



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 September 11, 2013, at the Gray New Gloucester High School, Gray, Maine. The following members were present: Chair Nancy Perkins; Vice Chair Peter Geiger; Steven Pound; Martha Harris; Jana Lapoint; Heidi Sampson; William Beardsley; Ande Smith; and Kristin Bishop.

Excused: Nichi Farnham

Also present were: Ann Pinnette, School Facilities Education Specialist; Guest, Alyssa Wardwell; and Mary Becker, Secretary Associate, State Board of Education

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Nancy Perkins called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA:

MOVED by Steve Pound, seconded by Peter Geiger, and unanimously voted by those present to amend the agenda and add "Discussion on the State Board Procedure for Handling Transfer Appeals" to New Business.

VISION STATEMENT:

Read by Chair, Nancy Perkins: 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 Steven Pound, seconded by Martha Harris, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the August 13, 2013 minutes as written.

CONSENT AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF THE PROGRAM REVIEW TEAM FOR THE MAINE COLLEGE OF ART
TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by Nancy Perkins, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the Consent Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

FEDERAL QUALIFIED SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND PROGRAM – RSU 17/MSAD 17

STATEMENT OF FACT: The Department of Education coordinates the Federal Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB) program. QSCBs are bonds issued by state or local governments which the Federal government subsidizes by providing tax credits to bondholders or direct payment interest subsidies to issuers. Bond proceeds can be used for construction, rehabilitation, or repair of public school facilities.

RSU 17/MSAD 17 submitted a 2013 QSCB application and on January 9, 2013 received State Board of Education approval for a QSCB allocation in the amount of \$1,242,063. RSU 17/MSAD 17 originally requested QSCB funding in order to install biomass boilers in five schools. RSU 17/MSAD 17 is currently requesting that they be permitted to change the scope of their projects to include installing boilers at only two schools (Rowe School and Oxford Elementary School) and to include lighting improvements at five schools (Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School, Harrison Elementary School, Waterford Memorial School, Otisfield Community School, and Oxford Elementary.)

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: At the September 3, 2013 meeting the Construction Committee voted unanimously to send this exhibit forward to the State Board of Education with a recommendation that it be approved.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: The Department of Education recommends that the State Board approve that RSU 17/MSAD 17 be allowed to change the scope of the projects, for which QSCB funds were previously approved on January 9, 2013, to include installing boilers at two schools (Rowe School and Oxford Elementary School) and to include lighting improvements at five schools (Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School, Harrison Elementary School, Waterford Memorial School, Otisfield Community School, and Oxford Elementary).

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by Ande Smith, and voted seven in favor with one member opposed (William Beardsley) to approve that RSU 17/MSAD 17 be allowed to change the scope of the projects, for which QSCB funds were previously approved on January 9, 2013, to include installing boilers at two schools (Rowe School and Oxford Elementary School) and to include lighting improvements at five schools (Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School, Harrison Elementary School, Waterford Memorial School, Otisfield Community School, and Oxford Elementary).

FEDERAL QUALIFIED SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND PROGRAM REALLOCATIONS

STATEMENT OF FACT: The Department of Education coordinates the Federal Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB) program. QSCBs are bonds issued by state or local governments which the Federal government subsidizes by providing tax credits to bondholders or direct payment interest subsidies to issuers. Bond proceeds can be used for construction, rehabilitation, or repair of public school facilities.

RSU 73 and RSU 80/MSAD 4 submitted 2013 QSCB applications and on January 9, 2013 received State Board of Education approval for QSCB allocations. These two school administrative units have requested that they be permitted to return their allocations to the Department of Education and that the Department reissue their allocations directly to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank. Pursuant to this reallocation, the Maine Municipal Bond Bank shall issue QSCBs to provide funds for the previously approved RSU 73 and RSU 80/MSAD 4 projects.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: At the September 3, 2013 meeting the Construction Committee voted unanimously to send this exhibit forward to the State Board of Education with a recommendation that it be approved.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: The Department of Education recommends that the State Board approve that the 2013 Federal QSCB allocations to RSU 73 and RSU 80/MSAD 4 be returned to the Department of Education and reallocated to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank provided that the QSCBs issued by the Maine Municipal Bond Bank shall be issued to provide funds for the RSU 73 and RSU 80/MSAD 4 projects that the State Board of Education previously approved on January 9, 2013.

MOVED by Ande Smith, seconded by Martha Harris, and unanimously voted by those present to approve that the 2013 Federal QSCB allocations to RSU 73 and RSU 80/MSAD 4 be returned to the Department of Education and reallocated to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank provided that the QSCBs issued by the Maine Municipal Bond Bank shall be issued to provide funds for the RSU 73 and RSU 80/MSAD 4 projects that the State Board of Education previously approved on January 9, 2013.

STATE BOARD PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING TRANSFER APPEALS:

MOTION by Peter Geiger, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and voted 4 members in favor (Nancy Perkins, Peter Geiger, Steven Pound and Jana Lapoint) with 4 members opposed (William Beardsley, Ande Smith, Martha Harris and Heidi Sampson) for the State Board of Education Secretary Associate to send out letters to parent(s), Superintendents, and the Commissioner describing information contained in the Department of Education file, offering opportunity to provide additional written information, and informing them of the date of a meeting where discussion/decision on appeal will be made. Recipients should be given no more than 7 calendar days to submit information. The decision needs to be made within 30 days of receiving request per §5205(6)(F). The letters will be certified mail with dated return receipt.

MOTION by Peter Geiger, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and voted 5 members in favor (Nancy Perkins, Peter Geiger, Steven Pound, Jana Lapoint and William Beardsley) with 3 members opposed (Ande Smith, Martha Harris and Heidi Sampson) for the State Board of Education Secretary Associate to send out letters to parent(s), Superintendents, and the Commissioner describing information contained in the Department of Education file, offering opportunity to provide additional written information, and informing them of the date of a meeting where discussion/decision on appeal will be made. Recipients should be given no more than 7 calendar days to submit information. The decision needs to be made within 30 days of receiving request per §5205(6)(F). The letters will be certified mail with dated return receipt. Motion Carried.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

- His last day with the Department of Education will be September 12.
- He has been meeting with his leadership team working on "punch" list and putting plans into place. Most of the work has been around school being back in session, and the ESEA waiver. The issue that is weighing heavily on his mind is the struggle to fill vacant positions within the department. The Commissioner gave a brief overview of the recent vacancies that have occurred.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Construction Committee

The Construction Committee met on September 3. The Committee voted unanimously to send exhibits to the Board for Federal Qualified School Construction Bond Program – Reallocations and Federal Qualified School Construction Bond Program – RSU 17/MSAD 17. Scott Brown will do a presentation on Concept Approval for the Board at the September 11th meeting. The Committee discussed Rules Chapter 60 for the few changes being proposed and the fact that the rule is Major Substantive, the Committee will wait for Chapter 61, State Board of Education Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, to open up for changes and incorporate Chapter 60 in at that time.

Career and Technical Education

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee met on September 4. Jim Rier presented the CTE Funding Formula. Meg Harvey gave an update on CTE and will be reviewing the CTE section of the Government Evaluation Act. Kristin will be working with her local Career and Technical Education (CTE) Center to conduct a survey regarding student outreach.

Certification and Higher Education

The Certification Committee met on August 19. Mark Cyr gave a brief overview of the Educational Testing Service's (ETS) process, and how ETS goes about revising tests. The Higher Education Specialist position has not been filled. The Committee is scheduling a workshop session to review the Certification areas in the Government Evaluation Act. The Committee will also be scheduling a meeting with the Teacher Preparation Group. When the NCTQ report was released, the Certification and Higher Education Committee reviewed the report. The Committee was aware that most of Maine's teacher preparation programs were evaluated on incomplete data. However, the scores/ratings were of concern. The committee had been following the progress of the formation of the CAEP accreditation standards and chose to wait for this report to reach its final acceptance stage before asking to meet with this group. The fact that some of our institutions had used either NECATE or TEAC and this is the new merged accreditation body was the determining factor in our decision. A list of questions has been sent to the group. The next Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting will be held on September 23, 2013.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Chair, Nancy Perkins:

- On August 4, she participated in the Teacher of the Year portfolio review. The review of the portfolios provides a glimpse into the accomplishments of the candidates for the award. The review is the precursor to the final interview before the candidate is chosen.
- The Certification and Higher Education Committee met on August 19.
- On August 22, the Commissioner, Sarah Forster, and Randy Kassa met with Peter Geiger and herself to review LD 530. This bill adds the Board as the final authority in the student transfer process.
- On August 27, she met with Greg Scott to review the Government Evaluation Act. She will be aligning the matrix that specifies the Department of Education and State Board roles. She met with Dr. Phil McCarthy to review the expectations for the final Government Evaluation report. This was very helpful as we work toward completing our report.
- On September 3, she met with Martha Harris following the Construction Committee meeting and updated the committee on the Government Evaluation Act.

- On September 4, she met with Steve Pound following the Career and Technical Education Committee meeting and updated the committee on the Government Evaluation Act.
- On September 10, she attended the Teacher of the Year ceremony at King Middle School in Portland.

Vice Chair, Peter Geiger:

- On August 22, he attended a Leadership Committee meeting.
- On September 4, he attended a Career and Technical Education Committee meeting.
- On September 10, he attended the Teacher of the Year ceremony at King Middle School in Portland.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Steven Pound:

- On September 4, he attended a Career and Technical Education Committee meeting
- On August 22, he attended a Leadership Committee meeting.
- He was interviewed by Channel 2 regarding the nomination of Martha Harris for a Those Who Care Award for 2013.
- On August 27, he attended a STEM Collaborative meeting.
- He attended a Tri County Workforce Investment Board meeting.
- He distributed a copy of the Board's budget and gave a brief description of expenditures to date.

Jana Lapoint:

- She attended the graduation ceremony for Maine Academy of Natural Sciences (MeANS) on August 2.
- She attended the Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting on August 19.

William Beardsley:

- He has been reading on Common Core State Standards and Next Generation Science Standards.
- He is going to Pittsburg on September 20 for a National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) conference on Next Generation Science Standards.

Ande Smith:

- He attended an event at Baxter school.
- He attended a Charter Commission meeting on September 10.
- He met with Martha and Nichi (Ad-Hoc Group) to review vision, strategy and board effectiveness.
- He is going to Pittsburg on September 20 for a National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) conference on Next Generation Science Standards.

Heidi Sampson:

- On August 14, she attended an event at Maine Academy of Natural Sciences (MeANS)
- On August 22, she attended Harpswell's final pre-opening approval.
- On September 10, she attended a Charter Commission meeting.

Kristin Bishop: (written report)

- She was honored to have been able to join the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee, and to work with the committee to conduct research/projects around Career and Technical Education in Maine.
- She will be working with her local Career and Technical Education (CTE) Center to conduct a survey for outreach and hopefully increase awareness of CTE programs available to students in her area.
- She has worked with her school and local town office to have the privilege of doing a Local Government Internship. The internship will allow her the opportunity to learn more about local government and policy work, and is built into her academic schedule.

Martha Harris:

- She continues to serve on her local school board.
- She was interviewed by Channel 2 regarding her nomination for a Those Who Care Award for 2013.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Submit travel and expense account vouchers to Mary at the end of the meeting.
- If Board members have questions for Principal Eric Klein, Gray New Gloucester High School, please email the questions to Mary Becker.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED by Jana Lapoint, seconded by Heidi Sampson, and unanimously voted by those present to adjourn the September 11, 2013 State Board of Education meeting at 2:39 PM.