



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 April 9, 2013, at the Cross State Office Building, Augusta, Maine. The following members were present: Chair Steven Pound; Vice Chair Nancy Perkins; Martha Harris; Heidi Sampson; Ande Smith; Nichi Farnham; and Kristin Bishop.

Excused: William Beardsley; Peter Geiger; Jana Lapoint; and Chelsey Whynot

Also present were: Alisa Johnson, Higher Education Specialist; and Mary Becker, Secretary Associate, State Board of Education

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Steven Pound called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

VISION STATEMENT:

Read by Chair, Steven Pound: The Vision of the State Board is to prepare Maine public school graduates with the skills and knowledge needed to be college, career, citizenship and life ready.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by Heidi Sampson, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the March 13, 2013 minutes as written.

NEW BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENT OF A NOMINATION AND ELECTION COMMITTEE FOR CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by Heidi Sampson and unanimously voted by those present to have Steven Pound Chair the Nomination and Election Committee with Martha Harris and Jana Lapoint as members of the Committee to bring back a nomination report for the May 2013 meeting.

RECEIPT OF MATERIALS FROM INTERCOAST CAREER SCHOOL RESPONDING TO THE LACK OF RIGOR IN PROGRAM CURRICULUM RELATING TO THE REVIEW TEAM REPORT (SUBMITTED MARCH 13, 2013) CONCERNING THEIR APPLICATION FOR DEGREE-GRANTING AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND: 20-A MRSA, § 10704 provides that any educational institution may confer degrees if it has been granted initial authority under an Act of the Legislature. Under chapter 149 CMR, degree requirements include the following minimums are met for institutions using the semester system: A semester hour is defined as the credit received for completing 15 contact hours of study in class and 30 clock hours in outside preparation.

The review team report under standard C: Degree Requirements states, "While the out of hours were clearly identified on the sample syllabi provided as part of the review process, they were significantly less than expected for a standard college level course." However, Standard C was recommended as met by the review team.

Further inquiry into the issue garnered the following responses from InterCoast Career School, dated February 21, 2013 and April 1, 2013.

RECOMMENDATION: The State Board of Education receive the Response to Review Team Report and Clock Hour and Credit Hour Breakdown documents as supporting materials concerning the action agenda item of InterCoast's application during the Board's April 9, 2013 meeting.

MOVED by Nancy Perkins, seconded by Heidi Sampson and unanimously voted by those present to receive the Response to Review Team Report and Clock Hour and Credit Hour Breakdown documents as supporting materials concerning the action agenda item of InterCoast's application during the Board's April 9, 2013 meeting.

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by Heidi Sampson and voted four in favor with one member opposed (Nancy Perkins) that the State Board of Education accept the team report and forward the Institution's request for subsequent legislative authorization.
Motion Carried

REQUEST FROM HUSSON UNIVERSITY FOR EXTENSION OF CURRENT STATE PROGRAM APPROVAL OF ITS EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS THROUGH AUGUST 2014

BACKGROUND: Husson University's School of Education is scheduled for a program approval site visit in November of 2013. The School's Director of Teacher Education, Barbara Moody, has requested an extension of the University's current program approval and a rescheduling of the site visit until March 2014. Ms. Moody's letter cites significant staff changes at the University as well as at the Department of Education, and Husson's upcoming NEASC accreditation process as rationale for the change in dates. Husson was approved for five years in February, 2009.

State Board Rule Chapter 114, Part 3.1 (e) reads as follows:

Requests for extensions for existing approval, due to extraordinary circumstances, may be granted at the discretion of the State Board of Education; however, such extensions shall not extend the date when the subsequent approval is due. The Board will only consider such requests in emergency situations.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education act favorably upon the request from the Husson University School of Education to extend current program approval for its educator preparation program for six months through August, 2014 and that the program approval visit be scheduled for March, 2014. It is understood that, with a grant of this extension, the University will be limited to a maximum of 4.5 years of State program approval, instead of five years, following the 2014 Review Team visit.

MOVED by Heidi Sampson, seconded by Martha Harris and unanimously voted by those present to act favorably upon the request from the Husson University School of Education to extend current program approval for its educator preparation program for six months through August, 2014 and that the program approval visit be scheduled for March, 2014. It is understood that, with a grant of this extension, the University will be limited to a maximum of 4.5 years of State program approval, instead of five years, following the 2014 Review Team visit.

Note: Steven Pound left the meeting at 1:30 PM to participate with the First Lady at the Celebration of the Arts Education at the Blaine House.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Chair, Steven Pound (Written Report):

- On March 14, he attended a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Council meeting
- On March 15, he participated in a National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Board of Director's conference call.
- On March 18, he attended a public hearing with the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee and the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee regarding the biennial budget.
- He attended a New England Secondary School Consortium (NESSC) conference on High School Re-Design in Action in Norwood, MA on March 20.
- He attended the Governor's conference on school reform initiatives on March 21.
- He attended a State Workforce Investment Board meeting on March 21.
- On March 28, he attended an Educate Maine meeting on proficiency based education. It was also a Legislative retreat.
- On April 2, he attended a Legislative Leadership Committee meeting.
- He attended a Maine Education Policy Research Institute (MEPRI) meeting on April 2.
- On April 4, he spoke at the Barbara Bush Literacy Conference.
- He MC'd the Teacher of the Year ceremony at the Hall of Flags representing the State Board of Education, Educate ME, and the Department of Education.
- He attended a Tri County Local Workforce Investment Board meeting for Piscataquis County and a quarterly Economic Development Council meeting.

Vice Chair, Nancy Perkins:

Report of Meetings:

➤ **Certification and Higher Education Committee Report:**

The Certification and Higher Education Committee met on March 26. Committee members Jana Lapoint, Heidi Sampson, and Nancy Perkins, Chair, were present. The Department of Education was represented by Mark Cyr from Certification and Alisa Johnson from Higher Education. Board member Nichi Farnham attended via phone. Assistant Superintendent Andrew McAuliffe representing Maine School Management was also present.

Mark Cyr reported that a private vendor (Morpho Trust) will be working with the Maine State Police in the fingerprinting process. These trained personnel will be available in public locations and in some cases, be in mobile units. This should provide more availability of locations for school personnel fulfilling this requirement.

The Committee will be forwarding a letter of recommendations to the Board and the Commissioner on the updating needs of Chapter 118. The Committee determined that the Chapter should be aligned with Chapter 114 with the wording regarding standards. The major concern was the updating of materials on the website and in the training materials. The meeting adjourned at 11:35 AM.

➤ **New England Secondary School Consortium (NESSC):**

On March 21, she attended the NESSC conference on High School Redesign in Action in Norwood, Ma. The morning session with a focus on TRII was led by Carol Leiber. RTII is the acronym for Response to Instruction and Intervention. This extension of the RTII is specific to middle schools and high schools. The second session provided an overview of the current status in New England. The topics ranged from multiple pathways, business connections to the classroom, virtual learning, and proficiency based. The five states are on very similar paths. The last session was a presentation by Falmouth, Maine. The high school faculty shared their endorsement strands. The first strand is a STEM endorsement that started this year. Next year will be Fine Arts followed by Humanities. The endorsement requirements are worth viewing.

➤ **State Consortium on Educator Effectiveness (SCEE):**

On March 28, she attended the SCEE meeting. The meeting identified a “problem of practice” for the SCEE team to take to the national conference. The group suggested that the team look for assistance from our cohort states on the issues of how to address the necessary technical assistance and resources to support school systems as these systems implement the educator evaluation system.

➤ **Maine Educator Effectiveness Council (MEEC):**

Purpose of Meeting: Fulfilling legislative charge of PL 635 which will recommend standards for implementing a system of evaluation and support of teachers and principals.

On March 29, she attended the MEEC meeting. The highlight of the meeting was reviewing one of the systems for weighting of the measures that will inform an effectiveness rating system. This consisted of looking at the effect of changing the summative numbers that were assigned to the categories of standards of professional practice and the measures of student growth. This system is currently being used in the TIF schools. The review of the work done by the TIF schools will provide valuable insight into the evaluation process.

Education Related Activities:

- On March 22, she attended the Governor’s conference on school reform initiatives. The focus was on changes occurring in education with the emphasis on school choice, charter schools, educator effectiveness, and school accountability.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Heidi Sampson:

- On March 22, she attended the Governor’s Conference at Cony High School.
- On March 25, she attended a public hearing with Baxter Academy.
- She attended a Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting on March 26.
- On March 29, the Charter Commission went on a field trip to Poland Regional High School to see the Virtual Learning Program. Heidi briefed the Board on the visit.
- She attended a Charter Commission meeting on April 8 and Baxter Academy was approved.

Nichi Farnham:

- No Report

Ande Smith:

- He has been busy with the Charter Commission, getting sworn in and the Baxter Academy approval on April 8.

Kristin Bishop:

- Community Leadership Day: On March 29, she presented and facilitated leadership activities at her local middle school to teach students the importance of leadership and the many ways they could implement leadership into their everyday lives.
- On April 4, she was the Keynote Speaker at the Future Pathways Conference, an event organized by a guidance counselor at Somerset County Technical Center (SCTC) for local freshmen girls. The focus of the day was to introduce young women into STEM careers or non-traditional occupations.

- She is assisting her town in helping to create an Earth Week at the local elementary school, and will be a presenter on the importance of Reducing, Reusing and Recycling.

Martha Harris:

➤ **Construction Committee:**

The Construction Committee did not meet in April.

Education Related Activities:

- She attended a Leadership Committee meeting regarding legislation.
- She met with Scott Brown regarding the opening of Chapter 60 “New School Siting Approval”.
- She attended the Governor’s Conference at Cony High School on March 22.
- On April 5, she attended the U.S. Department of Education’s RESPECT Round table at Indian Island. RESPECT stands for Recognizing Educational Success, Professional Excellence, and Collaborative Teaching. She shared materials and briefed the Board regarding the project.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1) Submit travel and expense account vouchers to Mary at the end of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED by Ande Smith, seconded by Heidi Sampson, and unanimously voted by those present to adjourn the April 9, 2013 State Board of Education meeting at 2:19 PM.