to be removed from the consent agenda.

Ryan Foor, Department of Education Representative, stated that Lisa Fricke, State Board Member, requested that item 4.7.D., Approve the Update to the Nebraska Teacher and Principal Performance Standards, be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate vote. Recommendation is to take that item up after the Consent Agenda is approved and before the resolution.

**3. PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Maureen Nickels asked for each Board Member to check their government email regularly for updates from the NDE and the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE). Next week the Board Members are convening ad hoc committees to discuss future committee work.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

Approval of the Consent Agenda, without 4.7.D., passed with a motion by Rachel Wise, 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

4.7.D. Approve the update to the Nebraska Teacher and Principal Performance Standards

Lisa Fricke explained that the language should align throughout the document. The words “*district and state content standards*” were added to the *Staff Support and Development* standard for principals.

Approval of the amended Nebraska Teacher and Principal Performance Standards passed with a motion by Lisa Fricke, 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

**5. RESOLUTION ON THE EFFECTS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON NEBRASKA SCHOOLS**

The State Board of Education approved a resolution that gives emergency powers to the Commissioner to make decisions regarding the NDE rules and regulations in the best interest of students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Approval of the Resolution on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on Nebraska schools, passed with a motion by John Witzel, second by Lisa Fricke.

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. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS**

President Nickels referred Board Members to review information items and reports.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

President Nickels adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, May 8, 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, May 7, 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.