



**Minutes of the  
Commission on School Accreditation  
Central High School Building  
Senator Grey Ferris Board Room  
359 North West Street  
Jackson, Mississippi  
February 6, 2020  
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 6, 2020. The Commission members present in the Senator Grey Ferris Board Room of the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi included:

Heather Westerfield, Chair  
Sarah Foster

Attending via teleconference:

Roy Gill – Harrison County, MS  
Jefferson Hughes – Covington County, MS  
Dr. Valencia Martin – Greenwood, MS  
Anthony Montgomery – Gulfport, MS  
Eddie Prather – Tupelo, MS  
Ingrid Williams – Jackson, MS

The following members did not attend:

Kelle Barfield  
Sean Brewer  
Brian Harvey  
Michael Lindsey  
John Mistilis  
Brad Stevens

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

Dr. Paula Vanderford, Chief Accountability Officer  
Dr. Jo Ann Malone, Executive Secretary  
Shulawnda Johnson, Office of Accreditation  
Angela Kitchens, Office of Accreditation  
Ken Stamps, Office of Accreditation  
Chris Haynes, Office of Accreditation

Also in attendance: Wendy Clemons and Robin Lemonis (via teleconference)

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

**I. Call to Order**

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

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

Ms. Westerfield called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**II. Adoption of Agenda**

On a motion by Roy Gill, seconded by Dr. Valencia Martin, the Commission unanimously approved the agenda.

**III. Action: Approval of the minutes of the December 5, 2019 Meeting of the Commission on School Accreditation**

On a motion by Sarah Foster seconded by Eddie Prather, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2019 meeting.

**IV. Action: Approval of the minutes of the December 16, 2019 Special-Called Meeting of the Commission on School Accreditation**

On a motion by Sarah Foster, seconded by Dr. Valencia Martin, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2019 special-called meeting. Ms. Westerfield noted that a correction had been made to the spelling of Sarah Foster's name in the version that was sent to the Commission.

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

Dr. Jo Ann Malone, Executive Director, Office of Accreditation, explained that the Enterprise School District has now cleared all citations on record.

On a motion by Jefferson Hughes, seconded by Anthony Montgomery, the Commission unanimously voted to upgrade the Accreditation Status of the Enterprise School District from PROBATION to ACCREDITED.

**VI. Discussion: Consideration of request to revise Miss. Admin. Code 7-3: 28.3, State Board Policy Chapter 28, Rule 28.3: Access to a Substantive and Rigorous Curriculum Policy and Miss. Admin. Code 7-24: Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2019, (Process Standard 26 and Appendices A and B)**

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Wendy Clemons explained the rationale for the proposed changes and how the revisions are intended to delete references to old courses and include references to new courses. She explained that these proposed revisions would become effective with the 2020-2021 school year.

Robin Lemonis explained how proposed revisions to Appendix A-10 will allow for some general education courses to be accepted in lieu of courses designed for students with significant cognitive disabilities (SCD) seeking the alternate diploma.

**VII. Action: Approval to submit request to the State Board of Education to begin the Administrative Procedures Act Process: To revise Miss. Admin. Code 7-3: 28.3, State Board Policy Chapter 28, Rule 28.3: Access to a Substantive and Rigorous Curriculum Policy and Miss. Admin. Code 7-24: Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2019, (Process Standard 26 and Appendices A and B)**

On a motion by Ingrid Williams, seconded by Jefferson Hughes, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the recommendation to submit request to the State Board of Education to begin the Administrative Procedures Act Process: To revise Miss. Admin. Code 7-3: 28.3, State Board Policy Chapter 28, Rule 28.3: Access to a Substantive and Rigorous Curriculum Policy and Miss. Admin. Code 7-24: Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2019, (Process Standard 26 and Appendices A and B).

**VIII. Other Business**

Heather Westerfield reminded the Commission that the next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday, April 2, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

**IX. Adjournment**

On a motion by Roy Gill, seconded by Sarah Foster, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION:

6      4      2020  
(Month)      (Day)      (Year)

Heather Westerfield  
Chair of the Commission

[Signature]  
Executive Secretary of the Commission