

**Minutes**  
**State Board of Education**  
**Monday, May 23, 2011**

The Arizona State Board of Education held a regular meeting at the Arizona Department of Education, 1535 West Jefferson, Room 417, Phoenix, Arizona. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM.

**Members Present:**

Mr. Jaime Molera  
Mr. Thomas Tyree  
Supt. Huppenthal  
Dr. Vicki Balentine  
Dr. James Horton  
Ms. Amy Hamilton  
Ms. Eileen Klein  
Mr. Gregory Miller  
Mr. Jacob Moore  
Ms. Ortiz-Parsons

**Members Absent:**

Dr. Shelton

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

ROLL CALL

Mr. Molera thanked Ms. Jennie Pollock for her dedication to the Board and commitment to education and the students of Arizona. Mr. Molera stated Ms. Pollock is the best attorney the State Board has had and she would be missed. Ms. Pollock did her job fairly, appropriately and most of all with a sense of knowledge and passion.

Ms. Pollock was presented a recognition award for her distinguished service to the Arizona State Board of Education.

Supt. Huppenthal thanked Ms. Pollock on behalf of the Department of Education and stated Ms. Pollock's work has been outstanding quality work.

Ms. Pollock said it was an honor and pleasure to have served the Board for five years and to have worked with Mr. Yanez for the last 10 years. Ms. Pollock stated she was very grateful and continually impressed with the work and dedication of the Board.

1. BUSINESS REPORTS

A. President's Report

Mr. Molera stated he has asked Mr. Tyree to work with the Arizona Board of Regents. As the Board moves forward with significant K-12 policy matters it is necessary to discuss what students need to be prepared for higher education. Mr. Molera stated Mr. Bob McClendon from Yuma will also work with Mr. Tyree and the Arizona Board of Regents. Mr. Tyree will keep the Board members informed of the work and progress made.

Mr. Molera attended the conference held by the Greater Phoenix Leadership, the conference discussions were regarding education issues that do not have a quick solution. Key indicators of areas that need improvement in public education were discussed and Mr. Molera stated he had some concerns as to how to address such improvements. Mr. Molera said he would like for the Board to stay engaged in making sure the field understands solutions must be long term.

Mr. Molera reminded the Board of the Special Board meeting on June. The purpose of the Special meeting is to discuss the legislative priorities for the next session. Mr. Molera asked the Board members to notify Mr. Yanez of any specific items they wish to discuss at the Special Board meeting.

#### B. Superintendent's Report

Supt. Huppenthal stated the ADE has met with Dr. David Garcia and the Deans of the Colleges of Education to discuss a world class research culture. Supt. Huppenthal said regular meetings would be held with the Deans to develop a successful data stream. Supt. Huppenthal said customer service is priority for the department.

Supt. Huppenthal attended a meeting in China. China is in the process of changing their education system and re-establish their education leadership. Supt. Huppenthal provided a brief overview of the current educational system in China and their current work.

A report regarding Tucson Unified School District would be provided to the Board.

#### C. Board Member Reports

Mr. Moore stated he attended the Arizona High School Prevention Conference. Mr. Moore thanked State Farm for the funds donated to assist with the conference.

Mr. Moore said it would be helpful to fill the University President position on the Board in order to have the input of higher education.

#### D. Director's Report

Mr. Yanez stated the Special Board meeting will be held at the Black Canyon Conference Center. The presentation provided by the Pearson group was scheduled to start at 9:00 and the Special Session meeting would begin after the presentation.

Mr. Yanez thanked Ms. Pollock for her years of service and introduced Ms. Kari O'Brien from the Attorney General's office.

*Dr. Balentine moved to adjourn as the State Board of Education and reconvene as the State Board for Vocational and Technological Education*

*Motion second by Mr. Tyree*

*Motion passes*

2. ADJOURN AS THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND RECONVENE AS THE STATE BOARD FOR VOCATIONAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION

Consideration accept funds from the Arizona Agricultural Youth Organization Special Plate Fund, pursuant to A.R.S. § 28-2436

Ms. Barbara Border provided information regarding the funds received and thanked the Arizona Agricultural Youth Organization. Ms. Border requested the Boards approval of the funds.

*Mr. Moore moved to accept funds from the Arizona Agricultural Youth Organization Special Plate Fund, pursuant to A.R.S. § 28-2436*

*Motion second by Ms. Ortiz-Parsons*

*Motion passes*

ADJOURN AS THE STATE BOARD FOR VOCATIONAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND RECONVENE AS THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

*Supt. Huppenthal moved to adjourn as the State Board for Vocational and Technological Education and reconvene as the State Board of Education*

*Motion second by Mr. Tyree*

*Motion passes*

### 3. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Consideration to approve State Board of Education minutes
  - 1. March 28, 2011
  - 2. April 25, 2011
  - 3. April 25, 2011 – Executive Session
- B. Consideration to Approve Contract Abstracts:
  - 1. Arizona Charter School Incentive Program Award
  - 2. Title IID Discretionary Sub-Grantee Approval
- C. Consideration to accept funds from State Farm Insurance, pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-204
- D. Consideration to approve additional monies for teacher compensation for fiscal year 2011-2012, pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 15-952 and 15-537
- E. Consideration to accept the voluntary surrender of the teaching credentials held by Vicki Gibbons
- F. Consideration to accept the findings of fact, conclusions of law and recommendation of the Professional Practices Advisory Committee and grant the teacher certification applications for Peter Petrides

- G. Consideration to approve the appointment to the Professional Practices Advisory Committee of Jonathan Parker
- H. Consideration to approve the grade level amendment to Partnership with Parents, Inc.
- I. Consideration to approve school district applications for participation in the Arizona On-Line Instruction program, pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-808

Dr. Balentine asked to consider item I separately.

*Dr. Balentine Moved to approve the consent agenda with exception of Item I  
Motion second by Mr. Miller  
Motion Passes*

Dr. Balentine stated item I pertained to Amphitheater Public School District and stated she would not vote on the item.

*Mr. Miller moved to approve Item I on the consent agenda as presented.  
Motion second by Mr. Moore  
Motion passes*

#### 4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

All requests to speak related to specific items on the agenda.

#### 5. GENERAL SESSION

- A. Presentation, discussion and consideration to approve proposed modifications to the AZ LEARNS school evaluation system, pursuant to A.R.S § 15-241

Mr. Miller stated one of the key policy decisions in the process was to maintain the two separate calculations for 2011 – 2012 and 2012- 2013. Another key policy was to utilize the existing excelling through underperforming and the A through D/F process.

The methods examined by the subcommittee were the regression model which was proposed by the ADE; this model was reviewed in depth. The AZ growth model was also reviewed and the subcommittee decided to continue using the growth model.

Mr. Miller stated the subcommittee examined several cut score options and provided an overview of the 7 cut score approaches considered. Approach 6 and 7 are the dual goal method and the single goal method. With the dual goal method a school would have to meet separate goals for growth and composite score to earn a grade. With the single goal method a composite score and growth score are added together and the school's grade is determined by the total points earned. Mr. Miller stated the ADE would provide further information in their presentation regarding these methods.

Ms. Stacey Morley from the ADE stated the presentation was provided to the subcommittee and only a couple of changes were made at the request of the subcommittee to reflect other options.

Ms. Morley stated 50% of the profile must be based on growth and the other 50% must be based on other methods of academic progress. The measures of academic progress required in statute include AIMS achievement, percent reclassification of ELL students, graduation rates and dropout rates for high school students. These measures are included in the current profiles.

The two options considered to calculate the achievement profiles were the dual goal method and the single goal method.

The dual goal method would require schools to meet both the composite and growth goals to earn a grade. An overview was provided of the composite score, growth score and percentage of schools for each letter grade. Ms. Morley also explained the cut points for the dual goal method.

The single goal method would add the school's composite and growth scores to determine the grade earned. An overview of the total score and the percentage of schools were provided for each letter grade.

Ms. Morley stated the calculation of the percentage was modified at the request of the subcommittee and provided information for the two alternative cut points.

Mr. Molera asked for further explanation regarding the typical growth and how the population is defined. Ms. Morley stated it would be based on the students' scores.

Method I would add the points for each measure and the total would be 109 points possible for high schools and 103 points possible for elementary and middle schools. Method II would also add the points for each measure but the total possible points would be 100.

Ms. Klein asked if the letter grade of "F" was no longer an option. Ms. Morley stated the letter grade of "F" is only given to a school if they have been a "D" school for three consecutive years under the current labeling system.

Supt. Huppenthal asked to review the single goal method and if the recommendation was alternative 1 or alternative 2. Ms. Morley stated the subcommittee asked for alternatives for the cut points; the recommendation was to use the single goal method. Supt. Huppenthal stated he would not like a moving target.

Mr. Molera stated he would like to focus more on the definitions for each letter grade asked for further explanation. Ms. Morley stated due to the composite score some of the target does move and impact the percentage required for each letter grade. Ms. Morley stated Dr. Robert Franciosi could provide further information.

Supt. Huppenthal stated one of the advantages of the single goal method was a school would always have the opportunity to improve by increasing academic growth.

Dr. Franciosi stated the definition of growth typical for a certain area of student achievement. Each letter grade is based on student achievement.

Mr. Yanez provided an explanation of how the percentages for each could vary for each letter grade.

Dr. Balentine asked for clarification on the score used to establish the 50% cut score. Dr. Franciosi stated 66% to 68% passing AIMS.

Ms. Klein asked if there was a way to provide schools an incentive to assist ELL students, Mr. Miller stated the existing point system was included in the formula to establish the cut scores. Mr. Yanez said ELL students are included in the overall calculation for the AZ LEARNS scores.

Mr. Miller asked for a short recess to discuss areas of the subcommittee final recommendation. Mr. Molera stated he would rather hold the subcommittee discussion in public.

Mr. Tyree stated he recalled the subcommittee discussion to have the 100 points as opposed to having a total of 103 points.

Dr. Balentine stated the subcommittee discussed the fact that a total 109 point component could create confusion in terms of transparency. A clear cut point would be easier to communicate.

Ms. Hamilton stated the fact ELL students are included in the outcome, the 100 points would be fine and additional points are not necessary.

Mr. Yanez asked to review both composite categories and stated for Composite I all areas are mandatory as part of the law. Dr. Franciosi stated with Method I schools may earn more than 100 points but that would not make a difference since cap score was 100. Method II would scale the three measures and in the end have 100 points.

Mr. Molera asked if there was consensus in support of Composite I, Alternative 2.

*Supt. Huppenthal Moved to adopt the single goal method alternative 2, Composite I with the 0-3 scoring points for each of the supplemental scores.*

*Motion second by Mr. Tyree*

Call to the public for item:

- Beth Sauer, Government Relations Analyst of the Arizona School Boards Association: Ms. Sauer stated the ASBA attended all of the AZ LEARNS Subcommittee meeting and appreciated the detailed work of the members. Ms. Sauer said the single goal method would be beneficial and would provide more clarity and consistency for school districts. ASBA has made an effort to inform school board members about the changes with the new models and districts are also being encouraged to hold study sessions.
- Joe Thomas, Vice-President of the Arizona Education Association: Mr. Thomas thanked the Board for their hard work and stated the AEA supports using the single goal method.

Mr. Thomas stated his only concern is how the data will be used to move forward and continue to improve. Possible systems to support schools improve should be considered by the Board. The recommendations made by the subcommittee are a step in the right direction for education.

- Ildi Laczko-Kerr, Vice-President of Academics for the AZ State Board for Charter Schools: Ms. Laczko-Kerr stated the State Board for Charter Schools has been pleased with the conversations held by the Board and thankful for the opportunity to provide the subcommittee with technical assistance. Ms. Laczko-Kerr stated they would like to continue the offer to provide any assistance to the ADE and the Board in terms of evaluating the framework.
- Kristen Jordison from BASIS charter school: Mr. Yanez read the following statement on behalf of Ms. Jordison – BASIS would like to thank the subcommittee and the Board for their efforts to identify an evaluation system that fairly and appropriately represents the performance of all Arizona schools.

Mr. Molera stated the purpose of the changes is to move the system forward and to improve the quality of education. Mr. Molera thanked the subcommittee for their work.

*Motion passes*

Mr. Yanez stated adjustments would need to be made to the formula for the next two years. The proposed changes will be presented at the June Board meeting.

Mr. Tyree further discussion would be necessary regarding the subcommittee's recommendation to not include alternative schools in the new evaluation system for the time being.

Supt. Huppenthal thanked Dr. Franciosi for his assistance throughout the process.

- B. Presentation and discussion regarding proposed intervention and remedial strategies for students not promoted to the third grade, pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-701

Ms. Hrabluk provided information regarding decisions the Board will be making regarding revisions to A.R.S. § 15-701 for the move on when reading legislation. Legislation requires the Board to develop intervention strategies and remedial strategies for students who are not promoted from the third grade. District governing boards or the governing board for charter schools will be required to offer at least one of the intervention and remedial strategies developed by the State Board. The parent or guardian of the student who is not promoted and the student's teacher and principal will have the option to choose the most appropriate intervention and remedial strategy.

LEA's are required to send two separate notifications to parents; one to notify them of the new legislation and ramifications beginning in 2013-2014. The second notification requires LEA's to notify parents from kindergarten through grade 3 on a regular basis of the reading progress made by the student.

Ms. Hrabluk provided an overview of what the intervention and remedial strategies must include and the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade standards expectations. Information was provided to the Board regarding the essential components necessary to read proficiently and the various instructional emphasis. The critical findings regarding successful intervention and effective intervention were also listed.

Mr. Miller left the room at 11:14 AM

Ms. Hrabluk provided an overview of the Arizona RTI comprehensive reading system using a three-tiered model.

The following were presented as essential instructional features for intervention instruction:

- Providing systematic and explicit instruction on component skills that are deficit
- Providing significant increase in intensity of instruction
- Providing ample opportunities for guided practice of new skills
- Providing appropriate levels of scaffolding as children learn new skills

Mr. Yanez there are two separate issues, the framework presented by Ms. Hrabluk is not only required for low achieving schools, this is for schools statewide. For D or F schools the Board could look at specific strategies.

Mr. Miller returned at 11:18 AM

Dr. Balentine stated on slide three are the actions that “shall” be done in order to assist students. Dr. Balentine stated she is not comfortable with dictating to schools a particular program has to be purchased.

Ms. Hrabluk stated since 2003 and due to AZ READS many districts have been implementing a K-3 reading assessment system.

Mr. Molera stated he would not like the Board to micromanage but rather create a system to assist schools.

Ms. Hrabluk stated prevention is possible and provided a list of the ADE support and resources. The intensive intervention plan must be viewed as a system change for a school and a game change for the student.

Ms. Klein asked if more time could be spent on the prior grades; spend time building a framework before he the student reaches the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Provide schools a work plan that would assist with essential frameworks that are grade by grade specific.

Ms. Hrabluk stated legislation is an extension of AZ READS and the revisions are to focus on prevention and not only crisis management.

A copy of the power point presentation can be provided by the Stated Board office.



- C. Presentation, discussion and consideration to adopt the findings of fact, conclusions of law and recommendation of the Professional Practices Advisory Committee and grant the teacher certification application for Roland Medina

Mr. Easaw provided an overview of the case and stated Mr. Medina and his attorney were present. Mr. Easaw stated the PPAC by a vote of 5 to 0 recommended the Board grant the application for Mr. Medina. The PPAC did not find aggravating factors.

Mr. Medina addressed the Board and stated he had just completed his 37<sup>th</sup> year as a teacher for the Mayer Unified School District. Mr. Medina said he felt the student was at risk and he wanted to help. Mr. Medina stated there was no inappropriate behavior on his part and said he would like to continue teaching.

Supt. Huppenthal left the room at 11:40 AM

- Dr. Pat Dallabeta, former Superintendent. Dr. Dallabeta stated he would be happy to answer any questions the Board may have and requested Mr. Medina be granted his certification.
- Ms. Samantha Blevins, attorney for Mr. Medina. Ms. Blevins stated Mr. Medina has no prior allegations or incidents of this nature. Ms. Blevins stated Mr. Medina has been a teacher for 37 years and has a respectful relationship with the community.

*Dr. Horton moved to accept the finding of fact, conclusions of law and recommendations of the Professional Practices Committee and grant the teacher certification application for Roland Medina.*

*Motion second by Dr. Balentine*

*Motion passes*

- D. Board comments and future meeting dates – The executive director, presiding officer or a member of the Board may present a brief summary of current events pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02(K) and may discuss future meeting dates and direct staff to place matters on a future agenda. The Board will not discuss or take action on any current event summary.

No request to place an item or particular matter on a future agenda.

## 6. ADJOURN

*Moved to adjourn Dr. Horton*

*Motion second by Ms. Ortiz- Parsons*

*Motion passes*

Meeting adjourned at 11:46 AM