



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on June 12, 2019 at the Burton Cross State Office Building, 111 Sewall Street, Augusta, Maine. The following members were present: Chair Wilson Hess; Vice Chair Jane Sexton; John Bird; Fern Desjardins; Jana Lapoint; and Casey Maddock

Excused: Wendy Ault; Martha Harris; and Jaylee Rice

Vacant: Two Members

Others Present: Jason Libby, Higher Education Specialist; and Mary Becker, State Board Secretary Associate.

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair, Wilson Hess called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Welcomed Casey Maddock to the State Board of Education as a new student member serving a two-year term and attending her first meeting.

VISION STATEMENT:

Read by student member, Casey Maddock: The Vision of the State Board is to ensure Maine public school students graduate with the skills, knowledge, and principles to be responsible American citizens; self-directed and dedicated to making contributions to society by pursuing further education and employment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOVED by John Bird, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the May 15, 2019 minutes as amended.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

MOTION by Jane Sexton, seconded by John Bird, and unanimously voted by those present to move item number VIII.F. “Consideration of Nominee to Maine Charter School Commission” ahead on the agenda just prior to Officer’s Reports.

CONSIDERATION OF THE NOMINEE TO MAINE CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

Jana Lapoint, John Bird and Fern Desjardins interviewed Nichi Farnham and are nominating Nichi to serve on the Maine Charter School Commission. Nichi served on the State Board of Education and on the Charter Commission for several years.

MOVED by Jana Lapoint, seconded by John Bird, and unanimously voted by those present to move forward by presenting Nichi Farnham’s name to the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee as a nominee to the Charter School Commission.

Note: Chair Hess announced that several members of the Board will be stepping out to attend the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee meeting which does not constitute the loss of a quorum, however, the Board cannot take action in their absence. The Board will continue with business but will not take action until a quorum is noted.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment

OFFICER’S REPORTS:

Chair, Wilson Hess

- Wilson reported out on the proposed topics for Maine Education Policy Research Institute (MEPRI) studies. He shared a report based upon the survey of steering committee members. Average ratings were given to the Legislature:

1. Staffing shortages, recruitment and retention
2. Community schools
3. College readiness
4. Teacher coaching
5. School choice
6. Early childhood
7. Student support

One other potential topic was suggested by the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee – Retention to graduation in Maine colleges.

- The Department of Education is hosting several Regional Think Tanks throughout the state. Locations and topics are listed at the DOE Newsroom on the Department’s website. Topic discussion is listed on the website as well. Educator Readiness has only one session and it will be offered at the

Senator Inn, in Augusta. Board members are encouraged to attend.

Registration needs to be completed in advance and can be done on-line.

- A Career and Technical Education (CTE) Stakeholder Group meeting will be held on the 19th of June – 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM in room 103, Burton Cross State Office Building.
- The Commissioner’s Conference for Superintendents is scheduled for June 24 and 25 in Bar Harbor. Wilson is not available to attend but several Board members will be in attendance.
- The Chair of the State Board appoints members to serve on sub-committees and groups. On July 1st, Committee appointments will be ready to re-set. All members should make Wilson aware of what Committees they are interested in serving on.
- The Governor has appointed Peter Geiger of Lewiston to serve on the State Board and his confirmation hearing with The Education and Cultural Affairs Committee is scheduled for June 12 (today).
- On June 20, the New England Board of Higher Education will be presenting the 2019 Excellence Award to Wendy Ault. Wilson is not available to attend but hopes other Board members will be in attendance.
- At the May 15 Board meeting there was a tie vote on a transfer appeal. Under Robert’s Rules of Order, Wilson, as chair of the Board announced that the Commissioner’s decision was not upheld and therefore reversed. In discussion following the ruling, several Board members encouraged Wilson to reach out to Assistant Attorney General Sarah Forster for advice. Based on concurring advice from Assistant Attorney General Sarah Forster and Assistant Attorney General William Laubenstein, Wilson reversed his ruling from the May 15, 2019 Board meeting, communicated his decision to the Board, and instructed the Secretary to include the following statement in the Minutes of the May 15, 2019 meeting.

STATEMENT:

Under Robert’s Rules of Order, the Chair announced that the Commissioner’s decision was not upheld and therefore reversed. In discussion following the ruling, several Board members encouraged the Chair to reach out to Assistant Attorney General Sarah Forster for advice.

On the basis of concurring advice from Assistant Attorney General Sarah Forster and Assistant Attorney General William Laubenstein, Chair Hess reversed his ruling from the May 15, 2019 Board meeting, communicated his decision to the Board, and instructed the Secretary to include the following statement in the Minutes of the May 15, 2019 meeting.

The Chair’s revised ruling is based upon the Board acting in its appellate capacity. In that role counsel advises that a tie vote means that there was “no opinion”. Thus the previous ruling of the Commissioner stands. The transfer of NS is denied.

Vice Chair, Jane Sexton

- Jane attended English Language Arts (ELA) Steering Committee meetings on May 24 and May 29.
- She chaired the Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting on May 29.
- She attended Casey Maddock's confirmation hearing with the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee on May 31.
- Jane attended the Agenda Review meeting on May 31.
- She was the Board Observer at the Tufts University Team Review on June 11. At lunch time the team met with 10 students who received their MD and are going on to fellowships at various places across the country. Students are from different areas of the State of Maine.
- She is working on the agenda for the Annual Board Retreat scheduled for August 12 and 13 to be held at Central Maine Community College in Auburn.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:***School Construction Committee (Fern Desjardins for Martha Harris):***

The School Construction Committee did not meet on June 4, 2019, as scheduled.

The next School Construction Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 2, 2019. The meeting will be held in room 500 of the Cross State Office Building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

Certification and Higher Education (Jane Sexton):

The Certification and Higher Education Committee met on May 29, 2019, as scheduled.

- The Committee received an update from the Certification Office:
 - The FBI will be in the office on June 12 to do an extensive investigation.
 - The staff is receiving very aggressive callers with non-issues. The Commissioner will be placing a voice greeting on the phones with the wait time in the Certification Office.
- Jason Libby reported out on Higher Education:
 - Each college with a teacher preparation program is required to submit a report annually. There are five colleges that have not submitted a report and Jane Sexton has sent each of the five a letter requesting the report.
 - Jane attended the Tufts University Review at Maine Medical Center as a Board Observer.
 - John Bird will be the Board Observer for Beal College.

- Discussion on Saint Joseph's report – Standard One and Standard Two
- Review and discussion of Husson University Team Report.
- There are three handbooks for college reviews and the Committee members have been asked to review each handbook and be prepared to have a discussion of each at the next Committee meeting. Jason has made some revisions to the Maine Educator Preparation Program Standards booklet. The handbooks are as follows:
 - Handbook for Review Team Members – Maine Educator Preparation Programs
 - Handbook for State Program Approval – Maine Educator Preparation Programs
 - Maine Educator Preparation Program Standards

The next Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 26, 2019. The meeting will be held in room 538 of the Cross State Office Building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

Career and Technical Education (John Bird):

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee met on May 23, 2019, as scheduled.

- Since the last meeting, the Committee has been implementing the motions that were passed to the spending of the Briggs Funding of \$30,000.00 to MACTE and \$50,000.00 to Educate ME as a facilitator to set in motion strengthening of grades 9 and 10. Perkins money will fund this program. Perkins is over \$300,000.00 and may be up to over \$400,000.00.
- John held the first of two teleconference meetings on June 12. Committee of eight people participated in the call. Four people from CTE and MACTE, Ed Cervone and Kate from Educate ME, Dwight Littlefield, from DOE and himself (John). It was a good discussion and John thinks everything was outlined to go forward. The Committee wants to have the best practices around the country. Best practices are already going on throughout the State of Maine. School districts are doing good work and John thinks it will be a productive conference planned to take place in August.
- Good conversation with MACTE and the work they will do this year. The Committee will receive a report from MACTE half way through the year and then at the end of the year.

The next Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 27, 2019. The meeting will be held in room 538 of the Cross State Office Building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

Legislative Action (Jana Lapoint):

The Legislative Action Committee met weekly, as needed, on Fridays with Karen Kusiak, Legislative Director at the Department of Education.

- All of the LDs for Charter Schools were approved by the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee. They then went to the House and Senate and have all been approved there. Currently on the Governor's desk for signature, or to become law without her signature.

Nomination and Election (Fern Desjardins):

Martha Harris Chaired the Nominations and Election Committee.

Wendy Ault and Fern Desjardins served on the Committee.

At the May 15, 2019 Board meeting, Martha Harris put forward the Slate of Officers as Wilson Hess as Chair and Jane Sexton as Vice Chair.

It was noted that the Board's Procedure indicates that other members who wish their names to be placed on the ballot must obtain two supporting nominations from Board members and present them to the Nomination and Election Committee Chair at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting on June 12, 2019.

The Committee did not receive any other nominations, therefore, at today's meeting, under new business Fern will make a motion for Wilson and Jane to continue their current positions for a year.

Student Voices (Wilson Hess for Martha Harris):

The Committee has not met.

Charter Commission Representatives (Jana Lapoint):

The Charter School Commission met on June 4, 2019

- Approved each Charter School with the Board Liaison appointed.
- Approved a flowchart for intervention by the Commission with a concern of some facet at a given school.
- Approved \$3,000.00 to be provided to Baxter and two other schools for professional development of staff.
- Reviewed if the Commission could return to each school a portion of the 3% they are annually allowed to keep. This year approximately \$450,000.00 will be returned.
- Upcoming vacancy of Commission member Dr. Michael Wilhelm and date established to interview candidates to fill his position.
- Legislative update not promising for all bills related to Charter Schools went through on a party basis with an 8-5 vote. All have gone to the Governor and are awaiting her signature.
 - Governor will appoint all Charter School Commission Members.

- Cap on schools at 10 to be permanent even before as the law stated a study after eight years was to be done to determine the effectiveness of the schools.
- Virtual schools capped at 1,000 and no additional grades to be allowed.
- Panorama survey results from all schools submitted reviews the social and emotional growth of the schools with the review being submitted by parents, students, faculty and staff. The report indicates that a larger number of parents, students, faculty and staff have responded to a survey making it an even more valuable tool in evaluating the success and climate found within the schools.
- Who will attend site visits and at what intervals was approved.
- Website not yet quite ready. Should be complete within the month.
- A new Chair and Vice Chair will be elected next month with the meeting being scheduled for Monday, July 1.

NEW BUSINESS:

REQUEST APPROVAL TO ALLOCATE FY20 TARGETED RESERVE FUNDS AWARDED THROUGH PERKINS V - STRENGTHENING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY ACT (P.L. 115-224) AND FY19 CARRYOVER FUNDS AWARDED THROUGH PERKINS IV – CARL D. PERKINS CAREER AND TECHNICAL ACT OF 2006 (P.L. 109-270), TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN THE FY20 PERKINS GRANT YEAR, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FY20 PERKINS V TRANSITION STATE PLAN, WHICH ALIGNS PERKINS FUNDS WITH THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES OF THE MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The State Board of Education’s Career and Technical Education Committee recommends to the State Board of Education the designation of targeted reserve monies from FY20 and carryover monies from FY19 Perkins grant funds to be allocated during the FY20 grant year as follows:

Award the FY20 targeted reserve funds, of \$344,947, for grant awards to implement CTE programs and opportunities for Maine’s 9th and 10th grade students, that are aligned to the best practices and pilot programs developed through the Educate Maine George Briggs grant award. All approved activities must conclude prior to the end of the FY20 school year.

Award the FY19 carryover balances, of approximately \$100,000, and any remaining FY20 targeted reserve balances after completion of the 9th and 10th grade CTE grant awards noted above, for additional grant awards to align Maine’s CTE programs and opportunities to the strategic priorities of State Board of Education such as: secondary CTE to postsecondary CTE alignment, middle school CTE opportunities, innovative CTE programs and opportunities, and CTE instruction and instruction related services. All approved activities must conclude prior to the end of the FY20 school year.

RECOMMENDATION: The State of Board Education approve the allocation of FY20 Targeted Reserve funds awarded through Perkins V - Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (P.L. 115-224) in the amount of \$344,947 and the FY19 carryover funds awarded through the Carl D. Perkins Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-270) of approximately \$100,000 to be distributed in the FY20 Perkins Grant year in accordance with the FY20 Perkins V Transition State Plan, which aligns Perkins funds with the Strategic Priorities of the Maine State Board of Education.

MOVED by John Bird, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the allocation of FY20 Targeted Reserve funds awarded through Perkins V - Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (P.L. 115-224) in the amount of \$344,947 and the FY19 carryover funds awarded through the Carl D. Perkins Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-270) of approximately \$100,000 to be distributed in the FY20 Perkins Grant year in accordance with the FY20 Perkins V Transition State Plan, which aligns Perkins funds with the Strategic Priorities of the Maine State Board of Education.

RECEIPT OF THE HUSSON UNIVERSITY EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM REPORT IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 114

BACKGROUND: The review team was chaired by Dr. Audrey Bartholomew of the University of New England. The review took place December 2-5, 2018. The review team reviewed the institution's self-study using Chapter 114 standards.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education receive the Husson University Review Team report of findings and that the institution's educator preparation program be granted five-year program approval by the Maine State Board of Education.

MOVED by Jane Sexton, seconded by John Bird, and unanimously voted by those present to receive the Husson University Review Team report of findings and that the institution's educator preparation program be granted a five-year program approval by the Maine State Board of Education.

MOVED by Jane Sexton, seconded by John Bird, and unanimously voted by those present to amend the motion to receive the report only. The Committee will discuss it in detail at the June 26, 2019 meeting and the Board will vote to grant a five-year program approval at the July 10, 2019 Board meeting.

RECEIPT OF THE ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM INTERIM REPORT

BACKGROUND: Saint Joseph's College Education Preparation Program was reviewed from April 2 to April 4, 2017. The team was led by Dr. Kathy Yardley of the University of Maine at Farmington. On June 14, 2017, the State Board of

Education voted to grant approval from June 2017 to June 2022 pending the delivery (prior to 18 months from June 14, 2017) of a report as to how the two standards that were not met would be remedied. An interim report was received on December 11, 2018 and submitted to the Certification and Higher Education Committee of the State Board of Education for their review.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education receive the St. Joseph's interim report.

MOVED by Jane Sexton, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to receive the St. Joseph's interim report.

APPROVAL OF THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CERTIFICATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO REPLACE THE SCHOOL LEADERS LICENSURE ASSESSMENT (6011) WITH THE REVISED SCHOOL LEADERS LICENSURE ASSESSMENT (6990)

BACKGROUND: On Wednesday, May 29, 2019, the Certification and Higher Education Committee of the State Board of Education reviewed updates to the Educational Testing Service (ETS) Praxis tests. ETS will be phasing out the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (6011) and replacing it with the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (6990). A multi-state review of the new assessment (6990) established a cut score of 151.

The Certification and Higher Education Committee voted to continue to accept the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (6011) through July 31, 2019 and to adopt the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (6990) with a cut score of 151 beginning on August 1, 2019.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education vote to approve the motion put forth by the Certification and Higher Education Committee and accept the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (6011) through July 31, 2019 and replace it with the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (6990) on August 1, 2019 with a cut score of 151.

MOVED by Jane Sexton, seconded by John Bird, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the motion put forth by the Certification and Higher Education Committee and accept the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (6011) through July 31, 2019 and replace it with the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (6990) on August 1, 2019 with a cut score of 151.

BEAL COLLEGE REVIEW TEAM MODIFICATIONS

MOVED by Jane Sexton, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present for the Beal College Review Team to have the deletion of Monique Roy and Martha Harris as members.

ELECTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICERS – CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR THE 2019-2020 YEAR

MOVED by Fern Desjardins, seconded by John Bird, and voted three in favor with two abstentions (Wilson Hess and Jane Sexton) to elect Wilson Hess as chair and Jane Sexton as vice chair for the term of one-year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Submit travel and expense account vouchers to Mary Becker at the end of this meeting.
- The next Board meeting will be held at the Cross State Office Building in Augusta on July 10, 2019.
- Jane Sexton announced that the Annual Board Retreat dates are Monday, August 12 and Tuesday, August 13, 2019. Jane asked Board members to please place these dates on their calendar. The retreat will be held at Central Maine Community College in Auburn. The Chairs of Committees should present a written report on how the Committee has accomplished its goals and strategies over the past year. Also, provide written goals for the coming year so the full Board can review and discuss at the retreat. Committee chairs should send their written reports to Mary Becker by the end of July, so she can send them out to all Board members in advance of the meeting date.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

At the morning workshop session of the Board meeting, a framed certificate was presented to Richard “Dick” Durost, Executive Director of the Maine Principal’s Association (MPA) in recognition of his forty years of outstanding service to education in Maine and leadership of the Maine Principal’s Association from 2001 to 2019. Dick will be retiring at the end of June 2019.

Dick Durost spoke about his relationship with the State Board over the years, with past and present members. He spoke about how the MPA could assist with getting the word out to students regarding serving on the State Board and the application process. Dick spoke about MEPRI and Charter Schools. He spoke about how the State Board has always welcomed him to meetings and the fact that his association has probably attended more Board meetings than any other association in the State.

ADJOURNMENT:

The June 12, 2019 State Board of Education meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.