



**Minutes of the  
Commission on School Accreditation  
Central High School Building  
Fourth Floor, Board Room  
359 North West Street  
Jackson, Mississippi  
December 6, 2018  
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, December 6, 2018. 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  
Kelle Barfield  
Sean Brewer  
Sarah Foster  
Roy Gill  
Michael Lindsey  
Eddie Prather

Attending via teleconference:

Anthony Montgomery, Gulfport, MS

The following members did not attend:

Kenny Bush  
Brian Harvey  
Ann Jones  
Dr. Valencia Martin  
Michael Miller  
John Mistilis

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

Dr. Jo Ann Malone, Executive Secretary  
Teresa Jones, Office of Accreditation  
Ken Stamps, Office of Accreditation

Also in attendance: Phelton Moss, Director of Educator Talent Acquisition and Effectiveness

Joseph Runnels and Erin Meyer, Special Assistants Attorney Generals, served as legal counsel to the Commission.

**I. Announcement of Quorum and Call to Order**

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

Heather Westerfield, Chair  
Kelle Barfield  
Sean Brewer  
Sarah Foster  
Roy Gill  
Michael Lindsey  
Eddie Prather

Attending via teleconference:

Anthony Montgomery, Gulfport, MS

The following members did not attend:

Kenny Bush  
Brian Harvey  
Ann Jones  
Dr. Valencia Martin  
Michael Miller  
John Mistilis

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

Ms. Westerfield called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Sara Foster gave the invocation.

**II. Adoption of Agenda**

Ms. Westerfield asked the Commission members to review the agenda they received previously. On a motion by Michael Lindsey, seconded by Kelle Barfield, the Commission unanimously approved the agenda.

**III. Action: Approval of the minutes of the October 4, 2018 Meeting of the Commission on School Accreditation**

On a motion by Roy Gill, seconded by Sean Brewer, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2018 meeting with the correction of Sara Foster's location changed to Brookhaven, MS.

**IV. Action: Election of the 2018-2019 Chair and Vice-Chair of the Commission on School Accreditation**

- A. On a motion by Eddie Prather, seconded by Sarah Foster, the Commission unanimously voted to re-elect Heather Westerfield as the Chair of the Commission on School Accreditation for 2018-2019.
- B. On a motion by Sara Foster, seconded by Kelle Barfield, the Commission unanimously voted to re-elect Eddie Prather as the Vice-Chair of the Commission on School Accreditation for 2018-2019.

**V. Action: Approval to Upgrade the Accreditation Status of the Moss Point School District from PROBATION to ACCREDITED**

On a motion by Roy Gill, seconded by Sean Brewer, the Commission unanimously voted to upgrade the Accreditation Status of the Moss Point School District from PROBATION to ACCREDITED.

**VI. Discussion: Recommendation to revise Process Standard 3 of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2018*.**

Phelton Moss, Director of Educator Talent Acquisition and Effectiveness, presented recommendations for revisions to Process Standard 3 of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2018*. Mr. Moss answered questions from Commission members.

**VII. Action: Approval to submit request to the State Board of Education to begin the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) process to revise Process Standard 3 of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2018*.**

On a motion by Roy Gill, seconded by Eddie Prather, the Commission unanimously voted to accept the revisions to Process Standard 3, excluding the revised language in paragraph 3 and 3.1.

**VIII. Discussion: Updates from the Accountability Task Force and K-12 Subcommittee**

Michael Lindsey provided updates from the Accountability Task Force. He explained how the Task Force is continuing to look at data, different ways to total points, and the EL component. Other topics being discussed by the Task Force include impact of new assessments during initial implementation year, school improvement, standard setting, growth calculations, n-counts, military families, and the definition of "incidents of violence".

Kelle Barfield provided updates from the K-12 Subcommittee. She explained how the subcommittee has been looking at impact data as well as what MDE has flexibility in changing. She explained some of the concerns and unintended impact of a forced distribution that would result from resetting cut-scores.

**IX. Discussion: Proposed special-called meeting to consider appeals of final accountability results submitted by districts under Policy 3.1.4 of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2018.***

Dr. Malone explained that the Office of Accreditation had received appeals the final accountability results submitted by districts under Policy 3.1.4 of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2018.* Therefore, the CSA needed to determine a date to review those appeals.

**X. Action: Approval of special-called meeting date to consider appeals of final accountability results submitted by districts.**

On a motion by Kelle Barfield, seconded by Sara Foster, the Commission unanimously voted to hold a special-called meeting on January 10, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. to consider appeals of final accountability results.

**XI. Discussion: Recommendation to set presentation protocol for the Commission on School Accreditation's review of appeals of final accountability results under Policy 3.1.4 of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2018.***

Dr. Malone explained the need for the Commission to set presentation protocol for the Commission on School Accreditation's review of appeals of final accountability results under Policy 3.1.4 of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2018.*

**XII. Action: Approval of presentation protocol for the Commission on School Accreditation's review of appeals of final accountability results under Policy 3.1.4 of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2018.***

On a motion by Sean Brewer, seconded by Michael Lindsey, the Commission unanimously voted to allow the superintendents of the districts that submitted appeals fifteen (15) minutes to address the Commission at the January 10, 2019 special-called meeting and to allow an MDE representative thirty (30) minutes to respond after the superintendents' presentation. Additionally, the Commission members may ask questions of the superintendents after each respective presentation and of the MDE representative or the superintendents after the MDE's presentation.

**XIII. Other business**

The next regularly scheduled Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 7, 2019.

**XIV. Adjournment**

On a motion by Roy Gill, seconded by Eddie Prather, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

Commission on School Accreditation-MINUTES  
December 6, 2018

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION:

Feb      7      2019  
(Month)      (Day)      (Year)

Eddie M. Brath  
Chair of the Commission (vice chair)

J. M. Malse  
Executive Secretary of the Commission