



**Minutes of the
Commission on School Accreditation
Central High School Building
Fourth Floor, Board Room
359 North West Street
Jackson, Mississippi
February 7, 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, February 7, 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:

Sean Brewer
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Brian Harvey
Michael Lindsey
Eddie Prather

Attending via teleconference:

Kelle Barfield, Vicksburg, MS
Dr. Valencia Martin, Greenwood, MS
Anthony Montgomery, New Orleans, LA

The following members did not attend:

Heather Westerfield, Chair
Kenny Bush
Ann Jones
Michael Miller
John Mistilis

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

Dr. Paula A. Vanderford, Chief Accountability Officer
Dr. Jo Ann Malone, Executive Secretary
Teresa Jones, Office of Accreditation
Ken Stamps, Office of Accreditation

Also in attendance: Dr. Dana Bullard, Office of Secondary Education

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

I. Announcement of Quorum and Call to Order

Eddie Prather, Vice-Chair of the CSA, opened the Commission meeting and conducted a roll-call of the Commission members.

Mr. Prather announced that a quorum of the Commission existed.

Mr. Prather called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

Sara Foster gave the invocation.

II. Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Prather asked the Commission members to review the agenda they received previously. On a motion by Sarah Foster, seconded by Roy Gill, the Commission unanimously approved the agenda.

III. Action: Approval of the minutes of the December 6, 2018 Meeting of the Commission on School Accreditation

On a motion by Michael Lindsey, seconded by Kelle Barfield, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2018 meeting.

IV. Action: Approval of the minutes of the special-called January 10, 2019 Meeting of the Commission on School Accreditation

On a motion by Sean Brewer, seconded by Michael Lindsey, the Commission voted to approve the minutes of the special-called January 10, 2019 meeting.¹

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

Michael Lindsey provided updates from the Accountability Task Force.
Kelle Barfield provided updates from the K-12 Subcommittee.

VI. Action: Approval to Upgrade the Accreditation Status of the Covington County School District from PROBATION to ACCREDITED

Dr. Malone explained that the Covington County School District corrected the deficiencies on record and the Office of Accreditation was recommending an update in the District's accreditation status from PROBATION to ACCREDITED.

¹ Roy Gill recused himself from this vote due to his participation as Superintendent and not commission member during the January 10th meeting. All other Commission members voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

On a motion by Roy Gill, seconded by Brian Harvey, the Commission unanimously voted to upgrade the Accreditation Status of the Covington County School District from PROBATION to ACCREDITED.

VII. Action: Approval to Upgrade the Accreditation Status of the Laurel School District from PROBATION to ACCREDITED

Dr. Malone explained that the Laurel School District corrected the deficiencies on record and the Office of Accreditation was recommending an update in the District's accreditation status from PROBATION to ACCREDITED.

On a motion by Brian Harvey, seconded by Michael Lindsey, the Commission unanimously voted to upgrade the Accreditation Status of the Laurel School District from PROBATION to ACCREDITED.

VIII. Discussion: Recommendation to establish State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 28, Rules 28.7 – Districts of Innovation and Schools of Innovation.

Dr. Dana Bullard, Office of Secondary Education, presented the recommendation to establish State Board Policy Chapter 28, Rule 28.7 – Districts of Innovation and Schools of Innovation. She explained that the State Board approved the Districts of Innovation Rules and Procedures document in 2016 after the law was passed in 2015. The State Board-approved document has been followed since 2016; however, a policy is needed to clarify definitions, establish procedures, and set timelines.

IX. 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, Rules 28.7 – Districts of Innovation and Schools of Innovation.

On a motion by Brian Harvey, 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 Board Policy Chapter 28, Rules 28.7 – Districts of Innovation and Schools of Innovation, and to bring any APA comments received back to the Commission for further review before submitting to the Board for final approval and adoption.

X. Discussion: Recommendation to revise Appendices A-1, A-2, A-3, A-6, A-7, A-8, and A-9, social studies footnotes in the Appendix section of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2018* and the *Mississippi Nonpublic School Accountability Standards, 2018*.

Dr. Dana Bullard, Office of Secondary Education, explained that the standards for social studies have changed. Therefore, there is a need to reflect the new course titles for the courses and to amend the in lieu of courses based on a review of the new curriculum.

XI. Action: Approval to submit request to the State Board of Education to begin the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) process to revise Appendices A-1, A-2, A-3, A-6, A-7, A-8, and A-9, social studies footnotes in the Appendix section of the *Mississippi Public*

Schools Accountability Standards, 2018 and the Mississippi Nonpublic School Accountability Standards, 2018.

On a motion by Roy Gill, seconded by Sara Foster, the Commission unanimously voted to submit a request to the State Board of Education to begin the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) process to revise Appendices A-1, A-2, A-3, A-6, A-7, A-8, and A-9, social studies footnotes in the Appendix section of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2018* and the *Mississippi Nonpublic School Accountability Standards, 2018* with the additional sentence indicating that the assessment requirement for U.S. History remains.

XII. Other business

Dr. Malone explained that the Commission needed to schedule a special-called meeting to consider any proposed revisions from the Accountability Task Force to the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System from their upcoming meeting scheduled for February 28, 2019. The Commission will need to meet and consider any proposed revisions before the March 28, 2019 meeting of the State Board of Education in order to begin the APA process in time for the changes to apply to the 2019 accountability results.

On a motion by Brian Harvey, seconded by Sean Brewer, the Commission unanimously voted to hold a special-called meeting on Thursday, March 7, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

XIII. Adjournment


On a motion by Sean Brewer, seconded by Brian Harvey, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION:

04	04	2019
(Month)	(Day)	(Year)



Chair of the Commission



Executive Secretary of the Commission