

New Hampshire
State Board of Education
Minutes of the February 9, 2023, Meeting

AGENDA ITEM I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the State Board of Education convened at 10:02 a.m. Drew Cline presided as Chair.

Members present: Ryan Terrell, Ann Lane, Drew Cline, and Richard Sala. Kate Cassady, Phil Nazzaro and Sally Griffin all attended virtually. Also in attendance were Commissioner of Education, Frank Edelblut and Deputy Commissioner Christine Brennan.

AGENDA ITEM II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ryan Terrell led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dana Andrews, Assistant Superintendent of SAU 48, shared information regarding their robotics program. She started as a technology teacher and wanted to bring robotics to the district. The schools choose the type of robotics they want to incorporate. Last year a SAU-wide robotics day was organized. All 110 kids were brought together from various schools. High school students spoke about their world championship in Texas. Plymouth State's robotics team works with the schools. Several schools will participate in the state championships at Manchester Community College. The competition age ranges from middle to high school. One elementary school competed at the high school level.

Jim Lewis, Superintendent of SAU 71, stated he doesn't believe the state's math scores are high enough. He shared the importance of focusing on basic math facts. Without basic facts, higher order operations are not possible. They use flash cards. They are teaching multiplication and division at the same time. The school's goal is 80% of students will master their basic math facts. At their elementary school, students are given a t-shirt when they can answer 100 math problems in 5 minutes. They give parents free flash cards to use at home.

Debra Taylor, Superintendent of SAU 7, stated the focus has been changed to look at home research-based practices can be implemented. In the last year, they became the 29th CTE center in the State of New Hampshire. They initiated 5 new programs. They have an automotive program, which includes an embedded high school credit. They also leave with 3 college credits. They are implementing a culinary program. They have an education preparation program that includes hands on learning opportunities creating lesson plans, creating rubrics, and working with students in classrooms. As a completer, they will receive 6 college

credits. The health science program partners with UCBH and provides students with an opportunity to explore all aspects of the health sciences pathways. A grant allowed the purchase of an anatomy table. A phlebotomy certification is being offered. Information technology program has hands on introduction, exploration of new technology, and a connection with NH Technical Institute and allows 9 college credits to be earned. SAU 58 has been collaborating with NH Learning Initiative and has been implementing differentiated instruction opportunities for students using grants. The North Country Charter School has been providing students with opportunities to work with businesses.

Kimberly Saunders, Superintendent of Conval Regional School District, shared her concern with the lack of transparency involving the potential changes to Ed 306. It is her understanding that it will be on the next Board agenda, however, the Board has indicated there would be geographic listening sessions that have not taken place. The changes are not supported by evidence-based research or practices. She believes partisan politics of the State Board, Commissioner, and Governor embed themselves into local decisions without appropriate input from parents and citizens in New Hampshire. She asked if they would embrace the process of geographic listening sessions so those who cannot take a day off to be at the Board meeting to provide public comment can be heard.

Todd Allen, Superintendent SAU 31, shared New Market students tend to be in the same system for all 13 years of public education. They are pursuing NEASC accreditation. A community forum took place to discuss what people want out of their public schools. One suggested goal is financial literacy. The Director of Curriculum Instruction Assessment, Patty Wons, is presenting with NH Educator Effectiveness and Student Success group on induction and mentoring of new staff.

Deannah Rae, Superintendent SAU 74, shared that screening occurs for their students K-8 which aides in targeting the social emotional learning individual students need. All students are getting Tier 1 instruction using district provided resources. They have a PreK-K building with an integrated preschool program. They have embraced play-based learning. Northwood School through NEASC accreditation is strengthen MTSS for SEL. They were selected as one of five schools to partner with Teach United.

Kris Bellerose, Vice Chair of Allentown School Board, commented on lack of education funding. She worked in partnership with the New Hampshire School Funding Fairness Project. The approved budget for Allentown was \$12.2 million. They had to figure out what to cut to get to the state's total calculated cost of an adequate education of \$2.4 million. The first cut was \$2.2 million paid to Pembroke Academy for Allentown High School students to attend. She then eliminated 8 out of 20 core classroom teachers, leaving classroom sizes of 29 students in grades K-4 and 36 students in grades 5-8. Special education costs were reduced by eliminating contracted services, appraisal services, and out of district placements. Another cut was a building bond payment for the new school

construction. An adequate education for Allenstown students would end at 8th grade. There are no clubs, sports, or field trips. She shared a handout of testimony.

Maura Palmer, Superintendent SAU 57, shared Salem is in the final phases of renovating the middle school to a state-of-the-art facility. There are currently 900 students in grades 6-8. The classroom phases of the renovation were completed. All students are in a brand-new learning facility. This is the last building to be renovated. The focus in the district has been on the Next Generation Science Standards in creating a pathway in science from K-12. The new space allows for flexible seating, tables that can be reconfigured, there are small group spaces, and there are interactive white boards in the room. At the high school level, over 20 science courses are offered. The CTE offers health science to students, which ends with LNA certification.

Brian Connelly, Superintendent SAU 103, currently serves preK-6th grade with 64 students. They received a state grant for a robotics program. They hosted a competition from all around the state. Through the program, they have robots for preK-2nd grade, 3-4, and 5-6. They have a STEAM class. The 5th grade student leadership team proposed a STEAM grant and pitched, wrote it up, and it was awarded. The preschool program is a full day program five days a week.

Kirk Beitler, Superintendent SAU 73, shared they had a NEASC visit. They worked on a K-12 portrait of a learner. They want students to be innovative, collaborative, critical thinkers, and self-directed. They have a robotics program and do robotics at all three levels. Elementary has a Lead the Way program. They also have a Lego program. Middle school has the Lego program and have participated in competitions. The high school robotics team received grant money and have attended several competitions. They have a partnership with New Hampshire Ball Bearings and one of the engineers is a coach on the team. They rely on the to Gilford Rotary as well. Elementary school is doing one school, one book. Every student received a copy of Kenny and the Dragon. It will culminate in a family event.

AGENDA ITEM IV. HEARINGS

A. Student/Contoocook Valley Regional School Board – SB-FY-23-09-003

Sally Griffin recused herself from this hearing.

Motion: Ryan Terrell made the motion, seconded by Ann Lane, that the State Board of Education enter nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3, II(c) at 10:55 AM.

Vote: The motion was approved by roll call vote by State Board of Education members Ryan Terrell, Ann Lane, Drew Cline

February 9, 2023

(chair), Richard Sala, Kate Cassady (remote), and Phil Nazzaro (remote).

Motion: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Ann Lane, that the State Board of Education accepts the December 22, 2022 recommendation and proposed order and the January 26, 2023 hearing officer recommendation on Contoocook Valley School District Motion to Dismiss for mootness and adopt the hearing officer's recommendations.

Vote: The motion was approved by roll call vote by State Board of Education members Ryan Terrell, Ann Lane, Drew Cline (chair), Richard Sala, Kate Cassady (remote), and Phil Nazzaro (remote).

Motion: Ryan Terrell made the motion, seconded by Ann Lane, that the State Board of Education return to public session at 11:15 AM.

Vote: The motion was approved by roll call vote by State Board of Education members Ryan Terrell, Ann Lane, Drew Cline (chair), Richard Sala, Kate Cassady (remote), and Phil Nazzaro (remote).

Motion: Ryan Terrell made the motion, seconded by Ann Lane, that the State Board of Education seal the minutes of this nonpublic session indefinitely.

Vote: The motion was approved by roll call vote by State Board of Education members Ryan Terrell, Ann Lane, Drew Cline (chair), Richard Sala, Kate Cassady (remote), and Phil Nazzaro (remote).

B. Student/Northeast Woodland Charter School Board of Trustees – SB-FY-22-03-009

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Richard Sala, that the State Board of Education enter nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3, II(c) at 12:11 PM.

Vote: The motion was approved by roll call vote by State Board of Education members Ryan Terrell, Ann Lane, Drew Cline (chair), Richard Sala, Kate Cassady (remote), Phil Nazzaro (remote) and Sally Griffin (remote).

Motion: Ryan Terrell made the motion, seconded by Drew Cline (chair), that the State Board of Education reject the Hearing Officer's Report and Recommendation, and remand the matter back to the Hearing Officer to make factual findings relating to whether the student's misconduct (1) was motivated by an imbalance of power based on a pupil's actual or perceived personal characteristics, behaviors, or beliefs, or motivated by the pupil's association with another person and based on the other person's characteristics, behaviors, or beliefs pursuant to RSA 193-F:3(I)(b) or (2) violated the Northeast Woodlands Charter School's bullying policy.

Vote: The motion was approved 3 to 2 by roll call vote by State Board of Education members Ryan Terrell, Drew Cline (chair), and Kate Cassady (remote) with Richard Sala and Sally Griffin (remote) opposed and Ann Lane abstaining. Phil Nazzaro left the meeting at 1:30 PM and did not cast a vote.

Motion: Ryan Terrell made the motion, seconded by Ann Lane, that the State Board of Education return to public session at 2:32 PM.

Vote: The motion was approved by roll call vote by State Board of Education members Ryan Terrell, Ann Lane, Drew Cline (chair), Richard Sala, Kate Cassady (remote), and Sally Griffin (remote).

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Ryan Terrell, that the State Board of Education seal the minutes of this nonpublic session indefinitely.

Vote: The motion was approved by roll call vote by State Board of Education members Ryan Terrell, Ann Lane, Drew Cline (chair), Richard Sala, Kate Cassady (remote), and Sally Griffin (remote).

AGENDA ITEM V. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS/UPDATES

A. Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

Judge John Broderick stated for the past 7 years he has visited 350 middle and high schools to talk about mental health awareness. He believes the number one issue in public education is the wellbeing of the students. Anxiety and depression are an epidemic for young people. Most of what he's seen and heard

from kids is culturally and socially driven. The Surgeon General of the United States issued an advisory describing youth mental health as a national crisis. The American Academy of Pediatrics described it as a national emergency.

He asked the Board to speak up encouraging community forums and talk about student mental health. He wrote a book on the topic that was published. Any profit from the book goes to a fund for mental health awareness and mental health education. The suicide rate is up 50% over the past decade. Kids are over organized, over scheduled, and overly competing.

Chair Cline asked for any insights on ways schools can help during the school day. Judge Broderick responded that the schools are doing a lot. However, the social and cultural forces are not caused by schools but can be exacerbated into expectations. During COVID, parents put up signs saying they are proud of their high school graduate and kindergarten graduate. This shows a focus on achievements rather than letting children enjoy childhood.

Chair Cline asked about Judge Broderick's upcoming schedule for Board members to attend. He will send out dates. He asked the Board to encourage community conversations and allow students to educate parents.

AGENDA ITEM VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Professional Education Requirements for PEPPs (Ed 607.04)
- B. Reading and Writing Teacher (Ed 507.52)

Public hearings opened at 11:23 a.m. and closed at 11:58 a.m. with no public comment.

AGENDA ITEM VII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

- A. Conditional Approval – Innovation Schools (Ed 1500)

Julie Shea stated the rule went to the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (JLCAR) in January. They requested a minor change, which was made and was reflected in the materials. The conditional approval must be sent to the Office of Legislative Services (OLS) and can be adopted later in the meeting.

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro, that the State Board of Education adopt Ed 1500 Innovation Schools.

Vote: The motion was approved by unanimous vote by the State Board of Education.

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Sally Griffin, that the State Board of Education amend her original motion from adopting to approving the conditional approval of Ed 1500 Innovation Schools.

Vote: The motion was approved by unanimous vote by the State Board of Education.

B. Initial Proposal – PEPP Fees (Ed 602.05)

Julie Shea stated the 601 and 602 rules were brought to the Board in January. The fee piece was left out as the Department weighed in on the fees. There was collaboration between the Council for Teacher Education (CTE) and the Department. The proposed fees were agreed upon between the CTE and the Department for the Professional Educator Preparation programs (PEPP).

Chris Ward, CTE member, stated the fees had not been increased in over 20 years. Other state fees were researched and showed significant differences. The main difference in Option 1 is a flat fee for a unit review and then add on per individual PEPPs. It is representative of the work the Department does to find reviewers, coordinate, communicate, and put the review through the process.

Ann Lane asked how many institutions are for profit. Multiple people responded all the institutions are nonprofit.

Richard Sala asked about the change in work that has increased to warrant the significant fee increase. Steve Appleby responded the fee increases are required to align the fee with the work required. This has not been reviewed in over 20 years. No money is received from the legislature. Currently, the Bureau of Credentialing is underwriting Laura Stoneking because she does not generate enough to support her position on her own.

Kate Cassady asked if other states were reviewed when looking at fee structures. Julie Shea responded they looked at Vermont, Massachusetts, and Maine and even with the increase; the fees are lower than the other states.

Chair Cline asked what the money covers. Steve Appleby responded Laura Stoneking's position is coordinating and project managing all the reviews. She spends a lot of time making sure reviewers are in place and everyone is on their timeline. The money funds Laura's position and the review team.

Julie Shea commented the current fee structure has the same fee whether an institution is reviewing 2 programs or 17. That is not indicative of the amount of work for the two reviews. Steve Appleby added the largest institution has over 30 programs, which is an exponential difference.

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Richard Sala, that the State Board of Education approve the initial proposal for Ed 602.05.

Vote: The motion was approved by unanimous vote by the State Board of Education.

C. Final Proposal – Criminal History Records Check (Ed 504.12 various)

Motion: Ryan Terrell made the motion, seconded by Ann Lane, that the State Board of Education approve the final proposal for Ed 504.12, Ed 505.7, Ed 505.8, and Ed 505.9, Ed 512.1, and Ed 604.9.

Vote: The motion was approved by unanimous vote by the State Board of Education.

AGENDA ITEM VIII. COUNCIL FOR TEACHER EDUCATION (CTE)

A. Keene State College (KSC) – program approval

Chair Cline noted that Keene State College's program approval was tabled and that they were asked to come back to better explain some course description and language.

Ryan Terrell asked for a definition of social justice. Melinda Treadwell, President of Keene State College, provided a written statement. She stated the definition of social justice is defined in various ways by individuals as they approach the construct. As an institution, some of the language presented, the mission statement speaks of diversity, equity and inclusion as the welcoming space and sense of belonging space on campus. The construct of learning is approached by welcoming all into the conversation. They are governed in the teacher preparation program by the standards of the state.

Melinda Treadwell introduced her team: Dr. James Beeby, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Tanya Sturtz, Director of Education Preparation Program, Stephen Bigaj, Coordinator of Advanced Licensure Programs. Keene State's origin as a teacher's college was in 1909 when the City of Keene matched the financial investment of the State of New Hampshire. Teachers are required to complete a major in the liberal arts disciplines. The teacher preparation program is the largest major at Keene State College. The retention of initial and advanced licensure candidates has increased by 3% in the last 5 years and is 6% of the college wide average. 95% of initial undergraduate candidates and 100% of graduate student completers are launched successfully into their careers within six months. 43% of over 34,000 alums live and contribute to the State of New Hampshire.

The most recent recognition by the Council for Accreditation for Education Preparation for all initial and advanced licensure programs without conditions was received in October 2022 with the CTE recommendation for approval to the State Board in December 2022. The institution invests in national approval and accreditation recognition for professional education preparation programs because of the long history. They have carefully developed and improved the curriculum for the college, employ talented faculty and partners work to pursue excellence in education.

They seek public markers of educational excellence, like national accreditation, because they are in a tightening market and pressures to attract and retain students among colleges and universities is intense. Investment in market differentiation and distinction that recognizes excellence and exceptional quality as demonstrated by both state and national accreditation is essential as Keene State tries to differentiate itself in the market. The programs submit to open, transparent, and exhaustive review of their mission, methods, and outcomes demonstration in accordance with the requirements of the State of New Hampshire as prescribed in the 600 standards as well as the requirements of Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). They prepare programmatic self-studies that include evidence of outcome, demonstration in alignment with regulatory requirements and accreditation standards for all programs culminating with a multi-day visit during the reaccreditation cycles.

In the submitted statement are the Ed 600 standards 609.01-505.02 and 610.02-505.7, which are the requirements that they seek to align within the mission, value, and course and unit requirements. The excerpts added to the testimony specifically enumerate around some of the questions asked previously by the Board. The educator preparation programs all stand on the Department's conceptual framework. The framework aligns the elements of all initial and advanced licensure programs.

Keene State College has been undergoing a strategic planning effort to align mission, values, and vision as an institution. That mission, vision, and values were introduced in the record of testimony. The mission, vision, and values were unanimously approved during the development process and by the University System of New Hampshire Board of Trustees.

Melinda Treadwell requested affirmation of the dedication, the endorsement from CTE, to end with a full approval of the teacher preparation programs at initial and advanced level.

Chair Cline responded the provided statement answered a lot of the Board's questions. There was a disconnect between the statements made and materials provided. There were included statements that Keene State is focused on an interest in exploring ideas, getting kids to engage with concepts and ideas they

may not have encountered, and true intellectual exploration. The Board fully supports these concepts. That was not reflected in the materials provided.

Melinda Treadwell responded Keene State has worked hard to recognize that all learners who attend the campus are critical to hear and be heard.

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Sally Griffin that the State Board of Education grant Keene State College a 7-year full approval for the below listed PEPPs through February 28, 2030.

NH Ed. Standards		CONTENT AREA(S)	Format
507.33	612.26	Chemistry Teacher for Grades 7-12 (including Science: General Requirements 507.30)	BS, BA, Licensure
507.18	612.03	Early Childhood Education Teacher (birth - grade 3)	BS, Licensure
507.37	612.24	Earth and Space Science Teacher for Grades 7-12 (including Science: General Requirements 507.30)	BS, BA, Licensure
507.11	612.04	Elementary Education Teacher (K-6) (K-8)	BS, Licensure
507.24	612.05	English Language Arts Teacher for Grades 5-12	BS, BA, Licensure
507.32	612.25	Life Science Teacher for Grades 7-12 (including Science: General Requirements 507.30)	BS, BA, Licensure
507.26	612.17	Mathematics Teacher- Middle Level (to Alg.1/Integ 1) (including Mathematics: General Requirements 507.25)	BS, BA, Licensure
507.27	612.18	Mathematics Teacher- Upper Level (Pre-Alg to AP Math) (including Mathematics: General Requirements 507.25)	BS, BA, Licensure
507.39	612.20	Music Teacher	BM, Licensure
507.16	612.21	Physical Education Teacher	BS, Licensure
507.34	612.27	Physics Teacher for Grades 7-12 (including Science: General Requirements 507.30)	BS, Licensure
507.29	612.22	Science Teacher for Grades 5-8 (including Science: General Requirements 507.30)	BS, BA, Licensure
507.28	612.28	Social Studies Teacher for Grades 5-12	BS, BA, Licensure
507.40	612.07	Special Education Teacher (age 5 through 21)	MEd, Licensure
507.38	612.14	World Languages Teacher- Spanish	BS, BA, Licensure
NH Ed. Standards		SPECIALTY AREA(S)	Degree/Format
506.04	614.04	Principal Instructional Leader	MEd, Licensure

Vote: The motion was approved by unanimous vote by the State Board of Education.

Ryan Terrell stated he appreciates the rigor the students and curriculum are put through. He asked why he cannot get an answer on how the institution is filtering what students are learning to become teachers. He asked for the definition of social justice and equity. Melinda Treadwell stated the new mission, vision, and values are more direct around committing to lifelong learning as an institution and

commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion through the lens of belonging. Looking at Ed 609.01, there is an explicit expectation for teacher preparation programs to provide cultural competencies around cultural understanding, taking responsibility for self and others, adapting, the ability to engage in productive teamwork, and social and civic engagement. Keene State looks at how to connect concepts using different perspectives to engage learners in critical and creative thinking and collaborative problem solving related to authentic local and global issues.

Ryan Terrell responded that he understood everything explained but does not understand how it relates to being an advocate for social justice and equity. His interpretation of social justice is that it is connected to a broader diversity, equity and inclusion framework, which lends itself to the opposite of the mission. Melinda Treadwell responded faculty do not direct student thought processes or silence students.

Chair Cline asked about the timeframe for the updated mission statement. Melinda Treadwell responded the current statement was just approved after an 18-month process. When going through the review processes, they take feedback and adjust in the next cycle of review through college senate and curriculum processes. Over the next 1-2 years, they will be working through all changes.

Ann Lane stated the previous concern was not putting up roadblocks to any individual who wants to become a teacher. If someone looks at the mission statement and is not interested in being political, they will feel unwelcome at Keene State College. If the intent is being open to all, the language may not be interpreted that way. Melinda Treadwell responded the mission, vision, and value statement has never been questioned before and students have not raised any issues. Students feel welcome and understand that all views are respected. The mission has been approved by the USNH Board of Trustees, which is the governing body.

Chair Cline stated Keene State has a very good program. He commended them for going through the CAEP process because it is a high bar.

Keene State College was asked to come back in a year with an update.

AGENDA ITEM IX. COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE

There was no update.

AGENDA ITEM X. OPEN BOARD DISCUSSIONS

Sally Griffin stated she submitted her resignation for her seat at the Board. She thanked the Commissioner for his leadership. She thanked everyone for her experience. Chair Cline thanked Sally Griffin for her service and dedication.

Chair Cline stated the governor appointed a replacement who is working through the process. He will be in attendance for the March meeting.

AGENDA ITEM XI. TABLED ITEMS

A. Keene State College – program approval

Motion: Ryan Terrell made the motion, seconded by Ann Lane, that the State Board of Education remove this item from the table.

Vote: The motion was approved by unanimous vote by the State Board of Education.

AGENDA ITEM XII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2022

AGENDA ITEM XIII. NONPUBLIC SESSION

There was no nonpublic session.

AGENDA ITEM XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Ryan Terrell made the motion, seconded by Ann Lane, that the State Board of Education adjourn at 3:33 p.m.

Vote: The motion was approved by unanimous vote by the State Board of Education.



Secretary