

Nevada State Board of Education

Nevada State Board for Career and Technical Education

ACTION REPORT

JANUARY 15-16, 2009

Anthony Ruggiero, President
Dr. Keith Rheault, Superintendent of Public Instruction

On Thursday, January 15 and Friday, January 16, 2009, the State Board met at the Department of Education, 700 East Fifth Street, Carson City, for presentations and discussions at their regular Board meeting.

On **Thursday, January 15, 2009**, the six newly elected board members were sworn in at the Supreme Court Building by Chief Justice Hardesty. New Board Member Orientation was held following the swearing-in ceremonies. The Orientation entailed an Overview of the Department of Education, Method of Operations, Nevada Law, State Board Policy, Governor's Office/Legislative/Budget, and State Board Travel.

Following the Orientation, election of Board Officers was held. A motion to nominate Anthony Ruggiero as President was approved; Dr. Cliff Ferry was approved as the Vice President and Christopher Wallace was approved as the Clerk.

The Board approved the Presidential appointments to the Subcommittee on Charter Schools: Dr. Cliff Ferry, Jan Biggerstaff, Christopher Wallace and Willia Chaney as an alternate.

The Subcommittee on Charter Schools convened on **Friday, January 16, 2009**, 8:15 a.m. with Chair Dr. Cliff Ferry. Motion made and approved a recommendation to the whole Board at their regular meeting following the Subcommittee meeting to grant a Subsection 7 Charter to the Silver Sands Montessori Charter School for State Board Sponsorship.

The Subcommittee on Charter Schools approved unanimously to recommend to the whole Board to grant a Subsection 5 full charter; adding to the current charter of Nevada Virtual Academy Charter School for a high school, grades 10-12.

On **Friday, January 16, 2009**, the Regular Meeting of the State Board of Education was called to order at 8:45 a.m. by President Anthony Ruggiero.

President Ruggiero shared the state affairs as announced in the Governor's State of the State given the night before. He stated his concern of the budget crisis and suggested the Board discuss a plan for the proposals during the legislative session as appropriate.

Superintendent Dr. Keith Rheault gave an overview of the following meetings he attended:

- Special Legislative Session held on December 8, 2008
- P-16 Council held on December 16, 2008
- Council to Establish Academic Standards held on January 6, 2009

The Board received a budget update from Deputy Superintendent Jim Wells.

The Board approved the following Consent Agenda Items:

- Approval of Minutes of December 5-6, 2008, Regular Meeting
- Approval of members to attend the Nevada Association of School Boards' New Member Orientation February 20-21, 2009, Reno
- Approval of the Appointment of Susan Lacey to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)
- Approval of the Reappointment of Walt Rulffes, Superintendent of Clark County School District, to the WestEd Board of Directors for a three-year term beginning June 1, 2009, and ending May 31, 2012

The Board held a **PUBLIC HEARING** and unanimously approved the proposed revision to Regulation language for NAC 389.670 – Credit for Specific Course Without Attending Classes.

The Board held a **PUBLIC HEARING** and unanimously approved proposed revision to Regulation Language for NAC 386.020 – “Charter School” defined; NAC 386.240 – Issuance of Written Charter to Applicant not Prepared to Commence Operation on Date of Issuance; Expiration, Effect and contents of Charter; Supplemental Application; NAC 386.365 – Report of Data Required for Automated System of Accountability Information for Nevada; and NAC 386.370 – Final Budget.

The Board postponed the Public Hearing regarding the revocation of Nevada Teacher’s License for Brett Storsved to the June 2009 Board meeting.

Approval was given by the Board of the 2009 Subcommittee on Task Force Assignments, Advisory Council Appointments, and Appointments to Organizations.

The Board honored Gayle Magee, Empire Elementary School, Carson City School District, as one of the two 2009 Nevada Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award Recipients. On behalf of the Milken Family Foundation, the Board presented Ms. Magee an obelisk.

The Board approved the Request for Variance from Class Size Reduction Requirements, 2008-2009 School Year as presented by Superintendent Rheault.

The Subcommittee on Charter Schools recommended to approve a Subsection 7 Charter for Silver Sands Montessori Charter School, in Reno, Nevada. A motion was made and carried to approve the Subsection 7 Charter.

The Subcommittee on Charter Schools recommended to approve a Subsection 5 Full Charter for the Nevada Virtual Academy Charter High School Grades 10-12. A motion was made and carried unanimously to grant a Subsection 5 charter and add to the current charter of the Nevada Virtual Academy Charter.

The 2009 State Board of Education Meeting dates and location were approved as follows:

- March 19-20, in Carson City (no video conferencing)
- May 7-8, in Carson City (possible video conferencing)
- June 25-26, in Las Vegas (possible video conferencing)
- August 13-14, in Carson City (possible Board Retreat – no video conferencing)
- October 8-9, in Las Vegas (possible video conferencing)
- December 3-4, in Las Vegas (possible video conferencing)

Board Member Comments were given.

The next scheduled meeting of the Nevada State Board of Education/Nevada State Board for Career and Technical Education will be held Thursday and Friday, March 19-20, 2009, at the Department of Education, at 700 East Fifth Street, Carson City.