



State Board of Education

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**Deborah S. Delisle sworn in as
state superintendent of public instruction**

Board Brief, December 2008

A message from State Board of Education President Jennifer Sheets

As 2008 comes to an end, the December State Board of Education meeting was an opportunity to celebrate the service and contributions of our outgoing State Board members and look ahead to a new era in 2009.

I would like to thank the following Board members for their excellent service to education policymaking in Ohio: Virgil E. Brown, Jr., 11th district; Michael Cochran, 6th district; Colleen D. Grady, 5th district; Lou Ann Harrold, 1st district; Heather Heslop Licata, 7th district; Eric C. Okerson, at-large, Emerson Ross, Jr., at-large; Jane Sonenshein, 10th district; Jennifer H. Stewart, 9th district; Sue Westendorf, at-large; and our ex officio members, Senator Joy Padgett and Representative Arlene Setzer. These individuals all made significant contributions to Ohio's education system. We wish them well in their future endeavors.

We had the privilege of witnessing the swearing-in of our new Superintendent Deborah S. Delisle at our State Board meeting. We are so pleased to have Deb as our superintendent of public instruction, and we look forward to working with her and hearing her vision to continue the improvement of Ohio's education system.

At our January meeting, we will be welcoming a number of new Board members.

Deborah S. Delisle sworn in as state superintendent of public instruction

On Monday, Ohio Supreme Court Justice Thomas J. Moyer administered the oath of office to Deborah S. Delisle as superintendent of public instruction. A trio of students from the Ohio State School for the Blind sang the *National Anthem* as part of the swearing-in ceremony.

Recognition of National Blue Ribbon Schools

Following the swearing-in ceremony, Superintendent Delisle and President Sheets led a recognition ceremony for Ohio's 21 schools named National Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education. Fourteen public schools nominated by the Ohio Department of Education were chosen for the award, with 10 schools recognized for scoring in the top 10 percent of all Ohio public schools in the state for reading and mathematics in the 2006-2007 school year, and four schools recognized for having a poverty level at or above 40 percent and making significant progress in closing the achievement gaps for all student groups.

Seven private schools from Ohio were among 50 schools nationwide nominated by the Council for American Private Education (CAPE) and chosen as National Blue Ribbon Schools.



The State Board of Education congratulates the following National Blue Ribbon Schools:

- Blue Ash Elementary School, Sycamore Community City School District (**Hamilton County**)
- Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School, Brecksville-Broadview Heights City School District (**Cuyahoga County**)
- Buckeye Trail High School, East Guernsey Local School District (**Guernsey County**)
- Frazeyburg Elementary School, Tri-Valley Local School District (**Muskingum County**)
- Hudson High School, Hudson City School District (**Summit County**)
- Learwood Middle School, Avon Lake City School District (**Lorain County**)
- Lloyd Elementary School, Austintown Local School District (**Mahoning County**)
- Madeira Elementary School, Madeira City School District (**Hamilton County**)
- McGuffey Elementary School, Newark City School District (**Licking County**)
- Prospect Elementary School, Girard City School District (**Trumbull County**)
- Solon High School, Solon City School District (**Cuyahoga County**)
- South Range Elementary School, South Range Local School District (**Mahoning County**)
- Toledo School for the Arts, Toledo (**Lucas County**)
- Turpin High School, Forest Hills Local School District (**Hamilton County**)
- Bishop Leibold School, Dayton (**Montgomery County**)
- Cardinal Pacelli Elementary, Cincinnati (**Hamilton County**)
- Saint Brigid of Kildare School, Dublin (**Franklin County**)
- St. Dominic School, Cincinnati (**Hamilton County**)
- St. Hilary School, Fairlawn (**Summit County**)
- St. Ignatius Loyola School, Cincinnati (**Hamilton County**)
- Sts. Joseph and John Interparochial School, Strongsville (**Cuyahoga County**)

Subcommittees for Education for the Global Economy and Quality Middle and High Schools discuss Top 10 Ideas for Education

On Tuesday morning, the combined Education in the Global Economy and Quality Middle and High Schools subcommittees led a policy discussion on the Top 10 Ideas for Education and strategies for implementation.

As part of the Board's vision to graduate all students well-prepared for success, the subcommittees have engaged in work to study the question, "Looking ahead to 2020, what will be the most important skills, knowledge and behaviors for students to acquire to provide Ohio with competitive advantages in the global economy?" A Top 10 list of important student knowledge, skills and behaviors was developed through research including a literature review, online survey and interviews with business leaders throughout the state.

To learn more about how to implement the ideas in the Top 10 list, the subcommittees conducted 10 regional meetings throughout the fall of 2008 with educators and representatives from the business community. During the policy discussion, the subcommittees presented the feedback they received. The subcommittees developed three strategies for implementing the Top 10 list, which include modernizing the content and delivery of standards and assessments; creating capacity for personalized learning; and engaging the business community. The full Board adopted a Resolution to refer the strategies proposed by the subcommittees to the Achievement or Capacity committees for further study.

Report from the Superintendent of Public Instruction

On Tuesday, Superintendent of Public Instruction Deborah S. Delisle presented information to the Board about schools and districts participating in the Performance Assessment Pilot Project, the Dec. 1, 2008 budget announcement made by Governor Strickland and the ceremony honoring the Ohio Teacher of the Year.

On Dec. 4, 2008, ODE announced a list of schools and districts selected to participate in the Performance Assessment Pilot Project. Superintendent Delisle explained this project will pilot multiple measures to

evaluate students and will allow students to demonstrate knowledge and skills through a variety of activities. The initial activities of the pilot project include developing curriculum-driven performance tasks and scoring rubrics for English-language arts, math and/or science to be used in 11th and 12th-grade classrooms in the 2009-2010 school year. Support for this project comes from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Governor Strickland recently announced more shortfalls in Ohio's budget, with a projected \$640 million deficit for fiscal year 2008-2009 and a projected \$4.7 billion budget shortfall for fiscal year 2010-2011, even with spending levels at 90 percent of FY 2009. Superintendent Delisle reported ODE has not yet received further details regarding any agency budget cuts, but staff is working closely with the governor's office and will continue to update the Board and districts on this issue.

Superintendent Delisle reported she was pleased to be part of the surprise announcement naming Jennifer Walker from the Youngstown City School District as the 2009 Ohio Teacher of the Year. Ms. Walker is an English teacher at East High School. Board members John Bender and Deborah Cain were in attendance for the announcement, and Mr. Bender was part of the Teacher of the Year Selection Committee. The State Board will be formally recognizing Ms. Walker as Teacher of the Year during the February Board meeting.

State Board Business Meeting

During the business meeting on Tuesday, the Board voted on the following items:

- Resolution to accept the recommendation of the hearing officer to deny the transfer of school district territory from the Weathersfield Local School District, Trumbull County, to the Austintown Local School District, Mahoning County pursuant to Section 3311.24 of the Ohio Revised Code
- Resolution to adopt a record retention policy for records maintained by the Ohio Department of Education Office of Board Relations
- Resolution to adopt the report, *"An Integrated Approach to School Funding Reform in Ohio"*
- Resolution to adopt the recommendations of the Education in the Global Economy/Quality Middle and High Schools Subcommittee
- Resolution to refer for immediate review the Equal Educational Opportunity Policy and to suspend pending that review the portion of the policy monitoring school racial balance

The following items appeared on the Board's consent agenda and will appear on the Board's agenda in the upcoming months:

- Resolution of intent to amend Rule 3301-10-01 of the Administrative Code entitled School Enrollment for Victims of Domestic Violence
- Resolution of intent to amend Rule 3301-46-01 of the Administrative Code entitled Establishing Provisions for Granting Exceptions from Statutory Provisions and Rules as Necessary to Implement Innovative Education Pilot Programs
- Resolution to amend Rule 3301-51-20 of the Administrative Code entitled Standard for Admission, Transfer, Suspension, and Expulsion – The Ohio State School for the Blind and the Ohio School for the Deaf
- Resolution of intent to rescind and adopt Rules 3301-103-01 to 3301-103-07 and to rescind Rule 3301-103-08 of the Administrative Code regarding the Autism Scholarship Program

A motion passed to refer the following item back to the Capacity Committee for further study:

- Intent to amend Rules 3301-73-01 to -06; 3301-73-08 to -10; 3301-73 -13, -16; 3301-73-20 to -24; and to adopt Rules 3301-73-25 and 3301-73-26 of the Administrative Code regarding Professional Conduct of Educators

The Board voted on the following personnel items:

- Kathryn E. Gill, permanent revocation of five-year professional elementary teaching license and five-year professional education of the handicapped teaching license, based on allegations of engaging in an inappropriate relationship with a student (voluntary surrender)

- Michael Burkhardt, permanent revocation of three-year pupil activity supervisor permit, based on unauthorized withdrawals from booster account and using the funds for personal gain
- Robert M. Freeze, permanent revocation of permanent vocational teaching certificate, permanent vocational supervisor certificate and permanent high school teaching certificate, based on conviction of one misdemeanor count of sexual imposition and one misdemeanor count of disseminating matter harmful to a juvenile;
- Roseda Goff, permanent revocation of eight-year professional education of the handicapped teaching certificate and permanent kindergarten-elementary teaching certificate, based on conviction of one misdemeanor count of attempted obstruction of official business
- T. Wayne Loux, Jr., permanent revocation of five-year substitute teaching license, based on conviction of one felony count of importuning
- Kriangsak E. McCowan, permanent revocation of two-year alternative educator intervention specialist teaching license, based on conviction of one misdemeanor count of soliciting
- Lynda R. Quick, permanent revocation of eight-year professional education of the handicapped teaching license and eight-year professional elementary teaching license, based on testing positive for cocaine and instructing students under the influence of cocaine
- Jennifer L. Rager, permanent revocation of three-year pupil activity supervisor permit, based on conviction of one felony count of theft and violation of the conditions of the State Board of Education's resolution passed in September 2007
- Brian M. Simpson, permanent revocation of three-year pupil activity supervisor permit, based on failure to supervise, investigate and/or report improper conduct that occurred during a team trip and during a public team meeting
- Tracy Y. Washington, granting of one-year substitute teaching license

The Board voted to postpone until the January meeting the following school personnel item:

- Shea Wardwell, permanent revocation of five-year professional special all grades teaching license and three-year pupil activity supervisor permit, based on engaging or attempting to engage in an inappropriate relationship with a student.

Chapter 119 Hearing

A Chapter 119 hearing was held on Monday afternoon regarding the following rules:

- Rules 3301-34-01, -04, Home Education Rules
- Rule 3301-69-03, Medicaid Administrative Cost Recovery

Committee Meetings

The Board's Achievement and Capacity committees met on Monday.

The Achievement Committee discussed the following items:

- Rule 3301-51-20, Blind/Deaf Schools Standards for Admission, Transfer, Suspension or Expulsion
- Physical Education Standards
- Rule 3301-46-01, Innovative Education Pilot Programs

The Capacity Committee discussed the following items:

- Rules 3301-73-01 to -06, -08 to -10, -13, -16, -20 to -26, Professional Conduct
- Rules 3301-19-01 to -03, Expenditure Flow Reports
- Guidelines for the evaluation of teachers and principals
- Rules 3301-21-05 to -07, Preparing Teachers for Associate Licensure
- Rule 3301-14-01, Operation of the Education Management Information System

The combined Subcommittee for Education in the Global Economy and Quality Middle and High Schools Subcommittee met following the State Board meeting on Monday afternoon.

The next regular State Board of Education meeting will be January 12-13 at the Ohio School for the Deaf in Columbus.

The State Board of Education has set education policy and directed the planning and evaluative functions of Ohio's public schools, as well as appointed and evaluated the Superintendent of Public Instruction since 1956. The vision of the State Board is to ensure higher achievement for all students. The State Board is made up of 19 members, including 11 elected and eight appointed members. The chairs of the education committees of the Ohio House of Representatives and Ohio Senate serve as ex-officio members.

State Board of Education meetings are open to the public. Members of the public have opportunities to address the Board during the Chapter 119 hearing on Monday afternoon, and during the business meeting on Tuesday afternoon.

For more information about the State Board of Education or its monthly meetings, please contact the Office of Board Relations at (614) 466-4838 or SBOE@ode.state.oh.us, or visit www.ode.state.oh.us and search keywords: State Board of Education.