

## Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Work Session

August 16, 2012

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a work session at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 19, 2012 in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom of the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present were: Ms. Kami Bumgarner, Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Mr. Richard Morrison, Ms. Martha Murphy, and Mr. Simon F. Weir, II. Board Members absent: Mr. Hal Gage, Mr. William H. Jones, Dr. John R. Kelly, and Mr. Charles McClelland.

The work session was called to order by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Chair. Dr. Gann noted the statement on the agenda that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during the work session.

Dr. Gann welcomed Ms. Kathryn Stewart from the Lieutenant Governor's office to the meeting.

Dr. Lynn House gave the following report from the State Superintendent of Education:

- Reported to the Board that she has continued to meet with elected officials and other constituency groups regarding educational issues;
- Noted that she met with Governor Phil Bryant and his staff on Friday after the July Board meeting;
- Stated that Dr. Gann and Mr. McClelland played a vital part in the Governor's Press Conference on Teacher Performance Pay on July 27;
- Reported that Mississippi would be recognized nationally as she has been asked to serve on a panel with Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, at the School Turnaround: Building on Sustaining Success symposium during the week of August 20-24, 2012 in Washington, D.C. to share what Mississippi is doing to make a difference in low performing schools;
- Noted that Dr. Kim Benton has been asked to facilitate several sessions at the conference due to the success she has had with the School Improvement Grant schools;
- Reported that she attended a symposium sponsored by the Governor's Office that featured former Florida Governor Jeb Bush and stated that Board members were provided a copy of the PowerPoint on the Excellence in Education Program that Florida used to improve education;
- Noted that there were concerns over the bids at the Mississippi School for the Blind for the superintendent home and maintenance facility;
- Noted that the bids for the construction of a residence for the superintendent of the Mississippi School for the Blind and the construction of a maintenance facility on the grounds of the school exceeded the \$1.2 Million cap established in Senate Bill 3213, 2010 Legislative Session so only the maintenance facility will be constructed; and,

- Recognized that Mr. Paul Sumrall had resigned his position at the Department as Chief of Staff effective September 4 and that he has accepted a position with the Institutions of Higher Learning.

There were no reports on State Board of Education Subcommittee meetings.

Dr. Larry Drawdy and Mr. James Malone, Conservator for Tate County School District, gave a report on Tate County School District (copy attached).

Dr. Drawdy and Mr. James Malone, Conservator for Okolona School District gave a report on Okolona School District (copy attached).

Dr. Drawdy and Mr. Bob Strebeck, Conservator for Aberdeen School District, gave a report on Aberdeen School District (copy attached).

Dr. Drawdy reported that he and Department staff met with the Mayor and a member of the City Council of Okolona to discuss the deliberate process to find five highly qualified Board Members. Dr. Drawdy noted that reconstituting the District will take some time. He stated that Dr. Mike Waldrop, Director of Mississippi School Board Association will then work with the Board once it is in place.

Dr. Drawdy and Ms. Toni Kersh discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process to revise State Board Policy – 3105 – Dropout Prevention Plan regarding the responsibilities and duties of school districts as it relates to district dropout prevention methods and/or programs. Ms. Kersh noted the benchmark for school-years 2012-2013 had a graduation rate of 71% and that the current graduation rate is 73.7%. Dr. Drawdy recommended approval on Friday to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process.

Dr. Drawdy and Ms. Kersh discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process to align State Board Policy 901 – Alternative Education Guidelines with Mississippi Code Annotated Section 37-13-92 regarding guidelines for student placement, upon returning from out-of-home placement, in the mental health, juvenile justice or foster care system in an alternative school program. Dr. Drawdy recommended approval on Friday to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process.

Dr. Drawdy and Ms. Kersh discussed the methodology to award competitive grant funds to Local Education Agencies in support of local dropout prevention initiatives as authorized by House Bill 1593, 2012 Legislative Session. The purpose of the grant funds is to provide dropout prevention funding to local education agencies for the purpose of improving and supporting effective, sustainable and coordinated dropout prevention and re-entry programs. The funding must be used for programs and not personnel. The total amount of funds awarded to each applicant will not exceed \$50,000.00. Dr. Drawdy recommended approval on Friday.

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Dr. Kim Benton and Ms. Jean Massey discussed awarding competitive grants for the Career Academy Implementation Project. Dr. Benton stated that the purpose of the Career Academy Implementation Project is to provide quality educational opportunities that will increase the percentage of students graduating from high school, provide career pathways that offer advancement and growth potential, and help students make successful transitions to postsecondary education. The following districts will be awarded the grants: Clinton Public School District, Lamar County School District, and Madison County School District. Dr. Benton recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Benton and Ms. Debbie Murphy discussed the contract with WestEd to develop resources and conduct training modules on the effective use of data literacy skills in decision making and instruction. WestEd will develop customized resources and conduct an eight day "Using Data Institute" for the Priority Schools. Dr. Benton recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Benton and Ms. Murphy discussed the contract with Brustein and Manasevit Attorneys at Law to provide technical assistance to the Mississippi Department of Education on an as-needed basis regarding federal education grants management compliance and federal education program and fiscal compliance. Dr. Benton recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Benton and Ms. Murphy discussed awarding competitive grants for the Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program. Grants are awarded to local education agencies to provide services to include before and after school tutoring, supplemental instruction, and enriched educational activities. The total grant amount to be awarded is \$638,752.01 to eighteen local education agencies. Dr. Benton recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Daphne Buckley discussed the proposal by Mississippi State University to add an Elementary 4-6 Track to its Master of Arts in Teaching Alternate Route Program as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development. The Master of Arts in Teaching is one of the approved alternate route certification programs in our state. Dr. Buckley recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Buckley discussed the request by the University of Mississippi for a Redesigned Masters Degree Program in Educational Leadership as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development. This program has completed a redesign approval process through a rigorous evaluation by Dr. Joseph Murphy and Vanderbilt University's leadership program. Dr. Buckley recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Buckley discussed the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Accreditation for William Carey University as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and

Development. William Carey University has been approved for initial accreditation by the Unit Accreditation Board of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education as a result of a fall 2011 site visit. Dr. Buckley recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Buckley discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process to approve the following new and regenerated Praxis II Tests, passing scores and license code as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development:

- A. New Praxis II Test, Passing Score and License Code for Chinese (Mandarin) as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development
- B. Regenerated Praxis II Test and Passing Score for School Guidance and Counseling as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development

Dr. Buckley recommended approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process on Friday.

Dr. Buckley discussed the revisions to the Rules and Regulations for the Critical Needs Loan/Scholarship Program, Critical Needs Alternate Route Loan Program, and the Mississippi Teacher Loan Repayment Program as recommended by the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning. These programs require joint promulgation of rules. Dr. Buckley recommended approval on Friday.

Mr. Todd Ivey discussed the appointment of Ms. Elisha C. Campbell to serve as School Finance Officer in the Office of School Financial Services. Mr. Ivey recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Lynn House discussed the consideration of the 2012 accountability results separately for districts and schools participating in the *Excellence for All* pilot program due to curricular non-alignment with state assessments. Dr. House noted that this is a request for formal approval of the verbalized intentions of the Board related to the schools involved in the Board approved pilot program *Excellence for All* sponsored through the National Center on Education and the Economy (NCEE). Dr. House recommended approval on Friday.

Mr. Paul Sumrall discussed the appointment of Ms. Patrice Sawyer Guilfoyle to serve as Education-Bureau Director II for the Office of Communication and Legislative Services. Mr. Sumrall recommended approval on Friday.

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Dr. O. Wayne Gann gave the Board an opportunity to discuss the following consent items:

- A. Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits (Kim Benton)
- B. To award competitive grants for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (Kim Benton)
- C. Modification of joint agreement between the Lafayette County School District and the Oxford School District for the operation and maintenance of the Oxford/Lafayette County School of Applied Technology (Kim Benton)
- D. Grant to Mississippi University for Women to operate the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science for the 2012-2013 school Year (Daphne Buckley)
- E. Report on Personnel Actions (Cassandra Moore)

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Approved:



Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Chair  
Mississippi Board of Education



Lynn J. House, Ph.D.  
Interim Executive Secretary  
Mississippi Board of Education

## Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

August 17, 2012

The regular meeting of the Mississippi Board of Education was held at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, August 17, 2012 in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom of the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present were: Ms. Kami Bumgarner, Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Mr. Richard Morrison, Ms. Martha Murphy, and Mr. Simon F. Weir, II. Board members absent: Mr. Hal Gage, Mr. William H. Jones, Dr. John R. Kelly, and Mr. Charles McClelland.

- I. The meeting was called to order by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Chair. Dr. Gann noted the statement on the agenda that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during the Board meeting.

Dr. Gann introduced and welcomed his wife, Mrs. Martha Gann, to the meeting.

- II. Mr. Richard Morrison led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Dr. O. Wayne Gann gave the Invocation.

- III. Dr. Gann noted that the July 19 minutes on Page 5 had been revised to reflect the Board's discussion regarding the State Accountability Rating System.

On a motion by Mr. Richard Morrison, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting of July 19-20, 2012.

- IV. On a motion by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

- V. Dr. O. Wayne Gann gave the following Chair's Report:

- Thanked the Board for electing him Chair of the Board and noted that it was an honor to serve;
- Reported that he recently attended the Governor's Press Conference on Performance Pay for Teachers to improve the quality of teaching; and,
- Reported that he attended the opening day of school at the Corinth and Alcorn School District.

- VI. Approval of Action Items

*(Items below are numbered to correspond to the items as discussed on Thursday, August 16, 2012.)*

06. On a motion by Mr. Richard Morrison, seconded by Ms. Kami Bumgarner, the Board voted unanimously to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process to revise State Board Policy – 3105 – Dropout Prevention Plan (copy attached).  
**(Office of School Improvement, Oversight and Recovery)**

07. On a motion by Mr. Richard Morrison, seconded by Ms. Kami Bumgarner, the Board voted unanimously to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process to align State Board Policy 901 – Alternative Education Guidelines with Mississippi Code Annotated Section 37-13-92 (copy attached).  
**(Office of School Improvement, Oversight and Recovery)**
08. On a motion by Mr. Richard Morrison, seconded by Ms. Kami Bumgarner, the Board unanimously approved the methodology to award competitive grant funds to Local Education Agencies in support of local dropout prevention initiatives as authorized by House Bill 1593, 2012 Legislative Session (copy attached).  
**(Office of School Improvement, Oversight and Recovery)**
09. On a motion by Ms. Martha Murphy, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved to award competitive grants for the Career Academy Implementation Project (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
10. On a motion by Ms. Martha Murphy, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved to contract with WestEd to develop resources and conduct training modules on the effective use of data literacy skills in decision making and instruction (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
11. On a motion by Ms. Martha Murphy, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved to contract with Brustein and Manasevit Attorneys at Law to provide technical assistance to the Mississippi Department of Education (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
12. On a motion by Ms. Martha Murphy, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved to award competitive grants for the Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
13. On a motion by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board unanimously approved the proposal by Mississippi State University to add an Elementary 4-6 Track to its Master of Arts in Teaching Alternate Route Program as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (copy attached).  
**(Office of Quality Professionals & Special Schools)**

14. On a motion by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board unanimously approved the request by the University of Mississippi for a Redesigned Masters Degree Program in Educational Leadership as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (copy attached).  
**(Office of Quality Professionals & Special Schools)**
15. On a motion by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board unanimously approved the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Accreditation for William Carey University as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (copy attached).  
**(Office of Quality Professionals & Special Schools)**
16. On a motion by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board voted unanimously to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process to approve the following New and Regenerated Praxis II Tests, Passing Scores and License Code as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (copies attached):  
**(Office of Quality Professionals & Special Schools)**
  - A. Approval of New Praxis II Test, Passing Score and License Code for Chinese (Mandarin) as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development
  - B. Approval of Regenerated Praxis II Test, Passing Score and License Code for School Guidance and Counseling as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development
17. On a motion by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board unanimously approved the revisions to the Rules and Regulations for the Critical Needs Loan/Scholarship Program, Critical Needs Alternate Route Loan Program, and the Mississippi Teacher Loan Repayment Program as recommended by the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning (copy attached).  
**(Office of Quality Professionals & Special Schools)**
18. On a motion by Mr. Richard Morrison, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Ms. Elisha C. Campbell to serve as School Finance Officer to the Office of School Financial Services at an annual salary of \$69,670.57 (copy attached).  
**(Office of School Financial Services)**

20. On a motion by Ms. Kami Bumgarner, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved to consider the 2012 accountability results separately for districts and schools participating in the *Excellence for All* pilot program (copy attached).  
**(Office of State Superintendent)**
21. On a motion by Ms. Kami Bumgarner, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Ms. Patrice Sawyer Guilfoyle to serve as Education-Bureau Director II in the Office of Communication and Legislative Services at an annual salary of \$84,000.00 (copy attached).  
**(Office of State Superintendent)**
22. On a motion by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board approved the following consent items (copies attached):
  - A. Approval of monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
  - B. Approval to award competitive grants for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
  - C. Approval of modification of joint agreement between the Lafayette County School District and the Oxford School District for the operation and maintenance of the Oxford/Lafayette County School of Applied Technology  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
  - D. Approval of grant to Mississippi University for Women to operate the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science for the 2012-2013 school year  
**(Office of Quality Professionals & Special Schools)**

VII. The Recognition Ceremony was held as follows:

**2011-2012 Accredited Training and Education Facility School (ATEF)  
Tishomingo County Vocational Technical Center**

**2012 August Employee of the Month  
Felicia Robinson  
Projects Officer III, Special  
Office of Curriculum and Instruction**

VIII. State Board of Education

01. There were no reports on meetings attended.
02. There were no requests for approval of attendance at meetings.

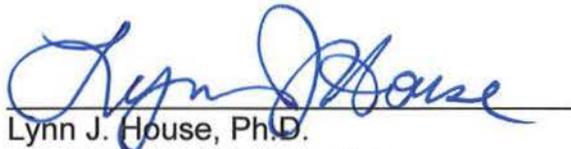
IX. There was no other business.

On a motion by Ms. Kami Bumgarner, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the meeting adjourned at 8:49 a.m.

Approved:



Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Chair  
Mississippi Board of Education



Lynn J. House, Ph.D.  
Interim Executive Secretary  
Mississippi Board of Education