



State Board Review

A Publication for Members of the
N.C. Association of School Administrators

February 6, 2009

The State Board of Education (SBE) met February 4-5, 2009. The pages that follow summarize the Board's actions for this month.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HEARS ANNUAL DROPOUT REPORT

A total of 22,434 students - or 4.97 percent of students in grades nine through 12 - dropped out of school in the 2007-08 school year, according to the *2007-08 Dropout Report* presented to the State Board of Education Thursday. The dropout rate is down from 5.24 percent in 2006-07 and marks the first decrease in the state's rate since 2004-05.

The complete report and district level numbers are available online at:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/research/dropout/reports>

NC EDUCATION LEADERSHIP TRANSITION OUTLINED

Last month Gov. Bev Perdue named Cumberland County Schools Superintendent Dr. Bill Harrison as the state's Chief Executive Officer of public schools, combining the powers of the State Board of Education (SBE) Chairman and the Deputy State Superintendent. Perdue also announced that Howard Lee, current Chairman of the SBE, will become Executive Director of the North Carolina Education Cabinet. J.B. Buxton earlier announced that he was leaving the post of Deputy State Superintendent, which previously has been in charge of daily operations of DPI.

State Board of Education (SBE) Chairman Howard Lee outlined the plan for the transition during Thursday's meeting. Chairman Lee has submitted his resignation, effective upon the seating of the new chair; Chairman Lee is expected to pass the gavel to Harrison at the March 5 SBE meeting. Deputy State Superintendent J.B. Buxton will continue in his role with the department until Harrison comes on board March 2.

For the latest information on K12 governance please visit NCASA's website at:

<http://www.ncasa.net/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=228>

ACTION ITEMS

Action was taken on the following items:

GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE STUDENTS

Action

GCS 1-Participation in American Diploma Project Algebra I and II Exams

Amended recommendation approved (written below).

The department recommends that a representative sample of high schools participate in the ADP Algebra II assessment in spring 2009 so that test results will be representative of the state and state-to-state comparisons can be made. The department further recommends that the SBE

waive the state Algebra II EOC requirement for the sampled high schools and that LEAs have the local option to allow students in the sampled school(s) to administer the North Carolina Algebra II EOC as well. The Algebra II EOC results will not be used in the ABCs accountability model unless the local decision is that all students at the school in the ADP Algebra II sample also will take the NC Algebra II EOC assessment. Due to budget constraints and other factors, the department recommends that North Carolina continue to be involved in ADP Algebra I test development activities but not administer the ADP Algebra I exam during spring 2009.

http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0902/gcs/02gcs01.pdf

Approved GCS 2-Technical Correction to State Board Policies

http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0902/gcs/02gcs02.pdf

21st CENTURY PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE

Action

Approved TCP 1-State Evaluation Committee Teacher Education Program and Alternative Lateral Entry Program Approval Recommendations

http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0902/tcp/02tcp01.pdf

LEADERSHIP FOR INNOVATION COMMITTEE

Action

LFI 1- Renewal Recommendations for Charter Schools with Charters Expiring June 2009

The State Board approved a three year renewal for PreEminent Charter School with the condition that the school must meet or exceed expected growth for two consecutive years or will be subject to non-renewal.

The State Board delayed a decision on Torchlight Charter School until they are able to get answers to critical audit information. A decision may be made before next month's Board meeting with a public.

The State Board approved the recommendations of the Office of Charter Schools for the following schools:

- American Renaissance
- Crossnore
- Evergreen
- Forsyth Academies
- Greensboro Academy
- Guilford Preparatory Academy
- Mountain Community
- Provisions
- Quest
- Raleigh Charter High School
- Research Triangle Charter Academy
- Sandhills Theatre Arts Renaissance School
- Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy
- Vance Charter

The data for the charter schools seeking renewal along with the recommendations of the Office of Charter Schools are outlined in the materials found here:

http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0902/lfi/02lfi01.pdf

BUSINESS/FINANCE AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Action

Approved: TCS 1- North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) Funding Formula

http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0902/tcs/02tcs01.pdf

Approved: TCS 2- Council on Educational Services for Exceptional Children
http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0902/tcs/02tcs02.pdf

Approved: TCS 3 - Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0902/tcs/02tcs03.pdf

Action on First Reading

Approved: TCS 4-Approval of Grant
http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/0902/tcs/02tcs04.pdf

Members of the NCASA staff represent NCASA at all meetings of the State Board of Education. If you have questions about the issues discussed in this State Board Review, please contact Beth Worsley, NCASA Director of Communications, at 919-828-1426 or bworsley@ncasa.net or Emily Doyle, Assistant Director for the N.C. Principals and Assistant Principals' Association, at 919-833-3205 or edoyle@ncpapa.net.