

New Hampshire
State Board of Education
Minutes of the July 8, 2021 Meeting

AGENDA ITEM I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the State Board of Education was convened at 9:10 a.m. Drew Cline presided as Chair.

Members present: Sally Griffin, Phil Nazzaro, Richard Sala, Ann Lane, Ryan Terrell and Drew Cline, Chair. Kate Cassady was not able to attend due to a prior commitment. Also in attendance were Commissioner of Education, Frank Edelblut and Deputy Commission, Christine Brennan.

AGENDA ITEM II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Drew Cline led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM III. HEARINGS

A. Student/Greenland School Board ~ SB-FY-21-01-010 (nonpublic session)

MOTION: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro that the State Board go into nonpublic session.

VOTE: The motion was approved by roll-call vote by State Board of Education Members Sally Griffin, Phil Nazzaro, Richard Sala, Ann Lane, and Ryan Terrell with Chair Cline abstaining.

MOTION: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Ann Lane, that the State Board accepts the hearing officer's report, except for section II. Proposed Findings of Fact, #13, striking "The parents contend that" and adopt the hearing officer's recommendation.

VOTE: The motion was approved by roll-call vote by State Board of Education Members Sally Griffin, Phil Nazzaro, Richard Sala, Ann Lane, and Ryan Terrell with Chair Cline abstaining.

MOTION: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro to seal the minutes indefinitely of the nonpublic session.

VOTE: The motion was approved by roll-call vote by State Board of Education Members Sally Griffin, Phil Nazzaro, Richard Sala, Ann Lane, and Ryan Terrell with Chair Cline abstaining.

B. Student/Greenland School Board ~ SB-FY-21-01-011 (nonpublic session)

MOTION: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Ann Lane, that the State Board accepts the hearing officer's report and modify the Rationale for Action, paragraph B, striking the words "Ed 306.18 (a) (7)" **on the Executive Summary** and inserting the words "Ed 306.22 as amended by exhibit P to emergency order #29 and where instruction is provided remotely, student will be provided access to a teacher certified in the subject area and the district will provide student tutoring from a teacher certified in the subject area for the 2021-2022 school year in math, science and language arts, with the total number of hours for all subjects not to exceed 90 hours".

VOTE: The motion was approved by roll-call vote by State Board of Education Members Sally Griffin, Phil Nazzaro, Richard Sala, Ann Lane, and Ryan Terrell with Chair Cline abstaining.

MOTION: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro that the State Board return to public session.

VOTE: The motion was approved by roll-call vote by State Board of Education Members Sally Griffin, Phil Nazzaro, Richard Sala, Ann Lane, and Ryan Terrell with Chair Cline abstaining.

MOTION: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro to seal the minutes indefinitely of the nonpublic session.

VOTE: The motion was approved by roll-call vote by State Board of Education Members Sally Griffin, Phil Nazzaro, Richard Sala, Ann Lane, and Ryan Terrell with Chair Cline abstaining.

AGENDA ITEM IV. COUNCIL FOR TEACHER EDUCATION (CTE)

A. Antioch University of New England – Full Education Preparation Program Review

Laura Stoneking introduced Tom Julius, representative from Antioch, and Ken Darsney, CTE co-chair for the review. Ken Darsney shared that due to COVID, there was no onsite review, but they met with all parties involved, members of faculty, host teachers, current students and former students. The report was reviewed by the CTE prior to making recommendations to the State Board.

Chris Ward, CTE co-chair, mentioned the concern that students felt they were unprepared on content for Praxis. Tom Julius, Director of Elementary Licensure Programs, responded that in 2011 a hard copy portfolio process was implemented to track student progress. The portfolio is based on New Hampshire standards. The process resulted in a high level of students passing Praxis. The university is transitioning from hard copy to an electronic portfolio, which will be more accessible.

Phil Nazzaro mentioned that the report shows from 2014 to 2020, 27 students graduated from licensure and only 11 had taken the Praxis II. He asked if that was something stressed in processes. Laura Stoneking responded that there are 3 departments that run in isolation even though they run into ed prep and licensure. It was discussed how to improve this. The current Ed 600 rules don't require Praxis II. It is a requirement for licensure, but not the ed prep program.

Phil Nazzaro asked for clarification on why all graduates are not recommended for licensure. Tom Julius responded that a student could complete the master's program, but not the internship program. If a student does not fulfill all standards during an internship, they are not recommended.

Phil Nazzaro asked if the conditional approval of 2 years is the right amount of time to meet recommendations. Tom Julius responded, yes.

MOTION: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro that the State Board of Education grant Antioch University of New England conditional approval of the following preps through June 27, 2023 for the following 8 programs as listed offered as a slate. Additionally, for Ed 602.13, Antioch University shall develop progress reports. Submission of progress reports made on program approval standards shall be submitted to the Department no later than January 8, 2022.

VOTE: The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Board with the Chairman abstaining.

B. University of New Hampshire (UNH) - Substantive Change Request

Drew Cline shared that a list of questions was submitted to UNH later than anticipated and the Board did not have time to review the responses.

Laura Stoneking introduced Judy Sharkey and Elizabeth Arcieri from UNH. Two months ago, UNH requested a substantive change to add 3 levels of programs. There was a discussion that was tabled to request additional information. The Board sent questions last week and received responses early this week.

Drew Cline stated that some questions are not fully answered. He asked why the licensure pathways are woven into the BA Ed Studies EDI and why that is the only major pathway for licensure. Judy Sharkey responded that when the university was looking to increase the number of pathways to certification through undergraduate degrees, one area that came up was elementary education. They did not think the state would endorse or approve another elementary education certification at the four-year level due to an overabundance of them. They decided to design an inclusion focused program. They are open to additional pathways.

Ryan Terrell shared that the change seems like a new program rather than a substantive change. He suggested tabling the issue again to allow the Board time to read the question responses. The Board affirmed to leave the discussion on the table.

Sally Griffin brought up a concern that they are providing a certification in special ed and ESL for someone who hasn't had training in grades 8-12 because those certifications allow them to work in K-12. The content and the early field experience and culminating field experience needs to provide adequate expertise and demonstration in that broad scope.

Phil Nazzaro asked about the impact on UNH of delaying Board approval. Judy Sharkey responded that the major has been approved, but they want the approval to lead to certification. It could affect enrollment and the ways the university is advising students.

C. Keene State University (KSC) – Substantive Change Request

Laura Stoneking stated that Keene State is asking to end 3 programs and move expiration up. They have a thorough process for putting on hold and eliminating programs. They provided sufficient documentation to show how and why they are removing the programs.

MOTION: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro that the State Board of Education approve the elimination of the following: Ed 602.01, Ed 602.12, and Ed 602.14.

VOTE: The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Board with the Chairman abstaining.

AGENDA ITEM V. BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

A. Office of Charter Schools

1. The Founders Academy – Status Change Request

Jane Waterhouse introduced the Dean of The Founders Academy, Cassie Hayes. They are requesting for a charter change to include grade 5. Cassie Hayes shared letters of support from parents already interested in enrolling.

MOTION: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro that the State Board pursuant to RSA 194-b:3, 11.1 authorizes The Founders Academy Public Charter School to add grade 5 to the approved 6-12 program.

VOTE: The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Board with the Chairman abstaining.

B. Office of Non-Public School Approval Board

1. Commissioner's Non-Public School Approval Designation: New School Report

a. Greater Community Terramor Academy

Nate Greene, NHDOE, Bureau Administrator, shared that there are some facility concerns that the school has already addressed. There are no current concerns on the application. Ann Lane asked if the student body is expected to primarily come from lower classes or from lots of places. Sarah Miner, principal and owner, responded that they have programs from 6 weeks to PreK and serve their local school district. They anticipate, because of the different methods of education; most will come from early learning students. However, they have already seen interest from other areas.

MOTION: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Sally Griffin that Greater Community Terramor Academy meets all of the requirements of Ed 403 or Ed 404 and the State Board of Education accept and approve the school for attendance. The approval status for the period of July 9, 2021 through June 30, 2024. Literature must state that the State Board of Education gives approval for attendance only.

VOTE: The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Board with the Chairman abstaining.

b. Busche Academy

Shireen Meskoob in the NHDOE Office of Non-Public School Approval, stated the Busche Academy is applying for approval for attendance purposes only. The school is represented by Jill Hartmann, International Education Consultant. Nate Greene stated that there is a building that needs immediate compliance work done. At this point, the school has chosen not to utilize that building. That building

has been removed from the application. There is a second issue with a dormitory water heater that the school will have repaired well before the start of the school year.

Sally Griffin asked if the school later decides to use the facility, do they need to come back. Nate Greene responded that they would need to return to extend the application. Drew Cline asked what is anticipated for enrollment of domestic students and overseas students. Jill Hartmann responded that initially, 100% domestic, but the hope is to use Chinese connections to bring some exchange students as well.

Ann Lane asked if there was any anticipation of offering hybrid learning. Jill Hartmann responded they are working on a program where a teacher from the Chester community teach American history class to the Chinese history class in China.

MOTION: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Ryan Terrell that Busche Academy meets all applicable requirements of Ed 403 or Ed 404 and the State Board accept and approve the school for attendance approval status for the period July 9, 2021, through June 30, 2024. Literature must state that approval from the State Board is for attendance purposes only.

VOTE: The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Board with the Chairman abstaining.

C. Office of School Approval

1. Lyme School District – Waiver of Instructional Hours for 7th and 8th Graders

Nate Greene introduced Jeff Valence, Superintendent of Schools SAU #76, who was seeking a waiver of instructional hours for 7 and 8 grades. Drew Cline noted that grades 7 and 8 lost instructional due to student exposure and asked when that was. Jeff Valence responded it was in the fall.

Drew Cline asked about the issue with contracts. Jeff Valence responded that they have been open 5 days a week for in person learning. The morning had a staggard start and the closure was also staggered. They had health screening stations. This took some of the instructional time away and extended the number of hours for supervision for paras and teachers. There was extra prep time needed before opening fully and to figure out logistics. Drew Cline asked if extending the school year was considered. Jeff Valence responded that teacher's contracts were for 185 days and the last day of school was day 185.

Phil Nazzaro asked if there is a plan if the school does not receive the waiver. Jeff Valence responded that there is no other plan. They have been having conversations about what to do and were advised that the time to apply for the waiver was toward the end of the year. Phil Nazzaro asked why teacher contracts supersede the law. Nate Greene stated that the law trumps the contract. If there is not an opportunity to extend it, Jeff will have to sign a contract with teachers to fill in the rest of the instructional hours. Under 306.18 for a school year, a school must use any time they have scheduled at the end of the school year for emergencies before being allowed to request a waiver. They could not begin the waiver process until they have reached the end of the year and used up any emergency scheduled time.

Phil Nazzaro asked what was unique about their experience when other schools have not requested a waiver. Jeff Valence responded that he is surprised that other schools did not need a waiver. The size of the school posed problems to meeting guidelines. Classes had to be split without enough teachers. Individual Education Plans (IEP) meetings and teacher meetings were in the evenings to accommodate times. They did not include any of the transition times in their instructional hours.

Ann Lane stated that 4 days of instructional time is a lot. She asked if something creative can be done to offer education in a different way. Jeff Valence shared that when COVID closed the school, they offered a design lab program to families remotely. The summer programs are being offered in art and music.

MOTION: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Ann Lane that the State Board approve Lyme School District's waiver of 27.5 hours for 7th and 8th grades.

VOTE: The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Board with the Chairman abstaining.

D. Learn Everywhere

1. Seacoast Science Center

Nate Greene shared that Seacoast Science Center submitted an application for the Learn Everywhere program. Jim Chase, president, shared that the science center has been a fixture in science education for about 30 years. They see about 30 thousand children in school and camp programs. They have been running a program called "the marine science fellowship" for high school students to have a hands-on science experience. It's centered on marine biology and focuses on fostering inquiry skills. Students are introduced to local professionals working in applied marine sciences. Learn Everywhere would allow the program to be extended to schools that may not have the infrastructure and can be directed by students' interests.

Ann Lane asked about the cost structure for students. Jim Chase responded that the program would cost \$500 per semester. They have raised in excess of \$10,000 to defray costs. They do not want the cost to be a challenge. The biggest impediment is often transportation.

Richard Sala asked if the curriculum includes implications of drought and lack of water resources and state mass fishing. Jim Chase shared that there is a thread through the curriculum that has to do with environmental change. Research projects usually have to do with these topics because students are interested in these topics.

Phil Nazzaro asked how the credits were calculated. Nate Greene shared that it is competency based. Jim Chase stated that the program is 10 weeks with 4-6 hours each Saturday.

MOTION: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Sally Griffin that the State Board of Education approve the Seacoast Center Learn Everywhere application.

VOTE: The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Board with the Chairman abstaining.

2. Friends Forever International (FFI)

Nate Greene introduced Steve Martineau, Executive Director of FFI.

Ryan Terrell asked about the wording on the application "we strive to be the most challenging leadership program in the world." Steve Martineau shared that they have been around since 1986. The program is challenged by choice; students are choosing to participate. They help young people realize that there are two habits when facing fear: run away or facing it. They strive to get young people in the habit of facing fear while giving them the skills, resources and support to develop the capacity of facing fear. They are always pushing kids to do more. They feel some educators set expectations too low.

Ann Lane noted that the program has historically brought students from all over the world. She asked if the idea is to invite local students to the same programming as residential students or are they two separate programs. Steve Martineau responded that the program has always had three phases: a team building phase, a skill building phase (in the U.S.), and a community building phase (back home). The skill building phase is very intense 2-3 weeks, no technology, morning jog, daily meditation, activities through the day. For international students, they would go to various schools to allow interaction with American youth. They can do online programs, 18 or 30 sessions. They can do a hybrid program, which

would include taking courses online and then doing a residential program. They can do in person as space allows.

Sally Griffin asked how Steve's mission differs from the founder's. Steve Martineau shared that the founder was the director of the Seacoast YMCA in 1986. He received a letter from someone in YMCA in Northern Ireland asking to take on 10 boys from Ireland. The founder brought them over to the US. The local rotary club provided the funding and assisted in the program. It became a community centric learning process. The program has stayed true to that. They have volunteers who will spend time working with youth. Steve Martineau shared that his goal has always been broadening the program to help youths in the U.S., especially New Hampshire.

Ann Lane asked about the finances. Steve Martineau shared that they will be 100% scholarship based. They want to focus on qualifications regardless of background. Ann Lane asked about criteria for applicants. Steve Martineau shared that the application process is designed to create a psychological profile to design their individual leadership plan, while also helping them practice writing college essays. The process is designed so applicants don't complete in one sitting. This is designed to ensure grit and resilience. The third component is video taped answers to be uploaded for students who have any difficulty with the written word. They are not looking at academic excellence, but character traits. The staff reviews applications and comes up with specific questions for them. All applicants receive a 30-minute zoom interview to help prepare them for future success. Any student not accepted, they offer to set up a time for them to have a conversation with a senior program person to find out why they weren't accepted and what they can do to improve when they apply again in the future.

MOTION: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro that the State Board approve FFI's Learn Everywhere application.

VOTE: The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Board with the Chairman abstaining.

3. North Main Music

Nate Greene introduced Mike McAdam from North Main Music.

Ann Lane asked about the cost for students and any scholarship opportunities. Mike McAdam shared that the cost will be about \$20 per class for group programs and \$34 for individual instruction. They have a scholarship program currently and are looking to expand it. Drew Cline asked how many classes are in a course. Mike McAdam responded that they are trying to ensure it does not cost more than \$500 per class.

MOTION: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Ann Lane that the State Board approve North Main Music's Learn Everywhere application.

VOTE: The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Board with the Chairman abstaining.

AGENDA ITEM VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

A. Final Proposal - Criminal History Record Check Clearance

The Board had no questions.

MOTION: Phil Nazzaro made the motion, seconded by Sally Griffin that the State Board of Education approve the final proposal for Ed 504.12, Ed 505.07, Ed 505.08, and Ed 505.09 criminal history record check clearance.

VOTE: The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Board with the Chairman abstaining.

B. Adopt - Vocational Educational Program

Chris Bond, NHDOE Attorney, stated that they received a response from JLCAR.

MOTION: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Ryan Terrell that the State Board of Education approve the conditional approval response for Ed 1000 Vocational Education Programs.

VOTE: The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Board with the Chairman abstaining.

MOTION: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Sally Griffin that the State Board amend the previous motion to adopt vocational educational programs.

VOTE: The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Board with the Chairman abstaining.

C. Discussion - Holocaust and Genocide Discussion

Drew Cline shared that the final language is not ready to review. Richard Sala shared that there are two differences that were discussed with Amanda Phelps. The first is whether it should start in 6th grade or 9th grade. The second

was the language for the criteria of the requirement to ensure students understand the difference between events in human history that may look like genocide that happened prior to the formation of the United Nations (UN), events that are recognized by UN courts as genocide, and things that are open to debate.

Ryan Terrell asked about an international standard for genocide. Drew Cline shared that the language helping students understand the difference between genocide and other atrocities is an important distinction. Richard Sala directed the Board to read a document from The Holocaust Museum which discusses how, when, and why the U.S. government has made genocide determinations.

Drew Cline noted that past presenters shared that starting before 9th grade, students are better prepared for the information. The question for the Board is how to write a rule that incorporates gradual introduction. The Board discussed the appropriateness of the term "comprehensive" in the rule and the wording around the grade requirements. The Board discussed which subjects are appropriate for the rule and how to word the rule to ensure appropriate coverage of the topics.

Richard Sala will work with Amanda Phelps on an initial proposal at the next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM VII. COMMISSIONER'S UPDATES

Commissioner Edelblut shared program updates. Rekindling Curiosity is going. Learning Pods are also accelerating and anticipate the demand for this program growing. A new scholarship program was released called Yes, Every Student and is designed for students in a traditional or charter public school to receive outside special education services. It also provides scholarships for tutoring. It will also pay tuition for students who are attending nonpublic schools.

The required state plan was filed with the US Department of Education last month for accessing the last of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) ESSER III funds. They received feedback for clarification. Once that's done, the funds should be released. Schools must file their plans in order to have access to those funds. Priorities identified were individual pathways for instruction for kids, educator fatigue, and family engagement.

AGENDA ITEM VIII. OPEN BOARD DISCUSSIONS

There were no topics for discussion.

AGENDA ITEM IX. TABLE ITEMS

There were no updates.

- A. Initial Proposal - School Librarian (Ed 508.06)
- B. University of New Hampshire (UNH) - Substantive Change Request

AGENDA ITEM XI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Meeting Minutes of June 10, 2021, State Board Meeting

Board members noted necessary changes to meeting minutes.

MOTION: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro to accept the consent agenda, meeting minutes June 10, 2021, with noted changes.

VOTE: The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Board with the Chairman abstaining.

- B. Nottingham School District Withdrawal from SAU #44 Approved by Voters

MOTION: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Richard Sala that the State Board of Education approve the withdrawal of Nottingham School District from SAU #44.

VOTE: The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Board with the Chairman abstaining.

AGENDA ITEM XI. NONPUBLIC SESSION

There was no nonpublic session.

AGENDA ITEM XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Phil Nazzaro made the motion, seconded by Ryan Terrell to adjourn the meeting at 3:49 p.m.

VOTE: The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the Board with the Chairman abstaining.



Secretary

July 8, 2021

