

New Hampshire
State Board of Education
Minutes of the April 18, 2016 Meeting
At Souhegan High School, Amherst

AGENDA ITEM I. CALL TO ORDER

Peter Warburton, Superintendent of Schools for SAU #39 Amherst, welcomed Board members to Souhegan High School. Superintendent Warburton introduced Kathy White, Dean of Faculty, Rob Scully, Principal, Christine Landwehrle, Director of Curriculum and Jeanne Sturgis, Literacy co-chair. Staff spoke briefly before Board members visited different classrooms in topical areas in science.

The regular meeting of the State Board of Education was convened at 10:00 a.m. at Souhegan High School in Amherst. Tom Raffio presided as Chairman.

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

AGENDA ITEM II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Cindy Chagnon led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment at this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM IV. OPEN BOARD DISCUSSION

A. Update on Science Standards – Gary Groleau presented on the Next Generation Science Standards in Doug Earick’s absence. They would like to have five meetings across the state starting in June. Students are still engaged in very interesting science and engineering projects.

B. Review by Board of Letter to Windham Academy Charter School - Board members reviewed a statutory letter that needs to go out to Windham Academy Charter School.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Gary Groleau, to amend the letter with a preamble about the split vote.

VOTE: This was done by a roll call vote: Gary Groleau – Yes; Gregory Odell – No; Cindy Chagnon – Yes; Tom Raffio – Yes; Bill Duncan – No; Helen Honorow – No.

MOTION: Bill Duncan made the motion, seconded by Gregory Odell, to approve Emma Rous's edits to the letter.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

Erin McIntyre will revise the letter incorporating Emma's edits.

AGENDA ITEM V. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. United States Senate Youth Program – Lori Kincaid, Public Information Officer, reported on the United States Senate Youth Program. This is a national initiative to provide a yearly opportunity for talented young people with demonstrated interest in public service to deepen their interest and understanding of America's political processes and encourage their commitment to political leadership. The 2016 delegates are Diab Eid, Nashua High School South who was unable to be present; and Jacob Marcus, Merrimack High School. Jacob spoke of his experiences in Washington highlighting a very interesting and busy week, from meeting President Obama, Supreme Court Justice Ginsberg and New Hampshire's congressional delegation to the fact that recipients learning that their scholarships were increased from \$5K to \$10K which will assist with college tuition.

B. Teacher of the Year – Lori Kincaid said that the Commissioner of the Department of Education selects one exceptionally skilled and dedicated teacher to serve as a leader and ambassador for all the excellent teachers in our State. The Teacher of the Year Program does not attempt to single out any individual as the best teacher in New Hampshire, but rather to honor one teacher who represents all the excellent teachers in our State. Ms. Kincaid explained that the 2017 Teacher of the Year nominations had been narrowed to eight semi-finalists; after school visits this will be further narrowed to five finalists who will all complete a more extensive application process. The 2016 New Hampshire

Teacher of the Year is Ashley Preston, a preschool teacher at Parker Varney Elementary School in Manchester. Ashley thanked the Department for the honor and was pleased that early intervention is being recognized as a crucial element of education. Lori introduced Elizabeth Louder, a 7-8 grade English teacher at Winchester School who is a 2016 finalist. She spoke briefly about her school and thanked the Department for being chosen as a finalist. The finalists not in attendance are: Laura LaVallee, Portsmouth High School, English; Elizabeth Louder, Winchester School, 7-8/English; Christopher Schoff, Portsmouth High School, Math; and Jennifer Thompson, Unity Elementary School, 6-8/Language Arts & Social Studies.

C. Approval of Professional Educator Preparation Programs – Plymouth State University Newly Proposed Program for Specific Learning Disabilities (Ed 612.11) – Nicole Heimarck, Megan Birch, Director of Education Preparation, Ann Barry, Faculty Member, and Mary Ford, Co-Chair of the site visit and former Dean of Granite State College, were present. Nicole Heimarck reported on this item. Plymouth State University's institutional approval expires August 31, 2018. At present, PSU, the Department, and CAEP are developing a parallel institutional review process for the winter of 2017. Plymouth State University requested a visit to review a newly proposed Program for Specific Learning Disabilities and a site visit was conducted on October 13, 2015. Board members had concerns such as why there are no out of state reviewers, who collects the artifacts that go into the review and is the trend toward individualized needs for each child. Nicole said that they have been making contact with New England states (MA and CT) to begin these conversations for reviewers who can assist with the states. After reviewing the final report at the February 2016 Council for Teacher Education meeting, the Council made this recommendation.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Gregory Odell, that the State Board of Education grant Plymouth State University full approval for their newly proposed Program for Specific Learning Disabilities Ed 612.11 professional educator preparation program through August 31, 2108, the date of expiration for the full institution. At this time, the Specific Learning Disabilities program in addition to all other PEPP programs will be reviewed for approval.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

D. Student/Landaff School Board – SB-FY-16-12-006 – Hearing Officer’s Report and Recommendation on Motion to Dismiss – This item was tabled until the May 26, 2016 meeting.

MOTION: Gary Groleau made the motion, seconded by Cindy Chagnon, to table this item until the May Board meeting.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

AGENDA ITEM VI. LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

A. Various Items and Related Bills

B. Discussion on Legislation and Process – Diana Fenton provided an update of current legislation and the status of some pending bills.

AGENDA ITEM VII. COMMISSIONER’S REPORT AND NEW DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Commissioner Barry reported on the following items:

- Hired STEM Director – David DeBenedictis, currently a CTE teacher at Pinkerton – will start work in July. He will be attending events in the meantime in preparation for this position.
- Accountability Task Force held second meeting on April 15. We are looking at theory of action and accountability and looking for flexibility at local level and multiple measures. The Task Force will meet monthly.
- Higher Education network meeting at SNHU will be held on May 25th from 9:00-1:00 pm. Will address what changes are coming about as part of the educator preparation programs.
- CBE Research for Action – research study re: ELO participation substantially impacts student grades, college attendance and retention in college. May bring their report forward to present to the Board.
- Matt Southerton is working with the Department on a new charter school grant.
- AERA Conference – New Hampshire was well represented on national level regarding its competency-based work.

AGENDA ITEM VIII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business at this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM IX. CONSENT AGENDA**A. Minutes of March 24, 2016**

MOTION: Tom Raffio made the motion, seconded by Helen Honorow, to table the Minutes of March 24, 2016 until the May meeting.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

B. Approval of Charter School Amendment Student Enrollment Increase – Microsociety Academy Charter School – A vote is needed by the Board to approve an increase in student enrollment numbers, from 140 to 150, for the 2016-17 school year. In addition, to approve an increase in student enrollment through the 2018-19 school year.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Bill Duncan, that the State Board of Education authorizes the MicroSociety Academy Charter School to increase student enrollment through the 2018-2019 school year.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

C. Certificate of Formation for Wakefield School District Effective July 1, 2017 – SAU #101 – A vote is needed by the Board to approve issuing a Certificate of Formation to the Wakefield School District and assign SAU #101 as the School Administrative Unit number. The withdrawal from SAU #64 was approved by the State Board of Education on October 19, 2015. The Wakefield School District will become a single SAU upon issuance of a Certificate of Formation effective July 1, 2017.

MOTION: Gary Groleau made the motion, seconded by Cindy Chagnon, that the State Board of Education acknowledge that the voters in Wakefield, present and voting, having voted to withdraw from SAU #64, by the necessary 3/5 majority required by law have lawfully withdrawn from SAU #64 and that the State Board issue its Certificate of Formation for the new single district School Administrative Unit with the SAU #101 as the School Administrative Unit number effective July 1, 2017.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

D. Cornish School District – Certificate of Formation – This item was tabled.

MOTION: Gregory Odell made the motion, seconded by Cindy Chagnon, to table this item until the May meeting.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

AGENDA ITEM X. NONPUBLIC SESSION

The Board did not go into Nonpublic Session at this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Tom Raffio, to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 p.m.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

Virginia M. Barry

Secretary