J O I N T  B O A R D  M I N U T E S  
ND Board of Higher Education,  
ND Board of Vocational and Technical Education,  
State Board of Public School Education, and  
Education Standards and Practices Board  
May 30, 2001—Valley City, ND  

The joint meeting of the ND Board of Higher Education (SBHE), ND Board of Vocational and Technical Education (SBVTE), State Board of Public School Education, and the Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) met May 30, 2001, in the Student Center Skoal Room on the campus of Valley City State University. Mr. Craig Caspers, SBHE vice-president, called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. CT. Members present were:

SBVTE and Public School Ed:  
Ms. Maren Daley  
Mr. Larry Isaak  
Mr. Michael Ness  
Dr. Wayne Sanstead  
Ms. Susan Stibbe  
Ms. Rita Wilhelmi  
Mr. Wayne Kutzer  

ESPB:  
Dr. Doug Johnson  
Ms. Laura Carney  
Dr. Jack Rasmussen  
Ms. Maryjane Martens  
Ms. Janet Welk  

SBHE:  
Mr. Craig Caspers  
Mrs. Jeanette Satrom  
Mrs. Bev Clayburgh  
Mr. Chuck Stroup  
Dr. Richard Kunkel  
Mr. Jason Bernhardt  

Representative William Pietsch attended portions of the meeting.

Minutes  
It was moved by Mrs. Clayburgh, seconded by Dr. Sanstead, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2000, joint meeting as distributed.

Legislative Update  
Mr. Isaak, Dr. Sanstead, Mr. Kutzer, and Ms. Welk provided updates on the impact of 2001 legislative session.

Preparation for College  
Mr. Bernhardt expressed concern that North Dakota high school students are not prepared for college. He asked the joint boards to commit to improving the preparedness of high school students entering college. He commented on the number of college students who take intermediary courses. He said these intermediary courses are refresher courses and do not count towards a degree. Mr. Bernhardt stated that these courses should be taken in high school.

Dr. Mike Hillman, ND University System (NDUS) vice chancellor for academic affairs, distributed and reviewed a report that was prepared in response to the interim Legislative Council Education Finance Committee’s interest in remedial courses. He reported that colleges have different methods of placing their students in courses due to the different missions for the different types of campuses. Dr. Hillman said SBHE policy sets college core prep course requirements but gives authority to the school districts to decide which courses meet the core and
which do not. Some school districts may approve a course as a college core prep course, but it may not give the students the knowledge needed to succeed in a required college course making it necessary for them to take a remedial course.

Ms. Julie Schepp, NDUS academic affairs associate and director of research, reported that a committee has been formed to review the current procedure to determine the core college preparatory courses in the North Dakota high schools.

Mr. Isaak suggested that a discussion be held between the State Board for Public School Education, SBVTE, and SBHE about aligning high school graduation requirements with college entrance requirements. Ms. Stibbe asked if high school and college teachers should be involved in this discussion.

Private Postsecondary School Approval Process
Ms. Debra Huber, Vocational and Technical Education administrator for education equality and postsecondary institutions, gave a history of the postsecondary authorization act. She provided changes to the administrative rules for licensing of private postsecondary institutions and a checklist of documents that are required in the approval process. Ms. Huber said that the application materials for the approval process are now available on the Vocational and Technical Education website. She warned that there are organizations offering illegitimate degrees via different delivery methods that are not accredited and that North Dakota is very vulnerable to these organizations. Ms. Huber said that the South Dakota legislature has taken steps to prevent out-of-state unaccredited organizations from seeking approval in their state beginning July 1, 2001.

NCATE 2000 Standards
Ms. Deb Jensen, ESPB assistant director, reviewed the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) 2000 Standards. She reported that the new NCATE unit standards meet the needs of North Dakota and will be implemented at all institutions beginning fall 2001; there will no longer be state standards. Ms. Jensen indicated the new standards will require more written documentation and will be a more formal process for North Dakota than used in the past. She said that the diversity issue is important. The number of diverse faculty is not as important as the diverse experience of the faculty. She also said it is important for K-12 and higher education to work together on the design, implementation, and evaluation of the field experiences of teacher education students.

Dr. Larry Grooters, Valley City State University (VCSU) professor, provided a campus perspective of the NCATE approval process.

Teacher Supply and Demand/Retention and Recruitment
Ms. Welk presented information on a survey of ND teachers conducted in August 2000. The survey indicated the main reason ND teachers leave the teaching profession is salary followed by family influences and working conditions. She said that 40 percent of ND teachers will be able to retire in the next 10 years. Ms. Welk also provided information on the number of openings, per subject area, there were in North Dakota high schools in 1999-2000. She said there generally are enough elementary education teachers, but teachers are needed in specific subject areas.
Dr. Jerry Roth, retired college instructor, reported that based on 1999-2000 data, there were 79 school districts in ND with 74 and fewer students. These schools are still required to teach the core curriculum. He said that it is very hard to recruit teachers to the rural areas due to the salary and the lack of things to do after work hours. A Department of Public Instruction report shows that approximately 1/3 of the math and science teachers in 1999-2000 are between the ages of 50-69. 2000-2001 data indicates that business, English, and music are additional areas in need of teachers. Projections on the number of teacher graduates reflect there will not be enough teachers to cover the projected number of teachers retiring and/or leaving North Dakota.

Dr. Rasmussen further discussed the need for teachers in North Dakota. He mentioned incentives other states are using to recruit teachers such as signing bonuses, paying moving expenses, and help repaying student loans. Currently in North Dakota, research is being done to offer students with bachelor’s degrees a master’s degree after approximately 1½ years of additional schooling while working towards their license. This may attract more students into the teaching field. He said a proposal may be presented to the SBHE in the future.

Ms. Welk indicated that Project Launch, a combined effort of ESPB, VCSU, and SBVTE, is a mentoring program for teachers in their first year of teaching. Mr. Mark Wilson, SBVTE assistant state director, provided the history of Project Launch. Ms. Jensen reported that the program is for individuals with an emergency interim license currently employed at a school in shortage areas. This program provides clinical practice mentoring for the first year while the teacher is taking their introduction to teaching courses. She said this would replace doing student teaching at the end of their education requirements. Dr. August Ritter, Project Director, said this is an informal program that meets four times a year. He said that 2001-2002 will be the sixth year of the program. Dr. Grooters reviewed the timeline and role responsibilities for the clinical practice program.

Technology Updates
Mr. Grant Crawford, NDUS chief information officer, gave an update on North Dakota’s broadband infrastructure that will serve K-12, higher education, and State government. He said that Dakota Carrier Network has been awarded a three-year contract for network transport and local access support. They will provide T1 service across North Dakota to serve 194 cities. Phase I, which involved 64 communities, was completed November 30, 2000. Phase II, involving the remaining 130 communities, is scheduled for completion at the end of 2001. High schools will have access to some college classes allowing high school students to earn dual credits and also allow schools to share teaching resources in foreign languages, math, science, etc.

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Mr. Stroup, SBHE president-elect, will meet with representatives of the joint boards to discuss the agenda for next years meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m. CT. ND Board of Vocational and Technical Education will host the meeting in 2002.