



**Minutes of the
Commission on School Accreditation
Central High School Building
Fourth Floor, Board Room
359 North West Street
Jackson, Mississippi
August 1, 2019
10:00 a.m.**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission on School Accreditation (CSA or Commission) took place at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 1, 2019. Commission members participated in person or via teleconference.

Attending in the Fourth Floor Board Room of the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi:

Heather Westerfield, Chair
Sarah Foster
Ingrid Williams

Attending via teleconference:

Kelle Barfield, Vicksburg, MS
Kenny Bush, Philadelphia
Roy Gill, Gulfport, MS
Brian Harvey, Clinton, MS
Michael Lindsey, Oxford, MS
Dr. Valencia Martin, Greenwood, MS
Brad Stevens, Amory, MS

The following members did not attend:

Sean Brewer
John Mistilis
Anthony Montgomery
Eddie Prather

The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE), Office of Accreditation staff members/representatives present included:

Dr. Paula Vanderford, Chief Accountability Officer
Dr. Jo Ann Malone, Executive Secretary
Melissa Biggs, Office of Accreditation
Angela Kitchens, Office of Accreditation
Angelo Nuzzo, Office of Accreditation
Ken Stamps, Office of Accreditation

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Also in attendance: Dr. Nathan Oakley, Chief Academic Officer, Wendy Clemons and Limuel Eubanks Office of Secondary Education, and Sandra Elliott, Office of Elementary Education

Erin Meyer, Special Assistant Attorney General, served as legal counsel to the Commission.

I. Call to Order and Invocation

Heather Westerfield, Chair of the CSA, opened the Commission meeting and conducted a roll-call of the Commission members.

Ms. Westerfield announced that a quorum of the Commission existed.

Ms. Westerfield called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Sarah Foster led an invocation.

II. Adoption of Agenda

On a motion by Sarah Foster, seconded by Roy Gill, the Commission unanimously approved the agenda.

III. Action: Approval of the minutes of the June 6, 2019 Meeting of the Commission on School Accreditation

On a motion by Kelle Barfield, seconded by Brian Harvey, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2019 meeting.

IV. Discussion: Consideration of request to establish State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 28, Rule 28.8 - Mississippi Seal of Biliteracy

Wendy Clemons and Limeul Eubanks, Office of Secondary Education, and Sandra Elliot, Office of Elementary Education, explained that the purpose of this policy is to set minimum standards for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) that opt to offer a seal of biliteracy recognizing students who have attained proficiency in one or more world languages and English by high school graduation.

Commission members asked question which Dr. Oakley and Ms. Clemons answered.

Ms. Clemons, Mr. Eubanks, and Ms. Elliott explained the proposed guidelines referenced in Items VI and VII during this time.

V. Action: Approval to submit request to the State Board of Education to begin the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) process to establish State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 28, Rule 28.8 – Mississippi Seal of Biliteracy

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On a motion by Ingrid Williams, seconded by Michael Lindsey, the Commission unanimously voted to submit a request to the State Board of Education to begin the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) process to establish State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 28, Rule 28.8 – Mississippi Seal of Biliteracy.

VI. Discussion: Consideration of request to establish State Guidelines for the Mississippi Seal of Biliteracy

(The Commission discussed this item in conjunction with the presentation of Item IV.)

VII. Action: Approval to submit request to the State Board of Education to begin the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) process to establish State Guidelines for the Mississippi Seal of Biliteracy

On a motion by Ingrid Williams, seconded by Sarah Foster, the Commission unanimously voted to submit a request to the State Board of Education to begin the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) process to establish State Guidelines for the Mississippi Seal of Biliteracy

VIII. Action: Approval to change the previously approved CSA meeting date of September 17, 2019 to September 11, 2019

On a motion by Kelle Barfield, seconded by Roy Gill, the Commission voted unanimously to change the previously approved CSA meeting date of September 17, 2019 to September 11, 2019.

IX. Information: Proposed revisions to the Accreditation Policies of the State Board of Education in the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2019*

Dr. Malone informed the Commission that MDE staff is continuing to work on some proposed revisions to the Accreditation Policies of the State Board of Education in the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2019*. The Commission received a copy of the latest draft for review and feedback. Dr. Vanderford and Attorney Meyer provided some guidance on the proposed revision.

X. Other Business

None

XI. Adjournment

On a motion by Sarah Foster, seconded by Ingrid Williams, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

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APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION:

9 17 2019
(Month) (Day) (Year)

Heather Westersfield
Chair of the Commission

J. M. Malone
Executive Secretary of the Commission