

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

February 16, 2017

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Board meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 16, 2017, in the 4th Floor Boardroom at Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present were: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Mr. Buddy Bailey, Ms. Kami Bumgarner, Dr. Jason S. Dean, Mr. Johnny Franklin, and Mr. Charles McClelland. Board members absent were: Dr. Karen J. Elam, Mr. William H. Jones, and Dr. John R. Kelly. Dr. Carey M. Wright was also present. Dr. John R. Kelly joined the meeting at 1:17 p.m.

- I. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair, called the Board meeting to order. Ms. Aultman noted the statement on the agenda that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during the meeting.
- II. Dr. Jason S. Dean led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Buddy Bailey gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Ms. Kami Bumgarner, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of January 19, 2017 Board meeting.
- IV. Mr. Johnny Franklin asked that Consent Agenda items A, D, and E be discussed separately.

On a motion Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved to discuss Consent Agenda items A, D, and E separately.

On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean to amend the agenda, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved the amended agenda.

- V. Recognition Ceremony

Advanced Placement (AP) Honor Roll

Booneville School District

DeSoto County School District

Stone County School District

2017 February Employee of the Month

Erica Crisler

Accountant/Auditor III

Office of Child Nutrition

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

- Dr. Wright introduced Dr. Felicia Gavin, Chief Operations Officer to the Department.
- Dr. Wright stated that she spoke on the Paul Gallo Show and discussed pieces of legislation that are moving through and different parts of the reform work that are going on across the state. Dr. Wright stated that she is always glad to have a chance to brag about the positive things happening in Mississippi.
- Dr. Wright stated that she spoke at the Mississippi Association of School Superintendents (MASS) Winter Conference to congratulate the districts and praise them on the work they are doing. Dr. Wright stated that there are so many positive things that are happening on all the indicators that we are monitoring, the districts are headed in the right direction so thanks to the teachers, principals, and superintendents.
- Dr. Wright stated that we had the first ever Mississippi Elevating and Celebrating Effective Teachers and Teaching (ECET2) Conference on building capacity for teachers and learning from each other. Dr. Wright stated that the conference was a teacher conference, for teachers, by teachers.
- Dr. Wright stated that she spoke with the House Education Committee talking about our data coaching program and the positive results we are seeing from our data coaches in the schools that have them. Dr. Wright stated that the results are phenomenal not only in children's proficiency but also in our graduation rates. Dr. Wright stated that the money invested in the data coaches is working.
- Dr. Wright stated she and Mr. Pete Smith have been meeting regularly with the House and Senate Education Committees and the Chairs to discuss pieces of legislation moving through both the ones we support and the ones we do not.
- Dr. Wright stated that the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) Advisory Council met and got to see parts of the first section of our plan that addressed our long range goals and our benchmarks. Dr. Wright stated that the plan will be brought to the Board soon.
- Dr. Wright stated that she had lunch with the First Lady, Deborah Bryant, about partnering with us on issues of bullying and how to do more to recognize teachers in the work they are doing. Dr. Wright stated that she looks forward to partnering with her.
- Dr. Wright stated that she met with the Leadership Team, Board Chair, and Board Vice-Chair of Jackson Public Schools to make sure they understood the difference between the preliminary audit that covered 22 schools and the full investigative audit that covers all 58 schools. Dr. Wright stated that she wanted to make sure they understood that their Corrective Action Plan had to cover all 58 schools.

- Dr. Wright stated that she attended the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) Board meeting and a paper titled Leading for Equity: Opportunities for State Education Chiefs was released. Dr. Wright stated that she would love to get the paper in the hands of all superintendents. Dr. Wright stated that there are 10 commitments that the organization has made around equity and Mississippi is already involved in many of these commitments. Dr. Wright stated that the superintendents could see that it is full of ideas of how equity could be addressed around our state.
- Dr. Wright introduced Mr. Pete Smith who gave an update on legislation that is still alive and EdBuild recommendations for the Department.
- Dr. Wright stated the Spotlight for this Board meeting is “Franklin County School District Chess Project: Improving Academics through Chess.” Dr. Wright stated that the Franklin County School District has teamed up with the Southwest Mississippi Chess Foundation to promote the teaching and learning of chess for its social, intellectual, and academic benefits. Dr. Wright stated the program develops strong chess players who can compete at the highest levels and uses chess as a model for other academic learning. Dr. Wright stated that within a year of the program’s launch, Franklin County students have competed and won in regional and national chess tournaments and boast better study habits and academic outcomes.

VII. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman as the Chair of the State Board gave the following report:

- Ms. Aultman stated that she and Mr. Johnny Franklin attended the Legislative Pancake Supper at the Mississippi Schools for the Blind and Deaf. Ms. Aultman stated some of the students shared their experiences about the schools. Ms. Aultman stated the children were happy to share.

VIII. Dr. Jason S. Dean, Chair of the Data Visualization Subcommittee, stated they met this morning and discussed three topics on data. Dr. Dean stated they have made progress and will present to the Board soon.

Mr. Buddy Bailey reported for the School Performance and Accountability Subcommittee that met this morning. Mr. Bailey stated that an internal report on the Mississippi School of the Arts was presented. Mr. Bailey stated it was a good report and the Corrective Action Plan is already in place. Mr. Bailey congratulated Dr. Suzanne Hirsch and her staff on their work.

Mr. Johnny Franklin serving as Chair of the Academic Achievement PreK-12 Subcommittee said they met on Wednesday to discuss Tabs 1 and 2 that will be presented today.

IX. Discussion of Board Items

01. Dr. Kim Benton and Ms. Jean Massey reported on Mississippi Districts of Innovation and Early College High Schools [Goal 2 – MBE – Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
02. Dr. Benton and Ms. Massey discussed the Districts of Innovation for 2017-2018 [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Benton recommended approval.
03. Dr. Paula Vanderford and Ms. Massey discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish State Board Policy, Chapter 28, Rule 28.6: Essentials for College Math and Essentials for College Literacy Requirements [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Vanderford recommended approval.
04. Dr. Vanderford and Dr. Cory Murphy discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish the SAT equivalent to the ACT [Goal 4 - MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Vanderford recommended approval.
05. Dr. Vanderford and Dr. Benton discussed the recommendations from the Report on Governor's Task Force on Teacher Preparation for Early Literacy Instruction [Goals 1 and 3 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:16 p.m. and reconvened at 1:17 p.m. Dr. John R. Kelly joined the meeting at 1:17 p.m.

06. Ms. Aultman gave the Board an opportunity to discuss the following consent agenda items. Mr. Johnny Franklin requested to discuss items A, D, and E.

Dr. Carey Wright discussed the contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits for item A.

Mr. Vincent Segalini answered a question about the *Mississippi Testing Accommodations Manual* for item D.

Dr. John Q. Porter answered questions about modifying the Ciber contract for item E.

- A. Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits (Felicia Gavin)

- B. Establish the Outcomes for Intellectually Gifted Education Programs (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comment) (Kim Benton)
- C. Appointment to the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (Paula Vanderford)
- D. Revise the *Mississippi Testing Accommodations Manual* (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comment) (Paula Vanderford)
- E. Modify contract with Ciber, Inc. to continue to provide network support services for the public school districts in the state of Mississippi (John Q. Porter)

X. Approval of Action Items

- 02 On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved the Districts of Innovation for 2017-2018 [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]. The Districts of Innovation for 2017-2018 are Baldwyn/Booneville School District and Grenada School District (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)
- 03. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish State Board Policy, Chapter 28, Rule 28.6: Essentials for College Math and Essentials for College Literacy Requirements [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief of Research and Development)
- 04. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish the SAT equivalent to the ACT [Goal 4 - MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief of Research and Development)
- 06. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Kami Bumgarner, the Board approved item A on a 4 to 2 vote (copy attached).

Members voting aye: Mr. Buddy Bailey
Ms. Kami Bumgarner
Dr. Jason S. Dean
Dr. John R. Kelly

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

Members absent: Dr. Karen J. Elam
Mr. William H. Jones

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

On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board unanimously approved consent agenda items B., C., D., and E.

- B. Establish the Outcomes for Intellectually Gifted Education Programs
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comment)
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

- C. Appointment to the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development –
Congressional District 4 – Mrs. Etta Tappin, Board Member, Pike County School District, Unexpired Term 2015-2018
(Office of Chief of Research and Development)

- D. Revise the *Mississippi Testing Accommodations Manual*
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comment)
(Office of Chief of Research and Development)

- E. Modify contract with Ciber, Inc. to continue to provide network support services for the public school districts in the state of Mississippi
(Office of Chief of Technology and District Transformation)

XI. Consideration of Executive Session

Dr. Jason S. Dean moved that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session. Mr. Buddy Bailey seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a vote of 6 to 0. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman asked Dr. Carey M. Wright, Ms. Raina Lee, Ms. Chelsea Chicosky, Ms. Leah Kathryn Anzenberger, and the Executive Leadership Team to remain in the Executive Session.

Dr. Jason S. Dean, then moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss discrete personnel matters in accordance with Mississippi Code Annotated Section 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k), discussion of the issuance of an appealable order as issued by the Licensure Commission in accordance with Mississippi Code Annotated Section 25-41-7 (4)(b), and discussion with respect to allegations of misconduct regarding the Office of Educator Misconduct in accordance with Mississippi Code Annotated Section 25-41-7 (4)(d). Mr. Johnny Franklin seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 6 to 0. Ms. Leah Kathryn Anzenberger 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 in accordance with Mississippi Code Annotated Section 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k), discussed the issuance of an appealable order as issued by the Licensure Commission in accordance with Mississippi Code Annotated Section 25-41-7 (4)(b), and discussed with respect to allegations of misconduct regarding the Office of Educator Misconduct in accordance with Mississippi Code Annotated Section 25-41-7 (4)(d).

On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board voted 6 to 0 to come out of Executive Session.

The public came back into the Board meeting and Ms. Aultman reported the action taken during the Executive Session.

01. On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. William Paul Bryant as Bureau Director II to serve as Director of Data Management and Integration within the Office of Technology and Strategic Services at a salary of \$84,000.00.
02. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. Kim C. Germany as Bureau Director II to serve as Director within the Office of District Transformation at a salary of \$84,000.00.

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03. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Kami Bumgarner, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. Jo Ann Malone as Bureau Director II to serve as Director of Accreditation in the Division of Research and Development at a salary of \$110,000.00.
04. On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. Paula Vanderford as Deputy State Superintendent to serve as Chief of Research and Development at a salary of \$142,000.00.
05. On a motion by Ms. Kami Bumgarner, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved the contract with Tonya Kaye Green to serve as Interim Superintendent for the Mississippi School for the Blind at a total cost of \$52,264.51.

On a motion from Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board approved to amend the consent agenda item A to include Tonya Kaye Green on a 5 to 1 vote

Members voting aye: Mr. Buddy Bailey
 Ms. Kami Bumgarner
 Dr. Jason S. Dean
 Dr. John R. Kelly
 Mr. Charles McClelland

Member voting nay: Mr. Johnny Franklin

Members absent: Dr. Karen J. Elam
 Mr. William H. Jones

06. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved to give Dr. Carey M. Wright permission to hire an independent contractor to conduct a formal forensic audit.
07. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board voted 4 to 2 to remand the decision of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development's Hearing Subcommittee pertaining to Educator License # 201126 back to the Commission to be reduced from five years to two years with three years probation.

Members voting aye: Mr. Johnny Franklin
Dr. John R. Kelly
Mr. Charles McClelland

Members voting nay: Ms. Kami Bumgarner
Dr. Jason S. Dean

Members absent: Dr. Karen J. Elam
Mr. William H. Jones

Mr. Buddy Bailey abstained and provided no input during deliberation as he was not present during the Appeal Hearing.

XII. State Board of Education

1. There were no meetings attended.
2. Dr. John R. Kelly requested approval to attend the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Legislative Conference in Washington, DC in March and to meet with Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO).

On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board unanimously approved for Dr. John R. Kelly to attend the NASBE and CCSSO meetings in Washington, DC.

XIII. Other Business

Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman stated the March Board meeting will be held on March 16, 2017 in Jackson, Mississippi at the Central High School Building starting at 10:00 a.m.

XIV. Adjournment

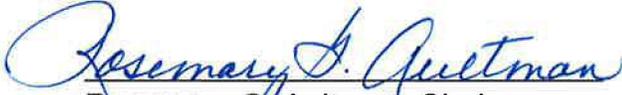
On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:44 p.m.

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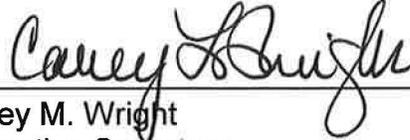
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Approved:



Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education



Carey M. Wright
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education