MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
COUNCIL OF BASIC EDUCATION

333 Market Street | 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126

July 11, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by James Barker.

Attending:

Jim Agras	Kirk Hallett	Karen Farmer White
James Barker	Francis Michelini	Lee Williams
Kevin Bates	Jonathan Peri	Larry Wittig
Wendy Beetlestone	Mollie Phillips	
Maureen Lally-Green	Ed Sheehan	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May 9, 2012 meeting of the Council of Basic Education were approved on an **E. Sheehan/Farmer White** motion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Jonathan Peri reported that, after a year and a half of hard work, the Chapter 10 (Safe Schools) regulation is scheduled for publication as a final rule on July 21, 2012, in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin.*

Mr. Peri noted that since the May State Board meeting, the regulation was approved unanimously by the Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) on June 21, 2012. Before this vote, the regulation was withdrawn in mid-May to address comments from staff of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA). Mr. Peri expressed thank to Board counsel Greg Dunlap for his work with PEMA, which resulted in a swift resubmission of the regulation. In June, PEMA Director Glenn Cannon wrote to IRRC in support of Chapter 10. In addition, Senators Jeffrey Piccola and Andrew Dinniman sent a letter of support to IRRC.

Mr. Peri also reported that, just two days before IRRC's unanimous approval, a tolling memo was received from the Office of Attorney General (OAG). Board Counsel submitted a reply to the OAG on June 25, with no changes to the regulation, and within three days the OAG approved Chapter 10.

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Deputy Secretary Carolyn Dumaresq called upon John Weiss, Director of the Bureau of Assessment and Accountability, to present on proposed transitions to the state's assessment system. He noted that the proposed transitions discussed in his presentation were contingent upon approval by the U.S. Department of Education, approval of proposed changes to Chapter 4 by the State Board, and funding from the legislature to support all testing activities.

Mr. Weiss provided the following overview of proposed transitions to the assessment system:

2012-2013 Assessments

- Grades 3-8 Mathematics and Reading PSSA
  - Based on current assessment anchor content standards, not the Pennsylvania Common Core Standards
  - Offered both online and pencil/paper
- Grade 12 retest in October
- Grades 3-8 & 11 Mathematics and Reading PASA
- Grades 5 & 8 Writing PSSA
  - Based on current assessment anchor content standards, not the Pennsylvania Common Core Standards
  - Offered both online and pencil/paper
- Grades 4 & 8 Science PSSA
  - Based on current assessment anchor content standards, not the Pennsylvania Common Core Standards
  - Offered both online and pencil/paper
- Grades 4,8 & 11 Science PASA
- No PSSA-M
- Grades 3-5 Stand-alone Writing Field Test
  - Offered paper/pencil only
  - Results will be used to implement a writing component as part of the proposed Grades 3-5 English Language Arts assessment
- Keystone Exams – Algebra I, Literature, Biology
  - Keystones will be used for two purposes:
    - Proposed state requirement that the class of 2017 and beyond demonstrate proficiency for the purpose of graduation
    - Accountability as per No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
  - Keystone Testing Windows
    - Dec. 10-14, 2012
    - Jan. 9-16, 2013
    - May 13-24, 2013
    - July 29-Aug. 2, 2013
- PDE plans to apply for new Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs) *(currently 89% for math and 91% for reading)*

2013-2014 Assessments (Offered both online and paper/pencil)

- Grades 3-5 English Language Arts PSSA
  - Based on assessment anchor content standards aligned to PA Common Core Standards
  - Includes a writing component – an area not previously assessed at grades 3 & 4
  - Offered both online & paper/pencil
  - PDE plans to apply for new AMOs
- Grades 3-5 Mathematics PSSA
  - Based on assessment anchor content standards aligned to PA Common Core Standards
  - Offered both online & paper/pencil
  - PDE plans to apply for new AMOs
- Grades 6-8 Mathematics and Reading PSSA
  - Based on current assessment anchor content standards
  - Offered both online & paper/pencil
- Grades 3-8 & 11 Mathematics & Reading PASA
- Grade 8 Writing PSSA
  - Based on current assessment anchor content standards
  - Offered both online & paper/pencil
- Grades 4 & 8 Science PSSA
  - Based on current assessment anchor content standards
  - Offered both online & paper/pencil
- Grades 4, 8 & 11 Science PASA
- Grades 6-8 Stand-alone Writing Field Test
  - Offered paper/pencil only
  - Results will be used to implement a writing component into the proposed Grades 6-8 English Language Arts assessment
- Keystone Exams – Algebra I, Literature, Biology
  - Keystones will be used for two purposes:
    - Proposed state requirement that the class of 2017 and beyond demonstrate proficiency for the purpose of graduation
    - Accountability as per NCLB

2014-2015 Assessments

- Grades 3-8 English Language Arts PSSA
  - Based on assessment anchor content standards aligned to PA Common Core Standards
  - Includes a writing component – an area not previously assessed at grades 6 & 7
  - Offered both online & paper/pencil
  - PDE plans to apply for new AMOs for grades 6-8
- Grades 3-8 Mathematics PSSA
  - Based on assessment anchor content standards aligned to PA Common Core Standards
  - Offered both online & paper/pencil
  - PDE plans to apply for new AMOs for grades 6-8

- Grades 3-8 & 11 Mathematics & Reading PASA
- Grades 4 & 8 Science PSSA
    - Based on current assessment anchor content standards
    - Offered both online & paper/pencil
- Grades 4, 8 & 11 Science PASA
- Keystone Exams – Algebra I, Literature, Biology
    - Keystones will be used for two purposes:
        - Proposed state requirement that the class of 2017 and beyond demonstrate proficiency for the purpose of graduation
        - Accountability as per NCLB

Keystone Exams

Mr. Weiss also reported that, in February, PDE staff met with the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) regarding the proposal to use the Keystone Exams in lieu of the 11th grade PSSA. A concern raised during the meeting was how to ensure that every student is tested. PDE has formulated six different options in response to the concern raised by the USDOE.

Teacher Effectiveness

Dr. Dumaresq provided an update on omnibus changes to the School Code recently enacted by the General Assembly in Act 82 (House Bill 1901). She noted that the Act directs the Department to develop a new rating tool for teachers that takes into account elements of professional practice and multiple measures of student achievement.

Dr. Dumaresq provided the following draft frame for the new rating tool based on the efforts of workgroups the Department has been convening:

- Observations/Evidence | Danielson Framework Domains (50%)
    - Planning and Preparation
    - Classroom Environment
    - Instruction
    - Professional Responsibilities
- Building Level Data (15%)
    - PSSA Achievement
    - PVAAS Growth
    - Graduation Rate
    - Promotion Rate
    - Attendance Rate
    - AP Course Preparation
    - SAT/PSAT
- Teacher Specific Data (15%)
    - PSSA Achievement
    - PVAAS Growth
    - IEP Growth
    - Locally Developed District Rubrics
- Elective Data/SLOs (20%)

- District Designed Measures and Examinations
- Nationally Recognized Standardized Tests
- Industry Certification Examinations
- Student Projects Pursuant to local Requirements
- Student Portfolios Pursuant to local Requirements

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Stephanie L. Jones

Stephanie Jones
Administrative Assistant