MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
COUNCIL OF BASIC EDUCATION

333 Market Street | 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126

January 9, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chairman, Larry Wittig.

Attending:

Erin Agnew	Rep. Paul Clymer	Francis Michelini
James Agras (via phone)	Connie Davis (via phone)	Mollie Phillips
James Barker (via phone)	Sandra Dungee Glenn	Colleen Sheehan (via phone)
Kevin Bates	James Grandon, Jr.	Karen Farmer White (via phone)
Emily Clark	Maureen Lally-Green (via phone)	Lee Williams
	Kirk Hallett	Larry Wittig

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the November 14, 2012 meeting of the Council of Basic Education were approved on a **Hallet/Davis** motion.

COMMITTEE REPORT
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL RECOVERY (CHAPTER 18)

Maureen Lally-Green, Committee Chair, reported that the Committee met earlier in the day and voted to forward the proposed Chapter 18 to the Council of Basic Education for its consideration. The Committee consulted with an advisory group throughout the fall of 2012 to develop draft regulations that establish criteria the Secretary of Education may consider in placing a school district in financial recovery status and determining whether a district is deemed in either moderate or severe recovery status. The regulations were developed in response to an assignment made to the State Board by Act 141 of 2012.

Judge Lally-Green reviewed the proposed regulation for the Council. She noted that Act 141 set forth 15 criteria for the Secretary's consideration, and reviewed the additional 12 criteria proposed by the Committee. She also reviewed the Committee's recommendation to identify districts in severe recovery status based on whether a district would be able to access enough revenue to fully complete the current or forthcoming school year. Finally, Judge Lally-Green noted that the regulation carried forth statutory provisions limiting no more than 9 districts from being declared in financial recovery status and providing an avenue for appeal to those districts, and also included a provision to ensure that the Secretary's declarations were based on current data.

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Deputy Secretary Carolyn Dumaresq gave a status report on the following subjects:

Chapter 4

Dr. Dumaresq noted that Department staff were working with State Board staff to review the public comments received on the Board's proposed revisions to Chapter 4. She also reported that the Department was notified by the United States Department of Education (USDE) that the USDE is suspending peer review of state assessments to prepare for forthcoming common assessments, and that Keystone Exams were granted approval to be used as the state's uniform high school level accountability system. Keystone Exams will be administered during the current school year to measure Adequate Yearly Progress and any other federal mandates. Dr. Dumaresq said she also had reminded the USDE that the Department is still awaiting review of its request to amend the Commonwealth's annual measurable objectives.

Educator Effectiveness

In February, the Department plans to have a stakeholders group review a draft of the administrative manual and new teacher evaluation form for instructionally certified staff, and then bring the form to the State Board for review in March. Dr. Dumaresq noted the work continues surrounding the development of multiple measures of student achievement to be used as part of the new teacher effectiveness system, and said work to develop rubrics focused on education specialists also was underway.

Dr. Dumaresq introduced J.R. Hoyer, who works with PLS and the Department's Standards Aligned System website, to demonstrate new online professional development resources that PDE is developing to support effective teaching connected to the new teacher evaluation system. Mr. Hoyer presented an online course that will be made available to educators online at no charge for voluntary use. Online modules will be developed to align with the 22 components of the framework used as the base of the new teacher effectiveness system. Mr. Royer explained that all modules will be formatted as e-books so that teachers can download the materials for portable use. Dr. Dumaresq said she anticipates the Department will develop 5-6 component courses per month through the end of the fiscal year, with the goal of having all courses completed by the end of 2013. She highlighted that the online resource will allow school principals to maximize their time by not needing to engage in clinical supervision for every teacher. She further noted that the resources available through the SAS website are available to higher education institutions, and are also heavily used by private and parochial schools in the Commonwealth.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

PROPOSED REGULATION: CHAPTER 18 (FINANCIAL RECOVERY)

A motion to adopt Chapter 18 (Financial Recovery) as a proposed regulation and to authorize Board staff to make any revisions necessary to conform with regulatory requirements was made by Maureen Lally-Green and seconded by Mollie Phillips.

VOTE: All were in favor as indicated by unanimous vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 pm by a **Phillips/Hallett** motion.

Stephanie L. Jones

Stephanie Jones
Administrative Assistant