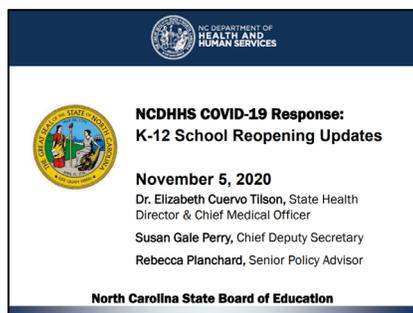


A Publication for Members of the
N.C. Association of School Administrators

November 5, 2020

The State Board of Education (SBE) held its monthly meeting remotely on November 4-5. The pages that follow summarize highlights from the meeting and the Board's actions for this month. For complete SBE information, visit their website: <http://stateboard.ncpublicschools.gov/>

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



DHHS COVID RESPONSE UPDATE

On Thursday, NC Dept. of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) Secretary Susan Gale-Perry provided Board members with an update on COVID-19 metrics and their effect on K-12 school reopening. The following are major highlights from the presentation:

- Cases are increasing in rural counties more quickly than in urban/suburban counties.
- So far in NC, the US, and internationally, schools are not being seen as a big source of spread.

- There have been 390 total cases associated with K-12 clusters (active and complete), but no K-12 cluster-linked deaths.
- Currently, 297 cases have been associated with active K-12 clusters as of 11/3. There are 34 currently active clusters, with 182 cases among students and 115 cases among staff.

Click on the image to access the DHHS November presentation to the State Board of Education.



CENTER FOR SAFER SCHOOLS UPDATE: STRATEGIC PLANNING EFFORTS

On Wednesday, the Center for Safer Schools (CSS) provided updates on the rollout of the Sandy Hook Promise Student Safety Application, including data collected from the app reporting system since the March 2020 school closures. The report also included an update on the State Action Plan for School Safety to highlight the strategic objectives for the CSS. Click on the image to access the Center For Safer Schools November presentation.

- [DRAFT 2025 State Action Plan For School Safety](#)
- [NC Youth Self-Harm & Suicide Data: 2018-2020](#)
- [Gaggle Student Device Safety Product](#)

SBE GENERAL COUNSEL UPDATE—On Thursday, Board members approved the selection of Alison Schafer as the new General Counsel for the State Board of Education, effective January 2021. Schafer

previously served as Legal Counsel/Director of Policy for the NC School Boards Association, and will replace interim State Board General Counsel Tom Ziko.

ACTION ITEMS

EDUCATION INNOVATION AND CHARTER SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

Action

EICS 1 - 2020 Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee (JLEOC) Virtual Charter School Pilot Report

NC [Session Law 2014-100 \(SB 744\)](#) required the State Board of Education (SBE) to establish a pilot program to authorize the operation of two virtual charter schools serving grades K-12. The legislation authorized the pilot program to begin with the 2015-2016 school year and continue for a period of four years, ending with the 2018-2019 school year. Prior to the end of the four-year pilot, [Session Law 2018-5 \(SB 99\)](#) extended the pilot program for an additional four years. The virtual charter schools pilot program is now authorized to continue through the 2022-2023 school year. Along with the pilot extension, reporting requirements were revised and are as follows:

The State Board shall report on the initial implementation of the pilot program to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee (JLEOC) by November 15, 2016, and on the findings from (i) five years of operation of the pilot program by November 15, 2020, and (ii) seven years of operation of the pilot program by November 15, 2022.

The [accompanying report](#) satisfies the reporting requirements outlined above. The NC Charter Schools Advisory Board (CSAB) discussed the report at its September 2020 regularly scheduled meeting, conducted an ad hoc committee meeting to further refine recommendations, and called a special meeting on September 28, 2020 to vote on the report. During the report presentation in November, some Board members requested the report be amended so that accountability data regarding the state's two virtual charter schools be separated from aggregate data of all NC charter schools, for internal DPI use only. As a result, the motion to approve the report recommendations was amended to include this data disaggregation request.

Recommendations: The Charter Schools Advisory Board recommended the SBE receive the JLEOC 2020 Virtual Charter Pilot Program report and approve the recommendations contained therein.

APPROVED

EICS 2 - Restart Rescind Request - Kannapolis City Schools

The Superintendent of Kannapolis City Schools requested to rescind its Restart applications based on the internal assessment that the employment requirement flexibility and budget flexibility are no longer needed and can be supported by the district. Based on the [attached letter](#) from the Superintendent, the district has a plan to support this low performing school through the school's active engagement in NC Star School Improvement Planning, weekly check-ins for the principal with an assigned district administrator, routine reviews of budget and finances, and ongoing analysis of staffing and licensing.

Recommendations: It was recommended the SBE approve the Request to Rescind Restart Application for Kannapolis City Schools.

APPROVED

HEALTHY RESPONSIBLE STUDENTS COMMITTEE

Action

HRS 1 - New Policy: School-Based Mental Health Policy

Following the August, September, and October 2020 presentations on DPI's increased focus on social emotional learning (SEL) and school mental health (SMH) as part of a robust multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS), this action item concerns proposed board policy for SMH. The [proposed policy](#) was presented for discussion in October 2020. [Senate Bill 476/SL 2020-7](#) requires state board policy to be in place by December 31, 2020. The MTSS framework provides a continuum of social emotional and mental health supports for students and organizes SEL and SMH resources to promote equitable policies and practices. Funding considerations and analysis were shared at the October board meeting for consideration towards funding priorities / requests.

Recommendations: It was recommended the SBE approve this proposed School-Based Mental Health policy.

APPROVED

STUDENT LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE

Action

SLA 1 - Career Technical Education (CTE) Essential Standards/Course Inventory (SCOS-005)

Career and Technical Education (CTE) reviews and revises standards for courses every five years following an approved process. Some courses require revisions more often due to the technical nature of the content and the rate of change within certain industries. Based on these reviews, NCDPI occasionally discovers gaps in programmatic offerings and acquires new courses, which would then be recommended as additions to the Essential Standards and Course Inventory. The CTE Division recommended the following course updates for the 2021-22 school year Essential Standards and Course Inventory document:

- In the Business, Finance, and Marketing Education area, the addition of MI31 Sales I and MI32 Sales II due to a skills gap in the Career Cluster.
- In the Computer Science and IT Education area, the addition of BP16 Python Programming II in order to complete the pathway for Python Programming and to close the skills gap in the Career Cluster.
- In the Family and Consumer Sciences Education area, the addition of FC13 Counseling and Mental Health I and FC14 Counseling and Mental Health II due to a skills gap in the Career Cluster.
- In the Trade, Technology, Engineering, and Industrial Education area, the addition of these courses:
 - D12 Drone Technology II
 - IU30 Exploring Construction (Middle Grades)
 - IU302YA Exploring Carpentry Terms
 - IU302YB Exploring Carpentry Careers
 - IU302YC Exploring Electrical Trades Terms
 - IU302YD Exploring Electrical Trades Careers
 - IU302YE Exploring Masonry Terms
 - IU302YF Exploring Masonry Careers
 - IU05 Exploring Safety and Tools in the Trades
 - IU052YB Exploring Safety and Tools in the Trades
 - IM14 Manufacturing Robotics
 - IM4x Metals Manufacturing III
 - TP13 PLTW Engineering Essentials (*added to correct error in omission from 2020-21*)
 - TR13 SREB AC Mechatronic Systems for Advanced Production (*added to correct error in omission from 2020-21*)

Additionally, CTE debuted the Course Management System for NC CTE, which will become the “hub” for the Essential Standards and Course Inventory in the future. The site link is:

<https://center.ncsu.edu/nccte-cms/>

Recommendations: It was recommended the SBE approve the Career & Technical Education (CTE) Essential Standards and Course Inventory (SCOS-005).

APPROVED

SLA 2 - Read to Achieve (RtA) Guidebook (KNEC-003)

Read to Achieve is part of the Excellent Public Schools Act which became law in July of 2012 and was implemented in all schools at the beginning of the 2013-2014 school year. The Read to Achieve (RtA) Guidebook serves as a structural framework for the North Carolina Read to Achieve program. The K-3 Literacy Team provides support and guidance for implementation of Read to Achieve, which is detailed in the RtA Guidebook. The Read to Achieve Guidebook also includes Definition of Terms used in the Excellent Public Schools Act of Legislation, as well as information about implementation for each of the components in the law.

Recommendations: SBE members were asked to review and approve the [Read to Achieve \(RtA\) Guidebook](#).

APPROVED

EDUCATOR STANDARDS AND PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Action on First Reading

ES & P 1 - Teacher Compensation Models and Advanced Teaching Roles Pilot Program Evaluation

In 2016, the North Carolina General Assembly provided support for several advanced teaching roles and compensation plan pilots, with a requirement for evaluation of two components of those pilots—their academic and instructional impact; and their impact on the teaching profession. In addition, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction proposed several other evaluation components that fall into two other broad categories: (1) a comparative analysis of programs; and (2) financial and policy considerations.

- The report for Year 1 summarized results from the first year of the evaluation. To date, the evaluation team has completed a Year 1 assessment of the status of each pilot’s current implementation, established a plan for conducting quantitative outcomes analyses, and collected and analyzed survey and focus group data from all six of the participating Local Education Agencies (LEAs).
- The focus for Year 2 of the evaluation (July 2018-June 2019) was identifying LEA-level changes in implementation, rationales for those changes, and quantitative estimations of early impacts of the pilots on key outcome measures.
- The focus for Year 3 of the evaluation summarizes qualitative results from the third year of the initiative and quantitative analysis from the first two years of implementation. This is the fourth and final evaluation report commissioned by the State Board of Education. The due date for this report is **October 15, 2020**.

Recommendations: It was recommended the SBE receive the Teacher Compensation Models and Advanced Teaching Roles Pilot Program Evaluation for submission to the General Assembly. The report was due October 15, 2020.

APPROVED

ES & P 2 - Repeal of 16 NCAC .06C Rules

On September 17, 2020, the Rules Review Commission (RRC) approved 58 permanent rules to be published in the North Carolina Administrative Code on Educator Preparation and Licensure. Because of the approval of these 58 rules, NCDPI reviewed older emergency rules and temporary rules to see which rules were duplicated. As a result, 32 rules were found to either duplicate the recently approved rules or repeat statute (see below). PEPSC unanimously approved in October 2020 and recommended repealing [numerous rules](#).

Recommendations: It was recommended the SBE approve repealing the listed NCAC .06C rules as presented.

APPROVED

BUSINESS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

BSOP 2 - SBE Policy Amendment: Policies, Laws, and Guidelines Governing School Attendance (ATND-000)

The School Attendance and Student Accounting Manual amendments and modifications reflect the following:

- Clarifications to the existing language for exceptional children and Pre-Kindergarten students;
- Additions for attendance for students who are in membership but offsite during the COVID-19 emergency;
- Changes to the school calendar law to reflect 2020 session law; and
- Update of contacts and website

Recommendations: It was recommended that the SBE of Education approve the amendments to the School Attendance and Student Accounting Manual, ATND-000.

APPROVED

To view the agendas for the State Board of Education's meetings, including links to all handouts and PowerPoint presentations presented to the Board, which may include discussion and informational items not discussed above, please click [here](#).

To view the monthly State Board of Education newsletter archive, including this month's newsletter, please click [here](#).

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 Katherine Joyce, Executive Director, at kjoyce@ncasa.net or Elizabeth Yelverton, Legal Affairs & Policy Manager, at eyelverton@ncasa.net.