



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
TRUSTEES OF BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY
TRUSTEES OF IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY
TRUSTEES OF LEWIS-CLARK STATE COLLEGE
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION

**APPROVED MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
October 31 – November 1, 2013
Special Board Meeting
Boise, ID**

A special meeting of the State Board of Education was held October 31 – November 1, 2013. It originated from the Board office in Boise Idaho. Board President Don Soltman presided and called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. A roll call of members was taken.

Present:

Don Soltman, President
Emma Atchley, Vice President
Rod Lewis, Secretary
Richard Westerberg
Bill Goesling
Tom Luna
Milford Terrell

Thursday, October 31, 2013

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Closed to the Public)

University of Idaho

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Atchley/Goesling): To go into Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code §67-2345(1)(a) – for the purpose of considering the hiring of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board recessed until November 1, 2013 at 8:00 am

Friday, November 1, 2013

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Closed to the Public)

The Board reconvened at 8:00 am.

M/S (Terrell/Goesling): To go out of Executive Session at 12:20 p.m. on Friday, November 1, 2013. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board reconvened for regular business on Friday, November 1, 2013 at the Board office in Boise Idaho. Board President Don Soltman presided and called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

PLANNING, POLICY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS (PPGA)

1. Pending Rule Docket 08-0203-1313 – Reward Schools

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Edmunds/Westerberg): To approve the Pending Rule Docket 08.0201.1302 as submitted. The motion carried 8-0.

2. Pending Rule Docket 08-0201-1302 – GED Requirements

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Edmunds/Westerberg): To approve the Pending Rule Docket 08.0203.1303 as submitted. The motion carried 8-0.

Mr. Lewis asked about the changes regarding the General Education Development (GED) test requirements. He asked about the difference of the requirements in section 01 and section 04. Ms. Bent clarified the changes to the policy and clarified that GED sets the passing score for the GED test which is a nationally known number. She commented the GED test scores set by the state are being used to meet the Idaho high school equivalency requirement, but we have set our own cut scores. She clarified that anyone could take the GED test, receive a passing GED score, and receive a GED, but to get an Idaho high school equivalency certificate they have to meet Idaho's cut scores.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (SDE)

1. Pending Rule Docket 08-0202-1301 – Accreditation

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Luna/Terrell): To approve Pending Rule - Docket No. 08-0202-1301, Rules Governing Uniformity, as submitted. The motion carried 7-0. Mr. Edmunds was absent from voting.

Ms. Willits from the State Department of Education (SDE) provided a short explanation of the changes to this rule. Ms. Atchley asked about the number of students driving the rule. Ms. Willits responded that the number of students in a class is 36 and it seemed like a good starting point. Mr. Luna added that the 36 represents three support units.

2. Pending Rule Docket 08-0202-1303 – Alternate Route to Certification

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Luna/Terrell): To approve the Pending Rule - Docket No. 08-0202-1303, as submitted. The motion carried 8-0.

Ms. Willits indicated this rule will allow for more alternative learning routes for students.

3. Pending Rule Docket 08-0202-1304 – Mathematics In-Service Program

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Luna/Goesling): To approve Pending Rule – Docket No. 08-0202-1304, as submitted. The motion carried 8-0.

Ms. Willits indicated the changes that were made were requested as clarification related to strategies for teaching math, and also requested by the legislature and stakeholder groups.

4. Pending Rule Docket 08-0202-1305 – Code of Ethics

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Luna/Goesling): To approve Pending Rule – Docket No. 08-0202-1305, Rules Governing Uniformity, as submitted. The motion carried 8-0.

Mr. Luna indicated that this rule deals with the teacher Code of Ethics and the changes provide clarity to the rule. Mr. Lewis asked about a phrase in the rule stating, “. . . during the course of professional practice”. Mr. Luna responded that the phrase refers to any time professional educators are performing their responsibilities as an educator. Mr. Lewis felt the lead in language appears to be limiting. Mr. Luna and Mr. Lewis agreed to converse about the changes in more detail outside of the meeting.

5. Pending Rule Docket 08-0202-1306 – Documents Incorporated by Reference

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Luna/Terrell): To approve Pending Rule – Docket No. 08-0202-1306, Rules Governing Uniformity, Incorporation by Reference. The motion carried 7-0. Mr. Westerberg was absent from voting.

6. Pending Rule Docket 08-0202-1307 – MTI and Out of State Applicants

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Luna/Atchley): To approve Pending Rule – Docket No. 08-0202-1307, Rules Governing Uniformity, as submitted. The motion carried 8-0.

7. Pending Rule Docket 08-0202-1308 – Endorsements

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Luna/Atchley): To approve Pending Rule – Docket No. 08-0202-1308, Rules Governing Uniformity, as submitted. The motion carried 8-0.

Ms. Willits provided clarification on the differences in the rule, pointing out the changes in endorsements complement the changes in teacher standards that were made, and that there were no comments received on the rule changes. She indicated these changes also raise the English standards for teachers, and a mastery provision is included.

Mr. Lewis asked why the Math standards aren't increased as much. Ms. Willits responded that the review of the standards are broken out over a number of years, such that a few standards are reviewed each year and the requirement for more credits in math will be seen in the coming years. She indicated for illustrative purposes that next year is science. Mr. Lewis responded that this is a significant jump and it may be going too far at once with moving from 20 to 45 credits. He recommended seeing the subjects all increased at the same time. Mr. Luna responded that if the Board wants to adopt a faster pace for each subject area, they can certainly do that with a request through the Professional Standards Commission. He also indicated they could discuss this in more detail in the CAAP committee. He added they want to allow teachers to demonstrate mastery that translates to credits. Mr. Lewis cautioned on disincentivizing teachers on becoming students by having the bar too high. Mr. Westerberg also added that he felt the changes could be problematic for small schools. There was additional discussion on the number of credits required. Mr. Luna commented that if we have adopted content standards for students that are considerably higher, we need to make sure we have a teaching force that can effectively teach to the higher content standards and this is a move toward achieving that.

8. Pending Rule Docket 08-0203-1303 – Gun Free Schools

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Luna/Terrell): To approve the Pending Rule - Docket No. 08-0203-1303 – Gun-free Schools, as amended. The motion carried 8-0.

M/S (Lewis/Atchley): I move to amend the language in the rule by striking out the words “students prohibited from”. The amended motion carried 8-0.

Mr. Luna indicated that this rule resolves the problem with conflicting rules and brings clarity to what is in code, clarifying what is in code and what is not. Ms. Willits indicated this rule requires that school districts have a policy about guns on campus and clarified that these changes were largely requested by the Legislature and also a result of the Sandy Hook tragedy. Ms. Bent clarified the relevant section of code references that faculty must have permission from the local school board to carry weapons on campus. Mr. Lewis expressed concern about how the wording is in the policy that it is related to just students. He felt the policy should be inclusive of everyone on campus, including faculty and staff, not just students. Mr. Lewis recommended taking the word “students” out of the language so it would be clearer that the policy is for everyone on campus.

Mr. Terrell wanted to ensure by this change that the ability of school staff to protect the students would not be compromised. Mr. Luna clarified that this just requires districts to have policy for

guns on campus in general. Mr. Terrell asked what happens between now and when the policy is enacted. Ms. Marcus commented that the statute clearly prohibits students from possessing weapons. Mr. Lewis confirmed that this would not prohibit the districts from allowing certain staff from carrying weapons on campus. Ms. Willits added that this rule will not go into effect until the Legislature approves it.

9. Pending Rule Docket 08-0203-1304 – On-Line Course Approval

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Luna/Atchley): To approve Pending Fee Rule - Docket No. 08-0203-1304, Rules Governing Thoroughness, as amended. The motion carried 8-0.

M/S (Lewis/Goesling): To amend rule language by striking the words “course providers” and inserting the word “courses” under section 128.06 in the third sentence of paragraph 06.

Mr. Lewis asked permission from the chair to remove this amended motion. There were no objections to the request.

M/S (Lewis/Atchley): To amend the rule language by inserting the words “and courses” after the word “providers” in the third sentence under section 128.06. The motion carried 7-0. Mr. Terrell was absent from voting.

Mr. Luna introduced the item stating it is dealing with the State Department of Education’s online course portal and provides some details as to what the portal will be and the uses it will provide. It requires online course providers to have an approved course that will be reviewed and approved every four years. Mr. Lewis asked if it is the courses or the providers that are being approved for four years. Mr. Luna responded it is for the courses. There was further discussion that clarifying language needs to be added to the rule. Mr. Lewis offered an amendment to the language.

10. Amend Temporary Rule Docket 08-0203-1305 – Graduation Requirements

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Luna/Terrell): To approve the amendment to Temporary Rule - Docket No. 08-0203-1305, as amended. The motion carried 8-0.

M/S (Terrell/Goesling): To approve the amendment to Temporary Rule - Docket No. 08-0203-1305, including the language in Tab 11 dealing with middle school and math. The motion carried 8-0.

Ms. Willits walked the Board members through the changes by section. She pointed out some of the highlights from each section. Mr. Lewis pointed out a couple of typos that required correction.

Ms. Willits pointed out on tab 11, section 6, there is a new subsection D, and read aloud the new section which clarifies the changes for math students. The language they discussed will be copied and added to the temporary rule. Mr. Lewis pointed out that substantively they are giving math students credit for taking computer science. Mr. Luna commented that in order to

take computer science the student must first take algebra II. Mr. Lewis questioned why computer science is an equivalent to math. Ms. Willits responded that it would be treated as a math credit or science credit because of the high level of math required to take a dual credit or Advanced Placement computer science course. There was additional discussion related to the math requirements.

Mr. Lewis pointed out that the top requirement for math in Idaho is geometry and declared it an embarrassment. Mr. Edmunds echoed those sentiments. He urged the Department to determine if that is truly a sufficient level of math for Idaho students and to bring back feedback for the Board. He specifically requested a recommendation from the Department on what the level of math should be for Idaho high school students. Mr. Luna acknowledged that request.

11. Pending Rule Docket 08-0203-1306 – Graduation Requirements

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Luna/Goesling): To amend Pending Rule – Docket No. 08-0203-1306, as submitted.

A substitute motion was offered.

M/S (Terrell/Goesling): To amend the Pending Rule – Docket No. 08-0203-1306, to remove section 105.101.01 and to remove the word “the requirement” from section 105.01.11. The motion carried 7-1. Mr. Edmunds voted nay on the motion.

Ms. Willits clarified the details of the pending rule, stating that everything that was approved in the temporary rule is contained in the pending rule. Ms. Willits indicated the first motion includes elementary schools requiring a minimum of 60 minutes of physical education (PE) on a weekly basis. For middle schools and junior high schools, for the Fall of 2015, it includes an average of 200 minutes of PE on a bi-weekly basis during the period of enrollment. Ms. Willits detailed the changes for the math section, which state that for AP computer science, dual credit computer science, and dual credit engineering, the courses may be counted as a math credit if the student has completed Algebra II standards, but can't be double counted as both a math and a science credit. Those same changes were made for the science section.

For the section on health and wellness, it requires that students have one class period where they learn CPR. Additionally, there will be two credits of PE required for graduation beginning in the Fall of 2015. Ms. Willits read aloud a substitution that was driven by public comment which essentially states that students participating in a sport recognized by the Idaho High School Activities Association or a club sport recognized by the local school district, or 18 weeks of a sport recognized by the local school district may choose to substitute participation for one credit of PE. Summarily, the two major changes with this rule are to PE, and math and science.

Mr. Soltman expressed concern about the PE requirement for middle schools in that some middle schools do not have the capacity in gyms or the staff to accommodate the 200 minute requirement. Ms. Willits responded that concern would be addressed by the occurrence of the class on a bi-weekly basis. There was discussion on activities that could be counted toward the PE requirement.

Mr. Edmunds expressed concern about the state exercising too much control with items like the PE requirement. He felt the control should be at a local level and should be outcomes driven.

Ms. Atchley also indicated that she had heard of public comments where individuals were opposed to the 200 minute requirement for PE. There was additional discussion about different associations who may have influence over concerns like this. Mr. Westerberg expressed concern about the physical condition of students and also was concerned with the requirement. Mr. Lewis commented that many districts are already requiring PE and that there could be some compromise to tie the requirement together with outside athletic activities.

Mr. Luna summarized the details of the discussion by clarifying the changes would be kept for the CPR, the grade school and middle school PE requirements, and to remove the two credits of PE required for graduation. Mr. Lewis recommended some alternative language. There was additional discussion about the limits on PE credits. The concern was expressed that the students are getting to their senior year and not having to participate in certain classes by being awarded credit for other activities. The discussion moved on to mastery and several different opinions were expressed.

12. Pending Rule Docket 08-0203-1307 – Cursive Writing

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Luna/Goesling): To approve Pending Rule - Docket No. 08-0203-1307, as submitted. The motion carried 5-3. Mr. Soltman, Mr. Edmunds and Ms. Atchley voted nay on the motion.

Other Business:

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was entertained.

M/S (MT/BG): To adjourn at 2:34 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.