

State Board of Education

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Agency of Education
1 National Life Drive, Room 513
Montpelier, VT 05620-2501

Draft Meeting Minutes

Date: September 18, 2024

Present:

State Board Members (SBE): Jennifer Samuelson, Chair; Tammy Kolbe, Vice Chair; Mohamed Diop; Tom Lovett; Jenna O'Farrell; Lyle Jepson; Kim Gleason; Grey Fearon; Caleb Greenwood, Richard Werner and Interim Secretary Zoie Saunders.

Agency of Education (AOE): Emily Simmons, Suzanne Sprague; Jill Briggs-Campbell, Sean Cousino, Johannes Haensch, Cassandra Ryan, Pat Pallas-Gray, Meg Porcella, Maureen Gaidys

Others: Logan Chalmers, Media Factory; Representative Angela Arsenault, Representative Elizabeth Burrows, Michael Moser, Senator Martine Gulick, Amanda Garces, 3rd Generation Vermonter, Erin Maguire (Essex Westford School District), Jay Nichols (Vermont Principals' Association), Alan Oullette, Erica Prudente, Representative Edye Graning, Sue Ceglowski (Vermont School Boards Association), Mary Kay Jurovcik, Nathaniel Thompson, Jess DeCarolis, Colby Kervick, Peter Knox, Leigh Jaschke, Parker Goss, Dr. Bernice Garnett.

Call to Order, Roll Call, Amendments to the Agenda

Chair Samuelson called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. and asked for a roll call. There were no amendments to the agenda.

Item B: Public to be Heard

Chair Samuelson invited members of the public to speak, asked them to limit their comments to 2 minutes, and offered that they could provide comments in writing for inclusion with the meeting minutes.

Representative Elizabeth Burrows: referred to [written comment submitted in January](#) and asked that the SBE be mindful about being fully transparent; she also asked that her comments be linked in the meeting minutes.

Sue Ceglowski, Vermont School Boards Association, Executive Director: provided [public comment on item R](#).

Senator Martine Gulick: thanked members for their service; apologized for not having been able to attend prior meetings. She asked 1) what is the SBE's strategic plan and where is it?

2) what is the relationship with the Commission on the Future of Public Education in Vermont and how Chair Samuelson represents all voices of the SBE on that Commission.

Jay Nichols, Vermont Principals' Association, Executive Director: was curious what is happening with the SBE Roles and Responsibilities Committee; said the most recent meeting was cancelled; said it is important to get the take on all SBE members, this is important for the Commission and the General Assembly; and implored the SBE to continue its work to have a board that represents the needs of all students.

Erin Maguire, Essex Westford School District: 1) recognized the rapid turnover of the State Director of Special Education, and that this is at a point of critical conversation and the position is buried within the organization chart of the AOE, 2) recognized the ethnic studies standards are in the content of today's agenda and advised members to be careful about making alterations without the voices of those most impacted and, 3) with regard to the Board's organization, planning, and communication, she, hopes the SBE would have an agenda planning team and reiterated the importance of a strategic plan that is visible to the field.

Krista Rushford: provided [this public comment](#) on the PCB Community Update in advance of this meeting.* (see below)

Item C: Approve Draft Meeting and Retreat Minutes from August 21, 2024

Werner moved to approve the [meeting minutes from the August 21, 2024 meeting](#); Jepson seconded. There was no discussion. Chair Samuelson called the vote. The motion carried. Lovett abstained.

Werner moved to approve the [retreat minutes from the August 21, 2024 meeting](#); Diop seconded. Chair Samuelson called the vote. There was discussion on the minutes, that the retreat was very productive, the work product should be captured in the minutes, where the work product should be housed, transcribing the information for reflection, and tabling this vote until retreat notes can be reviewed and included as an attachment to the minutes.

Werner withdrew his motion; Diop withdrew his second. There was discussion on next steps regarding the notes that were taken at the retreat.

Gleason moved to table approval of the retreat minutes; Werner seconded. There was no further discussion. Chair Samuelson called the vote. The motion passed.

There was discussion on including public comment that was provided in advance for today's meeting as part of the meeting minutes. *(inserted above)

Item D: Resolution for Heather Bouchey

Chair Samuelson read [a resolution of appreciation for Heather Bouchey](#). It will be mailed to Bouchey.

Item E: Board Announcements

Gleason thanked Bouchey and also acknowledged the service of Jess DeCarolis, former Student Pathways Division Director, for her work since 2016, and said her expertise and dedication to the field will be missed. Secondly, she reminded members of the invitation to the Vermont Superintendents Association/Vermont School Boards Association (VSBA/VSA) conference on October 24-25, a Celebration of Public Education in Vermont. She cited the Board's powers and duties under 16 V.S.A. §164. She asked to confirm that this was a reimbursable expense. There was discussion on the statute being clear, attending in an official or unofficial capacity, and that this should be discussed later in the meeting.

Jepson shared that the Rutland Region Workforce Investment Board is celebrating receiving a Department of Labor Workforce Opportunities and Rural Communities grant of \$1.25 million that will be used to create a system for paid and unpaid internship opportunities with the goal of building relationships and encouraging students to pursue a career in the trades. Rutland was also recently recognized for making the largest whoopie pie in the world.

Diop shared that September 15-October 15 is Hispanic Heritage month and encouraged members to care for one another.

Chair Samuelson reminded the group about the mandatory ethics training that all members must complete. Gleason, Jepson, Werner, Diop and Samelson have completed this training. She said upon completion, a certificate will be issued and should be sent to AOE with a copy to Chair Samuelson.

Chair Samuelson said the VSBA report is complete. She spoke with Sandra Cameron and Clare Wool in an initial conversation last March and had a follow-up conversation on August 27, 2024. The report is not yet released; once it is, it will be shared with the SBE. The takeaways were that the SBE's roles and functions need to be clarified, people want to know how to apply to be on the SBE, there is a shared commitment to working together, and discussion of communication to the General Assembly that less is more.

Chair Samuelson mentioned that the agenda packet included [an announcement of the Governor's School Safety conference](#) at the Doubletree in Burlington on September 30, 2024. There was discussion on reimbursement of mileage to the Governor's School Safety conference.

Item F: Student Report

Fearon is starting his senior year, and the first three weeks are going well. Cross-country has started and is going well. Classes are going well, too. School bathrooms have undergone construction for a universal set-up, and this was controversial. There have also been some changes to school safety – doors are locked and that presents some challenges for those participating in afterschool activities. There has also been crack down on cell phone use– a new policy bans phones for teachers and students from 8AM-3PM, and this is certainly another topic of controversy. There have also been accommodations to help protect students from potential exposure to Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE).

Greenwood spoke about contrasts between Fearon's and his schools' policies on cell phone use and school safety. School safety drills have taken place. He started his junior year and sports teams are going well. Greenwood hopes to be a first-generation college student and wants to create a calendar that is comprehensive (including academic, sports, etc.) that can be filtered to include deadlines and what needs to be accomplished by when to help students plan for and achieve postsecondary goals.

Item G: Interim Secretary's Report

Interim Secretary Saunders thanked Bouchey for her contributions and her 9 years of service to the Agency of Education. She announced that Jill Briggs-Campbell will be serving as Interim Deputy Secretary and Sean Cousino will be serving as Interim CFO. She asked Briggs-Campbell and Cousin to introduce themselves.

Listen and Learn Tour: The purpose of the Listen and Learn tour is to inform the development of the Agency's strategic plan and also to support broader conversations about the future of public education. As background, the Listen and Learn Tour is organized into three phases. The first phase focused on compiling an initial data report to set the table on the current state of education in Vermont. The Agency released the State Profile Report in August to give a broad view of the education system, including student academic performance, enrollment, staffing, and expenditures. This week marked the launch of the second phase of the Listen and Learn tour, which will engage education leaders in regional planning sessions to review the data and provide input on the Agency's emerging priorities – elevating literacy and math performance, expanding college and career readiness, supporting student mental health, and school budgeting. Participation will include superintendents, principals, curriculum directors, business managers, school board members, among others. Phase 3 will involve public engagement sessions, structured to support two-way conversation.

The Agency has not had a strategic plan for years. The Listen and Learn tour is important in providing a participatory and data-driven process to develop the AOE's strategic plan. Input from the Listen and Learn tour will help inform the realignment of Agency resources and programs to meet the educational priorities of communities. Part of the plan involves evaluating the scope and position of AOE roles within the organization to best support the field.

Read Vermont: launched this week; it is a comprehensive state effort to improve state literacy outcomes; will provide extensive professional development support and job-embedded coaching and provide resources to communities and families. Read Vermont supports the implementation of Act 139, legislation passed by the General Assembly in 2024 focusing on K-3, and also supports the needs of struggling readers in the later grades. The Agency is excited for this launch that will offer support to the field to achieve our shared goals. A webinar will be held on September 25th to provide more details.

Cell Phone Policy: The AOE is in the process of evaluating research and cell phone policies in districts across Vermont to make recommendations that are balanced, considering mental health, safety, and a focus on academics. Questions were added to the annual technology survey to capture practices across the state, and data will inform recommendations. The data along with research will help inform work prior to the next legislative session.

School Safety: The AOE is interested in improving school safety in ways that are practical and implementable and based on research. The Agency has secured a consultant to engage student perspective. The AOE will be sharing findings about the student experience of school safety along with research on best practices at the upcoming School Safety conference scheduled on September 30 at the Doubletree in Burlington.

College and Career Readiness: This AOE is focusing on this area and is creating greater awareness and being intentional on how to strengthen pipelines to college and career

Commission on the Future of Public Education in VT: The Commission has an Education Finance Subcommittee and has adopted a framework to evaluate and make recommendations and to center those recommendations in an understanding of how to promote equity, education quality, and affordability in our overall system.

Several other committees: The AOE is involved with many other committees including the School Construction Aid Working Group, Prekindergarten Education Implementation Committee, Advisory Council on Literacy and the Afterschool and Summer Learning Advisory Council. The Agency has a role on each committee and is working intentionally to promote connections, including around policy recommendations.

There was discussion on the data report, the Listen and Learn tour including the Board's voices, how that should be organized, needing more focused time on that. The Board posed questions about how numbers line up with federal reporting, including sufficient information to recreate numbers in the report, how to create full transparency for buy-in, comparability of denominators. Interim Secretary Saunders suggested a deeper dive with the board to explain choices on defining metrics, how metrics compare to federal reporting and shared that the re-release of state profile report will include a data appendix and any further clarification that might be helpful. An explicit goal of the Listen and Learn reports is for the state to have a clear data set to inform policy and work, including national comparisons. The Board had additional questions regarding finance data and how budgeting would be included in the regional planning sessions. Interim Secretary Saunders explained that budget considerations are included in each breakout session along with a dedicated budget session for School Board members. This is part of the Agency's engagement work around needs and quantifying costs, school board sessions are designed to collect feedback on how to help inform prior to the budget season. Additionally, the Agency is preparing a presentation for a deeper dive on education finance spending for the Commission. The Board asked for a distinction between independent schools that are approved but ineligible to receive public tuition and independent schools that are approved to receive public tuition. Interim Secretary Saunders reinforced that it would be valuable to do a deeper dive with the SBE on the report. The Board reflected on

the broader need for financial literacy, inclusion/equity/accessibility needs, and acknowledged the Interim Secretary for the work that went into preparing this report.

Chair Samuelson surveyed how many SBE members were able to stay past the scheduled meeting end time since the meeting was running significantly off schedule. There was discussion on what items could be moved to the next meeting or abbreviated, since all items would not be able to be addressed today.

Item H: AOE Presentation: State of the State – Special Education

This item will be discussed at the next meeting.

Item J – Independent School Approval Review Process Update

Emily Simmons, General Counsel, shared a presentation titled, "[AOE Implementation: Updated Rules Series 2200](#)" and walked the board briefly through the presentation.

Gleason requested an updated list of schools approved to receive public tuition and those that are ineligible to receive public tuition. There was discussion on how to compel the AOE to provide that information, concern that the process has been prolonged and has allowed for two tuition cycles without clear accountability to the statute, testimony in the Senate Education Committee in January on process for those no longer considered to be eligible to receive public tuition, an appeal process, process for a school that is not contracting or employing a special educator to deliver special education services, renewal for schools with non-compliance, revocation or suspension of approval status, AOE's option to initiate an investigation and return to the SBE with a recommendation, intent is for schools to be compliant, process captures what schools are doing before they are up for approval, concerns flagged by the AOE may result in an investigation that might come before the full SBE, extra time afforded to independent schools, need for a due process hearing to revoke approval is in rules, role of Local Education Agencies (LEA) in supporting and delivering special education in independent schools, there was a pause in this process and AOE is accelerating the review of independent schools with a plan to move forward expeditiously, providing specific questions to the Chair to be forwarded to the Interim Secretary and then addressed at the next meeting. O'Farrell requested a copy of the transitional independent school renewal applications. Vice Chair Kolbe asked to see all materials – applications, assurances, etc. Discussion continued on providing information and giving SBE members time to ask questions, then providing that to AOE for review, and finally discussing this at a future SBE meeting. There was additional discussion on dates, specificity of documents, assuring compliance, and keeping the Board up to speed on the AOE's work.

Interim Secretary Saunders committed that AOE will provide documents within 2 weeks. Chair Samuelson will forward the documents to the SBE, who will have 1 week to review, pose questions and forward the questions to Chair Samuelson, who will then compile a list and forward it to the AOE for its response. The SBE will mostly likely discuss this at the October or November SBE meeting.

Chair Samuelson recessed at 11:15 a.m. for a 5-minute break.
Chair Samuelson reconvened at 11:24 a.m.

Item K: Review of Board Committees and Membership

Chair Samuelson spoke about needing to do some housekeeping on SBE committees. There are 1) some committees that have done their work and need to be retired; 2) some committees whose charge has expired, and the committee needs to be reconstituted to be relevant and 3) current committees that exist and where no changes need to be made.

Chair Samuelson asked for a motion to retire the Rule Series 2200 Update Committee that was created by the State Board of Education at its December 16, 2020 meeting. Lovett moved; Werner seconded. There was discussion on some follow-up from the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (LCAR). Chair Samuelson called the vote. The motion carried.

Chair Samuelson moved to retire the Ripton Status Report Review Committee that was created by the State Board of Education at its June 15, 2022 meeting. Werner seconded. There was no discussion. Chair Samuelson called the vote. The motion carried.

Chair Samuelson asked for a motion to retire the Secretary Search Committee that was created by the State Board of Education at its August 9, 2023 meeting. Jepson moved; Lovett seconded. There was discussion on disbanding or not disbanding the committee, standing versus special committees, needing to have a larger conversation, wanting to move on. Jepson moved to move the question. The motion to move the question passed. Chair Samuelson called the vote, and it was not unanimous. She asked for a roll call vote. The motion carried, 6:3:0. Yeas - Lovett, O'Farrell, Diop, Werner, Jepson, Samuelson; Nays - Kolbe, Fearon, Gleason. There were no abstentions.

Chair Samuelson explained that the next batch of committees need their scope clarified and includes the Roles and Responsibilities Committee and the Education Quality Standards (EQS) Committee. The charge used to create these committees expired and she would like to reframe the charge and reauthorize the membership. There was discussion on naming current seated members of previously named committees to these committees, Board's authority, Chair's authority to appoint, members' capacity, process for committee selection, and options for committee appointments.

Chair Samuelson said she would entertain a motion to retire the Roles and Responsibilities Committee that was created by the State Board of Education at its June 16, 2021 meeting. She wanted to 1) tie the new committee to the goals of Act 183 of 2024 to examine the role and function of the State Board of Education to better serve the recommended education vision of the state and 2) allow the committee to continue processing feedback received at the Board's August 21, 2024 retreat.

Chair Samuelson asked for a motion to retire the Roles and Responsibilities Committee that was created by the State Board of Education at its June 16, 2021 meeting. Werner moved; Jepson seconded. There was no discussion. Chair Samuelson called the vote; the motion carried.

Chair Samuelson said she would entertain a motion for the State Board of Education to establish a committee charged with developing recommendations for the full Board to consider in response to the requirements of Act 183 of 2024 as it pertains to the role and function of the Board to better serve the recommended education vision of the state. Werner moved; Diop seconded. There was discussion on this committee addressing feedback from the retreat, inward and outward function of the Board, needing delineation, renaming the committee, and other changes that needed to be made to the motion.

Vice Chair Kolbe offered a revised motion and SBE members worked to create a motion that was agreeable to all.

Chair Samuelson moved to table this item until items O and Q were concluded. Jepson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Chair Samuelson called the vote. The motion carried.

Item O: Community Schools Update

Interim Secretary Saunders introduced Johannes Haensch, AOE Extended Learning Opportunities Program Manager, and asked him to introduce others who would be speaking on this topic. He introduced Dr. Bernice Garnett, Associate Professor in the Department of Education in the College of Education and Social Services, University of Vermont, and she introduced graduate students in education leadership, Peter Knox and Colby Kurvick, and former AOE colleague, Jess DeCarolis, who is deeply connected with this work. Dr. Garnett and Haensch shared this presentation titled, "[Community Schools in Rural Vermont](#)" with SBE members.

There was discussion on next steps for when the funding runs out, imputed savings versus actual savings, Return on Investment (ROI), opportunity for cataloging schools that are doing similar work without the funding, demographics, best practices, other community schools besides the 5 that received grants and utilizing existing surveillance to understand school-based health centers.

Vice Chair Kolbe asked Garnett to speak to the good work happening at UVM – College of Education and Social Sciences (CESS) and Research Policy Practice Partnerships (RP3). Garnett shared that Research Practice Partnerships signifies a long term, mutually beneficial collaboration between a diverse set of stakeholders and represents a broader set of voices to ensure that research really can inform practice in a timely way. A third P was added to the research practice partnership by adding policy into it, because the partnership is between UVM, AOE and our Community Schools. The goal of an RP3 is to make sure that research is applied so that practice and policy is supported in a timely fashion.

Item Q: Post-Secondary Closure-Goddard College Student Record Designation

Ryan requested SBE action on the student academic record depository for Goddard College and provided background information, some of which is also included in the [Secretary's Recommended Action](#). Post secondary institutes that are closing have the responsibility of preparing and transferring all student academic records to a designated facility which is subject to SBE approval. Prescott College was designated for other closed post-secondary institutions and there have been no issues with the transfer of records. Ryan concluded that the Agency's role in the closure of the post-secondary institution is very minimal and is limited to helping to determine where those records should be housed.

Jepson moved that the State Board of Education approve Prescott College, Prescott Arizona as the designated entity pursuant to 16 V.S.A. §175, to act as a permanent repository for Goddard College student academic records. Fearon seconded. There was no further discussion. Chair Samuelson called the vote. The motion carried.

(Continued) Item K: Review of Board Committees and Membership

Discussion continued on wording the motion, standing and special committees, changing the name of the committee, reference to statute, and self-governance practices.

Jepson moved that the SBE establish a committee charged with developing recommendations for full Board action as it pertains to the role and function of the SBE and constituting the State Board's governance - including the need to create and/or update by-laws, processes, and procedures - and other statutory responsibilities and as such it will be called the Roles and Responsibilities Committee. Fearon seconded. There was no further discussion. Chair Samuelson called the vote. The motion carried.

Chair Samuelson said she would entertain a motion that the SBE authorize its Chair to appoint members to the newly constituted Roles and Responsibilities Committee. There was discussion on creating and populating the committee. Gleason offered a potential alternate motion. There was discussion on committee appointments and codifying practices.

Gleason moved that the previous members of the Roles and Responsibilities Committee be assigned to the newly constituted Roles and Responsibilities Committee with future membership being recommended by the Chair to the full Board for a vote. Vice Chair Kolbe seconded. There was discussion on the committee composition and that membership could change. Gleason withdrew her motion; vice Chair Kolbe withdrew her second.

Jepson moved to authorize the Chair to appoint members to the newly constituted Roles and Responsibilities committee; Werner seconded. There was discussion. Chair Samuelson called the vote. The motion carried.

There was discussion on the Education Quality Standards (EQS) Committee, the IRIS standards, current charge for the EQS Committee is tied to Act 1 (2019), Health and PE Standards, referring IRIS to the EQS Committee, renaming the EQS Committee to reflect its

new scope of work, and the need for an expedient process for referring standards to a committee.

Chair Samuelson proposed three motions: 1) to retire the Education Quality Standards Committee that was created on December 15th, 2021, 2) to entertain a motion that the State Board of Education establish a committee charged with developing recommendations for the full board to consider pursuant to 16 V.S.A. §164 (9) to implement and continually update standards for student performance and appropriate content areas and at appropriate intervals in the continuum from kindergarten to grade 12 and methods of assessment to determine attainment of the standards for student performance and 3) to populate that committee.

O'Farrell asked for clarification on the members appointed to the newly constituted Roles and Responsibilities Committee. Chair Samuelson said members appointed are Kolbe and Samuelson as co-chairs, O'Farrell and Diop.

There was discussion that the minutes from the September 20, 2023, SBE meeting reflect that the Board established a committee to review the Ethnic Studies Standards framework submitted by the Act 1 Working Group and that the Board voted to send the framework to the EQS Committee for review. There was additional discussion on a standards performance committee, ethnic studies framework committee, quorum issues with the current composition of the committee, enlarging the scope of the EQS Committee, and renaming the Ethnic Studies Standards Framework Committee the "Student Standards Performance Committee."

Gleason moved to rename the Ethnic Studies Standards Framework Committee the "Student Performance Standards Committee" and that would allow any performance standards that are currently pending before the Board or future performance standards to be considered by that committee. Jepson seconded. There was discussion. Chair Samuelson called the vote. The motion carried.

Chair Samuelson said she would hold on the remainder of Item K until the next meeting and move to Item L, the proposed process for State Board approval of Standards and then initiate review of the Health and P/E Standards and the Ethnic Studies Standards and refer that to the Student Performance Standards Committee. The remaining items from today would be postponed to a future meeting.

Item L: Proposed Process for SBE Approval of Standards

Vice Chair Kolbe shared a draft process that was discussed at the September 3, 2024 meeting of the Roles and Responsibilities Committee and shared [a memo to the Roles and Responsibilities Committee and the State Board of Education](#) which outlined the proposed process for considering and updating standards for student performance.

There was discussion on how much time might pass, timelines, dropping the second paragraph on page 2, and recommendations and considerations/engagement from the AOE.

Chair Samuelson moved to approve the proposed process for approving standards presented by [Vice Chair Kolbe in her memo dated September 11, 2024](#), as amended by updating the name of the EQS Committee to the “Student Performance Standards Committee” and striking the requirement on page 2 that the full Board must vote to approve or disapprove the Committee's proposed plan and timeline. Werner seconded. There was no discussion. Chair Samuelson called the vote. The motion carried

Werner asked for written reports to accompany the agenda and meeting materials to help the meeting flow better. Werner left the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

Item M: Initiate Review of Health Standards, PE Standards, and Ethnic Studies Standards

Chair Samuelson said she would entertain a motion that the Student Performance Standards Committee consider the proposed updates to the National Health Education Standards that were presented to the Board at its August 21, 2024, meeting and develop recommendations for the full Board to consider pursuant to 16 V.S.A. §164 (9). Jepson moved; Kolbe seconded. There was no discussion. Chair Samuelson called the vote. The motion carried.

Chair Samuelson said she would further entertain a motion that the Student Performance Standards Committee consider the proposed updates to the Society for Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE) America National Physical Education Standards that were presented to the Board at its August 21, 2024, meeting and develop recommendations for the full Board to consider pursuant to 16 V.S.A. §164 (9). Gleason moved; Vice Chair Kolbe seconded. There was no discussion. Chair Samuelson called the vote. The motion carried.

Chair Samuelson said she would entertain a motion that the Student Performance Standards Committee consider the proposed IRIS Ethnic Studies Standards that were presented to the Board at its September 20, 2023, meeting and develop recommendations for the full Board to consider pursuant to 16 V.S.A. §164 (9). Vice Chair Kolbe moved; Jepson seconded. There was no discussion. Chair Samuelson called the vote. The motion carried.

Item S: Future Meeting Planning

The October 16th meeting is planned for Essex and the November 20th meeting is planned for St. Johnsbury. Agenda items include continued review of Board committees/membership, review of SBE budget (members please respond to Vice Chair Kolbe and Chair Samuelson with input by Monday, September 23), and an update on the Commission on the Future of Public Education in Vermont. Chair Samuelson flagged that the Commission’s Communication and Engagement Subcommittee will be developing a toolkit to be approved by the Commission for use by its members to facilitate conversations within each member’s underlying organization; this will entail detailed conversation by the full SBE. Additional potential agenda items: reflections on the retreat, reports from the Roles and Responsibilities committee, Rivendell Interstate Compact Articles of Agreement, update on District Quality Standards (DQS), accrediting agencies seeking SBE recognition, Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) update, pending litigation update, waiver request from North Country Union

High School, reimbursement to attend conferences, State of the State on Special Education, and an in-depth report of AOE's Listen and Learn Tour.

There was discussion on sharing a draft agenda with SBE members in advance, needing information on Independent Schools prior to the November meeting, not directing the work of the AOE, challenges with/process for agenda setting, how the AOE is supporting implementation of the independent school rules, statutory responsibility, data reporting, meeting management, leaving time at the next two meetings for hosting schools to showcase their work, not adding any other presentations to the agenda, and getting information from SEAP in advance of the meeting.

The following items were tabled for a future meeting:

Item N: State Board of Education Budget Request for General Assembly

Item O: Community Schools Update

Item P: Update-Commission on the Future of Public Education in Vermont

Item R: Reflections on Retreat

Item T: Public to be Heard

Representative Elizabeth Burrows: Was asked by someone to point out that Heather Bouchey, Jess DeCarolis, the Special Education Director, Ted Fisher, and several others who are no longer at AOE are still listed on the AOE website.

Adjourn

Vice Chair Kolbe moved to adjourn; Jepson seconded. There was no discussion. The meeting adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Maureen Gaidys.