

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

March 19, 2020

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Board meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 19, 2020, via teleconference pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-5 for the purpose of conducting the Board meeting.

The meeting was available to the public by live stream.¹ Board members present: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman (Clinton, Mississippi), Mr. Buddy Bailey (Brandon, Mississippi), Senator Nancy Collins (Tupelo, Mississippi), Dr. Jason S. Dean (Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi), Dr. Karen J. Elam (Oxford, Mississippi), Dr. John R. Kelly (Gulfport, Mississippi), Ms. Brittney Rye (Starkville, Mississippi), and Mr. Sean Suggs (Blue Springs, Mississippi). Student Representatives: Ms. Shelby Dean (Clinton, Mississippi) and Mr. Omar G. Jamil (Hernando, Mississippi). Dr. Carey M. Wright was present at the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi.

I. Dr. Jason S. Dean called the Board meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Dr. Dean noted that the meeting of the Board of Education was being held via teleconference pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-5 and that the notice of this meeting included the date, time, place, and purpose of the meeting. Dr. Dean also stated that an audio recording was being made of the meeting, this meeting is being live streamed and that a quorum of the Board existed at the locations stated for the purpose of conducting a meeting through teleconference means.

II. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board unanimously approved to suspend the rules and listen to Governor Tate Reeves' live press conference. The Board listened to the live press conference and resumed the Board meeting after the press conference concluded.

III. On a motion by Senator Nancy Collins, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2020, Board meeting.

IV. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Senator Nancy Collins, the Board voted unanimously to amend the agenda by deleting items: V. Recognition Ceremony; VI. Report of the State Superintendent of Education; VII. Report of Chair; pulled item 12; and adding four items to the Discussion/Action of

¹ Due to the impact of COVID-19 (coronavirus) and the recommendations of the CDC and the Mississippi Department of Health, gatherings should be restricted to no more than 10 people. To protect the public health, the State Board of Education restricted the Board room to only essential individuals and made the meeting available to the public via video means (livestream). The SBE exercised their authority granted by the Governor in his Proclamation of a State of Emergency. See Miss. Code Ann. § 33-15-31.

the agenda at the beginning and renumbering the agenda starting with item 05 which was previously item 01.

On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board unanimously approved the amended agenda.

V. Report of Student Representatives

Mr. Omar G. Jamil and Ms. Shelby Dean gave an update from a student's perspective of the impact of COVID-19 and how it is affecting them and their schools. Mr. Jamil spoke in part of the mental impact it has had, and Ms. Dean stated that being a senior and having everything cancelled she will be glad when everything gets back to normal.

VI. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman reported that on March 3, 2020, the Ad-Hoc Screening Committee met to review student representative applications and watch the videos for the junior position. Ms. Aultman stated the Board received 26 applications, with three being disqualified after not sending in their videos. Ms. Aultman stated that 23 applications were reviewed and there are 10 semi-finalists that will be interviewed in April with a recommendation to the Board in early summer.

Dr. Dean, Chair of the Legislative Subcommittee, asked Mr. Pete Smith to give an update on the Legislative session. Mr. Smith stated the Legislative session has been suspended until April 1, 2020, or until further called. Mr. Smith stated that before the Legislature adjourned they passed House Bill 1647 which allows local government entities and school districts to grant their employees paid administrative leave in event of certain disasters or emergencies.

VII. Discussion and/or Approval of Board Items

01. Action: Affirm the order by the Governor to close Mississippi public schools as a result of the impact of COVID-19 (coronavirus) on school districts during the Spring of 2020 [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Carey Wright)

On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved item 01 (copy attached).

02. Action: Approval by the SBE to allow school districts to operate for less than 180 days as required in Miss. Code Ann. § 37-13-63(1) following Governor Tate Reeves' Proclamation of a State of Emergency as a result of the impact of COVID-19 (coronavirus) on school districts during the Spring of 2020 in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-13-65 and § 37-13-63(2) [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Carey Wright)

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Mr. Sean Suggs, the Board unanimously approved item 02 (copy attached).

03. Action: Approval to suspend the administration of all statewide assessments required by state and federal law for the 2019-2020 school year and to submit a waiver request to the United States Department of Education (ED) under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* (ESEA) [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Carey Wright)

On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved item 03 (copy attached).

04. Action: Approval to suspend the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System for the 2019-2020 school year and to submit a waiver request to the United States Department of Education (ED) as provided for in the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* (ESEA) [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Carey Wright)

On a motion by Senator Nancy Collins, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board unanimously approved item 04 (copy attached).

05. Action: Approval of the *Carl D. Perkins V State Plan* [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)

On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Mr. Sean Suggs, the Board unanimously approved item 05 (copy attached).

06. Action: Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish State Board Policy, Part 3, Chapter 30, Rule 30.8 – Educational Stability for students in Foster Care [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)

On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved item 06 (copy attached).

07. Action: Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish Mississippi Secondary Curriculum Framework in Career and Technical Education – Exploring Computer Science [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved item 07 (copy attached).

08. Action: Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish Mississippi Secondary Curriculum Frameworks for College and Career Readiness (CCR), Freshman Seminar Early College High School (ECHS), Sophomore Seminar ECHS, Junior Seminar ECHS, and Senior Seminar ECHS [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)

On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved item 08 (copy attached).

09. Action: Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the Career Pathway Experience course the Work-Based Learning (WBL): Credit-Bearing Course [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Ms. Brittney Rye, the Board unanimously approved item 09 (copy attached).

10. Action: Approval of Districts of Innovation for 2020-2021 [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)

On a motion by Senator Nancy Collins, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved item 10 (copy attached).

Dr. Dean reiterated that all Districts of Innovation are required to take all statewide assessments.

11. Action: Approval of the MDE Contracts [Goals 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Felicia Gavin recommended approval.
 - 11.A. Action: Renew contract with Michael D. Kent for 2020-2021 to perform the administrative duties for the Mississippi Superintendents Academy and school district consolidations [Goals 4 and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
 - 11.B. Action: Contract with North Mississippi Education Consortium to coordinate and facilitate regional training sessions and procure related services for Mississippi Department of Education for 2020-2021 [Goals 1, 2, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
 - 11.C. Action: Modify contracts with Monitoring and Compliance Specialists to increase PERS rate [Goal 5– MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)

On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved items 11.A., 11.B., and 11.C. (copy attached).

12. [PULLED]

13. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish the Mississippi Alternate Academic Achievement Standards for K-8 Social Studies, Career Readiness III & IV, and Life Skills Development III & IV (Nathan Oakley)
 - B. Approval of the school calendars for State Schools for 2020-2021 school year (Nathan Oakley)
 - C. Approval to revise Accreditation Policies in Miss. Admin. Code: 7-24, Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2019 (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Paula Vanderford)
 - D. Approval of Corrective Action Plans (CAPs) for Districts assigned a PROBATION or WITHDRAWN status in accordance with Accreditation Policy 2.8.1 (Paula Vanderford)
 - E. Approval to revise Miss. Admin. Code 7-4: Part 4: Licensure Guidelines K-12 to adopt and establish a passing score for the Praxis Subject Assessments, Algebra I and Geometry and New Endorsement Codes, as recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Paula Vanderford)

On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved items A., B., C., D., and E. (copy attached).

VIII. No Executive Session.

IX. State Board of Education

1. No report on meetings attended.
2. No request to attend a meeting.

X. Other Business

Dr. Jason S. Dean stated that the Board needed to meet on Thursday, March 26, 2020, starting at 10:00 a.m. to discuss any waivers/suspension of statutes/rules needed by the powers given the Board from Governor Tate Reeves in his Executive Order 1460.

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On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board voted unanimously to have a teleconference Board meeting on Thursday, March 26, 2020, starting at 10:00 a.m. to discuss any waivers/suspension of statutes/rules needed.

- XI. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

Approved:



Jason S. Dean, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education



Carey M. Wright
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education