



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on May 14, 2008, at the Cross State Office Building, ATM Room 103, Augusta. The following members were present: Chair James Carignan; Vice Chair Philip Dionne; Jean Gulliver; Ann Weisleder; James Banks, Sr.; Mabel Desmond; Connie Goldman; Marilyn Temple Tardy; Justin Chenette and Honor Wilkinson.

Also present were: Deputy Commissioner Angela Faherty; Scott Brown, AIA, School Facilities; Harry Osgood, Higher Education Specialist; and Mary Johnson, Secretary Associate

CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 1:06 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes from April 9, 2008 meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS; *SITE APPROVAL CONSIDERATION*; GORHAM SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

RECEIPT OF THE NCATE REPORT ON THE UNIT ACCREDITATION BOARD'S ACTION CONCERNING CONTINUING NATIONAL ACCREDITATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.

QUALIFIED ZONE ACADEMY BOND PROGRAM

MOVED by Marilyn Temple Tardy, seconded by Jim Banks, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the consent agenda.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Exhibit IV.C below was taken out of order and moved to the first exhibit under Regular Business due to a time commitment of a team member who was attending the Board meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF THE REVIEW TEAM REPORT REGARDING THE APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL DEGREE-GRANTING AUTHORIZATION AS SUBMITTED BY THE

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND TO AWARD THE MASTER OF MEDICAL EDUCATION LEADERSHIP (MMEL) DEGREE.

BACKGROUND: 20-A MRSA, Chapter 409 provides that a postsecondary educational institution desiring to confer additional degrees must obtain authorization from the Maine State Board of Education.

Officials of the University of New England, located in Biddeford, Maine, submitted an application seeking authority to confer an additional degree, the Master of Medical Education Leadership (MMEL). The Board approved Review Team met, in Augusta, with a University of New England MMEL program official January 30, 2008. Subsequently, the Review Team Report of Findings was developed for receipt by the Board.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education accept the Review Team Report and authorize the University of New England to confer the additional degree of Master of Medical Education Leadership (MMEL).

MOVED by Jean, seconded by Ann Weisleder, and unanimously voted by those present to approve Additional Degree-Granting Authorization for the University of New England to Award the Master of Medical Education Leadership (MMEL).

FINAL ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO STATE BOARD RULE
CHAPTER 61 – RULES FOR MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.

STATEMENT OF FACT: Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, govern the expenditure of millions of Maine taxpayers' dollars in support of the provision of schools that support the demands of 21st century education. Extensive needs for improved education facilities across the state make it imperative that the rules be kept clear, current and supportive of the state's education goals. To this end, the Department of Education and the Construction Committee of the State Board of Education have worked jointly to propose modifications to Chapter 61. Key aspects of this revision include:

1. Defining "Non-Conforming School" as a "school in a school administrative unit where that school system has neither joined a Regional School Unit nor has an approved alternative plan as specified under the provisions of 20-A M.R.S.A. Chapter 103-A."
2. Eliminating the definitions of "Learning Technology Equipment" and "Non-Learning Equipment."
3. Adding additional points for inefficient energy building systems.
4. Altering the program points for CTE centers and regions to fairly evaluate CTE programs.
5. Requiring all projects to meet a conservation standard that will be developed by the Department of Education's School Facilities Team.
6. Clarifying the protocol by which the rating team may report schools that appear to be unsafe.

7. Requiring that consideration be given to providing the minimum travel distance for the maximum number of students when considering a new school site.
8. Removing Section 9 subsection 2, A through E, which is the budgetary approach for technology expenditures on projects.
9. Clarifying the language in Section 10 (4) (A) “Budget Requirements;” to increase the allocation for moveable equipment.
10. Requiring that non-conforming schools be penalized 10 points on their rating score and 10% of the total State/Local funding portion of their Major Capital School Construction project budget.

Chapter 61 is a major substantive rule that was provisionally adopted by the State Board of Education on December 12, 2007. The proposal was considered by the Legislature in the form of L.D. 2123, “Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 61: State Board of Education Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education and the State Board of Education.” L.D. 2123 died in non-concurrence. The proposal is now before the State Board of Education for final adoption as proposed.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the State Board of Education finally adopt the proposed amendments to Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects as presented this day.

MOVED by Marilyn, seconded by Mabel, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the Final Adoption of Amendments to Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

FINAL ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO STATE BOARD RULE CHAPTER 115 – CERTIFICATION, AUTHORIZATION, AND APPROVAL OF EDUCATION PERSONNEL, PART I AND PART II.

Background: The State Board proposed revisions to Chapter 115 as follows: Proposed amendments to Chapter 115, Part I and II include adding language to allow a teacher holding a 7-12 endorsement in the same subject area to teach adult education, changing ‘modern languages’ to ‘world languages’, omitting sunset language and all references to Northeast Regional Credential, and adding a new certificate, the Financial Services Manager.

The Legislature acted during the second session and the Resolve stated “That final adoption of portions of Chapter 115: Certification, Authorization and Approval of Education Personnel, Parts I and II, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Education and the State Board of Education that has been submitted to the Legislature for review pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A, is authorized only if the following changes are made:

1. Financial certificate. The portion of Part II of the rule designated as Section 5.1 Certificate 038: Financial Services Manager is not authorized for final adoption; and

2. Early Childhood Teacher. The portion of Part II of the rule designated as Section 1.16 Endorsement 081: Early Childhood Teacher is amended to establish eligibility for that endorsement for any person who was employed as a teacher in a pre-kindergarten or kindergarten to 3rd grade program in the State at any time between February 1, 2007 and February 1, 2008. “

These changes have been made.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board of Education finally adopt amendments to Chapter 115 in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedures Act.

MOVED by Ann Weisleder, seconded by Connie Goldman, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the Final Adoption of Amendments to Chapter 115, Certification, Authorization, and Approval of Education Personnel, Part I and Part II.

Moved briefly back to the Consent Agenda to answer questions Justin had regarding Exhibit III.C. -Qualified Zone Academy Bond Program and Exhibit III.B. – National Accreditation of the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development.

Certification Update: Ann Weisleder (From Workshop Session Agenda)

Construction Update: Jean Gulliver (From Workshop Session Agenda)

REPORTS

Chair’s Report

Chair Carignan reported on the following:

- That he attended a Literacy Educare meeting with the First Lady. Educare is a group in Chicago that has developed a program and Physical Plan that deals with birth to 5 year age group. The focus is on learning. The facility has classroom areas, play areas and a parent area so that parents are involved. The Sunshine Foundation which is one of the Doris Buffet Foundations that has been working with and dealing with prisoners and getting them ready to go back into the world they came out of. The foundation is located in Oklahoma. There are two in Oklahoma, and one in Seattle. There are seven or eight around the country. Four communities in Maine qualify under the foundation guidelines. They are Portland, Lewiston, Waterville and Bangor. Doris attended the meeting and said she made a decision to do two of these in Maine. They handle about 150 kids. The policy people will have the next meeting in June where we will move forward with selections.
- That he attended a 21st Century Advisory Team Meeting. The next meeting is on June 9, 2008 in Freeport.
- That he has sat in this chair for four years and does not feel that the Board has done well with the Legislature. Part of the Board’s responsibility is to influence policy and we need to recognize that there are some real impediments with the legislature. Perspectives are very different from ours. Another way to effect policy is by influencing the Commissioner in some way. That has limitation too as the Commissioner works for the

Governor and she has other audiences that she becomes attentive to. We should talk about developing Mini Study Groups such as what NASBE does. Need to think about ways of expanding our capacity. Jim will re-send a memo to all Board members.

Board Members Reports

Jim Banks

- That he has been working on L.D. 2175.
- That he was asked to go to an Appropriation Committee meeting and it was an interesting day. He enjoys talking to legislatures and he tried to convey to them what he thought were the issues if L.D. 2175 passed. He heard the Senate was still in session, so he went to talk to a couple Senators that told him he had an up hill battle. He went to talk to the Speaker of the house and met with his Chief of staff and sat down trying to rewrite a resolution and did not succeed. The opportunity to present was a lesson well learned and an interesting day.

Marilyn Temple Tardy

- That the Board should be more involved in dealing with education policy. Ann Weisleder suggested a discussion on influencing policy would be a good topic for the Board retreat. How does the Board become pro-active in the process early on?

Ann Weisleder

- That she and Jean had a mentoring session over lunch today with Justin and Honor and Justin asked if the students could have an opportunity to share in things that they have gathered or they believe are important for the Board to consider. Could this be placed in the Board Member Reports?
- Making the Grade Award application. Mary will check to see if applications have been received.

Justin Chenette

- That Honor and he, along with their mentors are working on developing a plan to network with the youth in Maine. They are presuming all avenues; newspapers, online, councils, etc., and they are really trying to develop a comprehensive plan Justin would like to bring up a few things.
 - 1) First, LD 1323 (?) the one that went to the appropriations committee and was a very controversial vote (7 – 6). It was determining the retirement benefits – penalties of 53%. He spoke with Representative Linda Valentino about this very controversial subject. He wanted to bring up the behavior of educators. Representative Valentino received over 200 emails and 95% were from educators. Justin is very troubled by the manner in which the educators talk about it through their emails. Some were threatening, and words were vulgar. He feels there is a

fine line between disagreeing, stating your opinion, and being disrespectful. He thinks the educators need to wake up. If their heart is not in it, they should leave teaching. Teachers are supposed to be role models. There is no excuse for the behavior. Representative Valentino was on Justin's TV show and shared the email information.

- 2) That the June 10, 2008 election is approaching. Students at an age to vote, 18 or older will be asking what they need to do to vote. Part of an educator's job is to prepare students for a changing world. Students should be registered to vote as well as educated on the issues they will be voting on. He is suggesting voter registration drives in all high schools.
- 3) That a few weeks back the Portland Press Herald had a story and the headline read "Without Student Votes - Is This Just a Photo Op". The question being asked is why student Board members can not vote. What is the rationale to why students can't vote? Jim Carignan said Maine is the twelfth state in the union to have students on the Board. This was a big step for the Board to bring student representation on the State Board of Education and was visited periodically for a decade. This is a big step without at least having the experience with adult people and it is not to say in the future that the Board will not go further. It will be nice to know how students who have very busy lives as high school students and if they have the time, the interest and opportunity to really get into the complex issues. Certainly this meeting underscores how complex some of the issues are. It is still a possibility but we want to move forward gently into the pool. Ann Weisleder suggested that the Board check with NASBE to see what other state's have done and examine how it works first. Jean Gulliver suggested that the Board take a look in six months at the possibility of student members voting. This item will be added to the June 11, 2008 SBE meeting agenda.

Phil Dionne

- That he went on a Paris Island trip. It was an interesting process with two opportunities to have a meal with a recruit and talk to a young recruit.
- That he attended the CTE Annual Awards Ceremony at KVCC. Top students were recognized and three names were drawn. Checks were given out for \$1,000.00.
- That he attended a JMG Program meeting at the Civic Center.
- That he attended a National Governor's Association Forum on Career and College Readiness in Richmond, VA with the Commissioner and Garrett Oswald. High Tech CTE Schools and Robotics become part of the program. Two Governors were there and were able to give us quite a day.
- That Jack Norris's tenure needs to be recognized.

Mabel Desmond

- Looking for a very interesting report – Orange and purple book. Mary will research.

Nomination Committee

Committee: Jean Gulliver, James Banks and Mabel Desmond

Committee Member Jean Gulliver presented the slate of names for chair and vice chair. Ann Weisleder was nominated to serve as chair and Constance Goldman was nominated to serve as vice chair for a term of one year beginning July 1, 2008, ending June 30, 2009.

State Board Retreat

The Board discussed a date for the annual retreat. Mary will check availability for July 9 and 10 at the McKernon Center in South Portland.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

State Board of Education unanimously agreed to adjourn the May 14, 2008, meeting at 3:04 PM.