



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

July 9, 2020

The State Board of Education (SBE) held its monthly meeting remotely on July 8-9.

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/>

SBE MEMBERS APPROVE BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR RESERVE CARES ACT FUNDS

During its meeting on Thursday, members of the State Board of Education, particularly State Superintendent Mark Johnson and Business Operations Committee Chair Alan Duncan, debated two different proposals for use of the remaining 10% of funds allocated to North Carolina through the CARES Act K-12 Emergency Relief Fund. Supt. Johnson offered a [proposal on behalf of the NC Department of Public Instruction](#), while Duncan offered a [competing proposal](#) on behalf of the BSOP Committee. After much debate, SBE members voted 7-3 in favor of the \$37M BSOP funding proposal, outlined under BSOP 2 in the pages that follow.

ACTION ITEMS

EDUCATOR STANDARDS & PREPARATION COMMITTEE

Consent

ES & P 2 – Policy Amendment: LICN-003 Reading (Graduate Level - Test 5301) and Audiology (Test 5342) Test Code and Cut Score Updates

On May 14, 2020, PEPSC unanimously approved vendor recommended cut score and test code updates to two licensure content examinations, Reading (Graduate Level – Test 5301) and Audiology (Test 5342). The current tests remain a testing option for licensure until August 2021 with the new test versions being effective in September 2020.

- **Test Code Changes**
 - Reading 5301 to 5302
 - Audiology 5342 to 5343
- **Cut Score Changes**
 - Reading 165 (formerly 164)
 - Audiology 162 (formerly 170)*

*The updated Audiology assessment was already adopted by the national professional, scientific, and credentialing association - American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA).

Recommendations: It was recommended that the State Board of Education approve the cut score and test code updates to Tests 5301 and 5342 reflected in SBE policy: Licensing Testing Requirements (LICN-003) as presented.

APPROVED

EDUCATOR STANDARDS & PREPARATION COMMITTEE

Action On First Reading

EICS 1 - Report to the General Assembly: Innovative School District (ISD) Evaluation & Update

The SBE & ISD partnered with the Friday Institute (FI) at North Carolina State University, an independent evaluation team, to ensure progress toward effective implementation of the ISD model by evaluating the effectiveness of the ISD in turning around low-performing schools, including the innovation zone (I-Zone). With only one participating school and no I-Zones for the first two years of the initiative, the FI was not able to include evaluation components such as statistical estimations of initiative impact or comparisons of the impact of public versus private funding, as these and other evaluation topics require the presence of multiple implementation sites. As a result, the evaluation primarily provides findings limited to a single ISD implementation in a single school; however, [the report](#) also includes a limited number of initial, tentative findings and recommendations related to the ISD as a whole. During the July 2020 SBE meeting, Dr. Trip Stallings discussed the scope of the evaluation, findings, and recommendations with the SBE.

Recommendations: It was recommended that the North Carolina State Board of Education approve the Report to the General Assembly: Innovative School District (ISD) Evaluation.

APPROVED

Action

EICS 2 - 2020 Charter School Ready to Open (RTO) Recommendations

On May 11, 2020, the Charter Schools Advisory Board (CSAB) voted to preliminarily recommend the slate of schools scheduled to open in 2020 to the SBE to continue with the Ready to Open Process. On May 22, 2020, board members from those nine charter schools submitted their final RTO Progress Report, which was reviewed by OCS and the NCDPI Exceptional Children (EC) Division. The evaluators rated each section of the RTO Progress Report and provided feedback where needed. The final CSAB recommendations are as follows:

School (County)	CSAB Recommendation (Vote)
1. Achievement Charter Academy (Harnett County)	Approved (Unanimous)
2. Alamance Community School ³ (Alamance County)	Approved (Unanimous)
3. Cardinal Charter Academy at Wendell Falls ¹ (Wake County)	Approved (Unanimous)
4. Elaine Riddick Charter School ² (Perquimans County)	Approved (Unanimous)
5. Kaleidoscope Charter High School (Wake County)	Not Approved (Unanimous)
6. MINA Charter School of Lee County (Lee County)	Approved (Unanimous)
7. Movement School Eastland (Mecklenburg County)	Approved (Unanimous) Cheryl Turner recused
8. Revolution Academy (Guilford)	Approved (Unanimous)
9. Wilmington School of the Arts (New Hanover County)	Approved (Unanimous)

Recommendations: The Charter Schools Advisory Board recommends the SBE approve the 2020 Charter School Ready to Open (RTO) Recommendations, including not allowing Kaleidoscope to relocate.

APPROVED

STUDENT LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE

Action

SLA 1 - K - 12 Social Studies Standards Adoption

During the June 2020 State Board of Education meeting there were requests for additional information and the addition of an inclusivity statement for all K-12 Social Studies Standards. The recently proposed statement reads:

When planning teaching and learning, educators are expected to include diverse histories, experiences, and perspectives of racial, ethnic, gender, and identity minority groups, as well as marginalized, undervalued, and underrepresented groups including, but not limited to: African-Americans; indigenous populations; women; Latinx; Asian-Americans; MENA-Americans; and LGBTQ+ in order to create an inclusive school community where students are respected, valued and welcome participants. Students come from a variety of social, racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds and deserve to learn and be empowered by the historical experiences and contributions of multiple groups.

The draft K-12 social studies standards can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

Recommendations: It was recommended that the State Board of Education approve the content area standards to move forward with the installation process.

POSTPONED—Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, SBE members voted to postpone

SLA 2 - K - 3 Reading Definition Approval

NCDPI has been charged with responding to the Collaborative Guiding Framework for Early Literacy Education. This item provides a response to the first component of the framework, to develop a definition of high-quality K – 3 reading instruction that will be used across Educator Preparation Programs, K-3 Literacy, and other relevant entities. The definition was vetted with stakeholder groups across three regions of NC and has been shared for public comment through a survey that resulted in more than 1,600 responses. The definition was further revised based on all feedback, to include that from the State Board of Education and Literacy Task Force. The proposed definition can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

Recommendations: It is recommended the State Board of Education approve the recommended changes to English Learners' Exit Criteria (TEST-011).

APPROVED

Consent

SLA 4 - Invitation Amendment: Textbook Adoption of Career and Technical Education (CTE) Courses

CTE Curriculum staff originally expressed the need to adopt textbooks for all CTE courses during the 2020 textbook evaluation and adoption process. The last textbook adoption for CTE courses was in 2013 and the field has expressed a need for newer options for instructional materials in these courses. NCDPI CTE Curriculum staff provided a complete list of all CTE courses and evaluation criteria sheets for all the courses. The [revised course list](#) begins on page 5 and the revised criteria sheets begin on pages 36, 40, 48, 51, 62, 74 and 88 of the updated Invitation. Following consent from the SBE, the CUACS team will input standards and evaluation criteria for all CTE courses in the textbook evaluation platform. The Textbook Commissioners and Textbook Evaluation Advisors will conduct their review and evaluation of textbooks submitted during the adoption process using the platform to verify content alignment to the NC Standard Course of Study and quality criteria.

Recommendations: It was recommended that the State Board of Education approve the revised list of CTE courses and criteria sheets for additional CTE courses added to the list for textbook evaluation and adoption.

APPROVED

BUSINESS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Action on First Reading

BSOP 2 - CARES ACT: Budget Proposal for the 10% Reserve

Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, authorizing \$30,750,000,000 to be used to support the nation's K-12 and higher education systems in dealing with the financial, logistical, and educational impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of this appropriation, the U.S. Department of Education (USED) made grant awards to States through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund. These awards were based on the proportion of funding each State is allocated through the Title I, Part A program in the most recent fiscal year. From the amount that NC receives, DPI will be required to subaward at least 90% of the funds to LEAs, ISD, regional schools, charter schools, and lab schools, with each entity receiving the same proportion of funds as it did for the Title I, Part A program. With the 10% reserve (approximately 39,000,000) the State Board of Education requested that NCDPI provide a budget to detail how it proposes to use this amount. During the July 2020 meeting, SBE members discussed the following proposals from the Business Operations Committee and NCDPI:

- [Business Operations Committee ESSER Funds Proposal](#)
- [NCDPI ESSER Funds Proposal](#)

Recommendations: It was recommended that the State Board of Education approve one of the proposed (CARES) Act – K-12 Emergency Relief Fund (10%) Budget Proposals.

APPROVED—SBE members voted 7-3 in favor of the proposal submitted by the Business Operations Committee.

BSOP 3 - Session Law (SL) 2020-4 COVID-19 Recovery Act - Allotments

Session Law 2020-4 was signed into law on May 5, 2020. This Act appropriates funds from the Coronavirus Relief Fund, which is Title V of the CARES Act. Section 3.3 (6) to (18) directs appropriations to DPI and public school units to mitigate and respond to the COVID-19 Emergency. Each appropriation that is disbursed to the public schools will be authorized by the State Board of Education as individual allotment policies. There is one remaining allotment specific to cybersecurity that will be presented to the SBE at a later meeting. This item recommended allotment policies of the following items:

- (15) \$3,000,000 for nondigital resources
- (18) \$5,000,000 for extended learning and integrated student support grant (ELISS)

Recommendations: It was recommended the SBE approve the allotment policies.

APPROVED

Action

BSOP 5 - 2020-21 K - 3 Reading Diagnostic

After much discussion by Board members, NCDPI recommended allowing NC school districts to utilize state funds to choose between the following four vendors for the K-12 reading diagnostic for the 2020-2021 school year: i-Ready; Istation; NWEA; and STAR Early Literacy. Members noted that Imagine Learning and mCLASS may be added later as additional options after fulfilling certain assessment requirements, but these additions would likely be too late for schools to utilize in the upcoming school year.

Recommendations: It was recommended the SBE approve the proposed K-3 Reading Diagnostic vendors as options for the 2020-21 school year.

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.