

The State Board of Education/State Board for Vocational Education held a work session on Thursday, March 17, 2011 in the Cabinet Room of the Townsend Building, Dover, Delaware.

Present were: Dr. Teri Quinn Gray, President; Jorge L. Melendez, Vice President; Gregory B. Coverdale, Jr., G. Patrick Heffernan, Barbara B. Rutt, Dr. Terry M. Whittaker, and Dr. James L. Wilson. Also in attendance was Dr. Judi L. Coffield, State Board Policy Analyst.

John Carwell, Patricia Bigelow and Scott Kessel from the Department of Education's Charter School Office were in attendance. Other attending included Melissa Hentges from Innovative Schools, Suzi Harris, Charter School Network, and John Hindman, Deputy Attorney General.

President Gray called the work session to order at 10:05 a.m. and welcomed the presenters and guests to the State Board's work session.

Mr. Jim Ford and Ms. Rachel Ksenyak from the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA) presented the findings and recommendations of their evaluation on Delaware's charter school process. Mr. Carwell noted that through a grant, the Charter School Office was able to have the evaluation conducted.

Ms. Ksenyak began the presentation by providing background information on the National Association of Charter School Authorizers which is a not-for-profit membership association. NACSA has conducted evaluations for other states including New Jersey, Arkansas and Nevada. NACSA also provides services including strategic planning, training and implementation of models.

There are two categories for the evaluation: established and applied. A rating is received in four areas: application decision making, monitoring operations, performance-based accountability and school autonomy.

Mr. Ford provided the key competency and recommended actions for the four areas and answered questions from the Board members. The majority of the areas received a rating of "minimally developed." Short term action recommended that Delaware revise the application and that the state develop a performance-based contract. He noted that the State Board had pre-identified 90% of the issues raised in the

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evaluation at its recent retreat. Dr. Gray thanked the presenters for their time and for the evaluation.

The work session adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

The State Board of Education/State Board for Vocational Education held its regular meeting on Thursday, March 17, 2011 in the Cabinet Room of the John G. Townsend Building, Dover, Delaware.

Present were: Teri Quinn Gray, President; Jorge L. Melendez, Vice President; Gregory B. Coverdale, Jr., G. Patrick Heffernan, Barbara B. Rutt, Dr. Terry M. Whittaker, Dr. James L. Wilson and Dr. Lillian Lowery, Executive Secretary and Secretary of Education.

Also in attendance were Dr. Judi L. Coffield, State Board Policy Analyst; Dr. Linda Rogers, Associate Secretary for Teaching and Learning; and Karen Field Rogers, Associate Secretary for Financial Reform and Resource Management.

Also attending: Charlie Michels, Professional Standards Board (PSB); Deb Stevens, Delaware State Education Association (DSEA); Sue Francis, Delaware School Boards Association (DSBA); Suzi Harris, Delaware Charter School Network; G. Scott Reihm, Delaware Association of School Administrators; Kristin Mullen, Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens; Brian Holajter, Education Voters Delaware; Christy Vanderwende, Rodel; Steve Westfall, CTB/McGraw Hill; John Hindman, Deputy Attorney General; Dr. Susan Haberstroh, Duncan Smith, Rebecca Taber, Mike Stetter, Dr. Martha Toomey, John Carwell, Christopher Ruskowski, Jennifer Kline, Dustin Smithson, Karen Hruz, Amber Hardt, Sophia Ashley, Kelsey Kennedy, Tyler Szymanski, Katherine Pinales, Coe Harper, Yarismeliz Colon, Greg Betts, Sharon Rios, Martha Cruz, Maya Elie, John Robinson, Utausha Elie-Rivera, Sitta Dunbar, Sidney Freeman, Dallis Rudnick, Anissa Moran, Victoria Kinna-Dempsey, Larenz Bishop, Gaer Garduno, Jasmine Bradley, Giselle Negron, Angela Ringgold, Tracy Moran, Wendy Kinna, Casey Kinna, Bernadette Bishop, Helen Hopkins, John Sullivan, Earl Cunningham, Cordie Greenlee and Clayton Washington.

Call to Order

President Gray called the regular meeting of the State Board of Education/State Board for Vocational Education to order at 1:00 p.m. She welcomed all guests to the State Board's monthly public meeting.

Approval of the Agenda

President Gray stated that the first order of business was approval of the agenda. She stated that there were no addendum items.

A motion was made by Mr. Melendez to approve the agenda distributed. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Rutt and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:
Dr. Gray	None.
Mr. Coverdale	
Mr. Heffernan	
Mr. Melendez	
Mrs. Rutt	
Dr. Whittaker	
Dr. Wilson	

Approval of Minutes

Board members received a copy of the minutes from the work session of February 17, 2011. Dr. Gray asked that the summary of the expert panel presentation and the press release from the Regional Education Lab –Mid-Atlantic be attached and included as part of the minutes of the work session.

A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan to approve the work session minutes from February 17, 2011 as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:
Dr. Gray	None
Mr. Coverdale	
Mr. Heffernan	
Mr. Melendez	
Mrs. Rutt	
Dr. Whittaker	
Dr. Wilson	

Board members received a copy of the minutes from the regular meeting of February 17, 2011. Dr. Whittaker asked that in his report the name of the program at Kirk be amended to “If You Really Knew Kirk” and clarified that it was not a graduation.

A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 17, 2011 as amended. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Rutt and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:
Dr. Gray	None
Mr. Coverdale	
Mr. Heffernan	
Mr. Melendez	
Mrs. Rutt	
Dr. Whittaker	
Dr. Wilson	

Recognition – Kirk Middle School

President Gray commented that the State Board of Education would now recognize students from Kirk Middle School in the Christina School District for their participation and achievement in the program “If You Really Knew Kirk.” She welcomed the students, parents and staff from Kirk Middle School. Dr. Whittaker provided information on the program that was in memory of Kirk student John Sullivan. He then read a letter of commendation from U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. The students were recognized individually and received a Certificate of Commendation from the State Board of Education and a bookmark. Secretary Lowery presented “Say Yes to College” wristbands and Mr. Melendez presented the students with tote bags and gifts from PNC. Students recognized were: Bryanna Ringgold, Yaris Colon-Negron, Sidney Freeman, Amber Hardt, Katherine Pinales, Larenz Bishop, Jasmine Bradley, Gregg Betts, Sitta Dunbar, Zoe Harper, Sharon Rios-Cruz, Torrie Kinna, Maya Elie, Gaer Garduno, Anissa Moran, Sophia Ashley, Gabe Cox, Kelsy Kennedy, Tyler Syzmanski, Dustin Smithson and Dallis Rudnick. Two students, Leesandra Hernandez and Tayla Better were unable to attend.

Jasmine Bradley, presented the State Board with a framed and signed copy of the article that appeared in the News Journal on the “If You Really Knew Kirk” program.

The Board recessed for fifteen minutes.

Formal Public Comment on Action Items

It was indicated that this was the time the Board set aside for formal public comment. Dr. Gray indicated that one individual signed up to address the Board.

Mr. Roy Locker provided comments that he entitled “Dollars vs. Results.” He explained he was a private citizen and expressed concern on the amount of funding for education with the lack of results. He asked who was the advocate for children and suggested a return to teaching math using the times table instead of using power point presentations, lap tops and iPods. He commented that there is always an excuse for the students not doing well, and he was astonished at the number of regulations and rules for education that have been generated since 2002.

Committee Reports from State Board Members

Mrs. Rutt attended the March 9th meeting of the Delaware School Boards Association (DSBA) Board of Directors. The topic of conversation was the DCAS standard setting. She attended the DSBA clinic workshop and heard remarks by Dr. Willard Daggett, CEO of International Center for Leadership in Education. Mrs. Rutt commented that his remarks focused on reading in the content areas were very timely as well as thought provoking. His comments aligned with recent information provided at the State Board’s work session on Policy Implications of Reading Research in February.

Dr. Coffield echoed Mrs. Rutt’s comments about the DSBA clinic and Dr. Daggett’s remarks. She briefed the Board members on House Bill 26 which would require an audio recording of State Board meetings to be placed on the DOE website. The legislation is currently out of committee and she will advise the Board members when it is scheduled for the House floor.

Dr. Coffield stated that countywide sessions have been scheduled for the roll out of the Dropout Early Warning System and noted that her activities report had been distributed to the members of the Board.

There was discussion on districts providing an audio recording of meetings and Dr. Lowery indicated that some districts currently provide a recording on their websites.

Dr. Gray attended the Delaware Teacher Forum with Dr. Coffield and noted that it provided the opportunity for classroom teachers to discuss issues. Teachers stressed the importance of receiving support and preparation. President Gray noted that it was a very interactive and engaging conversation amongst teachers who are totally committed to their profession.

Update Guiding Principles and Strategic Goals

Dr. Gray explained that the Board reviewed its guiding principles and strategic goals at its retreat. She read the Board's current goals. Goal 6 was revised to indicate the Delaware Comprehensive Assessment System in lieu of the Delaware Student Testing Program. She asked that since the goals and guiding principles have been revisited, appropriate action should be taken.

A motion was made by Mr. Coverdale to re-adopt the current Guiding Principles and the Goals with the revision indicated. The motion was seconded by Dr. Whittaker and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:
Dr. Gray	None
Mr. Coverdale	
Mr. Heffernan	
Mr. Melendez	
Mrs. Rutt	
Dr. Whittaker	
Dr. Wilson	

The Board was asked to review the focus areas of standards and assessment, high performing schools, and educator effectiveness that were highlighted at its retreat and it was explained that no formal action would be taken at this time. The Board was asked to send any comments or revisions on the focus areas to Dr. Coffield. Dr. Gray indicated that the Board's website would be updated noting the re-adoption of its Guiding Principles and Goals.

National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) 2009 Science Results

The 2009 NAEP Science results were released in January 2011. Duncan Smith, State NAEP Administrator, provided an overview of the performance of Delaware's

students in grades 4 and 8. The results were presented on the average scale score from 0 to 300 and reported in the three achievement levels of Basic, Proficient and Advanced.

A random sampling of students was selected for the testing. Mr. Smith indicated that only state data is received and scores are not reported back to the schools or for individual students.

Results for Grade 4 Science showed an average score of 153 which is higher than the national average score of 149. Seventy-seven percent of the Delaware students tested achieved at or above the basic level which places Delaware above 26 states in the nation. Thirty-four percent of the students achieved at or above proficient. The Board was reminded of Delaware's Race to the Top goal of 55% at or above proficient on NAEP by the year 2014-2015.

Results for Grade 8 Science showed an average score of 148 which is slightly lower than the national average of 149. Sixty-two percent of the Delaware students tested achieved at or above the basic level which places Delaware above 21 states in the nation. Twenty-five percent of the students achieved at or above proficient. Dr. Lowery explained that with the new assessment and the data that will be available, a very aggressive approach will be needed to achieve the RTTT goal.

The Board received information that provided scale scores for each subgroup. Delaware minority students in Grade 4 and 8 Science scored better than their counterparts across the nation. There was discussion on how the state would meet its RTTT goal. Dr. Lowery explained that Department staff is reviewing with each district what needs to be done to meet the goal. The Secretary commented that this was Mr. Duncan's first presentation before the State Board and provided some background information. Mr. Smith came to the Department in January from the Indian River School District where he was the Principal at Frankford Elementary.

IDEA Annual Performance Report

Martha Toomey, Director of Exceptional Children presented an update on the Annual Performance Report submitted to the federal Office of Special Education Programs on the progress of the state toward twenty required indicators in special

education. Ms. Toomey reported that the review of data attached to some of the indicators requires specific duties from the Department.

It was reported that the graduation rate of special education students was 71.06% which is an increase from 66.76%. Also positive was the decrease in the dropout rate which is 3.3%, down from 3.9%. Both of these rates met targets and data showed a steady increase in students being served in the regular education setting. Dr. Toomey noted that the percentage of students in least restrictive environment (LRE) was 58.7%. For student outcome data, Dr. Toomey reported that the percent of special education students meeting the standard in reading has decreased. One factor for the reduction may be the change in accommodations of having reading passages read to the students. It was reported that math scores for special education students have been flat for the last few years.

On the compliance side, seven districts were identified with a significant discrepancy in the number of suspensions and expulsions between special education students and regular education students. There is also a disproportionate representation of specific ethnic groups in disability categories. Other compliance indicators were positive noting that 98% of all initial evaluations are completed within the appropriate timeline.

Dr. Toomey explained that next steps include disaggregating the data, publishing it on the Department's website and notifying districts that are identified to receive technical assistance. The Department will also focus on monitoring regarding the discrepancies and disproportionate representation. Lastly, the Department will continue its efforts to strengthen the Response to Intervention (RtI) practices.

Governor's Education Agenda

Rebecca Taber, Deputy Chief of Staff, updated the members of the State Board on the Governor's Education Agenda and Race to the Top. As a follow up to the previous presentation and discussion, Ms. Taber stated that the Department is looking at the RTTT targets and how to achieve them. She noted the great leadership and teachers in Delaware schools and the statewide initiatives available to assist the districts. Data coaches will assist with collaborative planning and tracking student performance. Five

data coaches have been hired for the six districts and one charter school involved in the pilot. Districts that have their own data coach will also receive services. Dr. Lowery explained the state needs to build capacity and the federal money is only available for two years. The data will reveal which students are not meeting the standard and what their needs are. DCAS will be included but is only one of the many data sources that will be reviewed.

Ms. Taber provided an update on the district Scope of Work plans and the April 11th due date. These plans must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education. Secretary Lowery has been phoning districts offering technical assistance. It was noted that each district and charter school has a DOE facilitator and DOE liaison. She would like to have all districts funded, but indicated that may not happen.

Board members asked about communications to the community. Ms. Taber stated that districts and communities may have received the “big picture” and that district plans would be available to the public after they are finalized and submitted. Secretary Lowery noted that her meetings with district superintendents have been repurposed to provide technical assistance to district teams on their plans.

Delaware Comprehensive Assessment System (DCAS) Update

Dr. Linda B. Rogers, Associate Secretary of Education for Teaching and Learning provided an update. The most recent data shows that approximately 85% of Delaware public school students have completed the DCAS winter administration and noted that the testing window is still open. A preliminary review of that data shows an increase in students at or above proficient when compared to the fall DCAS administration data. Dr. Rogers informed the Board that the alternate assessment was moving forward and three standard setting events would take place this summer: confirmation of the standards setting for DCAS with one year of operational data; interim standard setting for end of course exams and interim standard setting the DCAS alternate assessment standards.

The Board was also informed that the statewide school day administration of the SAT for all public school 11th graders was scheduled for April 13, 2011. There are very few participation exemptions: less than one year of residency in the country for ELL, alternate assessment, homebound, parent opts out.

The Board recessed for five minutes. At this time Mrs. Rutt was excused due to a previous commitment.

Department of Education Regulations

Dr. Susan Haberstroh, Education Associate for Regulation Review, presented the regulations to be amended for the Department.

**Regulation 764 Credentials for Interpreter Tutor
for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
(For Discussion)**

The Secretary of Education is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education 14 DE Admin. Code 764 Credentials for Interpreter Tutor for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The regulation was reviewed as part of the 5 year review cycle. Amendments included, but are not limited to the requirement that Permits for Interpreter/Tutor for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing are to be renewed every five years. In addition, changes were made to the requirements for a Permit. An individual with a current Permit for an Interpreter Tutor for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing shall be grandfathered for 5 years from the effective date of the regulation. Dr. Martha Toomey was present to respond to questions.

**Regulation 765 Credentials for Resident Advisor
in the Statewide Programs for Autism
(For Discussion)**

The Secretary of Education is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin. Code 765 Credentials for a Resident Advisor in the Statewide Programs for Autism and for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The regulation was reviewed pursuant to the five year review cycle. The amendments are to provide consistency across other regulations relating to permits and other educator credentials and State law. Dr. Toomey was present to respond to questions.

**Regulation 922 Children with Disabilities Subpart A, Purposes and Definitions
(For Action)**

The Secretary of Education is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin Code 922, Children With Disabilities, Subpart A, Purposes and Definitions.

Regulations 922 through 929 address the special education needs of children with disabilities, and implement 14 Del. C. Ch. 31 and Part B of the *Individuals With Disabilities Education Act*, 20 U.S.C. 1400 *et seq.* (“IDEA”). The Department of Education adopted Regulation 922 as part of a comprehensive review of Delaware’s special education regulations, undertaken in response to changes in federal special education regulations in August 2006 implementing the IDEA.

The Department now proposes to amend Regulation 922 in response to changes made to the federal regulations in December 2008 implementing the IDEA. The proposed revisions to 14 DE Admin Code 922 are designed to continue the alignment of state and federal regulations addressing the education of children with disabilities and their families, and to establish the conditions under which school districts, charter schools, and other educational agencies may receive funding for the education of children with disabilities. 14 DE Admin Code 922 is also being revised to correct errata and some minor typographical errors. Please note the IDEA specifically requires the Department of Education notify school districts and other education agencies of any State requirements for the education of children with disabilities that exceed federal requirements. Regulation 922 identifies those additional State requirements by italicizing them in the text of the regulations.

**Regulation 923 Children with Disabilities Subpart B
General Duties and Eligibility of Agencies
(For Action)**

The Secretary of Education is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin Code 923, Children With Disabilities, Subpart B, General Duties and Eligibility of Agencies.

Regulations 922 through 929 address the special education needs of children with disabilities, and implement 14 Del. C. Ch. 31 and Part B of the *Individuals With*

Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 *et seq.* (“IDEA”). The Department of Education adopted Regulation 923 as part of a comprehensive review of Delaware’s special education regulations, undertaken in response to changes in federal special education regulations in August 2006 implementing the IDEA. The proposed revisions to 14 DE Admin Code 923 are designed to continue the alignment of state and federal regulations addressing the education of children with disabilities and their families, and to establish the conditions under which school districts, charter schools, and other educational agencies may receive funding for the education of children with disabilities. 14 DE Admin Code 923 is also being revised to correct errata and some minor typographical errors. The proposed amendments further clarify provisions related to child find duties of school districts and local education agencies and procedural safeguards. Please note the IDEA specifically requires the Department of Education notify school districts and other education agencies of any State requirements for the education of children with disabilities that exceed federal requirements. Regulation 923 identifies those additional State requirements by italicizing them in the text of the regulations.

**Regulation 924 Children with Disabilities Subpart C
Local Educational Agency Eligibility
(For Action)**

The Secretary of Education is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin Code 924, Children With Disabilities, Subpart C, Local Educational Agency Eligibility.

Regulations 922 through 929 address the special education needs of children with disabilities, and implement 14 Del. C. Ch. 31 and Part B of the *Individuals With Disabilities Education Act*, 20 U.S.C. 1400 *et seq.* (“IDEA”). The Department of Education adopted Regulation 924 as part of a comprehensive review of Delaware’s special education regulations, undertaken in response to changes in federal special education regulations in August 2006 implementing the IDEA. The proposed revisions to 14 DE Admin Code 924 are designed to continue the alignment of state and federal regulations addressing the education of children with disabilities and their families, and to establish the conditions under which school districts, charter schools, and other

educational agencies may receive funding for the education of children with disabilities. 14 DE Admin Code 924 is also being revised to correct errata and some minor typographical errors. Please note the IDEA specifically requires the Department of Education notify school districts and other education agencies of any State requirements for the education of children with disabilities that exceed federal requirements. Regulation 924 identifies those additional State requirements by italicizing them in the text of the regulations.

**Regulation 925 Children with Disabilities Subpart D,
Evaluations, Eligibility Determination, Individualized Education Programs
(For Action)**

The Secretary of Education is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin Code 925, Children With Disabilities, Subpart D, Evaluations, Eligibility Determinations, Individualized Education Programs.

Regulations 922 through 929 address the special education needs of children with disabilities, and implement 14 Del. C. Ch. 31 and Part B of the *Individuals With Disabilities Education Act*, 20 U.S.C. 1400 *et seq.* (“IDEA”). The Department of Education adopted Regulation 925 as part of a comprehensive review of Delaware’s special education regulations, undertaken in response to changes in federal special education regulations in August 2006 implementing the IDEA. The Department now proposes to amend Regulation 925 in response to changes made to the federal regulations in December 2008 implementing the IDEA. The proposed revisions to 14 DE Admin Code 925 are designed to continue the alignment of state and federal regulations addressing the education of children with disabilities and their families, and to establish the conditions under which school districts, charter schools, and other educational agencies may receive funding for the education of children with disabilities. 14 DE Admin Code 925 is also being revised to correct errata and some minor typographical errors. The proposed amendments further clarify provisions, including transition services and planning, and the procedural safeguards available to parents.

Please note the IDEA specifically requires the Department of Education notify school districts and other education agencies of any State requirements for the education

of children with disabilities that exceed federal requirements. Regulation 925 identifies those additional State requirements by italicizing them in the text of the regulations.

**Regulation 926 Children with Disabilities Subpart E
Procedural Safeguards for Parents and Children
(For Action)**

The Secretary of Education is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin Code 926, Children With Disabilities, Subpart E, Procedural Safeguards for Parents and Children.

Regulations 922 through 929 address the special education needs of children with disabilities, and implement 14 Del. C. Ch. 31 and Part B of the *Individuals With Disabilities Education Act*, 20 U.S.C. 1400 *et seq.* (“IDEA”). The Department of Education adopted Regulation 926 as part of a comprehensive review of Delaware’s special education regulations, undertaken in response to changes in federal special education regulations in August 2006 implementing the IDEA. The proposed revisions to 14 DE Admin Code 926 are designed to continue the alignment of state and federal regulations addressing the education of children with disabilities and their families, and to establish the conditions under which school districts, charter schools, and other educational agencies may receive funding for the education of children with disabilities. 14 DE Admin Code 926 is also being revised to correct errata and some minor typographical errors. The proposed amendments further clarify provisions, related to the procedural safeguards available to parents. Please note the IDEA specifically requires the Department of Education notify school districts and other education agencies of any State requirements for the education of children with disabilities that exceed federal requirements. Regulation 926 identifies those additional State requirements by italicizing them in the text of the regulations.

**Regulation 927 Children with Disabilities Subpart F,
Monitoring, Enforcement and Confidentiality of Information
(For Action)**

The Secretary of Education is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin Code 927, Children With Disabilities, Subpart F, Monitoring, Enforcement and Confidentiality of Information.

Regulations 922 through 929 address the special education needs of children with disabilities, and implement 14 Del. C. Ch. 31 and Part B of the *Individuals With Disabilities Education Act*, 20 U.S.C. 1400 *et seq.* (“IDEA”). The Department of Education adopted Regulation 927 as part of a comprehensive review of Delaware’s special education regulations, undertaken in response to changes in federal special education regulations in August 2006 implementing the IDEA. The proposed revisions to 14 DE Admin Code 927 are designed to continue the alignment of state and federal regulations addressing the education of children with disabilities and their families, and to establish the conditions under which school districts, charter schools, and other educational agencies may receive funding for the education of children with disabilities. 14 DE Admin Code 927 is also being revised to correct errata and some minor typographical errors. The proposed amendments further clarify provisions related to the Department’s monitoring duties. Please note the IDEA specifically requires the Department of Education notify school districts and other education agencies of any State requirements for the education of children with disabilities that exceed federal requirements. Regulation 927 identifies those additional State requirements by italicizing them in the text of the regulations.

**Regulation 928 Children with Disabilities Subpart G
Use and Administration of Funds
(For Action)**

The Secretary of Education is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin Code 928, Children With Disabilities, Subpart G, Use and Administration of Funds.

Regulations 922 through 929 address the special education needs of children with disabilities, and implement 14 Del. C. Ch. 31 and Part B of the *Individuals With Disabilities Education Act*, 20 U.S.C. 1400 *et seq.* (“IDEA”). The Department of Education adopted Regulation 928 as part of a comprehensive review of Delaware’s special education regulations, undertaken in response to changes in federal special education regulations in August 2006 implementing the IDEA. The proposed revisions to 14 DE Admin Code 928 are designed to continue the alignment of state and federal regulations addressing the education of children with disabilities and their families, and

to establish the conditions under which school districts, charter schools, and other educational agencies may receive funding for the education of children with disabilities. 14 DE Admin Code 928 is also being revised to remove the reference to a specific monitoring handbook which is no longer in use by the Department. Please note the IDEA specifically requires the Department of Education notify school districts and other education agencies of any State requirements for the education of children with disabilities that exceed federal requirements. Regulation 928 identifies those additional State requirements by italicizing them in the text of the regulations.

The Board was briefed on the comments received from the Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens and changes that were made to proposed amendments based on those comments.

It was agreed to vote on the amendments collectively and a motion was made by Dr. Wilson to approve the amendments to Regulations 922 through 928 as presented by the Department. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present at Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray Mr. Melendez Mr. Coverdale Mr. Heffernan Dr. Whittaker Dr. Wilson	None	Mrs. Rutt

The Board signed the appropriate Order for Regulations 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927 and 928.

Professional Standards Board

Charles Michels, Executive Director of the Professional Standards Board, presented the regulation on the agenda.

**Amend 1556 School to Work Transition Teacher
(For Publication)**

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1556 School to Work Transition Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). It is necessary to amend this regulation to follow current formatting trends and to allow for the Jobs for Delaware Graduate Office to provide necessary professional development to teacher candidates when necessary. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a School to Work Transition Teacher.

Mr. Michels commented that Delaware State University is the only state institution that currently offers these courses.

A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to publish the amendments to Regulation 1556. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heffernan and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present at Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray Mr. Melendez Mr. Coverdale Mr. Heffernan Dr. Whittaker Dr. Wilson	None	Mrs. Rutt

**Amend 1584 School Social Worker
(For Publication)**

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1584 School Social Worker. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). It is necessary to amend this regulation to follow current formatting trends and to include references to 1505 Standard Certificate. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a School Social Worker.

A motion was made by Mr. Coverdale to approve the publication of the amendments to Regulation 1584. The motion was seconded by Dr. Wilson and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present at Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray Mr. Melendez Mr. Coverdale Mr. Heffernan Dr. Whittaker Dr. Wilson	None	Mrs. Rutt

**Amend 1565 World Language Teacher
(For Action)**

The Professional Standards Board, acting in cooperation and collaboration with the Department of Education, is seeking the consent of the State Board of Education to amend regulation DE Admin. Code 1565 World Language Teacher. The regulation concerns the requirements for certification of educational personnel, pursuant to 14 Del.C. §1220(a). It is necessary to amend this regulation to allow for the certification of American Sign Language and other World Language teachers for whom the typical examination of content knowledge may not be applicable and available. This regulation sets forth the requirements for a World Language Teacher.

A motion was made by Dr. Heffernan to approve the amendments to Regulation 1565 World Language Teacher. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present at Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray Mr. Melendez Mr. Coverdale Mr. Heffernan Dr. Wilson	None	Mrs. Rutt

Dr. Whittaker abstained.

The Board signed the appropriate Order.

**Praxis II Test Approvals
(For Action)**

The Professional Standards Board is seeking the approval of the State Board of Education for four new-to-Delaware Praxis II tests: the specific tests, passing scores and effective dates.

Mr. Michels explained that the Educational Testing Service (ETS) conducted a standard setting study and a regional multi-state study. ETS staff established a review committee for these areas to recommend the passing score and effective date. The following Praxis II tests were recommended for approval:

Technology Education ~ 0051

- Passing Score of 159
- Effective Date: upon the Test's Initial Release
 - *(anticipated release date September/October, 2011)*

Health Education ~ 0550

- Passing Score of 670
- Effective Date: July 1, 2011

Family and Consumer Science ~ 0121

- Passing Score of 165
- Effective Date: April 1, 2011

Marketing Education ~ 0561

- Passing Score of 166
- Effective Date: April 1, 2011

A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to approve the tests proposed, the scores and the effective dates. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present at Time of Vote:
Dr. Gray Mr. Melendez Mr. Coverdale Mr. Heffernan Dr. Whittaker Dr. Wilson	None	Mrs. Rutt

**Aspiring School Principal Certification *Pilot Program*
(For Information)**

Christopher Ruskowski from the Department's Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Unit, joined Mr. Michels to brief the Board on the status of this Delaware RTTT initiative. The Aspiring School Principal Certification Program is an alternative to obtain certification as a school principal or assistant principal. Mr. Michels noted that Regulation 1591 which outlines the certification has had language in it for six years that allows for a Delaware approved alternative route. Delaware's Race to the Top application addressed the issue to initiate an alternative pathway for ten to twelve principals or assistant principals, per year, for high-needs schools. The Professional Standards Board had been discussing amending Regulation 1591 and the Department released an RFP for such a program. Mr. Ruskowski announced that Innovative Schools was selected the vendor, but noted that such a program would require approval by the Professional Standards Board and also require State Board approval. The 15 month program which would be conducted during the summer and school year as a pilot was outlined. The program is a replication of the New York School Leadership program. The Board was briefed on the very rigorous application process and how candidates would be selected. Dr. Gray stated that the State Board has a work session scheduled before its April meeting to discuss the program. This will allow the Board ample time to review the program before final action is taken.

Charter Schools

**Charter Schools Update
(For Information)**

John Carwell from the Charter School Office provided the monthly update on charter schools. Mike Stetter, Director of Accountability Resources, joined Mr. Carwell and presented DCAS trends for East Side Charter School. He provided a comparison of the DCAS scores from the initial DCAS testing to the mid-year testing of students at East Side Charter School and Delaware students in math and reading. It was noted that the school is searching for a new leader and is reaching out to the Department for assistance on curriculum. The Board noted that the results did not show the same increase when

compared to other Delaware students. The Board expressed that it wanted to see progress and growth for the East Side students. Dr. Gray asked that the Board receive an update at the end of the school year.

Adjournment

Dr. Gray reminded the Board that their meeting with local school board and charter board members was scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at North Dover Elementary. There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Heffernan to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Wilson and carried unanimously with the following vote recorded:

Ayes:	Nays:	Not Present at Time of Vote
Dr. Gray Mr. Melendez Mr. Coverdale Mr. Heffernan Dr. Whittaker Dr. Wilson	None	Mrs. Rutt

The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian M. Lowery
Executive Secretary and
Secretary of Education/