

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

September 20, 2018

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Board meeting at 10:01 a.m. on Thursday, September 20, 2018, in the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Mr. Buddy Bailey, Dr. Jason S. Dean, Mr. Johnny Franklin, Dr. John R. Kelly, and Mr. Charles McClelland. Board members absent: Dr. Karen J. Elam and Mr. Sean Suggs. Dr. Carey M. Wright was also present.

- I. Dr. Jason S. Dean, Chair, called the Board meeting to order. Dr. Dean noted that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during the meeting. Dr. Dean stated that the meeting was being live streamed.
- II. Ms. Brittney Rye led the Pledge of Allegiance and Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2018, Board meeting and the minutes of the August 23, 2018, Special-Called Board meeting.
- IV. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Ms. Brittney Rye, the Board voted unanimously to approve pulling item 02: Approval of the 2017-2018 Mississippi Statewide Accountability Results [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] and move to the October 11, 2018 Board agenda.

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland to pull item I from the September (consent) agenda and move to the October Board agenda, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland to add discussion of the contract with PCG and MDE to the agenda as item 03.B., the Board voted 2-4 denying this addition to the agenda and reserving discussion for a potential Executive Session.

Members voting aye:

Mr. Johnny Franklin
Mr. Charles McClelland

Members voting nay:

Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman
Mr. Buddy Bailey
Dr. John R. Kelly
Ms. Brittney Rye

Member abstaining: None

Members absent: Dr. Karen J. Elam
Mr. Sean Suggs

Dr. Carey Wright stated that since item 02 was moved to the October Board agenda then item 04 needed to be moved to the October Board agenda since the information that will be presented was not approved.

On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board voted unanimously to move item 04: Demonstration of the New Mississippi Succeeds Report Card Website [Goal 5 – MBE Strategic Plan] to the October Board agenda.

Dr. Paula Vanderford stated that item I needed to be approved in September since it is critical in the calculation of the accountability results.

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, to put item I back on the agenda as item 02, the Board voted unanimously to approve putting item I on the agenda as item 02.

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, to add item 06 to read: Do not place items on Board agenda without back-up materials with the exception of time-sensitive materials, the Board voted unanimously to add the item to the agenda.

Added:

06. Action: Do not place items on Board agenda without back-up materials with the exception of time-sensitive materials

Pulled:

02. Action: Approval of the 2017-2018 Mississippi Statewide Accountability Results [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]
04. Information: Demonstration of the New Mississippi Succeeds Report Card Website [Goal 5 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Pulled item I and added to agenda as item 02:

02. Action: Approval to revise the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2018*, specifically, the business rules of the Mississippi

Statewide Accountability System effective for the 2017-2018 school year to reset the baseline scores in accordance with current State Board of Education policy for schools with Grade 12 and to assign a grade classification to all schools [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments)

V. Recognition Ceremony

There was no Board recognition.

VI. Dr. Carey M. Wright gave the following report as the State Superintendent of Education:

- Dr. Wright stated that in the Boards' folder there are two documents that she would like to bring your attention to: one is a report called Leadership Matters: A Blueprint for Reinventing Schools for Student Success where on pages 11-15 the report is about Mississippi and our success and a document called What Every Instructional Leader Needs to Know that gives information about who to contact inside the agency.
- Dr. Wright stated that she met with the Vicksburg Business Leaders to discuss the accountability model.
- Dr. Wright stated that she met with the new State Auditor, Mr. Shad White, and he is a huge public education supporter and early childhood education supporter.
- Dr. Wright stated that she held her first Teachers' Advisory Council meeting. Dr. Wright stated there will be two more meetings and there are over 200 teachers on the Teachers' Advisory Council.
- Dr. Wright stated that she had termed off the Charter Authorizer Board but she has appointed Mr. Quentin Ransburg to be the representative for the Department.
- Dr. Wright stated that she spoke to the National Governors' Association Education Policy Advisors' Institute and talked about the success that Mississippi has had.
- Dr. Wright stated that yesterday she met with her Superintendents' Advisory Council and had a lot of good discussion around the accountability model. Dr. Wright stated they also talked about the new designations that are coming out that the districts will have per our Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) law. Dr. Wright stated schools will be identified to receive targeted support versus comprehensive support versus additional target support.
- Dr. Wright recognized and thanked the Offices of Student Assessment, Accountability, and Technology and Strategic Services for all their hard work to get the data prepared for the Board and get it prepared for the districts on our expedited schedule.

- Dr. Wright stated the Spotlight for this Board meeting is “Mississippi’s Move to Learn Campaign.” Dr. Wright stated this is where classroom teachers promote physical fitness while improving academic performance. Dr. Wright stated through The Bowers Foundation funds Move to Learn was launched in 2012. Dr. Wright stated that it incorporates movement in the classroom through short exercise videos and healthy lesson plans. Dr. Wright stated all these resources are free and easy to use and the lessons are on the Move to Learn web site. Dr. Wright stated that studies have shown that activities increase student’s ability to learn, correlates with fewer absentees, and fewer disciplinary incidents at school. Dr. Wright stated that not only do the students enjoy this, the teachers do too. Dr. Wright recognized Ms. Anne Travis, CEO for The Bowers Foundation, Mr. Larry Calhoun, Move to Learn Coach, Mr. Dale Dieckman, Physical Education Specialist, and Mr. Scott Clements, Director of Office of Child Nutrition. Dr. Wright thanked Ms. Travis for being a great partner and supporter with the Mississippi Department of Education.

VII. Dr. Jason S. Dean as the Chair of the State Board gave the following report:

- Dr. Dean stated that he attended the Legislative Budget Office Hearing this week for the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget recommendations. Dr. Dean stated it was interesting to see how money was being invested in education and what our priorities are moving forward.

VIII. Dr. John R. Kelly, Chair of the School Performance and Accountability Subcommittee, stated the subcommittee met and MDE staff presented information around accountability. Dr. Kelly stated the proposal to have student representatives on the Board is moving forward. Dr. Kelly stated that Dr. Wright appointed a committee to discuss the proposal and a presentation will be brought to the Board in October.

IX. Discussion of Board Items

01. Dr. Nathan Oakley discussed revisions to the Mississippi Kindergarten Guidelines (2018) [Goal 3 – MBE Strategic Plan]. The item has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments that were presented to the Board. Dr. Oakley recommended approval.
02. Dr. Paula Vanderford and Mr. Alan Burrow discussed approval to revise the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2018*, specifically, the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System effective for the 2017-2018 school year to reset the baseline scores in accordance with current State Board of Education policy for schools with Grade 12 and

to assign a grade classification to all schools [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]. The item has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments that were presented to the Board. Dr. Vanderford recommended approval.

03. Dr. Felicia Gavin discussed approval of the Mississippi Department of Education Contracts [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Gavin recommended approval.

03.A. Action: Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Felicia Gavin)

04. [PULLED]

05. Dr. Jason S. Dean gave the Board an opportunity to discuss the following consent agenda items (items F and G are information only).

- A. Approval to establish the Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Nathan Oakley)
- B. Approval of the Mississippi School of the Arts Procurement Plan – Child Nutrition (Nathan Oakley)
- C. Approval of the 2018-2019 Mississippi School of the Arts Staff Handbook (Nathan Oakley)
- D. Approval of dyslexia screeners for use in kindergarten and first grade (Nathan Oakley)
- E. Approval of accredited nonpublic status for Crossroads School of Flowood (Paula Vanderford)
- F. Information: Report on action of the Commission on School Accreditation concerning the assignment of district accreditation statuses (Paula Vanderford)
- G. Information: Report from the Commission on School District Efficiency (Felicia Gavin)

H. Approval of Appointments for Standing Commission on School District Efficiency (Felicia Gavin)

06. Mr. Johnny Franklin requested to add this item: Do not place items on Board agenda without back-up materials with the exception of time-sensitive materials.

X. Approval of Action Items

01. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved to revise the Mississippi Kindergarten Guidelines (2018) [Goal 3 – MBE Strategic Plan]. The item has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments that were presented to the Board (copy attached).

(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

02. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board voted 4-2 to approve revising the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2018*, specifically, the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System effective for the 2017-2018 school year to reset the baseline scores in accordance with current State Board of Education policy for schools with Grade 12 and to assign a grade classification to all schools [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]. The item has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments presented to the Board (copy attached).

(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)

Members voting aye:
Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman
Mr. Buddy Bailey
Dr. John R. Kelly
Ms. Brittney Rye

Members voting nay:
Mr. Johnny Franklin
Mr. Charles McClelland

Member abstaining: None

Members absent:
Dr. Karen J. Elam
Mr. Sean Suggs

03. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board unanimously approved the Mississippi Department of Education Contracts [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Operations Officer)
- 03.A. Action: Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]
(Office of Chief Operations Officer)
05. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved the consent agenda items, A., B., C., D., E., and H. (copy attached).
 - A. Approval to establish the Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments)
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)
 - B. Approval of the Mississippi School of the Arts Procurement Plan – Child Nutrition
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)
 - C. Approval of the 2018-2019 Mississippi School of the Arts Staff Handbook
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)
 - D. Approval of dyslexia screeners for use in kindergarten and first grade
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)
 - E. Approval of accredited nonpublic status for Crossroads School of Flowood
(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)
 - H. Approval of Appointments for Standing Commission on School District Efficiency
(Office of Chief Operations Officer)

06. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved to not place items on Board agenda without back-up materials with the exception of time-sensitive materials.
(Office of the State Superintendent)

XI. Consideration of Executive Session

Mr. Buddy Bailey moved that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a vote of 6 to 0. Dr. Jason S. Dean asked Dr. Carey M. Wright, Ms. Raina Lee, Ms. Erin Meyer, Ms. Chelsea Chicosky, Mr. Joseph Runnels, Ms. Leah Kathryn Anzenberger, and the Executive Leadership Team to remain in the Executive Session.

Mr. Buddy Bailey, 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 Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k) and discuss of a strategy session or negotiations with respect to perspective litigation involving the Department and the issuance of an appealable order in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(b). Dr. John R. Kelly seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 6 to 0. Ms. Erin Meyer informed the public of the Board's vote to go into Executive Session for the above-stated reason.

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 Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k) and discussed a strategy session or negotiations with respect to perspective litigation involving the Department and the issuance of an appealable order in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(b).

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board voted 6 to 0 to come out of Executive Session.

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

01. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Mr. Jerry Russ as Educ-Bureau Director II to serve as the Project Management Director for the Statewide Longitudinal Data System Grant Program within the Office of Technology and Strategic Services at a salary of \$84,000.00.

September 20, 2018

02. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Ms. Allison Paige Pigott as Education Bureau Director II to serve as Special Education Director for the Mississippi Schools for the Blind and the Deaf at a salary of \$74,000.00.

XII. State Board of Education

1. There were no meetings attended.
2. There were no requests to attend meetings.

XIII. Other Business

The Board work session to discuss the Mississippi Board of Education Strategic Plan and the Accountability Model will be held on Wednesday, October 10, 2018, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Central High School Building.

The October Board meeting will be held October 11, 2018, in Jackson, Mississippi at the Central High School Building starting at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:52 p.m. and reconvened at 1:25 p.m.

XIV. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 1:26 p.m.

Approved:



Jason S. Dean, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education



Carey M. Wright
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education