AGENDA ITEM I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the State Board of Education was convened at 9:20 a.m. at the Department of Education. Tom Raffio presided as Chairman.

Members present: Tom Raffio, Cindy C. Chagnon, Bill Duncan, Helen G. Honorow, Gregory Odell, and Emma Rous. Gary Groleau was unable to attend. 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

Bonnie Dunham, parent and Parent Information Center staff, said she appreciated the fact that the Department, especially special education, involved all stakeholders in the special education rules, public hearings, and other issues. She expressed concerns about school nursing services and home nursing services. Commissioner Barry said that five years ago the nurse consultant was removed from the Department. Commissioner Barry said a nurse consultant has been hired to support school nurses. There are several drug education bills coming before the Legislature.

AGENDA ITEM IV. OPEN BOARD DISCUSSION

A. Update on Charter Dashboard – This item was tabled until the January 7th Board meeting.

Update on Science Standards – Doug Earick, Administrator for Science Education, presented results of a survey he conducted with New Hampshire science teachers over the past month. Results of the survey of 230 certified science teachers indicate that approximately 95% support the adoption of Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) as our state's science standards. Additionally, results of the survey indicate that a little more than 70% of teachers and their schools are already started to align their science curriculum to the NGSS; although most indicate that this is in the preliminary stages. Overall, the survey indicates a wide use of the Next Generation Science...
Standards in the schools in the state and likely will impact in a significant way the revision of the New Hampshire Science Standards in the coming months. Chairman Raffio said that the science standards development has to go through the process to have input from all stakeholders and to bring all groups together. Bill Duncan said there are several schools that are using Next Generation Science Standards and they should be involved in the process.

B. Cindy Chagnon said that she had attended a curriculum meeting in Bedford and the new SAT tests that juniors are taking were discussed.

C. Gregory Odell said that last Thursday there was a local taxpayers meeting in Lancaster and people were discussing funding.

D. Chairman Raffio said that the Business and Education Coalition would be meeting this week and discussing the PACE project and the move to SAT for 11th grade testing, along with other items.

E. Chairman Raffio said the Breakfast of Champions that the NH Scholars put on was a great success.

AGENDA ITEM V. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Legislation and Staffing Discussion – Rep. Rick Ladd, Chairman of the House Education Committee, met with the Board. Rep. Mel Myler and Rep. Christopher Adams, were also present. Rep. Ladd said he had attended the Achieve Conference recently and they were very interested in what is going on in the State of New Hampshire. Rep. Ladd expressed concern regarding the Smarter Balanced Assessment and the low math scores. He realizes that the Department needs additional personnel such as the Charter School Consultant and the Reading Specialist and filling the Math Consultant position to support the field. He chaired the Higher Education Committee where the higher education institutions reported on their systems. There should be strong emphasize on curriculum and support for Department staff is needed. Also, professional development is needed for teachers. Rep. Ladd said he thought that Rep. Neal Kurk from the Finance Committee could help in getting funding for these positions. Board members thanked Rep. Ladd for attending the meeting.

Commissioner Barry said she appreciated Rep. Ladd’s support. The Department has hired a math person and Doug Earick for Science.
B. Update on Assessment – Scott Mantie reported that the public schools have received information on Smarter Balanced Assessment. The PACE results have been announced. The PACE system, a pilot currently being implemented in New Hampshire, is designed to foster deeper learning on the part of students than is capable under current systems. Mr. Mantie said that feedback that is coming in is very useful and New Hampshire has done fairly well. Commissioner Barry said that this is the first time that the tests have been administered and it is a new way of thinking. Mr. Leather said that the Aspen Institute has prepared a list of many other assessments and he might be able to get a copy for Board members.

C. An Update from the IHE Network – Audrey Rogers and Tom Schram met with the Board. Ms. Rogers spoke about the New Hampshire Teacher Candidate Assessment of Performance (NHTCAP), a complex, subject-specific, competency-based, multiple measures performance assessment designed to assess and provide formative learning experiences for beginning teachers. Mr. Schram said that a research team of IHE Network Educator Preparation Institutions secured a two-year $50,000 Spencer Foundation grant to research the TCAP in May 2015, a study that includes following a sample of their recent graduates into their first year teaching during this current academic year. The Network for Educator Preparation and Professional Development fosters collaborative engagement between and among IHEs and public schools in New Hampshire to promote generative and sustained professional learning opportunities. We seek to promote innovative programs and policies that interconnect initial teacher preparation, new teacher induction, and on-going professional development. Our goal is to create a supportive and lifelong learning framework for teachers and other school professionals. There have been joint meetings between the Council for Teacher Education and Professional Standards Board. Mr. Schram said he had attended and spoke at the Higher Education Oversight Committee and that New Hampshire is far beyond any other state.

D. Approval of Enrollment Increase – Virtual Learning Academy Charter School – Steve Kossakoski, CEO, met with Board members to discuss the request for their charter to be amended to increase the enrollment for full-time students in grades 6-12 through the 2017-2018 fiscal year. The full-time middle school program is less than a year old and the enrollment rate continues to climb as the program becomes known to more students and parents. Mr. Kossakoski distributed enrollment figures for VLACS.
MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Bill Duncan, that the State Board of Education authorizes the Virtual Learning Academy Charter School to increase full-time student enrollment in grades 6-12 through the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

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

E. Approval of Charter School Name Change – Cocheco Arts & Technology Academy Charter School – James Friel, Director, met with Board members to discuss the vote that the Board of Trustees has taken to change the name of their charter school in an effort to better align the school name with the mission of their school. It was felt that the word “technology” was misleading as they do not offer a program in technology. The Board voted to change the name to Cocheco Academy of The Arts, which would allow the school to continue to go by its more familiar CATA.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Helen Honorow, that the State Board of Education authorizes Cocheco Arts & Technology Academy to change the school name to Cocheco Academy of The Arts Charter School.

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

F. Student/Merrimack Valley School Board – SB_FY-15-03-009 – The parent appealed the school board decision regarding Manifest Educational Hardship. On May 26, 2015, the parties attended mediation; as a result, a Settlement Agreement was executed and the appeal withdrawn. The Hearing Officer recommends that this case be closed.

MOTION: Bill Duncan made the motion, seconded by Cindy Chagnon, that the State Board of Education adopt the Hearing Officer’s Recommendation.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.
G. **Student/Fremont School Board – SB-FY-15-04-010** – The parent appealed the school board decision regarding McKinney-Vento and Residency. On October 13, 2015, the Hearing Officer was advised that the parties had entered into an agreement. The parties’ executed Agreement for dismissal without Prejudice was filed. The Hearing Officer recommends that this matter be dismissed, without prejudice, in accordance with the parties’ agreement and the case be closed.

**MOTION:** Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Helen Honorow, that the State Board of Education adopt the Hearing Officer’s Recommendation.

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

H. **Young Inventors Program** – Sheldon Apsell and Nicole MacMillan met with the Board and presented a power point. The mission of the Young Inventors Program is to provide the children of New Hampshire and the region with opportunities to develop critical-thinking and problem-solving skills through invention and innovation, instilling the creative spirit in students today and for the rest of their lives. Their goal is to have every child, in every school district, become an inventor for a day to ignite the spark that leads to learning. The program is flexible and easy to integrate and accessible to a broad range of teachers. There is no cost to schools. It engages challenging students with varied learning styles. In 2015, 56% of participants are girls and a high number for the STEM program.

I. **Goshen School District SAU #71 Withdrawal Study Committee Report** – Michele Munson, Superintendent of Schools for SAU #71, and Alan Howe, School Board Chairman for Goshen, met with the Board. On November 9, 2015 the Goshen School District Withdrawal Committee submitted a Plan to Withdraw from SAU #71. RSA 194-C:2 requires a planning committee that is recommending withdrawal to submit a plan for withdrawal to the State Board of Education. A vote to approve the plan sends the plan back to the district where the voters in the Goshen School District will vote on its approval. The vote for revision allows the planning committee to address any deficiencies and to resubmit the plan to the State Board of Education.

**MOTION:** Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Bill Duncan, that the State Board of Education vote to approve the Goshen School District Plan for Withdrawal from SAU #71 for submission to the voters of Goshen because it meets the statutory requirements for a withdrawal plan.
VOTE: This was done by a roll call vote: Emma Rous – Yes; Gregory Odell – No; Cindy Chagnon – Yes; Tom Raffio – Yes; Bill Duncan – Yes; Helen Honorow – Yes. The motion was adopted by a 5 – 1 vote, with the Chairman voting.

J. Update on Higher Education – The Board received an update on educator preparation from Nicole Heimarck, the new administrator for Educator Preparation for the state. Nicole reported that she has spent a large amount of her time in the field, on site with IHE’s. The purpose of this effort is an informal entry into the role, creating opportunities for relationship building and learning about one another. As a part of entry information has been collected on what is working and where there is room for growth and focused work. Much of this has translated to the Council for Teacher Education, where they have generated goals for the year focused on improving the implementation of the new 600’s. Her entry into the role has been enhanced by New Hampshire’s opportunity to be involved in CCSSO’s NTEP work-group (network for transforming educator preparation). New Hampshire has made a commitment to transforming educator preparation in context of New Hampshire’s unique characteristics of collaboration and local input. Examples of the team’s work through CCSSO includes: building robust models of clinical practice, and transforming opportunities for educators along a continuum of pre-service and in service through models of micro-credentialing and career ladders.

AGENDA ITEM VI. NEW DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

There was no New Department Business.

AGENDA ITEM VII. LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

A. Request for Public Hearing – Ed 507.15 Health Educator and Ed 612.16 Health Education Program – A vote is needed by the Board to schedule a public hearing for the Initial Proposal for Ed 507.15 Health Educator and Ed 612.16 Health Education Program. The health educator and health education program rules are being updated to reflect current standards and practices and are being readopted with amendments because they will expire on July 1, 2016.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Bill Duncan, that the State Board of Education hold a public hearing on the Initial Proposal for Ed 507.15 Health Educator and Ed 612.16 Health Education Program on February 11, 2016 at 11:30 a.m.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.
B. Discussion on Ed 505.07 Professional Education Requirements: Alternatives 3, 4, and 5 and Ed 610.02 Professional Education Requirements – Erin McIntyre reported that the deadline for this rulemaking item is April 10, 2016 when it is due back to JLCAR. It should be voted on at the March Board meeting. They are working with the Professional Standards Board and will try to find a balance with stakeholders.

C. Conditional Approval - Ed 1200 Restraint and Seclusion for Children – A vote is needed by the Board to adopt the conditional approval response for Ed 1200 to comply with the conditional approval for rule filing 2014-189 approved by the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules on November 19, 2015. The conditional approval is based on changes to the amended final proposal as discussed with the JLCAR at its November 19, 2015 public hearing. If we make the changes, the Office of Legislative Services can determine we have amended the rules in accordance with the conditional approval and issue a letter to that effect. The conditional approval include a number of editorial corrections as well as clarification as to when the Commissioner may grant time extensions for investigations in the Commissioner’s decision and recommendations in and when a person being investigated is notified of an adjudicatory proceeding. Once reviewed by the Office of Legislative Services to determine the rules have been amended in accordance with the conditional approval and RSA 541-A:13,V(a), the Board may then adopt the final rule.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Bill Duncan, that the State Board of Education adopt the changes to the Amended Final Proposal for Ed 1200 Restraint and Seclusion for Children to comply with the conditional approval for rule filing 2014-189.

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

D. Conditional Approval – Minimum Standards - Ed 306.31 Arts Education Program, Ed 306.37 English/Language Arts, Ed 306.40 Health Education Program, Ed 306.41 Physical Education Program, Ed 306.42 Information and Communication Technologies Program, Ed 306.43 Mathematics Program, Ed 306.45 Science Education Program, Ed 306.46 Social Studies Program – A vote is needed by the Board to adopt the conditional approval response for Ed 306 (various) to comply with the conditional approval for rule filing 2015-135 approved by the JLCAR on November 19, 2015. The conditional approval is based on changes to the amended final proposal as discussed with the JLCAR at its November 19, 2015 public hearing. If we make the changes, the Office of Legislative Services can determine we have amended the rules in
accordance with the conditional approval and issue a letter to that effect. Once reviewed by the Office of Legislative Services to determine the rules have been amended in accordance with the conditional approval and RSA 541-A:13, V(a), the Board may then adopt the final rule.

MOTION: Gregory Odell made the motion, seconded by Bill Duncan, that the State Board of Education adopt the changes to the Amended Final Proposal for Ed 306 (various) to comply with the final approval for rule filing 2015-135.

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

E. Initial Proposal for Re-Adoption of Ed 507.40 (Various) Special Education Categorical Administrative Rules – A vote is needed by the Board to enter the rulemaking process to adopt the initial proposal for re-adoption of Ed 507.40 Special Education Teacher in Area of Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities. Ed 612.08 Program for Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities, Ed 507.41 Special Education Teacher in Area of Deaf and Hearing Disabilities, Ed 612.09 Program for Deaf and Hearing Disabilities, Ed 507.42 Special Education Teacher in Area of Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities, Ed 612.10 Program for Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities, Ed 507.43 Special Education Teacher in Area of Specific Learning Disabilities, Ed 612.11 Program for Specific Learning Disabilities, Ed 507.44 Special Education Teacher in Area of Physical and Health Disabilities, Ed 612.12 Program for Physical and Health Disabilities, Ed 507.45 Special Education Teacher in Area of Blind and Vision Disabilities and Ed 612.13 Program for Blind and Vision Disabilities. The special education categorical rules are to be re-adopted without amendment. New Hampshire is currently engaged in a multi-state technical assistance project, “Collaboration for Effective Educator Development, Accountability and Reform” (CEEDAR) to examine educator preparation and licensure standards for educators serving students with disabilities. The rules are to be revised at a later date following the recommendations from the project. If the Board re-adopts the Initial Proposal, the Department will enter the rulemaking process by filing it with the Office of Legislative Services along with a request for a fiscal impact statement. The Board will hold a public hearing at its February meeting. This information will be published in the rulemaking register in January.

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

F. Various Items and Related Bills – Chairman Raffio said he was pleased that Rep. Ladd met with Board members and discussed legislation. Bill Duncan reported that there are about 70 bills in the works. There are no bills for standards and some for assessment.

AGENDA ITEM VIII. COMMISSIONER’S REPORT

Commissioner Barry reported on the following items:

- Judy Fillion retired and Scott Mantie is Judy’s replacement. Scott Mantie was an unanimous vote by the Governor and Council.
- The Department has hired a nurse to work with school districts.
- We are moving the Nutrition Program to the Title Integrated Programs.
- Accountability and Assessment will remain with Scott Mantie when he assumes the Director of Program Support.
- Participated in a panel titled “Next Generation Learning: Re-thinking High School and Advancing Computer Science” at the White House. Staff at the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs asked me to highlight the incredible work that New Hampshire has been doing on the school redesign with New Hampshire 2.0.
• After August 2016 teacher evaluations and principal evaluations will no longer be required to include the 20%.
• Attended and participated in the Higher Education Oversight Committee.
• Was on a phone call with Senator Shaheen’s office regarding ESSA reauthorization.
• Met with the Newport Montessori staff. They would like to re-open the school and look into possible avenues they might pursue to accept public funds.

Deputy Commissioner Leather reported that a news release went out on the Results for the Performance Assessment of Competency Education (PACE) Common Assessments. PACE is based on a rich system of local and common assessments that support deeper learning, as well as allow students to demonstrate their competency through multiple performance assessment measures in a variety of contexts.

**AGENDA ITEM IX. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no Old Business at this meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM X. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Minutes of November 18, 2015 Meeting

**MOTION:** Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Emma Rous, to approve the Minutes of November 18, 2015 Meeting.

**VOTE:** The motion was adopted by a 5 – 0 vote of the Board present, with Gregory Odell abstaining, and with the Chairman voting.

B. Minutes of the Nonpublic Session November 18, 2015

**MOTION:** Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Emma Rous, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Nonpublic Session November 18, 2015 and to seal the minutes indefinitely.

**VOTE:** The motion was adopted by a 5 - 0 vote of the Board present, with Gregory Odell abstaining, and with the Chairman voting.
C. Memorandum of Understanding Between the Nottingham School Board and Coe-Brown Northwood Academy – Nottingham is desirous of continuing to offer its pupils in grades nine through twelve the opportunity to attend Coe-Brown Northwood Academy and the Nottingham School Board is authorized to make a contract for such high school education. Coe-Brown has been approved by the Department of Education as a comprehensive public academy. Coe-Brown shall continue to accept high school students from Nottingham. Approval of this Memorandum of Understanding will permit high school students who reside in the Nottingham School District to receive a public education at Coe-Brown Northwood Academy at Nottingham’s expense.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Gregory Odell, that the State Board of Education approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Nottingham School Board and Coe-Brown Northwood Academy for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year and the 2016-2017 school year ending on June 30, 2017.

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

AGENDA ITEM XI. NONPUBLIC SESSION

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

AGENDA ITEM XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Gregory Odell made the motion, seconded by Helen Honorow, to adjourn the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

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

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Virginia M. Brey
Secretary