COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes
295th Meeting of the State Board of Education
July 1, 2010

The 295th meeting of the State Board of Education was convened on Thursday, July 1, 2010, at 333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA. Public notice of the meeting was made in accordance with the Sunshine Meeting Act of 1986. Dr. James Barker, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

Attending:		Absent:
James Agras	Francis Michelini	Corrinne Caldwell
James Barker	Mollie Phillips	Rep. Paul Clymer
Esther Bush	Sen. Jeffrey Piccola	Travis Gilbert
Connie Davis	Rep. James Roebuck, Jr.	Francine McNairy
Sen. Andrew Dinniman	Edward Sheehan, Jr.	
Daniel Fogarty	Karen Farmer-White	
Sheila Dow Ford	Lee Williams	
Sandra Dungee Glenn	Larry Wittig	
Arnold Hillman	Andrew Youstic	
	Joseph Torsella	

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Dr. Barker called the meeting to order and welcomed Mr. Thomas Gluck as the new Secretary of Education.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Daniel Fogarty, seconded by Mr. Edward Sheehan, Jr., the minutes of the May 6, 2010, meeting of the State Board of Education were approved by unanimous voice vote.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

Secretary Gluck remarked on the newly-enacted state budget and the impact of increased funding to support educational programs. He noted that Pennsylvania has submitted its application for Phase II of the U.S. Department of Education's Race to the Top initiative. The decision on disbursement of those funds will be announced by the first of September.

The Gates Foundation has provided Pennsylvania a grant to support development of a teacher and principal evaluation system that includes the ability to track student progress as a measure of effectiveness. Building on the work around common standards, the Secretary noted that Pennsylvania has joined three national assessment consortia. Secretary Gluck announced that Pennsylvania was awarded a federal grant to support its longitudinal data system.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

Ms. Carolyn Angelo, Executive Director, explained the purpose of the two reports provided to the Board: *the Professional Standards and Practices Commission Annual Report* and *the Professional Educator Discipline Report*. She reviewed the cases brought before the Commission. Ms. Angelo talked about the ongoing efforts to educate teachers regarding their

relationships with students and reported that a tool kit dealing with ethics is being developed for the on-line teacher preparation programs to help address this issue.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Timothy Allwein, Governmental and Member Relations for the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, spoke in support of the Common Core standards but urged careful implementation—especially in light of the expedited adoption process.

Ms. Carla Claycomb, Education Services Director for the PA State Education Association, outlined PSEA's stance on the Common Core State Standards and, while expressing support, urged careful attention to implementation issues.

ACTION ITEMS

PSSA-M CUT SCORES/PERFORMANCE LEVEL DESCRIPTORS

A motion to adopt the PSSA-M cut scores and the accompanying performance level descriptors was made by Dr. James Barker and was seconded by Ms. Mollie Phillips, and passed unanimously

FOR: *14* (Agras, Barker, Bush, Fogarty, Dow-Ford, Dungee Glenn, Hillman, Michelini, Phillips, Sheehan, Farmer-White, Williams, Wittig)

OPPOSED: None

COMMON CORE STANDARDS

A motion to approve the adoption of the final-omitted rulemaking amending Chapter 4 to establish the Common Core standards as Pennsylvania's academic standards in English language arts and mathematics, effective July 1, 2013, was made by Dr. James Barker, seconded by Dr. Francis Michelini.

FOR: *18* (Agras, Barker, Bush, Davis, Dinniman, Fogarty, Dow-Ford, Glen, Hillman, Michelini, Phillips, Piccola, Roebuck, Sheehan, Farmer-White, Williams, Wittig, Torsella)

OPPOSED: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Hillman reported that a review of The Educational Enrichment Initiative application for accreditation is continuing and a recommendation is expected to be presented at the September meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Barbara Baker

Barbara Baker, Administrative Officer