

New Hampshire
State Board of Education
Minutes of the April 13, 2023, Meeting

AGENDA ITEM I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the State Board of Education convened at 10:03 a.m. Drew Cline presided as Chair.

Members present: Kate Cassady, Ryan Terrell, Ann Lane, Drew Cline, Jim Fricchione (virtual), and Richard Sala. Also in attendance were Commissioner of Education, Frank Edelblut, and Deputy Commissioner Brennan. Phil Nazzaro was unable to attend due to a prior commitment.

AGENDA ITEM II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Richard Sala led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Sydney Leggett, Superintendent, SAU #75, spoke on behalf of the New Hampshire School Administrators Association Equity Committee, a new committee charged with looking at issues of equity for New Hampshire schools around the state and from multiple perspectives. Some recent work involved reviews of the proposed 506 standards and the proposed 306 standards. Equity is an established concept in multiple New Hampshire documents. It is a concern that equity is not showing up as much as would be preferred in the 306 and 506 standards. Suggestions were offered via submitted written feedback. A proposed draft definition of equity was read aloud. Equity and equality are not interchangeable. They provided general feedback to the Board as well as line-by-line feedback to Nate Greene.

Russell Holden, Superintendent SAU #85, and the New Hampshire School Administrator Association (NHSAA) President, shared that the NHSAA has made a commitment to attend each State Board of Education meeting to share the educational opportunities that are happening in the schools. At the March NHSAA state meeting, they were told the State Board would like to add a standing agenda item that would allow for a deeper opportunity for a more in-depth conversation. The NHSAA has been able to work closely with the Department and State Board. They provided Steve Appleby with feedback on the proposed Ed 506 rules, requirements and certification for educational leadership and administration.

Dean Cascadden, Superintendent, SAU #67, talked about educational funding, fairness, equality, and equity. Residents have been very happy with Bow schools. They have a community that supports education. In New Hampshire,

education is funded using property taxes. Bow has a powerplant, which helped fund Bow schools. They have less than 5% poverty in the district.

Jim Morse, Superintendent, SAU #5, noted that the Oyster River School Board established a protocol and relationship allowing for deep discussion, avoiding advisory. They have created two strategic plans. Commissioner Edelblut was thanked for grant money in robotics. The middle school made it to nationals three years in a row. The high school is in regionals, looking to go to nationals. Academic recovery in the district is in full swing. Formative assessments are done three times a year. The latest report shows the highest performance in the district's history. Mental health is now a top priority.

Suzane Filippone, Assistant Superintendent of Oyster River School District, shared Tona Brown, world acclaimed vocalist and violinist, visited the district in March. Community dinners are sponsored by the sustainability committee, which is a committee of stakeholders that include families throughout the district, community members, students, and faculty members. Community dinners are an opportunity to share learning that is happening in the classroom. A variety of different students share projects and things they are doing in the classroom. Earth week activities are occurring, including plastic free lunch day on April 19.

Sean Parr, Manchester School Board, sits on the policy committee and chairs the education legislation committee. He spoke on behalf of the school board and submitted a letter. He collected feedback on the draft proposal for the 306 minimum standards changes. They support competency-based learning. They asked for the draft to address the NHSAA concerns. They believe the draft could emphasize local authority more clearly. They agree that reintegrating references to equity throughout the document is crucial. Competency terminology is inconsistent in the current document. The document refers to learning levels throughout, which lacks some precision, and they recommend shifting to grade levels as learning progressions.

Brian Balke, Superintendent, SAU #19, shared student representatives from school boards around the state were brought together. He shared a copy of the agenda and a photo of the 14 students that attended the meeting. The students had the opportunity to share how they ran for the office. In collaboration with the New Hampshire School Boards Association, they are looking to expand the model. It would be an opportunity statewide to get students to meet and learn and grow together. A letter was sent to the commissioner asking the Department to emphasize that April is genocide awareness month.

Jennifer Gillis, Superintendent, SAU 37, Manchester School District, has been in the role for close to one year. The district reoriented to the strategic plan. They have three major goal areas for learners, educators, and overall systems. Funding was provided for the dual emerging program. They are looking to launch in the fall of 2024. They are exploring Spanish and French. They had a jazz

concert, which included a number of schools. The robotics teams are moving forward. The students built a plane and flew it. The culinary team has been called on to cater for events related to the district. Assessment data shows positive trends. Grow Our Educators focuses on professional development, differentiated instruction, and multi-tiered systems of support. Grow Our Systems is working on a long-term facilities plan. The district is working on the 306s. Many subgroups are reviewing the changes.

AGENDA ITEM IV. REGIONAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT SPOTLIGHT

Chair Cline shared the Board wanted to hear more from the regional school district groups that have been attending meetings and sharing regional news. Chair Cline reached out to the NHSAA and offered a dedicated spot on the agenda to give them more time to talk and share. Each month there will be a regional SAU spotlight. The first region on the agenda is the north country and SAU #36.

A. North County Region – Marion Anastasia, Superintendent, SAU #36

Marion Anastasia, Superintendent, SAU #36 highlighted things going on in the North Country. The culinary and hospitality teams are going to nationals. They came in first in the New England contest. In May, they will go to Washington state. She introduced Ashton McMann, culinary completer, who is heading to White Mountains Community College to continue his culinary career. He is received almost a full scholarship. Hannah Smith is a completer in hospitality and is also included in the culinary program. She has been accepted to multiple colleges with scholarships.

Hannah Smith shared ProStart is a competition with two sections: management for hospitality and culinary. Last year, her team placed first at states and thirteenth at nationals. The program requires students to come up with a restaurant concept. Students can make a food truck, an airport restaurant, something in a mall, or freestanding. They chose to create a freestanding restaurant. The team decided to create a freestanding brunch restaurant. They created a floor plan, interior and decor, a menu, pricing, recipes, costs. They have seven minutes to talk about each area as well as answer critical thinking questions.

Ashton McMann shared his menu: pasta carbonara, Cornish game hen cacciatore, and white chocolate panna cotta. The starter course cost is \$8 to buy in the restaurant and about \$3.60 to make. The cost to purchase in the restaurant is \$23 and about \$12 to make. The dessert cost is about \$5 to make and \$10 to purchase in the restaurant. Students are graded on knife safety, sanitation, cleanliness, presentation, taste, and set up time. Students bring all the equipment and food in black totes and coolers. Proteins and liquids must be separated, and coolers must be at a certain temperature for check in. Hannah Smith added culinary must bring everything with them, including a trash can. They fill totes with

ice to keep everything cool. If they are not at the correct temperature at check-in, the team is not allowed to compete.

Kate Cassady asked if students are given a menu to choose from. Ashton McMann responded they come up with the entire menu and presentation and prices on their own. They have to make three courses. Teams must have two to five members. Ashton plans to pursue a career as a chef. Hannah Smith plans to major in sports management with a minor in hospitality management.

Chair Cline asked the students if they have a greater appreciation when they go to eat at a restaurant knowing the work that goes into it and small businesses in the community. Hannah Smith responded she appreciates local business knowing the work and dedication it takes to come up with one menu item. Ashton McMann acknowledged how much work is involved for restaurants that come up with specials each day. He noted that they only get one hour during the competition to cook all three courses with two burners, so they must work through how to multitask.

Richard Sala asked how the students got involved in the program. Ashton McMann responded he wanted to go into community service because he wanted to make people smile. He decided the best way to do that is with food. He loves cooking with his dad. Hannah Smith joined as a freshman. At the time, she planned to go into nursing. As she got into the culinary program, she changed her mind. She went into hospitality junior year.

AGENDA ITEM V. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS/UPDATES

A. Nottingham School District Waiver of Required School Days Under RSA 189:2 and Ed 306.18

Tim Koumrian, Superintendent of Schools for Nottingham, SAU #107, submitted a written request for a waiver of school days. There was a combination of issues with emergency days. There were widespread power outages that affected the region. Two other days were due to significant HVAC system failures during the winter months. They are requesting a waiver for the two HVAC related days and two of the power outage days.

The district is in the process of repairing certain aspects of the heating system and replacing other aspects. They have historically been using a day calendar and not an hour calendar due to a contract that did not allow a shift in hours. They have worked out agreements with collective bargaining groups so hours can be shifted in the future.

Kate Cassady asked if remote learning was done on the days when the HVAC system was not working. Tim Koumrian responded they did not have a remote learning plan in place. Since then, they have met to put a plan into place

and there was one additional day that was done remotely. Susan Levenson, School Board Chair, added their systems passed and then suddenly an issue arose with no warning.

Chair Cline clarified the district used their five days and are requesting to have four additional days. He asked about the scheduled last day of school. Tim Koumrian responded it was originally June 19 and they are now scheduled for June 28 without the waiver. With the waiver, the last day would be June 22nd. It is a pre-K to 8th grade district.

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Richard Sala, that the State Board of Education approve the waiver of the required number of school days via RSA 189:1 and RSA 189:2.

Vote: The motion was approved by vote by the State Board of Education with Jim Fricchione and Chair Cline abstaining.

B. Minimum Standards (Ed 306) Update

Fred Bramante, President, National Center for Competency-Based Learning, has been working with the Department and the Board on creating a draft of the proposed minimum standards (Ed 306). The work started January 2021. Fred was part of the revision to the minimum standards in 1992. The State Board at that time took an aggressive approach and the education community was not happy. He learned to be inclusive and not rush the process. The current draft took two years. He was also part of the revision in 2003.

The State Board and the Department of Education created a document in 2007, which was intended to be the spirit and intent of the 2005 minimum standards that moved New Hampshire into the world of competency-based learning. When reviewing it, the consensus was the 2007 vision is still appropriate, but was never reached. They looked in the document for areas that needed more clarity and better definitions. There was a panel at the NHSAA's conference, and the panel raised the subject of graduation competencies. A set of graduation competencies were recommended but were not put into the original document. The revision will define graduation competencies all schools must use in the State of New Hampshire. In October 2022, the committee met with content experts to review the draft and recommended graduation competencies.

The committee offered to visit school districts and conduct face-to-face information sessions to discuss details with educators, parents, students, and communities. They have scheduled several information sessions for districts already. They intend to have an inclusive process allowing for all input.

The committee recommends personalized learning plans for every student. The NHSAA has indicated they understand and agree with the concept of a personalized learning plan but are nervous about implementation. Fred Bramante noted that other states have done it, and some have not worked out.

In 2016, there was a U.S. Department of Education study by a group called Research for Action out of Philadelphia on the impacts of extended learning opportunities (ELOs). The results were very positive. Students should have the opportunity for ELOs.

The committee suggests high school credit should be defined as a bundle of related competencies to show proficiency rather than individual grades.

Chair Cline stated the Board wants to take their time through this process. Input is encouraged. The Board also needs time to go through the 100-page document.

Richard Sala asked for a plan to consolidate information gained from face-to-face sessions with the districts. Fred Bramante stated there will be a spot on the Department's website for anyone to send recommendations.

The Board will have open board discussions each month as members have time to go through the document. The draft has been two years in the making and will take six months to a year to review prior to starting the rulemaking process. The rulemaking process then takes 180 days. It will be a long process.

AGENDA ITEM VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

The following public hearings opened at 11:05 a.m. and closed at 11:37 a.m. with no public comment.

- A. Application Fees for PEPPs (Ed 602.05)
- B. Program and Curriculum Standards for PEPPs (Ed 603-606)

The following public comment hearings opened at 11:37 a.m. and closed at 12:06 p.m. with no public comment.

- C. Home Education (Ed 315)

AGENDA ITEM VII. COUNCIL FOR TEACHER EDUCATION (CTE)

- A. Discuss CTE's Initial Proposal for Program and Curriculum Standards for PEPPs (Ed 603-606)

Laura Stoneking, Administrator for Bureau of Educator Support and Higher Education introduced Chris Ward, Upper Valley Institute and CTE Board Member. Chris Ward shared he has been working on the program review standards for a couple of years.

Laura Stoneking shared in 2013, her predecessors and CTE revamped all educator preparation standards. There was a delay to allow students to implement changes with three main areas of focus regarding programmatic approaches and the content standards. The three main areas transitioning to data driven decision making looking at candidate assessment, program assessment, and building cohesive clinical partnerships and practice with pre-K-12 schools. The CTE created a subcommittee to review what is working and not working with the current standards.

Chris Ward shared the council members were guided by a few different principles during the revision process. They wanted to eliminate redundancies to make it clear for both reviewers and the institutions being reviewed. They eliminated undefined terms. They wanted to provide narrative coherence, so it is easier to read. They also wanted to describe the quality criteria rather than prescribing specific methods or practices. A rule was added to Ed 605 on faculty and staff resources. That was moved from Ed 604, which was learning facilitation.

Ryan Terrell commented on the student advisory program section that has an opt-out portion. Laura Stoneking responded that each of the institutions signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with clear, defined requirements with different gateways. Institutions articulate gateways to candidates required to gain licensure.

Chair Cline asked for clarification on how the review teams approach faculty and staff resources. He questioned if there is a history of institutions not having adequate faculty. Laura Stoneking replied looking at candidate and program assessment data, it is determined whether there is enough faculty support. The interview process determines how institutions determine where to place candidates, how it ensures the minimum requirements are in place prior to going into the field. There have been instances where changes in institutional organization have left candidates unsure who to reach out to for different things. Confusion is discovered during the review to allow institutions to rectify the problem. Chris Ward added the rules are also necessary when institutions are adding new programs to ensure resources are available for all proposed additions or changes. The rules ensure it is viewed as a requirement to all administration.

Richard Sala referenced Ed 605.02(a) and asked what is meant by diverse faculty and what reviewers say if staff is not diverse. Chris Ward responded diverse is open to interpretation based on how the program views the needs of the candidates and faculty. Diversity could mean diversity of experience, geographical representation, expertise, etc. The term is not defined to allow institutions to make

that decision. Richard Sala stated he agrees with that definition, however, the Ed 600 rules already have a different definition in rule describing ethnicity, race, socio-economic status, gender, exceptionalities, language, learning style, religion, sexual orientation, and geographical area. Laura Stoneking responded institutions submit a background for each of the faculty. Reviewers can see the historical background of all main faculty that teach the preparation programs.

AGENDA ITEM VIII. BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

A. Learn Everywhere Program

1. Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire – new application

Tim Carney, Administrator of Educational Pathways, introduced Casey Loeffler with Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire requesting a one-year approval of the Learn Everywhere program. The application was submitted previously.

Chair Cline clarified it is a four-year program and each year is a different credit pathway. Casey responded that the curriculum evolves every year. Chair Cline stated it is a long commitment for half a credit. Casey responded there was discussion over offering two credits at the end of four years, but they wanted to be able to give students flexibility.

Ann Lane asked about students who start as a sophomore rather than a freshman knowing it is a four-year program. Casey responded they are currently focused on freshman because students joining later would fall behind. They need time to form a relationship with a mentor and work on different skills that prepare them for the senior year experience. He currently has 20 incoming freshmen for next year.

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Ryan Terrell, that the State Board of Education approve Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire Learn Everywhere application.

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

AGENDA ITEM IX. RULEMAKING/LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

A. Proposed Interim Rule – Regional Career and Technical Education Agreements (Ed 1304.02)

Jeff Beard, State Director for Career and Technical Education and Bureau Administrator, was in attendance. Julie Shea, Administrative Rules Coordinator, stated the proposed interim rules are in response to legislation passed effective

July 1, 2022, regarding regional career and technical education agreements. The statute states it is not effective until the rules are put into place.

Jeff Beard stated the intent of the law is to ensure students have access to regional career and technical education. The rules are intended to give more detail to what was passed in the statute. The statute outlines a set of requirements for regional requirements for regional agreements. The agreements are among participants in the region. School board chairs are the signatories of the agreements. The rules attempt to provide guidance as those parties develop these agreements.

Ryan Terrell referenced Ed 1304.2 subsection b and asked the meaning of local education agency. Jeff Beard responded Pinkerton Academy is a public/private academy. For the purposes of federal program funding, funds must go to either LEAs or consortium. The provision is there for Pinkerton because they have a board of directors rather than an elected school board.

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Ryan Terrell, that the State Board of Education approve the proposed interim rule Ed 1301.01 and Ed 1304.02 regarding regional CTE agreements.

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

B. Final Proposal – Administrative Endorsements (Ed 506.01 et al)

Chair Cline stated the correct version is in Canvas. There was a public hearing in December. There was a process of incorporating feedback and amendments being made. Some of the requirements were reverted back prior to providing the packet to the Board and the version currently in Canvas is correct. The changes are on page 14 on the pdf, page 13 on the printed version.

Steve Appleby stated the previous rule required completion of a program post masters. It created a disadvantage compared to surrounding states as they require a masters and some post master's credits. Candidates coming from other states with experience are not qualified due to the difference in the required degree. Competitively, it puts New Hampshire at a disadvantage.

Chair Cline stated Connecticut requires post master's credit for superintendent, but Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Rhode Island do not. Massachusetts has pathway options that do not require a master's degree. Many states have three-year experience requirements per level. New Hampshire's rule now has a five-year requirement. They worked to create multiple pathways. The master's degree requirement was kept in the proposal. The change is candidates must complete one of the following: state approved master's level program in

education administration or educational leadership or a master's in education or related field and a State Board approved district level administration mentorship program under a licensed superintendent. The program does not exist right now, but it is something that is being created.

Ann Lane suggested making it say an/or alternative experience with all the capacity listed for the skills required. For instance, the COO of Dartmouth Hitchcock Hospital decided they wanted to run a school system. They have all the skills to do it. They have continuing education in a hospital, run facilities, have patient care, etc. In North Country, it is difficult to fill spots and should not be limited if candidates have the required skills. Chair Cline shared Rhode Island's administrative certificate requires administrator experience or significant leadership experience in a school, school district, education organization, or organizations other than a school. They include an asterisk with an explanation. They must still demonstrate competency in the school competencies.

Phil Nazzaro stated the changes will make it easier for some districts to hire superintendents. However, individual districts can choose to have higher requirements for their candidates if they wish. The state provides licensure, but it is up to districts to hire candidates they believe will do the job.

Chair Cline stated principal licensure requires three years of experience as a teacher, instructional specialist, educational specialist, or education administration. Feedback from superintendents was that there are other specialists at a school, like guidance counselors, that have value in a principal role even though they do not have classroom experience. The pathways for principals are complete state approved master's level program leading to school principal licensure or master's program in educational related field and demonstrate competencies have been met. The big change is eliminating post master's credit.

A small change was made for curriculum administrator, which changed experience required from five-years of experience to three-years of experience.

Steve Appleby stated there has been a rise in alternative pathways for teachers across the country. Chair Cline stated there has been a huge drop in traditional teacher preparation programs, but also a drop in alternative pathways across the county.

Chair Cline proposed passing the final proposal but consider reopening rulemaking and review the requirements with the NHSAA and do more research into other states.

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro, that the State Board of Education approve the final proposal for Ed 501.02, Ed 505.03, Ed 505.05, Ed 508.05, and Ed 506.01, Ed 506.08 as amended.

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

C. Final Proposal – Daily Physical Activity (Ed 310)

Julie Shea shared Ed 301 is due to expire in June, however, they have been extended out because of the rulemaking process. They had one minor change, but they are on consent with the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (JLCAR). They renewed what was there, removed a narrative, and made minor changes.

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Kate Cassady, that the State Board of Education approve the final proposal for Ed 310.

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

D. Final Proposal – Interpreter/Transliterater (Ed 504.11)

Julie Shea stated the Office of Legislative Services (OLS) comments were addressed to ensure interpreter and transliterater were both defined. They matched the age to 21 inclusive, which reflects that statute.

Chair Cline noted section 3b references licensure from another state whose standards are equivalent to New Hampshire. He suggested the language is problematic because it requires precise equivalence to the statute. Julie Shea responded that is the language from the original rule. Chair Cline proposed striking “is equivalent to” from the rule. Steve Appleby, Director Educator Support and Higher Education, responded there was no issue in making that change. The endorsement is only held by a handful of individuals statewide.

Ann Lane asked about the age change from 3-22 to 3-21 inclusive meaning through their 22nd birthday. She asked why the language does not state through the 22nd birthday. Julie Shea responded it reflects the language from the legislation.

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Ryan Terrell, that the State Board of Education approve the final proposal for Ed 504.11 as amended.

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

E. Final Proposal – Manifest Educational Hardship (Ed 307)

Julie Shea stated the rule is not set to expire soon; the proposal is due to a statutory change. Richard Sala suggested tabling the proposal because there is language in sections (d) and (g) that do not match. Kate Cassady agreed there are questions to be addressed. Julie Shea stated the deadline to file the final proposal is August 2023.

Motion: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Ann Lane, that the State Board of Education table Ed 307 Manifest Educational Hardship.

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

F. Adopt – Speech Language Specialist (Repeals) (Ed 508.05)

Steve Appleby stated the repeal is due the change removing speech language specialist from statute. He worked with the association to ensure all effected individuals were notified of other endorsements they may qualify or renew their current license for three years while they pursue their speech language pathologist license.

At the request of the association and working with the speech pathology board, there was a speech language specialist license that was developed over thirty years ago as a temporary stop gap when pathology licenses started requiring a master's degrees. The idea was for candidates to work through their pathology license and for the specialist license to disappear.

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Kate Cassady, that the State Board of Education adopt the repeal of Ed 508.05.

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

AGENDA ITEM X. COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE

Commissioner Edelblut reported assessment season has begun. Data is tracked at the beginning, middle, and end of the year and tracks student growth. They are hoping to see an upward trajectory that would allow the gaps from COVID to close.

New Hampshire 603 Bright Future survey has been sent out and received over 7,000 responses so far.

New Hampshire was named the number one state in the country for financial literacy. They had an inlet 300 contest with jump start, which is a competition similar to robotics for finance.

The Teacher of the Year program has had a record number of nominations and submissions.

Kate Cassady asked about a previous board conversation about bullying. Commissioner Edelblut responded he met with the chair of senate education to start conversations. They are in the middle of legislative session so it is unlikely a law change will be rushed through. However, they have agreed to have ongoing discussions over the summer. If there are changes required, it will be prepared for the next legislative session.

AGENDA ITEM XI. OPEN BOARD DISCUSSIONS

There was no open board discussion.

AGENDA ITEM XII. TABLED ITEMS

A. Initial Proposal – Minimum Standards (Ed 306)

AGENDA ITEM XIII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Meeting Minutes of February 21, 2023

B. Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2023

C. Tuition Agreement – Strafford School District and Coe-Brown Northwood Academy

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Kate Cassady, that the State Board of Education approve the consent agenda as amended.

Vote: The motion was approved by vote by the State Board of Education with Ann Lane, Ryan Terrell, and Jim Fricchione abstaining from voting on the minutes of February 21, 2023.

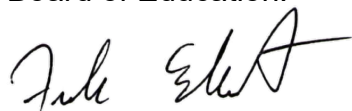
AGENDA ITEM XIV. NONPUBLIC SESSION

There was no nonpublic session.

AGENDA ITEM XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Ann Lane made the motion, seconded by Ryan Terrell, that the State Board of Education adjourn at 1:24 p.m.

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



Secretary

April 13, 2023