

## Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

November 19, 2015

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Board meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 19, 2015, via teleconference pursuant to Section 25-41-5 of the Mississippi Code for the purpose of its monthly Board meeting. The location of the meeting available to the public was the Multi-purpose Room at South Pointe Building, 500 Clinton Center Drive, Clinton, Mississippi. Board members present were: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman (Multi-purpose Room, South Pointe, Clinton, Mississippi), Mr. Buddy Bailey (Multi-purpose Room, South Pointe, Clinton, Mississippi), Ms. Kami Bumgarner (Madison, Mississippi), Dr. Jason S. Dean (Multi-purpose Room, South Pointe, Clinton, Mississippi), Dr. Karen J. Elam (Oxford, Mississippi), Mr. Johnny Franklin (Multi-purpose Room, South Pointe, Clinton, Mississippi), Mr. William H. Jones (Petal, Mississippi), Dr. John R. Kelly (Multi-purpose Room, South Pointe, Clinton, Mississippi), and Mr. Charles McClelland (Multi-purpose Room, South Pointe, Clinton, Mississippi). Dr. Carey Wright, State Superintendent, is representing Mississippi at the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) Annual Policy Summit in Charlotte, North Carolina. Dr. Kim Benton, Chief Academic Officer, is assisting with the meeting today and is present at the South Pointe Building, Multi-purpose Room, Clinton, Mississippi.

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. 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. Mr. Johnny Franklin lead the Pledge of Allegiance and Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman gave the Invocation.

Dr. Kelly asked for a moment of silence in honor of those who lost their lives in France due to the terrible tragedies.

III. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of October 15, 2015, minutes of October 16, 2015 training session, and minutes of November 5, 2015 Special-Called Board meeting.

Members voting aye:  
Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman  
Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Dr. Jason S. Dean

Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. Johnny Franklin  
Mr. William H. Jones  
Mr. Charles McClelland

Members voting nay: None

Member absent: None

- IV. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

Members voting aye: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman  
Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Dr. Jason S. Dean  
Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. Johnny Franklin  
Mr. William H. Jones  
Mr. Charles McClelland

Members voting nay: None

Member absent: None

- V. Dr. Kelly reported that he has served for two years on the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Government Affairs Committee. The committee watches over all education policies brought before the House and Senate. Over the last 14 years, we have been operating under the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) legislation and States had to ask for waivers including Mississippi. The legislation is about to be reauthorized by the House and Senate. They have set up conference committees to work out minor details now. The lobbyists for NASBE say between now and Christmas the legislation will be reauthorized and it will give states more flexibility for educational decisions.

Dr. Kelly reported that yesterday he attended the Pathway 2 Possibilities at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum. This was a career fair for 8<sup>th</sup> graders from the six lower Coastal counties. There were 6,000 8<sup>th</sup> graders with 152 employers having exhibits. The event was put on by 700 volunteers. Pathway 2 Possibilities had a career fair in Tupelo several weeks ago and will have a career fair in the Delta in the months to come. This career fair gives 8<sup>th</sup> graders exposure to opportunities from across the state in many different fields not just college. The Legislature has given funds to make this project possible.

VI. There were no subcommittee meetings held.

VII. Discussion of Board Items

01. Dr. Kim Benton and Ms. Trecina Green discussed modifying the contract with Connections Education, LLC for the operation of the Mississippi Virtual Public School system [Goal 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]. The Board asked questions about the contract. Dr. Benton recommended approval.
02. Dr. J. P. Beaudoin and Dr. Albert Carter discussed modifying the grant awards for the Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF) Grant [Goal 4 - MDE Strategic Plan]. The Board had questions about the grants. Dr. Beaudoin recommended approval.
03. Dr. Kelly gave the Board an opportunity to discuss the following consent agenda items. The Board requested to discuss items A, C.01., C.02., C.03., and C.04.

Mr. Todd Ivey, Mr. Pat Ross, and Ms. Donna Hales answered questions on item A.

Mr. Ross and Dr. Bill Welch answered questions on items C.01., C.02., C.03., and C.04.

- A. Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits (Todd Ivey)
- B. 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 (SAT) (Kim Benton)
- C. Modify contracts for the following conservators: (Pat Ross)
  01. Modify contract with Conservator for Aberdeen School District
  02. Modify contract with Conservator for Claiborne County School District
  03. Modify contract with Conservator for Leflore County School District
  04. Modify contract with Conservator for Tunica County School District

- D. Award competitive grants for the Mississippi Community Oriented Policing Services in Schools (MCOPS) grant program (Pat Ross)

VIII. Approval of Action Items

- 01. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved to modify contract with Connections Education, LLC for the operation of the Mississippi Virtual Public School system [Goal 2 – MDE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**

Members voting aye: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman  
Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Dr. Jason S. Dean  
Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. Johnny Franklin  
Mr. William H. Jones  
Mr. Charles McClelland

Members voting nay: None

Member absent: None

- 02. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved to modify grant awards for the Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF) Grant [Goal 4 - MDE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).  
**(Office of Chief Research and Development Officer)**

Members voting aye: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman  
Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Dr. Jason S. Dean  
Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. Johnny Franklin  
Mr. William H. Jones  
Mr. Charles McClelland

Members voting nay: None

Member absent: None

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03. On a motion by Mr. William H. Jones, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board voted to approve item A on a 6 to 2 vote (copy attached).

Members voting aye: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman  
Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Dr. Jason S. Dean  
Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. William H. Jones

Members voting nay: Mr. Johnny Franklin  
Mr. Charles McClelland

Member absent: None

- A. Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits  
**(Office of Chief Operations Officer)**

On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved the following consent items: B, C.01., C.02., C.03., C.04., and D (copy attached).

Members voting aye: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman  
Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Dr. Jason S. Dean  
Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. Johnny Franklin  
Mr. William H. Jones  
Mr. Charles McClelland

Members voting nay: None

Member absent: None

- B. 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 (SAT)  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**

- C. Modify contracts for the following conservators:  
**(Office of School Performance Officer)**
  - 01. Modify contract with Conservator (Mr. John M. Curlee, III) for Aberdeen School District
  - 02. Modify contract with Conservator (Dr. Earl Watkins) for Claiborne County School District
  - 03. Modify contract with Conservator (Mr. Robert A. Strebeck) for Leflore County School District
  - 04. Modify contract with Conservator (Dr. Margie B. Pulley) for Tunica County School District
- D. Award competitive grants for the Mississippi Community Oriented Policing Services in Schools (MCOPS) grant program  
**(Office of School Performance Officer)**

IX. Consideration of Executive Session

Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman moved that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, and the motion passed on a vote of 8 to 0.

Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, then moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss a strategy session or negotiations with respect to prospective litigation involving the Department and the issuance of an appealable order in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(b). Mr. Charles McClelland seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 8 to 0.

Dr. Kelly stated the following to remain in the Executive Session: Dr. Kim Benton, Executive Leadership Team, Ms. Raina Lee, and Ms. Erin Meyer. Ms. Meyer informed the public of the Board's vote to go into Executive Session for the above-stated reasons.

**Minutes of the Executive Session**

During the Executive Session, the Board discussed a strategy session or negotiations with respect to prospective litigation involving the Department and the issuance of an appealable order in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(b).

The Board took no action during the Executive Session:

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Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman moved that the Board come out of Executive Session. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, which passed on a vote of 8 to 0.

The public came back into the Board meeting and Dr. Kelly reported no action was taken during the Executive Session.

X. State Board of Education

1. Dr. Kelly reported that he attended the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Government Affair meeting held in Baltimore, Maryland.
2. There was no request to attend a meeting.

XI. Other Business

The December Board meeting will be held on December 17, 2015.

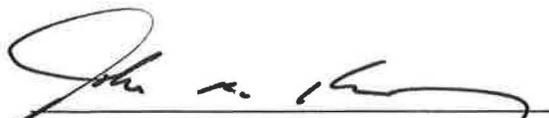
XII. On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:17 a.m.

Members voting aye: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman  
Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Dr. Jason S. Dean  
Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. Johnny Franklin  
Mr. Charles McClelland

Members voting nay: None

Member absent: Mr. William H. Jones

Approved:

  
John R. Kelly, Chair  
Mississippi Board of Education

  
Kim Benton  
Serving as Executive Secretary  
Mississippi Board of Education