



**Minutes of the
Commission on School Accreditation
Special-called Teleconference Meeting
Central High School Building
Fourth Floor, Board Room
359 North West Street
Jackson, Mississippi
October 22, 2019
3:30 p.m.**

The special-called teleconference meeting of the Commission on School Accreditation (CSA or Commission) took place at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 22, 2019. The Commission members present in the Fourth Floor Board Room of the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi included:

Heather Westerfield, Chair

Attending via teleconference:

Kelle Barfield, Vicksburg, MS
Sean Brewer, Batesville, MS (joined at 3:40 p.m.)¹
Sarah Foster, Brookhaven, MS
Roy Gill, Gulfport, MS
Dr. Valencia Martin, Greenwood, MS (joined at 3:39 p.m.)²
Michael Lindsey, Gulfport, MS
John Mistilis, Oxford, MS
Anthony Montgomery, Gulfport, MS
Eddie Prather, Tupelo, MS
Ingrid Williams, Jackson, MS (joined at approximately 3:40 p.m.)³

The following members did not attend:

Brian Harvey
Brad Stevens

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

Dr. Jo Ann Malone, Executive Director/Executive Secretary Office of Accreditation
Chris Haynes, Office of Accreditation
Shulawnda Johnson, Office of Accreditation
Angela Kitchens, Office of Accreditation
Angelo Nuzzo, Office of Accreditation

¹ Mr. Sean Brewer's connection dropped during teleconference. He did not vote on any items.

² Dr. Valencia Martin did not vote on Item II (adoption of Agenda)

³ Ms. Ingrid Williams did not vote on Item II (adoption of Agenda).

Ken Stamps, Office of Accreditation

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

Other MDE staff present included: Dr. Paula Vanderford, Chief Accountability Officer, Dr. Nathan Oakley, Chief Academic Officer, and Alan Burrow, Director of District and School Performance

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.

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

Ms. Westerfield called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.

II. Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Westerfield asked the Commission members to review the agenda they previously received. On a motion by John Mistilis seconded by Roy Gill, the Commission unanimously approved the agenda.⁴

III. Action: Remand by the State Board of Education on the appeal of the final accountability results for 2018-2019 for North Bolivar Consolidated School District's Northside High School

Following questions by the Commission members for the MDE staff and the superintendent of the North Bolivar Consolidated School District, on a motion by Roy Gill, seconded by Michael Lindsey, the Commission voted 5-4 to uphold the Commission on School Accreditation's decision to deny the District's appeal.

Members voting aye:

Kelle Barfield

Roy Gill

Michael Lindsey

Dr. Valencia Martin

John Mistilis

Members voting nay:

Sarah Foster

Anthony Montgomery

Eddie Prather

Ingrid Williams

⁴ Mr. Brewer, Dr. Martin, and Ms. Ingrid did not vote on Item II.

Members absent:
Sean Brewer
Brian Harvey
Brad Stevens

IV. Information: Request of the State Board of Education to consider an amendment to the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System, specifically Business Rules 20.1 and 20.2, to address district and school consolidations and reconfigurations

Dr. Paula Vanderford explained that the MDE is convening a new Accountability Task Force for recommendations for revisions to the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System which will include any recommendations to revisions to Business Rules 20.1 and 20.2 to address district and school consolidations and reconfigurations. Recommendations will be presented to the Commission before going to the State Board of Education and through the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) process.

V. Adjournment

On a motion by Eddie Prather, seconded by Dr. Valencia Martin, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION:

Dec. 5 2019
(Month) (Day) (Year)

Heath Westgate
Chair of the Commission

John Malone
Executive Secretary of the Commission