

New Hampshire
State Board of Education
Minutes of the July 20, 2023, Meeting

AGENDA ITEM I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the State Board of Education convened at 10:19 a.m. Drew Cline presided as Chair.

Members present: Kate Cassady, Jim Fricchione, Phil Nazzaro, Drew Cline, chair, and Richard Sala. Ann Lane and Ryan Terrell both had prior commitments and could not attend. Also in attendance were Commissioner of Education, Frank Edelblut, and Deputy Commissioner Christine Brennan.

AGENDA ITEM II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Jim Fricchione led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM III. PUBLIC COMMENT

David Trumble, Weare, NH, spoke on the 306 regulations. He is concerned that the drafts reduce the fairness in public schools compared to existing regulations. Statute RSA 193.38 says there is no discrimination in public schools and lists 11 categories of students. The proposed regulations weaken or eliminate the protections for students by eliminating sections. The Carsey Center for UNH School of Public Policy did a study on discipline comparing exclusionary discipline for students who do not have educational disabilities and those who do. They found with educational disabilities; the rate of exclusionary discipline is five to ten times higher. A report from the Juvenile Justice Reform Project said students of color are twice as likely to be suspended as white students. Students of color who are disabled are five and a half times as likely to be suspended. The regulations should live up to the statutes, not weaken the statues. Another concern is the weakening of the guarantee of protections in terms of competencies. All the areas of competency in the regulations are currently listed. The new regulations say you have to have a program, but the only requirement is it lives up to the idea of competency learning. Current requirements will no longer be upheld, including having early intervention teachers.

AGENDA ITEM IV. SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT(S) SPOTLIGHT

Russell Holden, Superintendent of Sunapee School District and former NHSAA president, introduced Terra Geer and Mindy Atwood.

Mindy Atwood shared the New Hampshire RSA that governs public libraries in New Hampshire. It states the library is a valuable supplement to the formal system of free public education and deserves adequate financial support. As

director of the library, she tried to identify where the library can assist when the school is not available. For example, after school, school vacations, summer. In order to maximize the programming and offer programming that is meaningful, she tried to get to know people within the school district to understand what the school district was doing in order to support and supplement.

Terra Geer added from a special education lens, they are always looking to educate children with disabilities to the greatest extent possible in the least restrictive environment. Least restrictive environment is with typical peers as often as it can happen. They continued to have conversations about how to intersect the two programs.

Russell Holden stated Mindy Atwood did work for the town to raise over a million dollars to build a brand-new library in 2015. Having Mindy reach out to the schools allowed them to build a partnership to work together. In previous presentations to the State Librarian Association and the Superintendents Association, Superintendent Holden encourages partnerships. It is sometimes hard to say yes to opportunities as educators because it involves giving up control and ensuring it's done well.

Mindy Atwood shared from April 2020 to August 2020, Sunapee school buses made more than 600 deliveries of more than 3,000 public library items to homes during the stay-at-home order due to COVID. The partnership began in 2017.

Russell Holden shared in 2015/2016, he attended an after-school program at the library and realized the similarities and differences compared to in school programs. They were doing a program with birds of prey. This is something that cannot happen within a school building.

Terra Geer shared Child Find is the special education obligation to go out to community resources and ask if they have students who might have disabilities. They are responsible to find those students, evaluate them, and determine whether or not they require specialized instruction. The library intersection started conversations.

Mindy Atwood discussed a summer reading program through the district where students are required to read a certain number of books and take an online test. The library was asked to make the tests available at the library. It began as a hybrid of being offered through the school and at the library. The library now runs that program for students.

Terra Geer shared a difficulty in finding staff. They had been sending some students to the rec program as part of their extended year programming. She reached out to the rec center and the library to discuss how all of them could do it together. Camp provided a fun place with typical peers where students with

disabilities could participate. The school provided summer slide prevention opportunities. The library provided enrichment activities. Themes that would overarch all three programs creating connection. All related services were provided at the rec alongside peers.

Mindy Atwood stated a survey was put out to all parents after camp. Feedback from parents of campers who were not part of ESY thanking them for working with students. All three entities are bringing their areas of strength. Camp staff are trained particularly in working with students with special needs. There was also discussion about accessibility to resources. They brought adaptive scissors to the library to allow participation from all students.

Russel Holden stated in addition to the benefit to the community, all participants benefited as well. The library has seen an increase in participation. The rec department gained structure. The schools saw an increase in students attending summer school due to the improvement of engaging programs.

Phil Nazzaro commented on the potential of an ecosystem of support for children and families. He recognized systemic barriers that get in the way of collaboration. He would love to be able to share the ways Sunapee overcame those barriers to not just education, but also the New Hampshire Municipal Association.

Chair Cline stated in going through the administrative rules, there have been rules in place for a long time that specifically say part of the job is to reach out and harness resources in the community. Yet, it is not something that is done in practice. It is something to continue to work on.

AGENDA ITEM V. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS/UPDATES

A. Annual Home Education Advisory Council (HEAC) Report

Michael Koski, Chair of Home Education Advisory Council (HEAC) provided a written report. The Home Education Advisory Council exists to be a liaison between the home education community, public schools, NH Board of Education and to help improve communication. This year they advised on rule changes and were involved in the rulemaking process. They continue to see mild growth. They assist organizations as they have questions. They have had members from the School Administrator Association and the School Principal Association sit on the council.

HEAC had an opportunity to comment on House Bill 1663. They reviewed the draft and commented on it as some of the changes affected the home education community. They were also involved with the Office of Adult Education as they had changes around the HiSet and GED alternatives. They were able to change some language. There were additional restrictions for home education

students in accessing HiSET or GED exams. They were able to help make it equitable for everybody.

HEAC continued to work on best practices. They received information on the Right to Know law. They changed their emails so personal information wouldn't be exposed to any Right to Know requests. They are continuing to improve the way the group functions.

HEAC had a lot of involved discussion about Educational Freedom Accounts and Home Education and how they are distinct laws with distinct pathways. There was confusion among participants in the two groups and there was a lot of crossovers. They worked to create distinguished pathways and get it communicated to participants, so they know which laws they are to follow, and which rules they are working under as they educate their children.

AGENDA ITEM VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

The public hearings opened at 11:02 am and closed at 11:32 am with no public comment.

- A. Procedures and Standards for Suspension and Expulsion of Students
- B. Approvals for Nonpublic Schools

AGENDA ITEM VII. HEARINGS

- A. Summary of Withdrawn Cases – Informational Only (no action needed)

A written summary was provided to the Board.

- B. Student/Winnacunnet School Board – SB-FY-23-10-005 – Manifest Educational Hardship (nonpublic session)

Motion: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro, that the State Board of Education enter nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3, II(c) at 11:40 AM.

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

Motion: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Kate Cassady for the State Board of Education to accept the hearing officer's findings and recommendation.

- Vote:** The motion failed by a 2 to 3 vote by the State Board with Kate Cassady and Drew Cline in favor and Jim Fricchione, Phil Nazzaro and Richard Sala opposed.
- Motion:** Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro, for the State Board of Education to accept the hearing officer's findings but not the recommendation and find that there is manifest educational hardship and that the student be granted the opportunity to be reassigned.
- Vote:** The motion passed by a 3 to 2 vote by the State Board with Jim Fricchione, Phil Nazzaro and Richard Sala in favor and Kate Cassady and Drew Cline opposed.
- Motion:** Phil Nazzaro made the motion, seconded by Richard Sala, that the State Board of Education return to public session at 12:14 PM.
- Vote:** The motion was approved by roll call vote by State Board of Education members Kate Cassady, Jim Fricchione, Phil Nazzaro, Drew Cline (chair), and Richard Sala.
- Motion:** Phil Nazzaro made the motion, seconded by Richard Sala, 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 Kate Cassady, Jim Fricchione, Phil Nazzaro, Drew Cline (chair), and Richard Sala.

AGENDA ITEM VIII. COUNCIL FOR TEACHER EDUCATION (CTE)

A. New England College (NEC) – new proposal

Laura Stoneking, NHED, Administrator, Bureau of Educator Support and Higher Education, introduced Dr. Pat Corbett, Vice President of Academic Affairs, and Cynthia Martin, Associate Dean of Instructional Effectiveness for New England College (NEC).

NEC went through their full program review and were still working on their program assessment and candidate assessment. They met those requirements. They are now looking to expand some of their programs. Dr. Corbett and Dr. Kris Thibault were acknowledged for aiding in an organized, articulate review.

Laura Stoneking stated the content reviewer extended gratitude about the thoroughness, level of detail, and accessibility. She highlighted specifics regarding the proposal for new programs for visual arts at the Bachelor of Art, master of ed, and licensure only pathways. She wanted to note that the types of evaluation tools and the variety to demonstrate the competencies was prevalent. There is a strength within the program of interdisciplinary planning. They bring a strong connection with the Institute of Art and Design.

The recommendation from CTE was unanimous to add in visual arts educator preparation programs at the BA, MEd, and licensure pathway.

Dr. Pat Corbett serves as the vice president and is also a former council member and teacher educator. She came to represent NEC faculty. They currently have a BFA. They are bringing in Art Village to the Henniker campus to complement the existing art programs. They have a vibrant art program and a fabulous education program. They want to put the two together. It is a good opportunity for artists. They have the art core and added the art standards through the existing art classes. The existing assessment system is there. The art faculty added that assessment system to their courses. The curriculum has been laid out. Some education faculty was moved in with art faculty to allow collaboration.

Motion: Phil Nazzaro made the motion, seconded by Jim Fricchione, that the State Board of Education grants New England College full approval for the new visual arts teacher K-12 PEPP for up to three years beginning enrollment in September of 2023 through August 30, 2026.

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

B. Plymouth State University (PSU) – substantive change

Laura Stoneking introduced Brian Walker, Director of Educator Preparation Programs at Plymouth State University (PSU). He was also the CTE chair for two years. He has been hands on in evaluating their programs and brought their programs back into focus. He has dealt with realignment of the programs. He had two substantive changes. One does not require action but was included for informational purposes. They are moving a Bachelor of Science Visual Arts to a Bachelor of Fine Arts. It did not require any additional assessment or changes to the program. The other substantive change is to add a licensure only pathway to allow PSU grads to access the program.

Brian Walker stated the school counseling program is an MEd program. It requires at least two years to complete. They have a policy, if someone already has a MEd, they do not award an additional MEd. They had a rare occasion of a student who has the master's degree already and wants to become a school

librarian. The substantive change will allow them to complete the program and approve them as a licensure only pathway rather than a second MEd. There are no other changes to the program. It is a Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) approved program, which is the highest standard for school counseling. It would be a very rare occasion.

Phil Nazzaro asked if it is required, that they have an MEd to enter the licensure only path or any master's degree. Brian Walker responded it would have to be a Master of Education because that is the Department of Education requirement. Phil Nazzaro asked if licensure only affects financial aid. Brian Walker responded it would not impact it because they are taking the same set of courses.

Motion: Phil Nazzaro made the motion, seconded by Richard Sala, that the State Board of Education approve Plymouth State University's addition of the licensure only pathway for the school counselor PEPP through

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

C. Granite State College (GSC) – substantive change

Laura Stoneking stated Granite State College (GSC) prior to July 1 submitted substantive change regarding two elements. One of which, guidance is needed. The other did not change the programming. It was a change of Bachelor of Arts to Bachelor of Science. Caroline Cormier, Academic Center Director and Kate Shumway-Pitt, Director for the Center of Educator Preparation programs were in attendance.

Laura Stoneking stated they are looking for guidance because the current structure and system has not lent itself to having separate ed prep programs within the same institution. As of July 1, GSC no longer exists. It has been merged with the University of New Hampshire (UNH). She has been referring to them as UNH Durham and UNH Manchester. Granite State College had a very robust, rigorous educator preparation program. Several of its programs received a rating of 4 on its reviews, which is exceeding standards. Over 300 candidates are currently admitted into their educator preparation programs. They service a different population than other institutions.

Tamara Von George, Associate Dean of the College of Professional Studies and Mike Decelle, Dean of the College of Professional Studies and UNH Manchester were also in attendance. Mike Decelle stated he has spent the last two years as the Dean of Granite State College as they went through the merger implementation process. The merger of GSC and UNH was announced by the system board of trustees in August of 2021. The merger closed on July 1, 2023.

At that point, what was UNH Manchester and what was GSC became the UNH College of Professional Studies. They chose to integrate all of GSC into UNH Manchester. The education program was reviewed comprehensively in a collaborative fashion. The work of the group concluded that GSC's programs serve unique student markets with unique pedagogical modalities. The programs are designed in a unique and distinct way. For that reason, it was concluded that the programs should continue as they were in a relatively independent way. They made an intentional decision to keep the online programs in GSC's federal codes. They report the student statistics and other important data to the government as an independent institution.

Chair Cline stated it seems like the program is very strong and he would hate to disrupt it by saying it has to be folded into another program. Even though it is under the UNH umbrella, it serves a distinct community and requires a different process.

Phil Nazzaro asked if there are ed rule impediments to keeping them separate. Laura Stoneking responded there is not. Elements of Education Information System (EIS) need to be figured out with the Bureau of Credentialing and how the transcripts will be reviewed. The NHED would like to support the College of Professional Studies as a separate entity given the quality of review and the outcome of the review, its targeted population, and the effectiveness of its system. Historically, there have been several institutions that have had separate operating systems and that has led to disfunction. She does not see that as applicable in this case because of the structure, the size, and the courses they offer.

D. University of New Hampshire (UNH) – review timeline plan

Laura Stoneking introduced Dan Carchidi, Education Certification and Accreditation Program Officer at UNH Durham and Dr. Susan Graham, Chair of the Ed Department of UNH Durham.

Last month, the Board asked UNH to come back with a timeline as to how to proceed with the agreement that a full program would occur on five programs: two pathways for Bachelor of Arts through equity, diversity, and inclusion and the Bachelor of Arts through the dual educational studies.

Chair Cline stated the timeline was received. The timeline shows a review in 2025, which he felt was farther out than anticipated. Laura Stoneking expressed the same concern also due to their full program review of 29 licensure areas in 2026. It takes 12-18 months after an application is received to have a review ready.

Susan Graham stated part of their thinking was they wanted to ensure they have enough time to put together an adequate application. After the last meeting,

they acknowledge the opportunity to be able to reconsider how they want to think about the programs. They are open to alternatives. Dan Carchidi added they want the opportunity to speak to students and gather feedback that could inform changes and improvements.

Jim Fricchione asked if 2024 would be an option for the review. Susan Graham stated a review in April of 2024 may not give them enough time to complete the process. Laura Stoneking stated if the programs are already in operation and the system of candidate and program assessment are also in operation, there should not be much more needing to be pulled together. Susan Graham responded the dual major program with licensure is new. There will not be many students in the program.

Laura Stoneking responded she can have a team assembled for fall of 2024. The application would need to be submitted as soon as possible. The institution will not be required to have the evidence at the time of the application submission. Susan Graham suggested moving their application submission to December of 2023. The tentative review date would be September 2024. Laura Stoneking stated documentation from the institution would be due two months prior.

Chair Cline requested the updated timeline be given to Laura Stoneking. Laura Stoneking will send the timeline to Chair Cline and Richard Sala to determine if further presentation from UNH is necessary.

E. Antioch University New England (AUNE) – official notification all PEPPs “closed”

Laura Stoneking stated Antioch University New England has effectively closed all of their educator preparation programs. Any candidate that was in the program had a teach out plan in place. They have received the final recommendations of program completion.

AGENDA ITEM IX. BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

A. Office of Charter Schools

1. Academy of Science and Design – renewal

Jenn Cava, Director; Ken Johnson, Board Member; Melissa Merhalski, Assistant Director; and Kim Harmen, Operations Manager were all in attendance.

Jenn Cava shared the Academy of Science and Design are part of the solution for the need for an increase in the STEM workforce as well as improve math and science education. This is the third charter renewal of the program. During the pandemic, ASD launched a program called ASD Connect Ed. They

were instantly live with their students. They had academic live instruction via Zoom, but kids were brought in on a volunteer basis to do social activities. The approach also helped students who were in financial hardship. They realized the importance of focusing on student wellbeing. They put resources into the creation of counseling programs.

In the fall, they are opening a building that is double the size. They are actively moving. They are fully staffed for the fall. They have identified deficiencies left over from the pandemic and have put things in place to address that. They are looking to expand and connect with Nashua. They are looking at ways to utilize industry partners in curriculum development in ways that are real and meaningful. They are looking at the professional growth of their teachers as well as being part of the solution to the issues of recruitment of teachers into STEM. They are looking into how AI will be integrated into the education landscape and want to be part of those discussions.

Chair Cline shared his hope that the long-term vision of ASD includes sharing best practices that may lead to similar schools across the state. He asked that they share feedback with the Board that could lead to improvement of rules. Jenn Cava stated the Office of Charter Schools is a significant asset to charter schools.

Kate Cassady asked what is considered local revenue in the budget. Jenn Cava responded it would cover donations, corporate matches, fundraising. They do not do a lot of fundraising outside of asking for donations. They also take advantage of corporate matching. Kate Cassady shared concern about the combination of donations and fundraising on one line item.

Jim Fricchione asked if they are actively speaking to other charter schools and giving the benefit of what they have learned. Jenn Cava responded it is ongoing but could be increased. She sits on the New Hampshire Public Charter School Alliance executive board. From a state level, she is available and has had charter schools meet with them. They expanded their scope through the National Consortium of Secondary STEM Schools. Jenn Cava sits on their executive board. They have sent faculty and staff members to several conferences around the country to speak about best practices. They have started to build a network with schools around the country.

Jim Fricchione commented on the fact that they are fully staffed and asked what they attribute that to. Melissa Merhalski responded from a recruitment perspective they had been using a traditional method in the past. The changing competitive nature of teacher recruitment caused them to get creative. They use families and expand that reach to include applicant families. They expanded onto Indeed. They have people joining them that come from the college level. They try to have an environment of teaches being learners, experimenters, and innovators. They try to support them to pilot things in classrooms. The community creates a

higher retention as well. They encourage them to test new things out. They also attract a lot of kids who are excited to learn.

Kate Cassady asked about the wait list. Melissa Merhalski responded they have 240 students on the wait list. Kate Cassady shared ASD is the number 1 high school in New Hampshire, 112 national ranking, US Department of Education blue ribbons school, and 94% graduation rate, which exceeds the state average.

Motion: Phil Nazzaro made the motion, seconded by Jim Fricchione, that the State Board of Education approve the five-year charter renewal for the Academy of Science and Design.

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

2. Windham Academy – renewal and amendment

Matt Castonguay, Superintendent Director introduced Chris Baker, Founder and Board Chair; Sara Amacio, Assistant Director; Sarah Jenson, Board of Trustees Vice Chair; Brandi Shydo, Board of Trustees; and Rosemary Coughlan, Special Education Case Manager.

Chris Baker stated they started their first school year with 89 students in a parking lot with two modular classrooms. Since that time, they have moved to the bottom floor of an adjacent building with 12,000 square feet. They then moved and occupied the second floor with an additional 12,000 square feet where they have completely remodeled the facility. They have been approved for an expansion that is at the foundation phase, which will add an additional 12,000 square feet. They have a commercial sized playground, exterior outdoor learning places, and long-term plans for expansion. The next school year will start with 396 students.

Matt Castonguay stated he and Sara Amacio are wrapping up their first year as administrators at Windham Academy. They continue to focus and expand upon stream based, innovation, child-center, and data-driven education. Testing scores increased dramatically in 2022. Preliminary for 2023, the scores have increased again. They have been able to bring in core curriculum in all grade levels. They have spiraling curriculum for literacy, math, STEM, and social studies. Teachers played an integral part of the decision making that goes into choosing and developing curriculum.

They are building upon their middle school. They are excited to be able to house multiple 6th, 7th and 8th grade classrooms. Parental and board of trustees provide a collaborative effort. They continue to see score increase in iReady testing for literacy and math. All grade levels had over 100% growth in both literacy and math.

They continue to increase special education staff to ensure they are meeting the needs of all learners. They are looking at improving and increasing enrichment opportunities for students. They piloted an RTI program last year. They brought in a lot of professional development for teachers. They project 500 students next year as they grow each year.

The budget has allowed improvements and investments in the school each year. They have a strong after school program. They are looking to bring in middle school sports. They consistently look to expand and improve. They have an involved PTO with over 100 members. Matt Castonguay meets with the PTO board weekly during the school year.

They have been successful in fundraising. They started an annual gala that raised \$35,000 last year. They have an annual golf tournament that brings in an average of \$20,000. They have an anonymous donor match program. They were awarded the charter school expansion grant for \$500,000.

They have a waiting list of almost 400 students for next year. There are over 20 communities represented in the student population. Some families drive an hour to get to school.

Kate Cassady stated the Windham Academy is in attendance for their first five-year review. They exceed state averages in math and science. They did a great job with fundraising.

Motion: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro, that the State Board of Education approve the renewal of Windham Academy Public School Charter.

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

Motion: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro, that the State Board of Education approve the amendments to the Windham Academy Chartered Public School charter document.

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

B. Office of Nonpublic Schools

1. Commissioner's Nonpublic School Approval Designation: renewals report

Tim Carney, NHED, Administrator of Educational Pathways shared a report of schools requiring renewal for the last term.

Motion: Phil Nazzaro made the motion, seconded by Richard Sala, that the State Board of Education accept and approve the following schools for continued attendance approval status for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026: Cardinal Lacroix Academy and Lupine Montessori.

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

Motion: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro, that the State Board of Education approve the following schools as a slate for continued attendance and program approval status for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026.

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

C. Office of Learn Everywhere Programs

1. World Academy – new application

Tim Carney shared the World Academy Learn Everywhere initial application. The World Academy is proposing Learn Everywhere programs in algebra and geometry.

Tara Osinski, Co-Principal and head of the math department shared they are applying for the ability to issue credits for their geometry and algebra I program.

Chair Cline asked about the students participating in the programs. Tara Osinski responded they are an NEASC accredited independent school in Nashua, NH. Students are typically in 7th and 8th grade with the occasional 6th grader. The program allows middle school students to take high school level courses and receive high school credit. The students are already taking the courses and they want to be able to award them credits.

Motion: Phil Nazzaro made the motion, seconded by Richard Sala, that the State Board of Education approve the World Academy Learn Everywhere initial application.

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

AGENDA ITEM X. RULEMAKING/LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

A. Conditional Approval – RCTEA Interim Rules (Ed 1301.01 & Ed 1304.02)

Julie Shea, NHED, Administrative Rules Coordinator stated the conditional approval is for the regional CTE agreement rules. The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) asked for clarification regarding when someone would ask for a waiver. The language was added. The interim rule will be good for 180 days and then the regular rule is in process.

Motion: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro, that the State Board of Education approve the conditional approval response Ed 1301.01 & Ed 1304.02 regarding regional CTE agreements.

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

B. Final Proposal – PEPP Definitions and Procedures for Approval (Ed 601-602)

Chair Cline invited open discussion on agenda items B-G. Julie Shea shared they removed several redundancies. Based on feedback from the Board, clarity was added giving the Board the authority to rescind approvals, move an approval to conditional, or for a teach out. Definitions were clarified.

C. Final Proposal – PEPP Review Fees (Ed 602.05)

D. Final Proposal – PEPP Curriculum and Content Standards (Ed 603-606)

E. Final Proposal – IHE Responsibilities and Content & Specialty Requirements (Ed 607-608)

F. Final Proposal – Special Education 21 Inclusive (Ed 1100)

G. Final Proposal – Home Education (Ed 315)

Phil Nazzaro asked for confirmation that the update was based upon statute changes. There was nothing substantive. Julie Shea responded the one change from the initial to the final is a change in wording to clarify that the parents are the ones requesting the notification.

Motion: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro, that the State Board of Education approve the final proposal

for Ed 601-602, Ed 602.05, Ed 603-606, Ed 607-608, Ed 1100, and Ed 315.

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

H. Adopt – Reading and Writing Teacher (Ed 507.52)

Motion: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Kate Cassady, that the State Board of Education adopt Ed 507.52 Reading and Writing Teacher.

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

I. Adopt Interim Rules – Regional Career and Technical Education Center Agreements (Ed 1304.02)

This item was moved to the August 10, 2023 meeting agenda.

AGENDA ITEM XI. COMMISSIONER’S UPDATE

A. Commissioner’s Consultation with the State Board of Education per RSA 21-N:3, II

Frank Edelblut stated one of the division directors is up for reappointment. He consulted with the Board pursuant to statute to get feedback as to whether or not he should recommend Caitlin Davis for reappointment to the Division of Educator and Analytic Resources.

Kate Cassady shared her approval of Caitlin Davis and the work she has been doing. Other members agreed.

Frank Edelblut shared a press release. NWEA, an assessment company, released a report. There are two ways of looking at the COVID recovery process. One is an L recovery, which is not wanted, and a U recovery. An L recovery shows a decline in growth during COVID, and they continue to grow, but at the same rate of growth. This would not close the gap of the pre-COVID trajectory. The report released stated at a national level they are seeing an L recovery. A U recovery would mean students declined during COVID but are showing an accelerated recovery post-COVID.

New Hampshire released their preliminary results for Spring 2023 assessment. They are seeing some encouraging things in terms of student growth. The data shows the median growth curve is 52 for 4th grade math. 50 is on par with 2019. Anything above 50 shows faster growth and anything below 50

shows slower growth. It is encouraging data. This is better than the national average. The largest federal funding for recovery expires in 2024.

Safer Community grants are available and provide more safety money for schools. It is a \$4.8 million federal program. They are working with homeland security to ensure they are making smart decisions in terms of safety investing. Safety and security investing should be continuous rather than episodic.

Rekindling Curiosity is providing scholarships for students to go to summer camp. They have a partnership with the community behavioral health associations to provide onsite mental health counseling and support for students as well as training for all the camp counselors in New Hampshire. Feedback has been positive.

There will be a social media push leading into the fall about the importance of literacy.

The legislature approved the purchase of the Granite State College building. Depending on the Department of Administrative Services, the state should become the owner in October.

AGENDA ITEM XII. OPEN BOARD DISCUSSIONS

There was no open board discussion.

AGENDA ITEM XIII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Meeting Minutes of June 8, 2023

Motion: Phil Nazzaro made the motion, seconded by Kate Cassidy, that the State Board of Education approve the June 8, 2023 meeting minutes as amended.

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

B. Tuition Agreement – Andover and Merrimack Valley School Districts

C. Tuition Agreement – Fall Mountain Regional and Lempster School Districts

Motion: Phil Nazzaro made the motion, seconded by Richard Sala, that the State Board of Education approve the tuition agreements between Andover and Merrimack Valley School Districts and between Lempster and Fall Mountain Regional School Districts.

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

AGENDA ITEM XIV. TABLED ITEMS

A. Initial Proposal – Minimum Standards (Ed 306)

B. Student/Winnacunnet School Board – SB-FY-23-10-005 – Manifest Educational Hardship (nonpublic session)

Motion: Richard Sala made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro, 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 XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Kate Cassady made the motion, seconded by Phil Nazzaro, that the State Board of Education adjourn at 2:08 p.m.

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



Secretary