

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

March 16, 2017

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Board meeting at 10:03 a.m. on Thursday, March 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, Dr. Karen J. Elam, Dr. Jason S. Dean, Mr. Johnny Franklin, Dr. John R. Kelly, and Mr. Charles McClelland. Board members absent were: Mr. Buddy Bailey, Ms. Kami Bumgarner, and Mr. William H. Jones. Dr. Carey M. Wright was also present.

- 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. Karen J. Elam led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Johnny Franklin gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of February 16, 2017 Board meeting.
- IV. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board unanimously approved the agenda.
- V. Recognition Ceremony

2017 March Employee of the Month

Gary Ragsdale

Information Technology Planner

Office of Technology and District Transformation

- VI. Dr. Carey M. Wright gave the following report as the State Superintendent of Education:
 - Dr. Wright stated she has been named the Vice Chair for the Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Southeast Governing Board. Dr. Wright stated that there are 10 laboratories across the nation. Dr. Wright stated that we are a member of the REL Southeast with Georgia, Florida, Alabama, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Mississippi. Dr. Wright stated REL-SE does a lot of research for these states and Florida State University is assigned to do the research for the REL Southeast. Dr. Wright stated the evaluation for the LETRS training was done by them.

- Dr. Wright stated that the 2017 Legislative Session is coming to an end. Dr. Wright stated that next weekend will be conference weekend. Dr. Wright stated she has met with Chairman Gray Tollison and Chairman John Moore, with Speaker Philip Gunn, and Lt. Governor Tate Reeves on some bills that have been moving through for passage. Dr. Wright stated she met with the new House Appropriations Chair, John Read, who took over for Herb Frierson.
- Dr. Wright stated that she met with Dr. Glenn Boyce and Dr. Andrea Mayfield about PreK-IHL perspectives first and then discussed remediation costs and how each organization addresses these costs. Dr. Wright stated the Speaker asked us to meet with the education chairs and other legislators to bring them up to speed on what we are doing regarding remediation. Dr. Wright stated that Ms. Jean Massey will bring a policy for the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) classes that have been renamed Essentials for Math and Essentials for Literacy to the Board at a later date. Dr. Wright stated that if a student scores 80 or higher, IHL and now the community colleges will accept our students as credit bearing students and they will not have to take remedial courses. Dr. Wright stated that all high schools should offer these courses.
- Dr. Wright stated the Education Stakeholders Group is a wide range of people that have a strong interest in education. Dr. Wright stated they met two times last year and one time this year. Dr. Wright stated the group wants to meet quarterly and the group is diversified with representatives from Special Education Advisory, Mississippi Economic Council, Mississippi Public Broadcasting, Parent Teacher Association, Parent Campaign, Mississippi Association of School Administrators (MASA), and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).
- Dr. Wright stated that she met with Ms. Laura Jackson, Executive Director, Department of Finance and Administration (DFA), and introduced her to Dr. Felicia Gavin. Dr. Wright stated they talked about concerns about MAGIC and a person from DFA has been assigned to work with the Department directly.
- Dr. Wright stated that the Achievement School District (ASD) Planning Committee meets each month. Dr. Wright stated the job posting for the ASD Superintendent has been posted and will close on March 22, 2017. Dr. Wright stated the ASD Planning Committee wants to be involved in the interviewing process for a Superintendent. Dr. Wright stated that at the last meeting they stated looking at the selection criteria for schools to be put into the ASD. Dr. Wright stated she will bring more information to the Board next month.
- Dr. Wright stated she met with the Superintendents' Advisory Council and invited Dr. Glenn Boyce and Dr. Andrea Mayfield to come and talk about their concerns about education. They will continue to work together.

- Dr. Wright introduced Mr. Pete Smith who gave an update on legislation that is still alive and he stated that next weekend is conference weekend (copy attached).
- Dr. Wright recognized Dr. Stacy Donaldson, National Board Certified Teacher, who works with the National Board Certified Teachers at the Department. Dr. Wright stated that Dr. Donaldson served as Master of Ceremony at the LiftED Conference. Dr. Wright stated that the conference was on a Saturday and over 400 teachers and administrators attended the conference and NSPARC shared some data about the power of National Board Certified Teachers and their positive results in Mississippi.
- Dr. Wright recognized Dr. Sandra Edwards, Superintendent of the Mississippi School for the Deaf, and commended her on the external review conducted by AdvanceED Performance Accreditation. Dr. Wright stated some of the comments from AdvanceED were: enlightening and an awesome experience for each of the team members, there existed a sense of urgency for success of students, teachers excelled at integrating technology into the instructional process, and the entire focus of the Mississippi School for the Deaf is on student success. Dr. Wright stated the overall score for the Mississippi School for the Deaf is 391.67 points and the average network score is 278.94. Dr. Wright congratulated Dr. Edwards and her team for their outstanding work.
- Dr. Wright stated the Spotlight for this Board meeting is “Leader in Me: Building a Culture of Student Empowerment” at Vicksburg-Warren School District. Dr. Wright stated that she has visited several times and was always amazed at the students. The Leader in Me is based on the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People and 21st Century leadership and life skills for students. The Leader in Me started in two elementary schools and now is district wide in all schools. Dr. Wright recognized Ms. Miki Ginn, Principal at Bovina Elementary School and Mr. Chad Shealy, Superintendent of Vicksburg-Warren School District, for their outstanding work on this program.

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

- Ms. Aultman stated that she and Dr. Wright met with the Mississippi Education Achievement Council which is a group of representatives from the Institutions of Higher Learning and the Community Colleges. The current focus is on alternative routes to a college diploma which gives students opportunities to work on courses to get a college diploma, thus increasing the number of people in Mississippi getting a college diploma. Ms. Aultman stated that Ms. Heather Morrison gave a good report on the subject. Ms. Aultman stated that it was interesting and will be beneficial to Mississippi and to the workforce.
- Ms. Aultman stated that she and Dr. Wright met and talked about the agenda.

- Ms. Aultman stated she served on a panel for the Mississippi Association of School Administrators (MASA) Women in Leadership Forum. Ms. Aultman stated that Dr. Benton did the opening remarks. Ms. Altman stated there was a good panel discussion on how you balance everything and how to do all that you do.
- Ms. Aultman congratulated Rankin County School District and North Pike School District for passing their bond issues.

VIII. Dr. Karen J. Elam, Chair of the Academic Achievement PreK-12 Subcommittee, stated they met on Wednesday and in attendance were Mr. Johnny Franklin and Mr. Charles McClelland. Dr. Elam stated she had been absent for two months and was brought up to speed. Dr. Elam stated that Dr. Kim Benton presented Evidence Based Results to the committee. Dr. Elam stated that this process would be used for School Improvement. Dr. Elam stated that Dr. Nathan Oakley and Ms. Wendy Clemons discussed contracts that will be presented to the Board today. Dr. Elam stated that Ms. Jean Massey discussed the Administrative Procedures Act process that will be presented today at the Board meeting on two curriculum frameworks.

Dr. Jason S. Dean, Chair of the Data Visualization Subcommittee, stated they met this morning. Dr. Dean stated the last several times they have met they discussed style over substance and they have broken down each objective and goal. Dr. John Q. Porter and his team have reviewed which data was available to present. Dr. Dean stated the information will be given to the Board soon to review.

Mr. Johnny Franklin, Chair of the Finance Subcommittee, reported he and Dr. Jason S. Dean met to introduce themselves to Dr. Felicia Gavin. Mr. Franklin stated they talked about the impact of the budget cuts MDE has endured, the possible upcoming budget cuts, and putting in place procedures so we do not have another 21st Century.

IX. Discussion of Board Items

01. Dr. Kim Benton and Dr. Nathan Oakley discussed renewing the contract with Voyager Sopris Learning, Inc. for the operation of the Mississippi K-3 Literacy Professional Development Training System [Goal 1 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Benton recommended approval.
02. Dr. Benton discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the Mississippi Secondary Curriculum Frameworks in

Career and Technical Education for Agriculture and Environmental Science and Technology (AEST), Entrepreneurship, International Business, and Agricultural Leadership and Personal Development [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Benton recommended approval.

03. Dr. Benton and Ms. Wendy Clemons discussed contracting with North Mississippi Education Consortium to coordinate and facilitate regional training sessions and related services for 2017-2018 [Goals 1, 2, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]. The Board had a lengthy discussion about the contract. Dr. Benton recommended approval.
04. Ms. Aultman gave the Board an opportunity to discuss the following consent agenda items. Mr. Johnny Franklin requested to discuss items A., D., F., and H.

Mr. Mike Kent answered a question about a contract with a former State Employee receiving retirement benefits for item A.

Dr. Kim Benton answered a question about the Superior Protection Services contract for item D.

Dr. Paula Vanderford answered a question about the Data Recognition Corporation contract for item F.

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

- A. Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits (Felicia Gavin)
- B. Revise the Mississippi Secondary Curriculum Frameworks in Career and Technical Education for (1) Culinary Arts, (2) Early Childhood Education, (3) Law and Public Safety, and (4) Transportation Logistics (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comment) (Kim Benton)
- C. Renew contract with The Riverside Publishing Company DBA HM Receivables, LLC for Fiscal Year 2018 to provide an assessment system as required by the State Performance Plan (Kim Benton)
- D. Modify contract with Superior Protection Services to provide security services on the campus of the Mississippi Schools for the Blind and the Deaf for Fiscal Year 2018 (Kim Benton)

- E. Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish a standard score of 165 for the Braille Praxis II exam (Paula Vanderford)
- F. Renew the contract with Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) for Fiscal Year 2018 for the English Language Proficiency Test (Paula Vanderford)
- G. Renew the Fiscal Year 2018 contract with Renaissance Learning for the Mississippi K-3 Assessment Support System (MKAS²) (Paula Vanderford)
- H. 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)
- I. Information: Annual School Board Meeting Attendance Report in accordance with Section 37-6-13 of the *Mississippi Code of 1972*, as amended (Paula Vanderford)

Ms. Aultman asked the Board members to put on their calendar a Budget Work Session on Friday, June 16, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon to review the FY 18 budget before you vote on it at the July Board meeting.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:45 a.m. and reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

X. Approval of Action Items

- 01. On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved to renew contract with Voyager Sopris Learning, Inc. for the operation of the Mississippi K-3 Literacy Professional Development Training System [Goal 1 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)
- 02. On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the Mississippi Secondary Curriculum Frameworks in Career and Technical Education for Agriculture and Environmental Science and Technology (AEST), Entrepreneurship, International Business, and Agricultural Leadership and Personal Development [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

03. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board voted 4 to 1 to approve to contract with North Mississippi Education Consortium to coordinate and facilitate regional training sessions and related services for 2017-2018 [Goals 1, 2, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

Members voting aye: Dr. Karen J. Elam
 Dr. Jason S. Dean
 Dr. John R. Kelly
 Mr. Charles McClelland

Member voting nay: Mr. Johnny Franklin

Members absent: Mr. Buddy Bailey
 Ms. Kami Bumgarner
 Mr. William H. Jones

04. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved consent agenda items A., B., C., D., E., F., G., and H. (copy attached).

- A. Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits

(Office of Chief Operations Officer)

- B. Revise the Mississippi Secondary Curriculum Frameworks in Career and Technical Education for (1) Culinary Arts, (2) Early Childhood Education, (3) Law and Public Safety, and (4) Transportation Logistics (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comment)

(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

- C. Renew contract with The Riverside Publishing Company DBA HM Receivables, LLC for Fiscal Year 2018 to provide an assessment system as required by the State Performance Plan

(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

- D. Modify contract with Superior Protection Services to provide security services on the campus of the Mississippi Schools for the Blind and the Deaf for Fiscal Year 2018

(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

- E. Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish a standard score of 165 for the Braille Praxis II exam
(Office of Chief of Research and Development)
- F. Renew the contract with Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) for Fiscal Year 2018 for the English Language Proficiency Test
(Office of Chief of Research and Development)
- G. Renew the Fiscal Year 2018 contract with Renaissance Learning for the Mississippi K-3 Assessment Support System (MKAS²)
(Office of Chief of Research and Development)
- H. 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. Dr. Karen J. Elam seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a vote of 5 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). Dr. John R. Kelly seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 5 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 5 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. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved to contract with CliftonLarsonAllen LLP to conduct a forensic audit at the Mississippi Department of Education for a total cost of \$114,610.00.
02. On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board voted 4 to 0 to approve to award 21st Century Community Learning Centers Continuation Grant Awards for Corinth School District (Years 2 – 5 for a total of \$1,174,955.00) and Brookhaven School District (Years 3 – 5 for a total of \$346,662.57).

Members voting aye:
Dr. Karen J. Elam
Dr. Jason S. Dean
Dr. John R. Kelly
Mr. Johnny Franklin

Member voting nay: None

Members absent:
Mr. Buddy Bailey
Ms. Kami Bumgarner
Mr. William H. Jones

Mr. Charles McClelland abstained from voting.

03. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Ms. Monique Alexander-Corley as Education Bureau Director II to serve as Director of Procurement at a salary of \$84,000.00.
04. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. Stephen A. Crowder as Education Bureau Director II to serve as the Lead Researcher for the Statewide Longitudinal Data System Grant Program within the Office of Technology and Strategic Services at a salary of \$84,000.00.

05. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Ms. Cassandra Moore as Education Bureau Director II to serve as Bureau Manager within the Office of Human Resources at a salary of \$100,000.00.

06. The Board discussed Dr. Wright's performance evaluation. Dr. Wright thanked them for such positive feedback and support.

XII. State Board of Education

1. There were no meetings attended.
2. There were no requests to attend a meeting.

XIII. Other Business

Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman stated the April Board meeting will be held on April 20, 2017 in Jackson, Mississippi at the Central High School Building starting at 10:00 a.m.

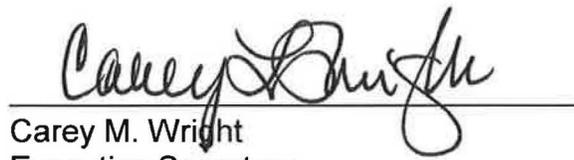
XIV. Adjournment

On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 2:28 p.m.

Approved:



Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education



Carey M. Wright
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education