

**MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**333 Market Street | 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126**

January 12, 2017

The 336th meeting of the State Board of Education was convened on Thursday, January 12, 2017. Public notice of the meeting was made in accordance with the Sunshine Meeting Act of 1986. The meeting was called to order at 8:55 a.m. by Chairman Larry Wittig.

Attending:

James Agras *(via phone)*
Andrew Ahr
Carol Aichele
Jay Badams *(via phone)*
Nathan Barrett
Nicole Carnicella
Sandra Dungee-Glenn

Sen. John Eichelberger
Pamela Gunter-Smith
(via phone)
Shirlann Harmon
Maureen Lally-Green
(via phone)
Jonathan Peri

Rep. James Roebuck
(via phone)
Colleen Sheehan *(via phone)*
Craig Snider *(via phone)*
Lavinia Soliman
Joshita Varshney
Karen Farmer White
Larry Wittig

The minutes of the November 9, 2016, meeting of the State Board of Education were approved on an **Aichele/Dungee-Glenn** motion.

COMMITTEE REPORT
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DATA COLLECTION REDUCTION

Karen Farmer White, Committee Chair, reported that the Ad Hoc Committee on Data Collection Reduction met yesterday and approved a report of its findings and recommendations from the review of public school entity data that the Committee undertook per Act 86. Ms. White summarized in detail the report's findings and recommendations, and thanked the Advisory Committee that provided input throughout the data review process. Ms. White said the report would be presented to the Board for adoption later in the meeting and invited discussion about the report from members of the Board.

Jonathan Peri expressed his appreciation to Ms. White and the Committee for their work and concurred with the Committee's recommendation to have a member of the Department of Education's (PDE) data governance committee serve as a liaison to the General Assembly. Mr. Peri also inquired about whether the state carries insurance for cyber security.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

Secretary Pedro Rivera thanked Rep. Stan Saylor for his leadership on the House Education Committee and welcomed Sen. John Eichelberger as the new Chairman of the Senate Education Committee. Secretary Rivera then shared updates on the following topics.

Social Media

Secretary Rivera shared that PDE now has a Pinterest account. Educators are using the bulletin boards to share best practices and lesson plans.

Code.Org

The Department recently participated in a conference call with Code.org, a non-profit organization that aims to encourage students to learn computer science. Mr. Rivera said PDE is working with the Delaware County Intermediate Unit to train 350 K-5 teachers in how to integrate coding into their daily curriculum.

White House It's On Us Summit

Secretary Rivera recently served on a panel at the White House for the It's On Us Summit. Pennsylvania received national recognition as a leader for its work related to the It's On Us effort, which seeks to combat college campus sexual assault.

STEM Advisory Committee

Mr. Rivera reported that the Department will host a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Advisory Committee meeting with the intent of establishing computer science work groups.

Pennsylvania Farm Show

Secretary Rivera visited the Pennsylvania Farm Show earlier in the week. During his visit, Mr. Rivera participated in the FFA Winter Convention and toured agricultural exhibits and modular structures built by Pennsylvania students.

Community Colleges

The Secretary reported that he met with community colleges presidents to discuss articulation and issues related to earning industry certificates and associates degrees and transitioning to pursue a bachelor's degree. He noted that 2+2+2 models have been aggressive in the career and technical education, and said conversations about 2+2+2 models now are entering the traditional education sphere. Mr. Rivera said his staff is looking into how such models can be designed for different industry areas.

Drexel University

Mr. Rivera shared that Drexel University hosted a discussion earlier in the week with Governor Wolf and the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Rivera said education was a big topic of interest at the event and noted that the event was attended by hundreds of business leaders.

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

Mr. Rivera said the Department's ESSA team is hosting public forums across the state. The stakeholder feedback will assist PDE in development of its ESSA state plan that the Department plans to submit to the U.S. Department of Education by September 2017.

Governor's Budget Address

Secretary Rivera shared that Governor Wolf will present his proposed budget for FY 2017-18 on February 7.

Following the conclusion of the Secretary's report, Mr. Peri lauded the work PDE has committed to Code.org related to computer science and encouraged the Department to create opportunities for primary and secondary private schools to participate.

Sandra Dungee Glenn asked how she can access updates on the work of the STEM Advisory Board. Ms. Dungee Glenn then shared that schools in Philadelphia are involved in urban agriculture and asked how urban agriculture ties in to the agricultural activities that the Secretary discussed as part of his report on the Farm Show. The Secretary shared that a number of school districts are creating self-contained ecosystems, including Steelton-Highspire and Bethlehem. Ms. Dungee Glenn asked that the Secretary connect the various entities involved in this work so they can learn from each other. Lavinia Soliman shared that Montgomery County Community College received private funds to build an aquaponics laboratory. Ms. Dungee Glenn then noted that discussion during yesterday's Teacher and School Leader Effectiveness Committee meeting included concern for the need to get a better understanding of why certification numbers are dropping and whether the state should consider different preparation pathways to enter the profession.

REPORT OF THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

Dr. George Drake provided the following report on behalf of the Professional Standards and Practices Commission (PSPC).

Dr. Drake announced that the PSPC will hold its next meeting on January 23 at which time it will consider 24 disciplinary cases. He reported that, in November, the Commission endorsed the Model Code of Ethics for Educators (MCEE) developed under the leadership of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification. The MCEE serves as an ethical guide designed to assist educators in constructing the best course of action when faced with an ethical decision or dilemma.

In November, Dr. Drake said the Commission's Practices Committee also began working on updates to the Code of Professional Practice and Conduct for Educators (Code) to address topics such as social media use by educators, electronic communications with students and appropriate student-teacher boundaries. Dr. Drake noted that violation of the Code is grounds for professional discipline, and said he hopes that a first draft of the revisions will be complete by May 2017.

Dr. Drake announced that the PSPC is working in concert with PDE to form a Professional Ethics Taskforce and said the first priority of the Task Force will be to develop program guidelines addressing professional ethics that will apply to every teacher education program in Pennsylvania.

Finally, Dr. Drake provided an update on cases pending before the PSPC. He reported that the Office of Chief Counsel (OCC) has a total of 1,761 open educator discipline cases, 305 of which are designated as "high priority" because they involve allegations of sexual or physical abuse of children or certain criminal charges/convictions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

FINAL-FORM CHAPTER 11

A motion to approve final-form amendments to Chapter 11, as recommended by the Council of Basic Education and by the Committee on Chapter 11, was made by Dr. Nicole Carnicella and seconded by the Hon. Carol Aichele.

VOTE: Roll Call vote: 16-**AYE**, 0-**NAY**, 0-Abstentions. (*Agras- AYE, Aichele- AYE, Badams- AYE, Barrett- AYE, Carnicella- AYE, Eichelberger- AYE, Dungee Glenn- AYE, Farmer White- AYE, Gunter-Smith- AYE (by proxy), Hallett- AYE (by proxy), Lally-Green- AYE, Peri- AYE, Roebuck- AYE, Sheehan- AYE, Snider- AYE, Wittig- AYE*)

REPORT ON PUBLIC SCHOOL ENTITY DATA COLLECTION REDUCTION

A motion to approve and transmit the report on Public School Entity Data Collection Reduction, as prepared by the Ad Hoc Committee on Data Collection Reduction, was made by Karen Farmer White and seconded by James Agras.

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

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

A motion to approve the State Board of Education's Annual Report for 2016 was made by Karen Farmer White and seconded by Sandra Dungee-Glenn.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:57 a.m. on a **Dungee Glenn/Aichele** motion.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephanie Jones".

Stephanie Jones
Administrative Assistant