

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

May 18, 2017

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Board meeting at 10:02 a.m. on Thursday, May 18, 2017, in the 4th Floor Boardroom at Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present were: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Mr. Buddy Bailey, Ms. Kami Bumgarner, Dr. Karen J. Elam, Mr. Johnny Franklin, Dr. John R. Kelly, and Mr. Charles McClelland. Board member absent was: Mr. William H. Jones. Dr. Carey M. Wright was also present. Dr. Jason S. Dean joined the meeting at 11:16 a.m.

- I. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair, called the Board meeting to order. Ms. Aultman noted the statement on the agenda that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during the meeting.
- II. Ms. Kami Bumgarner led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Johnny Franklin gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of April 20, 2017 Board meeting.
- IV. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board unanimously approved the agenda as presented.
- V. Recognition Ceremony

There were no recognitions for the month of May.

- VI. Dr. Carey M. Wright gave the following report as the State Superintendent of Education:
 - Dr. Wright stated that a group of state superintendents met with Secretary Betsy DeVos and it was a good opportunity to have an exchange of information and to share concerns about the Fiscal Year 2018 budget around Title money. Dr. Wright stated that the current budget on the table is to eliminate all Title II and Title IV dollars. Dr. Wright stated she has shared information with superintendents around the state. Dr. Wright stated that Title II dollars are used for a lot of things in the districts, such as professional development, class size reduction teachers, and the lack of a final budget is holding up decisions to contract with teachers. Dr. Wright stated they expressed this concern to Secretary DeVos who does not have many staff members yet. Dr. Wright stated she is trying to arrange an individual meeting with Secretary DeVos to get her to know Mississippi's issues.

- Dr. Wright stated that she has finished the Regional Superintendents' meetings. Dr. Wright stated there was a lot of great feedback and shared information about the Every Student Succeeds Act plan.
- Dr. Wright stated that she met with the Mississippi Association of School Superintendents (MASS) Executive Board and got a chance to provide updates around the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plan, the Department budget, and the federal budget. Dr. Wright stated that this also gave us a chance to engage in conversation and thanked them for the invitation.
- Dr. Wright stated that the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Advisory Council met and reviewed the ESSA draft. Dr. Wright stated they discussed how we are identifying schools around either comprehensive support or targeted support. Once that classification is done, support the Department be providing and what support the districts will be providing will be identified. Dr. Wright stated the ESSA state plan will be coming to the Board in June, will come back to the Board in July with any comments, and then to the Governor for 30 days approval. Dr. Wright stated the final ESSA plan will come to the Board in September and then submit to the United States Department of Education.
- Dr. Wright stated that she was on the Paul Gallo Show and there was a great exchange of information. Dr. Wright stated that it was a great opportunity to talk about early childhood and districts of innovation. Dr. Wright stated he did not know that Corinth was on a year round calendar. Dr. Wright stated she views this as an opportunity to share broadly of what is going on in the Department and across the state of Mississippi.
- Dr. Wright stated that she had an amazing visit to the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science (MSMS). Dr. Wright recognized Dr. Germain McConnell, Executive Director for MSMS. Dr. Wright stated she spoke with children at the school who told how the experience changed their lives, how they felt coming into the school, and what they feel now about their level of confidence. Dr. Wright praised Dr. McConnell's leadership. Dr. Wright stated that one of the students, Mr. Braeden Foldenauer, was selected as a 2017 U.S. Presidential Scholar. Dr. Wright stated that he is headed to Harvard University and then plans to come back to Mississippi to give back to his state.
- Dr. Wright stated that the audits are ongoing. Dr. Wright stated that the United States Department of Education (USDE) selected Mississippi as one of the random states to audit. Dr. Wright stated that the State Auditor's Office is conducting audits around the Title funds. Dr. Wright stated that CliftonLarsonAllen is coming in next week to start their audit.
- Dr. Wright stated the Spotlight for this Board meeting is "Academic Signing Day – D'Iberville High School – Harrison County School District – Celebrating Excellence in Academics." Dr. Wright stated this celebrates all students who receive scholarship money. Dr. Wright stated the students sign with the college or university of their choice who drafts them for their team during this

event. Dr. Wright stated that the D'Iberville High School started this practice in 2016 and expanded it this year. Dr. Wright commended Mr. Roy Gill, Superintendent of Harrison County School District, and Ms. Cheryl Broadus, Principal of D'Iberville High School, about setting a college going culture. Dr. Wright stated hats off to the leadership of D'Iberville.

VII. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman as the Chair of the State Board gave the following report:

- Ms. Aultman stated that these recognitions are getting to be more common in high schools and it is a wonderful thing. Ms. Aultman stated that high schools are beginning to understand the importance of not only honoring the athletes who get scholarships to go on to college but to recognize the students who have worked so hard academically and do not get noticed. Ms. Aultman stated this is good for the community and for the parents.
- Ms. Aultman stated that Dr. Wright was one of three state superintendents to be invited to be a lead presenter at the Annual Funder Huddle in Denver, Colorado on June 14, 2017. Ms. Aultman stated that this is on behalf of Ralph Smith Campaign for Grade Level Reading. Ms. Aultman stated this is the largest gathering of local, state, and national philanthropic partners who make investments in schools across the nation. Ms. Aultman stated this is an honor for Dr. Wright and an honor for our state that she is one of three to be chosen. Ms. Aultman stated this is important for our state that we are being recognized nationally for the leadership that is going on here.
- Ms. Aultman stated she and Mr. Johnny Franklin attended the Regional Superintendents' meeting held in Central Mississippi. Ms. Aultman stated this is a wonderful opportunity for superintendents to attend for information. Ms. Aultman stated there was good discussion and questions were asked but she was disappointed in the attendance at the meeting.

VIII. There were no reports of Subcommittee meetings.

IX. Discussion of Board Items

01. Dr. Paula Vanderford discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise Appendix A-3 and Appendix G of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards: Graduation Requirements* effective school year 2017-2018 [Goals 1, 2, 3, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Vanderford recommended approval.

02. Dr. Vanderford reported the results of the 2017 MAP Grade 3 ELA Assessment [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached). The Board discussed the results. Mr. Vincent Segalini thanked his staff for their work on the report.

03. Dr. John Q. Porter gave an update on Phase I of the Mississippi Department of Education Internal Dashboards [Goal 5 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached). The Board discussed the information presented.

Dr. Wright thanked Dr. Porter and his staff for their work.

Dr. Jason S. Dean joined the meeting at 11:16 a.m.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:20 a.m. and reconvened at 12:18 p.m.

04. Ms. Aultman gave the Board an opportunity to discuss the following consent agenda items.
 - A. Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits (Felicia Gavin)
 - B. Renew contracts with vendors for the adoption of textbooks in the area of Social Studies: World Geography and Citizenship Grade 6 (Kim Benton)
 - C. Award discretionary grants to local school districts for the purpose of contracting with Educators in Residence for 2017-2018 for Special Education (Kim Benton)
 - D. Revise the methodology to award Migrant Education Program grant dollars in support of local efforts for providing supplemental services to migrant students in accordance with Title I, Part C of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (Kim Benton)
 - E. Award discretionary grant to local school district for the purpose of contracting with Educator in Residence to provide professional development and technical assistance in Science (Kim Benton)

- F. Methodology for awarding grants to local educational agencies (LEAs) to provide high quality Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs for Mississippi students (Kim Benton)
 - G. Mississippi State School's 2017-2018 Student Handbooks: (1) Mississippi School of the Arts, (2) Mississippi School for the Blind, (3) Mississippi School for the Deaf, and (4) Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science (Kim Benton)
 - H. Renew the Fiscal Year 2018 contract with ACT, Inc. for the ACT State Testing (Paula Vanderford)
- X. Approval of Action Items
- 01. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise Appendix A-3 and Appendix G of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards: Graduation Requirements* effective school year 2017-2018 [Goals 1, 2, 3, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief of Research and Development)
 - 04. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved consent agenda items A., B., C., D., E., F., G., and H. (copy attached).
 - A. Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits
(Office of Chief Operations Officer)
 - B. Renew contracts with vendors for the adoption of textbooks in the area of Social Studies: World Geography and Citizenship Grade 6
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)
 - C. Award discretionary grants to local school districts for the purpose contracting with Educators in Residence for 2017-2018 for Special Education
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

- D. Revise the methodology to award Migrant Education Program grant dollars in support of local efforts for providing supplemental services to migrant students in accordance with Title I, Part C of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as reauthorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

- E. Award discretionary grant to local school district for the purpose of contracting with Educator in Residence to provide professional development and technical assistance in Science
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

- F. Methodology for awarding grants to local educational agencies (LEAs) to provide high quality Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs for Mississippi students
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

- G. Mississippi State School's 2017-2018 Student Handbooks: (1) Mississippi School of the Arts, (2) Mississippi School for the Blind, (3) Mississippi School for the Deaf, and (4) Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

- H. Renew the Fiscal Year 2018 contract with ACT, Inc. for the ACT State Testing
(Office of Chief of Research and Development)

XI. Consideration of Executive Session

Dr. Jason S. Dean moved that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session. Mr. Charles McClelland seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a vote of 7 to 0. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman asked Dr. Carey M. Wright, Ms. Raina Lee, Ms. Chelsea Chicosky, Ms. Leah Kathryn Anzenberger, Mr. Joseph Runnels, and the Executive Leadership Team to remain in the Executive Session.

Dr. Jason S. Dean, then moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss discrete personnel matters related to the job performance of persons holding specific positions in the Department of Education in accordance with Mississippi Code § 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k), discussion of a strategy session or negotiations with respect to prospective litigation involving the Department and the issuance of an appealable order

in accordance with Mississippi Code § 25-41-7 (4)(b), and discussion with respect to investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or violation of law in accordance with Mississippi Code § 25-41-7 (4)(d). Dr. Karen J. Elam seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 7 to 0. Ms. Chelsea Chicosky informed the public of the Board's vote to go into Executive Session for the above-stated reasons.

Minutes of the Executive Session

During the Executive Session, the Board discussed discrete personnel matters related to the job performance of persons holding specific positions in the Department of Education in accordance with Mississippi Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k), discussed a strategy session or negotiations with respect to prospective litigation involving the Department and the issuance of an appealable order in accordance with Mississippi Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(b), and discussed with respect to investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or violation of law in accordance with Mississippi Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(d).

On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board voted 7 to 0 to come out of Executive Session.

The public came back into the Board meeting and Ms. Aultman reported the action taken during the Executive Session.

01. On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Ms. Elisha Campbell as Education Bureau Manager at a salary of \$102,000.00.
 02. On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. Debra B. Burson as Education Bureau Director II to serve as Director of Educator Preparation in the Office of Educator Licensure at a salary of \$100,000.00.
- XII. State Board of Education
1. There were no meetings attended.
 2. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved for Dr. Carey M. Wright and Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman to attend the Annual Funder Huddle Grade Level Reading meeting on June 13-15, 2017 in Denver, Colorado.

3. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved the Board meeting dates for Fiscal Year 2018 (copy attached).

XIII. Other Business

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board voted 7 to 0 to change the June Board meeting from Thursday, June 15, 2017 to Friday, June 16, 2017 and will start the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

XIV. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 2:34 p.m.

Approved:



Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education



Carey M. Wright
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education