



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 October 12, 2022 at the Burton Cross State Office Building and virtually via Zoom. The following members were present: Chair Fern Desjardins; Vice Chair Paulette Bonneau; Wendy Ault; Kristin Bishop; James Ford; Wilson Hess; Thomas Keller; Victoria Kornfield; Edmond Morin; and Joshua Leinwand.

Absent with Excuse: Ryan Hafener

Others Present: Angel Lored, Director of Higher Education and Educator Support Services; Joan Ferrini-Mundy, President, University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias; Chris Mallett, Northeastern University; Kristin Smith, Roux Institute; Titus O'Rourke, Maine Department of Education; Katelin Ryan, Northeastern University; Sandra Bourget, State Board of Education Office Specialist/Secretary Specialist.

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Fern Desjardins called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Roll call was taken by Chair Desjardins. The chair declared a quorum present.

VISION STATEMENT:

Read by student member, Joshua Leinwand: 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.

POEM READING:

Poem Read by Victoria Kornfield – “*First Frost Last Bouquet*” by Anne Cyr, a Maine poet.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

No Adjustments to the Agenda

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION by Victoria Kornfield, seconded by Kristin Bishop, and voted seven in favor with two abstentions (Wendy Ault and Edmond Morin) to accept the September 14, 2022 minutes as presented. The motion is adopted.

MOTION by Wendy Ault, seconded by Victoria Kornfield, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the September 30, 2022 minutes as presented. The motion is adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No Public Comment

OFFICER’S REPORTS:

Chair, Fern Desjardins

- On September 29, she and Vice Chair Bonneau met with Edmond Morin for orientation. Ed fills vacant seat #08. All seats are now filled.
- On September 15, she and Wendy Ault participated in a special meeting with the Director of the Office of Higher Education and Educator Support Services to discuss Chapter 115.
- On September 15, she had a meeting with Deputy Commissioner Chuhta to discuss a number of business items.
- On September 16, she attended a Multilingual Learner Advisory Council meeting. Discussion took place on the ongoing influx of asylum-seeking families and other newcomers; students with limited or interrupted formal education; Title III funding; Count ME in program (to address chronic absenteeism); improvements to the Seal of Biliteracy; and English Language Proficiency assessment participation rates and technical assistance.

- On October 3, she and Vice Chair Paulette Bonneau met with Deputy Commissioner Chuhta for the monthly agenda review meeting.
- On October 6, she attended the Certification and Higher Education meeting.
- On October 11, she attended the Professional Standards Board meeting.
- Board member Tom Keller wrote a successful \$10,000 NASBE Healthy Schools Network grant. It led to meetings with MDOE personnel on issues that ultimately were not resolved (e.g., the State Board does not have the capacity to accept grant funds) so Tom withdrew the grant.
- Fern asked Board members to contact her or Sandy with comments or suggestions on the first draft of the 2023 SBE calendar.

NASBE

- Attended a Special Executive Committee meeting (9/16), Board of Directors meeting (9/26), and Chaired the Finance & Audit Committee meeting (9/20). The focus has been on the 2021 audit report, 2023 budget draft, Annual Conference planning updates, and updates on the strategic plan.
- Ryan will be 1 of 4 featured speakers on the panel for the State Actions to Develop Youth-Adult Partnerships webinar taking place Tuesday, October 18, 4:00 – 5:15 PM, online. Board members can register at the NASBE website. Ryan will report out on his webinar experience and on his attendance at the NASBE Annual Conference in Phoenix, Arizona at the November 9 State Board workshop.

Vice Chair, Paulette Bonneau

- She does not have any committee meeting to report on.
- On September 29, she and Chair Desjardins met with Edmond Morin for new member orientation. Ed fills vacant seat #08.
- She participated in a phone call with Thomas Keller regarding the \$10,000 NASBE Healthy Schools Grant.
- On October 3, she and Chair Desjardins met with Deputy Commissioner Chuhta for the monthly agenda review meeting.
- She's had several phone calls with Chair Desjardins regarding various State Board of Education business.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

School Construction Committee (Fern Desjardins):

The School Construction Committee canceled their meeting as there were no actions to be taken.

Certification and Higher Education (Wendy Ault):

The Certification and Higher Education Committee (C&HE) met on October 6, 2022.

- Three items of business are on today's agenda.

Career and Technical Education (Wilson Hess):

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee did not meet in September.

- On the agenda for the Educate Maine Symposium to give a presentation related to the Alignment of Graduation Requirements for CTE's and Various Sending Schools.

Legislative Action (Wilson Hess):

The Committee did not meet in the last month.

- Members will be receiving communication regarding a Rural STEM Education Act.

Student Voices (Joshua Leinwand):

The Student Voices Committee met October 11, 2022.

- Discussed Ryan Hafener's plan to participate in the NASBE *State Actions to Develop Youth-Adult Partnerships* webinar and his plans to attend NASBE's Annual Conference.
- Discussed issues that impact students in Maine.
- The Student Cabinet will be meeting October 14, 2022 in person from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Burton Cross State Office Building.

Board Effectiveness (Paulette Bonneau):

The Board Effectiveness Committee did not meet in September but will reconvene in October to get feedback on the vision and mission statements put out to Board members in today's workshop.

Charter Commission Representatives (Wilson Hess):

The Charter School Commission met on October 11, 2022.

- There are three new appointed Board members: James Handy, Norman Higgins and Leigh Weisenburger-Albert.
- Victoria Kornfield was appointed Chair of the School Performance Committee and James Handy was appointed to the committee.
- Norman Higgins and Leigh Weisenburger-Albert were appointed to the Finance Committee.
- Received reports on a Board Chair Summit to encourage and implement best practices on Board Governance policies.
- Received an update from an enrollment consulting firm working with some charter schools and it's had a good effect.
- Received a report that a part-time administrative assistant has been hired.
- Received an update on custom performance framework targets
- Approved a request from the Community Regional Charter School to incur debt in the amount of \$150,000 to repair a roof on one of their buildings.
- Proposal from Harpswell Coastal Academy to defer a renewal of their application of the Charter Contract until November 8. The committee considered the request but chose not to grant the proposal.
- Considered request from HCA application to renew their contract. The committee voted unanimously not to grant the unconditional renewal.
- Considered request from HCA to renew with conditions. The committee voted four in favor with three opposed. Rule states we need a super majority of five votes, so the renewal failed to pass. We proceed to work with HCA on an orderly process for closure.
- Received a report on budget vs. actual and preliminary enrollment report and reviewed a draft transition plan following the departure of the Executive Director.

Professional Standards Board (Thomas Keller):

The Professional Standards Board (PSB) met on October 11, 2022.

- Fern attended the October 11 meeting as Tom was at a Charter Commission meeting. Chair Andrew McCullough conducted a very productive meeting.
- Deputy Commissioner Chuhta spoke of the terms expiring in January. Members can pursue a second term if they would like to continue serving

on the Board. They need to let their Lead Organization know of their interest (MEA, MPA, etc.) as the Lead Organization makes a recommendation to Melissa O'Neal Low, Director of Boards and Commissions at the Governor's Office.

- The first goal of the PSB is to determine an effective model of teacher retention to include mentorship and to advise the State Board of its model. Andrew met with Emily Doughty, Education Team Coordinator at the MDOE, to express plans with her. Emily shared effective strategies gathered from focus groups at last spring's summit for educators and Andrew shared those notes with us.
- The PSB identified 5 categories for consideration.
 - Elevate the profession.
 - Fiscal Responsibility – Cost of education – not just paying teachers more.
 - Mentorship
 - School Culture
 - Support & career advancement
- Andrew asked members to reflect on the 5 categories and to generate ideas within each of the categories.
- He also shared a best practice worksheet to which PSB members had contributed 7 items for consideration. It will remain active for members to add to it.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2022.

Special Report:

Victoria Kornfield is the State Board of Education representative for the Teacher of the Year committee and Matthew Bernstein has been chosen for 2023. Matt teaches at Casco Bay High School. He is the perfect spokesperson, he is enthusiastic and passionate.

UNFINISHED (OLD) BUSINESS:

No Unfinished Business

NEW BUSINESS:

RECEIPT OF ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM REVIEW TEAM REPORT

BACKGROUND: A State Board of Education approved review team that conducted a virtual program review on March 28, 2022, through April 1, 2022, for St. Joseph's College. The review team submitted the report to the Certification and Higher Education Committee where it was reviewed and advanced to the full State Board of Education for receipt.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education receives the St. Joseph's College education preparation program report and be considered in the November 9, 2022, meeting. The programs reviewed are as follows:

- Elementary Education: (K-8) Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education
- Special Education: (K-12) Bachelor of Science in Special Education
- Physical Education: (K-12) Bachelor of Science in Physical Education
- Secondary Education: (6-12) Minor (Mathematics, History, Life Science, Physical Science)
- Graduate Programs: MSED Leadership Administration - for 045 Assistant Building Administrator Certification.

MOTION by Wendy Ault, seconded by Kristin Bishop and unanimously voted by those present that the State Board of Education receive the St. Joseph College education preparation program report and be considered in the November 9, 2022 meeting for the programs reviewed.

CONSIDERATION OF THE ROUX INSTITUTE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM REVIEW TEAM REPORT

BACKGROUND: Northeastern University, through the Roux Institute of Portland, was reviewed by a State Board of Education approved review team on July 18 and 19, 2022 at the Portland campus. The review team submitted the report to the Certification and Higher Education Committee where it was reviewed and voted for advancement to the full State Board of Education for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education approve the Roux Institute of Portland for the following subjects:

- Master of Science in Real World Evidence in Healthcare and Life Science
- PhD in Population Health
- Graduate Certificate in Information Design and Visualization
- PhD in Interdisciplinary Design and Media
- PhD in Chemical Engineering
- PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering
- PhD in Computer Engineering
- PhD in Electrical Engineering
- PhD in Industrial Engineering
- PhD in Interdisciplinary Engineering
- PhD in Mechanical Engineering
- Master of Science in Management
- PhD in Network Science
- PhD in Computer Science
- PhD in Cybersecurity
- Graduate Certificate in Healthcare Compliance
- Graduate Certificate in Intellectual Property

Also, that the Roux Institute at Northeastern University be provided an opportunity to expand its program offerings at the graduate and graduate certificate levels only, without full review of alignment with Chapter 170, and instead with annual reporting to MDOE about any such expansion.

MOTION by Wendy Ault, seconded by Thomas Keller and unanimously voted by those present that the State Board of Education approve the Roux Institute of Portland for the following subjects:

- Master of Science in Real World Evidence in Healthcare and Life Science
- PhD in Population Health
- Graduate Certificate in Information Design and Visualization
- PhD in Interdisciplinary Design and Media
- PhD in Chemical Engineering
- PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering
- PhD in Computer Engineering
- PhD in Electrical Engineering
- PhD in Industrial Engineering

- PhD in Interdisciplinary Engineering
- PhD in Mechanical Engineering
- Master of Science in Management
- PhD in Network Science
- PhD in Computer Science
- PhD in Cybersecurity
- Graduate Certificate in Healthcare Compliance
- Graduate Certificate in Intellectual Property

Also, that the Roux Institute at Northeastern University be provided an opportunity to expand its program offerings at the graduate and graduate certificate levels only, without full review of alignment with Chapter 170, and instead with annual reporting to MDOE about any such expansion.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED TEAM MEMBERS FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FUNERAL SERVICES EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM REVIEW

BACKGROUND: The National Institute of Funeral Services has applied for degree granting authority in the State of Maine under Chapters 149 and 170. Dr. Lynne Coy-Ogan of Husson University has accepted to serve as the review team chair. The members of the review are Dr. Alicia Wilcox of Thomas College and Ms. Julie Ann Johnson of Conroy, Tully, and Walker. Thomas Keller will be the SBE Observer.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education approve the NIFS Review Team.

MOTION by Wendy Ault, seconded by Wilson Hess, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the NIFS Review Team.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Submit expense account vouchers to Fern Desjardins by the 15th day following the month of the expenses incurred.
- The next regular State Board business meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, November 9, 2022 at 1:00 PM at Morse High School & Bath Tech in Bath.
- The December 14, 2022 meeting will be held in RSU 19 at Nokomis Regional Middle/High School in Newport.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Chair Desjardins adjourned the meeting at 3:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by
Sandra Bourget, Office Specialist/Secretary Specialist
State Board of Education
