

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

October 15, 2015

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 15, 2015, in the South Pointe Building, 4th Floor Boardroom, 500 Clinton Center Drive, Clinton, Mississippi. Board members present were: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Ms. Kami Bumgarner, Dr. Jason S. Dean, Dr. Karen J. Elam, Mr. Johnny Franklin, Mr. William H. Jones, and Dr. John R. Kelly. Board members absent were: Mr. Charles McClelland and Mr. Richard Morrison.

- I. The meeting was called to order by Dr. John R. Kelly, Chair. Dr. Kelly noted the statement on the agenda that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during the meeting.
- II. Ms. Kami Bumgarner lead the Pledge of Allegiance and Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of September 17, 2015.
- IV. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved the agenda as presented.
- V. Recognition Ceremony

Finalists for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)

Virginia Cornelius, Lafayette High School
Lafayette County School District

Carl Lucas, Hollandale Simmons High School
Hollandale School District

Susie Oglesby, New Hope High School
Lowndes County School District

Amanda Rogers, Petal High School
Petal School District

Dorothy Thomas, Pontotoc High School
Pontotoc City School District

Lauren Zarandona, Mississippi School for Math and Science

2015 September Employee of the Month

Minnia Winters

Educ-Special Education Program Coordinator

Office of Special Education

2015 October Employee of the Month

Cynthia Keys

Food Service Supervisor I

Mississippi School of the Arts

VI. Dr. Carey M. Wright gave the following report as the State Superintendent of Education:

- Dr. Wright stated she spoke at several speaking engagements with the focus on the State Board's strategic plan and initiatives, and sharing the good things happening across our state in education. Dr. Wright spoke at the National Dropout Prevention Conference, the Mississippi Youth Court Judges Conference, the National Association for State Art Agencies, and the Mississippi Gulf Coast League of Women Voters.
- Dr. Wright reported that the first round of the Regional Superintendent meetings have been finished.
- Dr. Wright presented the Department's budget along with Mr. Richard Morrison to the Joint Legislative Budget Office.
- Dr. Wright stated she met with the Achievement School District Task Force on October 7, 2015. The Task Force discussed data at their meeting and the next meeting of the Task Force will be held on October 28, 2015.
- Dr. Wright stated she attended the Charter Authorizer Board meeting. Dr. Wright thanked Dr. Elam for hosting the meeting at her home in Oxford, Mississippi.
- Dr. Wright recognized Dr. J. P. Beaudoin and his team from Assessment and Accountability for their hard work on the assessments and the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC).
- Dr. Wright recognized Dr. Paula Vanderford and her team who have put in a lot of work to get districts' accreditation information in and updated.
- Dr. Wright stated the Spotlight for this Board meeting is the Tallahatchie Early Learning Alliance (TELA). TELA is one of the 11 pre-K learning collaboratives funded by Mississippi's Early Learning Collaborative Act. Through the collaborative model, school districts, nonprofit groups, Head Start centers and private child care providers partner to deliver high-quality early childhood education to 4-year-olds in their communities. Charleston Elementary School is one of the TELA classes that was recognized.

VII. There was no report from the Chair.

- VIII. Dr. Karen J. Elam reported from the Academic Achievement PreK-12 Subcommittee that met prior to the Board meeting. Dr. Elam reported that the committee received an overview of the State Literacy Plan that will be presented to the Board later today and the Standards Review Process Status Report.

Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman reported from the Legislative Subcommittee that met before the Board meeting to discuss the assignment of district accreditation statuses and the Board policies to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process on assessment that will be presented to the Board today in the meeting. Ms. Aultman stated the flyer on the talking points for the assessment policy revision will be helpful in answering questions on the topic.

Ms. Aultman stated that she and Mr. Johnny Franklin attended the Legislative Budget Office hearing along with Dr. Wright and Mr. Morrison. She stated that Dr. Wright did a good job presenting the budget at the hearing.

IX. Discussion of Board Items

01. Mr. Pat Ross and Dr. Paula Vanderford reported on action of the Commission on School Accreditation concerning the assignment of district accreditation statuses [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 – MDE Strategic Plan]. Mr. Ross recommended approval.
02. Mr. Ross and Dr. Jamilliah Longino reported on supports being provided to low performing schools [Goal 4 – MDE Strategic Plan]. The Board asked questions about the process.
03. Dr. Kim Benton and Dr. Kymyona Burk reported on the State Literacy Plan [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 – MDE Strategic Plan].
04. Dr. Benton and Ms. Jean Massey discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish the 2016 Mississippi World Languages Framework [Goal 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Benton recommended approval.
05. Dr. Benton and Ms. Massey discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise State Board Policy 2905 – Credit Recovery Policy [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Benton recommended approval.
06. Mr. Todd Ivey and Mr. Scott Clements discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process to repeal the following State Board policies. Mr. Ivey recommended approval.

- A. Repeal State Board Policy 4003 – Beverage Regulations [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]
 - B. Repeal State Board Policy 4004 – Snack Regulations [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]
07. Mr. Ivey and Mr. Clements discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish State Board Policy 2010 – Smart Snacks Standards for All Foods and Beverages Sold in Mississippi Schools [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]. Mr. Ivey recommended approval.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 11:52 a.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman did not return after lunch to the meeting.

08. Mr. Ivey and Mr. Earl Burke, Chair of the Commission on School District Efficiency, reported from the Commission on School District Efficiency [Goals 4 and 5 – MDE Strategic Plan]. Mr. Burke stated the recommendations from the Commission for this year are: utilization of electronic funds transfers (EFTs) through existing accounting system for vendor payment and remittance; acceptance of electronic payments from parents and others for fee payments, etc.; development of employee self-service portal for state health plan; and development of database of teacher years of experience.
09. Mr. Ivey discussed appointments for Standing Commission on School District Efficiency [Goals 4 and 5 – MDE Strategic Plan]. Mr. Ivey recommended approval.
10. Dr. J. P. Beaudoin discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process to revise the following State Board policies. The Board had questions about the policies. Dr. Beaudoin recommended approval.
- A. Revise State Board Policy 7607 – Schedule [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]
 - B. Revise State Board Policy 7608 – Setting Student-Level Standards for State Assessments [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]
 - C. Revise State Board Policy 7610 – Subject Area Testing Program Appeals Process [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]
11. Dr. Kelly gave the Board an opportunity to discuss the following consent agenda items. The Board requested to discuss item A.

- A. Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits (Todd Ivey)
- B. Cut score for Mississippi Alternate Assessment of Extended Science Frameworks (MAAESF) [Goal 1 - MDE Strategic Plan] (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with no public comments) (J. P. Beaudoin)
- C. Modify contract with Elton Stokes, Jr. to continue work on Governance Strategy and assisting with the implementation and monitoring of the data warehouse system (John Q. Porter)

X. Approval of Action Items

- 01. On a motion by Mr. William H. Jones, seconded by Ms. Kami Bumgarner, the Board unanimously approved the action of the Commission on School Accreditation concerning the assignment of district accreditation statuses [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 – MDE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief School Performance Officer)
- 04. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish the 2016 Mississippi World Languages Framework [Goal 2 – MDE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)
- 05. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise State Board Policy 2905 – Credit Recovery Policy [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)
- 06. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. William H. Jones, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process to repeal the following State Board policies (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Operations Officer)
 - A. Repeal State Board Policy 4003 – Beverage Regulations [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]
 - B. Repeal State Board Policy 4004 – Snack Regulations [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]

07. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. William H. Jones, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish State Board Policy 2010 – Smart Snacks Standards for All Foods and Beverages Sold in Mississippi Schools [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Operations Officer)

09. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. William H. Jones, the Board unanimously approved the appointments for Standing Commission on School District Efficiency [Goals 4 and 5 – MDE Strategic Plan]. The Board approved the reappointment of Mr. Earl Burke, Congressional District 2 Representative and the appointment of Dr. David J. Daigneault, At Large/Local School District Superintendent (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Operations Officer)

10. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Ms. Kami Bumgarner, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process to revise the following State Board policies (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Research and Development Officer)
 - A. Revise State Board Policy 7607 – Schedule [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]
 - B. Revise State Board Policy 7608 – Setting Student-Level Standards for State Assessments [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]
 - C. Revise State Board Policy 7610 – Subject Area Testing Program Appeals Process [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]

11. On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board unanimously approved the following consent items: A, B, and C (copy attached).
 - A. Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits
(Office of Chief Operations Officer)
 - B. Cut score for Mississippi Alternate Assessment of Extended Science Frameworks (MAAESF) [Goal 1 - MDE Strategic Plan]
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with no public comments)
(Office of Chief Research and Development Officer)

- C. Modify contract with Elton Stokes, Jr. to continue work on Governance Strategy and assisting with the implementation and monitoring of the data warehouse system
(Office of Chief Information Officer)

XI. Consideration of Executive Session

Mr. William H. Jones moved that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, and the motion passed on a vote of 5 to 0.

Mr. William H. Jones, then moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss discrete personnel matters related to the job performance of persons holding specific positions in the Department of Education in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k) and to discuss of 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). Dr. Karen J. Elam seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 5 to 0.

Dr. Kelly stated the following to remain in the Executive Session: Dr. Carey M. Wright, Executive Leadership Team, Ms. Raina Lee, and Ms. Beebe Garrard. Ms. Garrard 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 discrete personnel matters related to the job performance of persons holding specific positions in the Department of Education in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k) and 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 action on the following items during the Executive Session:

01. On a motion by Mr. William H. Jones, seconded by Dr. Karen S. Elam, the Board approved on a 5 to 0 vote to appoint Ms. Stacey A. Donaldson as Education Bureau Director II to serve as Director for the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards Project in the Office of Chief Academic Officer at a salary of \$80,000.00.
02. On a motion by Mr. William H. Jones, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board approved on a 5 to 0 vote to appoint Ms. Sheila Franklin-Buie as School Finance Officer to serve as Internal Auditor in the Office of Educational Accountability at a salary of \$69,670.57.

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On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the motion passed on a vote of 5 to 0 to come out of Executive Session.

The public came back into the Board meeting and Dr. Kelly reported the actions taken during the Executive Session.

XII. State Board of Education

1. Mr. Johnny Franklin reported that on October 8, 2015, he and Mr. Charles McClelland attended the University of Southern Mississippi Regional Consortium of Superintendents meeting.
2. Dr. Kelly requested approval to attend the Southern Regional Education Board meeting in Jacksonville, Florida, which would be at no cost to the Department. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the board unanimously approved the request.

XIII. Other Business

Dr. Kelly stated the November Board meeting will be held November 19, 2015.

Dr. Kelly asked the Board to think about hosting a dinner for Legislative leaders, the Governor, and the Lt. Governor in December or January to update them on the Strategic Plan.

Dr. Kelly stated that Friday, October 16, 2015, from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon the Board will be in a training session at Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

XIV. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 2:31 p.m.

Approved:



John R. Kelly, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education



Carey M. Wright
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education