

New Hampshire
State Board of Education
Notes of the August 5, 2015 Meeting

AGENDA ITEM I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the State Board of Education was convened at 9:07 a.m. at the Department of Education, 101 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH. Tom Raffio presided as Chairman. As there was not a quorum the Board members present could not vote and all items that need to be voted on will be taken up at the September 9, 2015 meeting.

Members present: Tom Raffio, Bill Duncan, and Cindy C. Chagnon. Gary Groleau, Helen Honorow, Gregory Odell, and Emma Rous, were unable to be present. Virginia M. Barry, Commissioner of Education, was present. Paul K. Leather, Deputy Commissioner of Education, was unable to be present due to attending a Senate Finance work session

AGENDA ITEM II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Cindy Chagnon led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment at this meeting.

Since there was not a quorum present due to an emergency that Helen Honorow needed to be involved in most items will be on the September 9, 2015 agenda.

AGENDA ITEM IV. OPEN BOARD DISCUSSION

Chairman Raffio commended the Commissioner's team for the presentations at the Board Retreat. The Board will be working with the Department on the goals.

Chairman Raffio said the New Hampshire Coalition for Business & Education have two major initiatives they are working on: the "65x25" initiative that provides a target that offers a meaningful impact on the state's future and the Education Driven Economic Development (a.k.a. Ed 2) involving the community college system. Eric Feldborg is working with the Coalition in the STEM involvement.

Cindy Chagnon said that State of West Virginia is working with Public Television on different projects involving business and industry. She suggested that perhaps New Hampshire could do something like this. Commissioner Barry said that she had recently attended a CCSSO meeting and spoke with people from West Virginia regarding this project. There is a national project working on this idea.

AGENDA ITEM V. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Home Education Advisory Council Annual Report – Amy Gall, Chair of the Home Education Advisory Council gave an in-depth annual report. Ms. Gall said that the home education law in New Hampshire exists to meet compulsory school attendance requirements for students between the ages of 6 and 18. There were 5,914 homeschooled students in New Hampshire, an increase of 361 students from the previous year. There were several issues presented before and discussed by the Council during the past school year: Confusion over meeting compulsory school attendance, lack of documentation of Home Education Programs, graduation statement, deliberate misuse of the law. A copy of Ms. Gall's report will be forwarded to Board members.

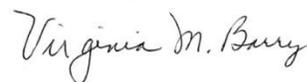
B. Commissioner's Non-Public School Approval Designation Report – Judy Fillion spoke briefly on this item but there will be further discussion at the September meeting since a vote was required.

C. Professional Standards Board Annual Report – Judy Fillion introduced Carl Ladd, Chairman of the Professional Standards Board. The Professional Standards Board continued to carry out the charge from the State Board of Education. This year, as in previous years, subcommittees were given directions which included aligning proposed rules with the Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium and other national organizations as relevant to ensure that the necessary rigor was incorporated into the content standards. At the request of Commissioner Barry, the PSB held two joint meetings with representatives from the Council for Teacher Effectiveness, K-12 partners, the Institutes for Higher Education Network, and invited guests to explore common goals and reciprocal needs for educator preparation. The PSB convened several subcommittees to review and revise rules. The PSB has continued to keep the goals of the Board in the forefront of its work. Our continued emphasis has been to review all standards regarding their rigor with the goal of preparing all students to be college and career ready. Commissioner Barry thanked Dr. Ladd for his leadership in the North Country in developing a pipeline. It will be a model to be used around the state.

D. Professional Educator Preparation Program – Virginia Clifford from the Bureau of Credentialing introduced Dr. Triant Flouris, Provost at Hellenic American University, from Greece. There is an institution in Greece named Hellenic American College and they partner with Hellenic American University in the United States. Dr. Flouris said that Hellenic American University is chartered in New Hampshire. The University was founded as an institution of higher learning with degree granting authority by an Act of the New Hampshire Legislature and the signature of the Governor of New Hampshire on May 11, 2004. Its degree programs are approved, regulated, and monitored by the Department of Education, Division of Higher Education. He also spoke of concerns regarding the financial situation in Greece. Since a vote is needed this will be an item at the September Board meeting.

AGENDA ITEM V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.



Secretary