

## Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

August 12, 2015

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a special-called Board meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 12, 2015, via teleconference pursuant to Section 25-41-5 of the Mississippi Code for the purpose of approving the contract with Questar Assessment, Inc. to administer Online Alternate Assessments for English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The location of the meeting available to the public was Room 145 of the Woolfolk Building, 501 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present were: Dr. John R. Kelly (Gulfport, Mississippi), Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman (Clinton, Mississippi), Dr. Karen J. Elam (Whitefish, Montana), Mr. Johnny Franklin (Bolton, Mississippi), Dr. O. Wayne Gann (Corinth, Mississippi), Mr. William H. Jones (Petal, Mississippi), Mr. Charles McClelland (Long Beach, Mississippi), and Mr. Richard Morrison (Room 145, Woolfolk Building, Jackson, Mississippi). Board member absent: Ms. Kami Bumgarner.

I. The Board meeting was called to order by Dr. John R. Kelly, Chair.

Dr. Kelly noted that the meeting of the Board of Education was being held via teleconference pursuant to Section 25-41-5 of the Mississippi Code and that the notice of this meeting made at least five days prior to the meeting included the date, time, place, and purpose of the meeting and identified the location of the meeting available to the public. Dr. Kelly also stated that an audio recording was being made of the meeting and that a quorum of the Board was present at the locations stated for the purpose of conducting a meeting through teleconference means.

II. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

Members voting aye: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman  
Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. Johnny Franklin  
Dr. O. Wayne Gann  
Mr. William H. Jones  
Mr. Charles McClelland  
Mr. Richard Morrison

Members voting nay: None

Member absent: Ms. Kami Bumgarner

01. Dr. J. P. Beaudoin, Mr. Walt Drane, and Ms. Marion Jones discussed the contract with Questar Assessment, Inc. to administer Online Alternate Assessments for English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science for students

with significant cognitive disabilities. Dr. Beaudoin discussed the scoring criteria of the Request for Proposals (RFP) from four vendors. Mr. Walt Drane discussed the negotiations with Questar Assessment, Inc. after MDE and American Institute for Research (AIR) were unable to agree upon the terms of the original contract. Ms. Donna Hales, Director of Procurement, informed the Board of recent changes to the Personal Service Contract Review Board (PSCRB) regulations, which now require additional processing time. The contract needs State Board approval prior to the regularly scheduled August Board meeting to send to PSCRB for a start date of September 16, 2015. The contract is for 10 years with the renewal of the contract for years two through ten determined annually and shall be contingent upon the successful completion of the preceding year's contract and availability of funds. The Board discussed at length awarding the contract to the second highest scoring vendor and had questions that were answered by the legal team of the Mississippi Department of Education.

- III. On a motion by Mr. Richard Morrison, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board voted to approve the contract with Questar Assessment, Inc. to administer Online Alternate Assessments for English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science for students with significant cognitive disabilities (copy attached).

**(Office of Chief of Research and Development)**

Members voting aye: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman  
Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. William H. Jones  
Mr. Richard Morrison

Members voting nay: Mr. Johnny Franklin  
Dr. O. Wayne Gann  
Mr. Charles McClelland

Member absent: Ms. Kami Bumgarner

- IV. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

Members voting aye: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman  
Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. Johnny Franklin  
Dr. O. Wayne Gann  
Mr. William H. Jones  
Mr. Charles McClelland  
Mr. Richard Morrison

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Members voting nay:           None

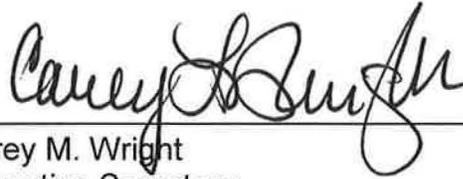
Member absent:                Ms. Kami Bumgarner

Approved:



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John R. Kelly, Chair  
Mississippi Board of Education



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Carey M. Wright  
Executive Secretary  
Mississippi Board of Education