



# State Board Review

A Publication for Members of the  
N.C. Association of School Administrators

January 4, 2018

*The State Board of Education (SBE) met January 3-January 4 in Raleigh. The pages that follow summarize the Board's actions for this month. For complete SBE information, visit their Web site: <http://stateboard.ncpublicschools.gov/>*

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To access executive summaries of each action item on the agenda, as well as any documents and notes uploaded from each discussion and action point, see the January 3, 2018 meeting agenda [here](#).

## STATE BOARD RAISES CONCERNS ABOUT TEACHER LICENSURE PROCESS

During the monthly State Board of Education meeting on Wednesday, board members raised concerns regarding the online teacher licensure process following the presentation of a recent audit of the system. Problem areas highlighted include “user-friendliness,” technical challenges and weak reporting capabilities, inadequate information on timeliness and application requirements, and a lack of professional learning and team building for the licensure staff.

Based on results from 2017, the audit was presented to the State Board members by a representative from The New Teacher Project (TNTP), a non-profit organization formed to help school systems achieve their goals for students.

Board members commenting in response to the audit presentation stressed their concerns with the problems highlighted and the need for reforming the system to be more conducive both for licensure employees and online licensure applicants.

A summary of key findings in the audit report include:

- Little availability of reference information for aspiring educators as well as school administrators
- Data syncing and user log-in issues, which might be caused by a system flaw where “duplicate entries for the same social security number can be entered”
- Inconsistency of policy development, which can cause confusion for DPI licensure staff and aspiring educators
- Insufficient support systems for licensure staff

TNTP has issued recommendations to improve the flaws identified in the online licensure system, and State Board members stressed that these measures be taken to ensure needed improvements. The recommendations for changes include:

- Policy development: Generate and begin a consistent process licensure process more understandable and usable
- Communications with the field: Improve online content and maintain communications with constituents regarding licensure status and updates
- NCDPI Licensure team culture & structure: Build and maintain a supportive and performance-oriented team culture
- Technology and reporting: Resolve glitches with the online system and build reporting functionality for licensure team and school administrators

More information, including the audit report by TNTP, can be found [here](#).

## UNPLUGGED PARENTS AND ONLINE BULLYING: STATE BOARD EXAMINES POLICY IMPLEMENTATION OF PREVENTING CYBER BULLYING IN NC

During Wednesday's meeting, DPI intern Robin Richardson presented a practicum of the evaluation of policy implementation in NC regarding preventing bullying, cyber bullying, and harassment. State Board members thoroughly engaged in the conversation thereafter, expressing concern on how to further implement future actions for both the school and home communities for students across the state.

According to Richardson, only 19% of bullying actually happens on campus. An astonishing 51% of bullying happens after school hours on social media sites such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, and various others. Richardson said, "While cyber-bullying acts happen off school grounds, they often carry over into the school day." She explained how the online acts of bullying are relevant to the school day and learning environment because they carry over into the school day and impact how students might learn. The percentage of students in NC that reported feeling "so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities" is 56%.

Board member Amy White weighed in stating that parents are unplugged. She said that most parents are unaware of what happens on their children's phones and those pivotal grades, such as 6-9, where students are seeking their identity and learning about life are where much of the bullying occurs. She also stressed that it is happening at every age level and there is a great need for parents who are not involved in their children's lives socially and through social media to become more aware and involved. Board members, along with presenter Richardson, agreed that there is a need for community involvement, awareness, and getting parents 'plugged in' in the near future.

More information from Richardson's findings about bullying in NC, both online and on school property can be found [here](#).

## ACTION ITEMS

### STUDENT LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE

## **Action**

### **SLA 1 Report To The North Carolina General Assembly: State Agency Continued Collaboration On Early Childhood Education**

*Recommendations: It is requested that State Board of Education members accept the report and included recommendations. **APPROVED***

### **SLA 2 High School Accreditation Recommendation For JP Knapp Early College (Currituck County Schools)**

*Recommendations: It is recommended that the SBE approve accredited status for J.P. Knapp Early College. **APPROVED***

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON DIGITAL LEARNING**

### **Action On First Reading**

#### **SCDL 1 School Connectivity Initiative Report To The NC General Assembly**

*Recommendations: It is recommended that the SBE members accept this report for submittal to the General Assembly. **APPROVED***

## **HEALTHY RESPONSIBLE STUDENTS**

### **Action**

#### **HRS 1 Definition Of Student Chronic Absenteeism**

*Recommendations: The State Board of Education is asked to accept the definition of Student Chronic Absenteeism. **APPROVED***

## **EDUCATION INNOVATION AND CHARTER SCHOOLS COMMITTEE**

### **Action**

#### **EICS 1 2017 Acceleration Charter Schools**

*Recommendations: The Charter Schools Advisory Board recommends that the State Board of Education accepts is Acceleration Application recommendations. **APPROVED***

#### **EICS 2 Innovative School District Report To The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee**

*Recommendations: It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the report. **APPROVED***

#### **EICS 3 Approval Of Proposed Restart Schools**

*Recommendations: It is recommended that the State Board approve these applications. **APPROVED***

### **Action On First Reading**

#### **EICS 4 Restart Application Requests From Johnston County Schools And Vance County Schools**

*Recommendations: It is recommended that the State Board approve these applications. **APPROVED***

#### **EICS 5 Amendment Requests To Restart Applications From Durham Public Schools And Rowan-Salisbury Schools**

*Recommendations: It is recommended that the State Board approve these applications. **APPROVED***

## **EICS 9 The Experimental Schools Of Greensboro Request To Amend Its Mission Statement**

*Recommendations: The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the State Board of Education approve this amendment request for The Experiential School of Greensboro. **APPROVED***

## **EDUCATOR STANDARDS AND PRACTICES**

### **Action**

#### **ES&P 1 Teacher Preparation Policy Updates And Alignment With General Statute**

*Recommendations: On the recommendation of the Professional Educators Preparation and Standards Commission, the policies presented in this discussion item be reviewed by the State Board of Education and approved at the January 2018 SBE meeting. **APPROVED***

## **BUSINESS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

### **Action On First Reading**

#### **BSOP 1 Career And Technical Education (CTE) Grade Expansion Grant Program**

*Recommendations: It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the applications identified by the grant evaluation team to distribute funding to school districts. **APPROVED***

#### **BSOP 2 Adjusted Employee Salary Schedule And Benefits Manual Modifications For Highly Qualified North Carolina Teaching Graduates**

*Recommendations: It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the modifications. **APPROVED***

To view the agenda for the State Board of Education's meeting on January 3, including links to all handouts and power point presentations presented to the Board, and which may include discussion and informational items not discussed above, please click [here](#).

To view the agenda for the State Board of Education's meeting on January 4, including links to all handouts and power point presentations presented to the Board, and which may include discussion and informational items not discussed above, please click [here](#).

To view the monthly State Board of Education newsletters for the year of 2017, please click [here](#). Upon release, the January 2018 newsletter link will be provided.

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*Members of the NCASA staff represent NCASA at all meetings of the State Board of Education. If you have questions about the issues discussed in this State Board Review, please contact Executive Director Katherine Joyce at [kjoyce@ncasa.net](mailto:kjoyce@ncasa.net) or Jacqueline Wyatt, Government Affairs & Communications Specialist, at [jwyatt@ncasa.net](mailto:jwyatt@ncasa.net).*