

## Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

June 14, 2023

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Special-Called Board meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 14, 2023, in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom at Central High School, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present were: Dr. Wendi Barrett, Mr. Glen V. East, Mr. Bill Jacobs, Mr. Matt Miller, and Ms. Mary Werner. Board members absent: Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee and Mr. Mike Pruitt. Mr. Michael D. Kent was also present.

- I. Mr. Glen V. East, Acting Chair, called the Special-Called Board meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.
- II. Mr. East stated that the Board members received a copy of the agenda. Mr. East further stated that since this is a Special-Called meeting, the only business that can be transacted is that which was specified in the call of the meeting, student representative interviews.
- III. On a motion by Ms. Mary Werner, seconded by Mr. Bill Jacobs, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.
- IV. Mr. East reminded the Board members of the competitive process that has taken place to get the Board to this point. Mr. East stated on January 27, 2023, 28 students from across the state submitted applications to MDE in response to the competitive application process that was released on December 8, 2022. Under the leadership of Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee, an Ad-Hoc Screening Committee evaluated these applications in March. On May 11 and 12, 2023, Dr. McGehee, Mr. Bill Jacobs, and Ms. Mary Werner (members of the School Performance and Accountability Subcommittee) interviewed the 10 semi-finalists and named the top four students as finalists of the program.

Mr. East stated that the four finalists will interview today for the junior representative position for a term that will begin immediately and will end on April 30, 2025. Mr. East stated three of the finalists will be in person and one will be joining via Zoom. Mr. East stated the responsibilities of the student representative are outlined on the first page of the interview questionnaire in the folders that have been provided. Mr. East stated that in addition to the questionnaire that will be used during the interviews, the Board members will find the student applications and a Student Representative Selection Form.

Mr. East stated the interviews will be conducted in forty-five-minute increments and the Board members will rotate the interview questions as done in prior years. Mr. East stated that the Board will begin each interview by viewing the video that each student submitted as part of the application process. Mr. East stated the student will then join the meeting. Mr. East stated that following the interviews, the Board will have time for discussion and each member will rank the students

on the Selection Form and submit it to Ms. Sonya Amis and the ballots will be counted during a brief recess and the results will be announced for subsequent vote by the Board.

The finalists interviewed pursuant to the following schedule:

- Grace Taylor (Rankin County School District) – 8:45 a.m.
- Kate Riddle (Lafayette County School District) – 9:30 a.m.
- Alex Ritchie (Oxford School District) – 10:15 a.m.
- Yaerim Choi (Starkville-Oktibbeha School District) via Zoom – 11:00 a.m.


- V. The Board discussed the junior student finalists before completing their Student Representative Selection Form.

The meeting recessed for five minutes while the results were compiled.

- VI. On a motion by Mr. Bill Jacobs, seconded by Mr. Matt Miller, the Board unanimously voted to approve Ms. Kate Riddle of Lafayette County School District as the junior student representative whose term will begin immediately and end April 30, 2025.
- VII. On a motion by Ms. Mary Werner, seconded by Dr. Wendi Barrett, the Board unanimously voted to approve Ms. Yaerim Choi of Starkville-Oktibbeha School District as the junior student representative alternate.
- VIII. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Bill Jacobs, seconded by Dr. Wendi Barrett, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Approved:

  
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Glen V. East, Vice-Chair/Acting Board Chair  
Mississippi Board of Education

  
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Raymond C. Morgigno  
Interim Executive Secretary  
Mississippi Board of Education

## **NOTICE**

### **MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF EDUCATION**

#### **WORK SESSION**

On Wednesday, June 14, 2023, the Board work session will start at 8:30 a.m. for the purpose of interviewing the four Student Representative finalists. Beginning at 1:00 p.m., the Board will discuss upcoming Department budgets. The Board work session will be held in the following location:

4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom  
Central High School Building  
359 North West Street  
Jackson, Mississippi

The public is invited to attend.

Posted: May 31, 2023