

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

February 16, 2023

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 16, 2023, pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-5 for the purpose of conducting a regularly scheduled Board meeting.

The public accessed this meeting via livestream or in-person at the Madison County School District Boardroom, Ridgeland, Mississippi. Board members physically present included: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Mr. Glen V. East, Mr. Bill Jacobs, and Mr. Matt Miller. Board members participating virtually: Dr. Wendi Barrett (Biloxi, Mississippi), Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee (San Antonio, Texas), and Ms. Mary Werner (Saltillo, Mississippi). Student Representatives present: Ms. Micah Hill (Ellisville, Mississippi) and Mr. Charlie Frugé. Dr. Robert P. Taylor, State Superintendent, was also present.

- I. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman called the Board meeting to order at 10:01 a.m., after determining that a quorum of the Board existed for the purpose of conducting a meeting.
- II. Mr. Charlie Frugé led the Pledge of Allegiance and Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Mr. Matt Miller, seconded by Mr. Glen V. East, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the January 19, 2023, Board meeting.
- IV. On a motion by Mr. Bill Jacobs, seconded by Ms. Mary Werner, the Board unanimously adopted the agenda as presented.
- V. No Recognition Ceremony.
- VI. Dr. Robert P. Taylor gave the following report as the State Superintendent of Education:
 - Dr. Taylor stated he had been on the job for one month as of today. Dr. Taylor stated he has met with elected leaders and legislators. Dr. Taylor stated he met with other lawmakers during MDE's FY24 budget request meetings with the House and Senate Appropriation Committees.
 - Dr. Taylor stated that he joined the U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona on Wednesday for his visit to Casey Elementary School in the Jackson Public School District and Jackson State University.
 - Dr. Taylor stated that he has visited five of the 16 lowest performing school districts to meet the district leaders, learn about their current strategies to improve student achievement, and to ensure that MDE is providing all the support the district needs. Dr. Taylor stated he will visit the other low performing schools in the coming weeks.

- Dr. Taylor stated he attended the Mississippi Association of School Superintendents Winter Alliance Meeting and got acquainted with many district colleagues and delivered remarks on the closing day.
 - Dr. Taylor stated he attended Mississippi First's 10-year celebration of the Early Learning Collaborative Act which has delivered transformative, high-quality pre-K to 26,000 four-year-olds. Dr. Taylor stated that MDE Early Childhood Director, Dr. Jill Dent, and Government Relations Director, Holly Spivey, received the 2023 Mississippi Pre-K Champion Award, along with the Governor, Lt. Governor, House Speaker, and the legislators who have been key to the success of this legislation.
 - Dr. Taylor attended the School Safety Alliance and met several MDE partners, visited the University of Southern Mississippi where he heard from faculty and aspiring teachers, spoke at the William Carey University Teacher Recruitment and Retention Conference, attended the Children's Foundation Summit, and delivered opening remarks at the MDE School Improvement Convening.
 - Dr. Taylor held a virtual Employee Meeting with all staff, attended an in-person Cross-Office Meeting with approximately 60 MDE directors and executive directors, and held numerous one-on-one meetings with MDE staff and directors.
 - Dr. Taylor attended the Mississippi Student Advisory Council Meeting last week at the Capitol with more than 80 students from across the state.
 - Dr. Taylor stated that his five priorities are:
 - Literacy and Mathematics,
 - Low Performing Schools,
 - Teacher Shortage,
 - Career and Technical Education Certifications, and
 - Early Childhood Education.
- VII. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair of the State Board, gave the following report:
- Ms. Aultman stated she continues working on the transition running smoothly.
 - Ms. Aultman stated that she could not attend the Mississippi Association of School Superintendents Winter Alliance Meeting, so Mr. Glen V. East represented the Board at the Meeting.
 - Ms. Aultman thanked the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind for the cards of thanks that they delivered to the Board.
 - Ms. Aultman stated that 27 applications from 18 school districts have been received for the junior representative. Ms. Aultman stated the Ad-Hoc Screening Committee chaired by Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee will meet on March 2, 2023, to begin rating the applications to select the top 10 semifinalists who will be interviewed by the School Performance and Accountability Subcommittee in April and May. Ms. Aultman stated the Student Representative Finalists will be interviewed by the Board at a

Special-Called Board meeting on June 14, 2023, and the Board will appoint a Junior Student Representative and an Alternate Student Representative at that meeting. Ms. Aultman thanked Ms. Sonya Amis and Ms. Donna Hales for all their work on this project.

VIII. Report of Student Representatives

Ms. Micah Hill reported on how Laurel School District is implementing STEM.

Mr. Charlie Frugé reported on his experience while serving as a page in the United States Senate.

IX. Report on State Board of Education Subcommittee meetings

Mr. Glen V. East, Chair of the Academic Achievement PreK-12/Early Childhood Subcommittee, reported that he is always impressed with the work from this group. Mr. East reported the Early Learning Collaborative celebrated 10 years, and they also discussed the revisions to Mississippi's Consolidated ESEA State Plan, and the Literacy Coach Academy.

Mr. Bill Jacobs, Chair of the Legislative Subcommittee, reported they met this morning and talked about bills and Dr. Taylor's confirmation.

Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee, Chair of the School Performance and Accountability Subcommittee, reported they met this morning and talked about the Early Learning Collaboratives.

X. Discussion and/or Approval of Board Items

01. Information: Review the amendment to Mississippi's Consolidated State Plan, also referred to as the Mississippi Succeeds Plan [Goals 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Wendy Clemons)

Ms. Wendy Clemons and Dr. Sonja Robertson discussed the revisions to Mississippi's Consolidated State Plan that will be sent to USDE for approval (copy attached).

02. Action: Approval of the MDE contracts [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Felicia Gavin)

02.A. Action: Contract with Dr. Margie B. Pulley to continue serving as Interim Superintendent for Tunica County School District [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Felicia Gavin)

02.B. Action: Contract with Brustein & Manasevit, PLLC to provide consultative services relative to the administration of the federally funded grant programs [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Felicia Gavin)

02.C. Action: Emergency contract with The Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of the University of Cambridge acting through its department Cambridge University Press & Assessment for the Corinth School District to administer the High School Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) assessments in place of the end-of-course MAAP assessments for Fiscal Year 2023 [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)

On a motion by Mr. Matt Miller, seconded by Mr. Glen V. East, the Board unanimously approved items 02.A., 02.B., and 02.C. (copy attached).

03. Action: Approval of the MDE grant awards [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Felicia Gavin)

03.A. Action: Award competitive grants for the Mississippi Community Oriented Policing Services in Schools Grant (MCOPS) FY23 Round 2 (2022-2023) [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)

On a motion by Mr. Glen V. East, seconded by Mr. Bill Jacobs, the Board unanimously approved item 03.A. (copy attached).

04. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of monthly expenditures for the Mississippi School of the Arts (Wendy Clemons)

B. Approval of monthly expenditures for the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (Wendy Clemons)

C. Approval of certified personnel for the Mississippi School of the Arts, Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, and Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science (Wendy Clemons)

D. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise Miss. Admin. Code 7-3: 48.1, State Board Policy Chapter 48, Rule 48.1 – Section 504 Teacher Units (Marla Davis)

- E. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish selected Mississippi Secondary Curriculum Frameworks in Career and Technical Education (Wendy Clemons)
 - 1. Barbering
 - 2. Diversified Agriculture Capstone
 - 3. Diversified Agriculture Precision Agriculture
 - 4. Diversified Agriculture Turfgrass Management
 - 5. Energy Technology
 - 6. Exploration of Agriscience
 - 7. Software Development

- F. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise selected Mississippi Secondary Curriculum Frameworks in Career and Technical Education (Wendy Clemons)
 - 1. Agricultural and Natural Resources
 - 2. Aquaculture
 - 3. Diesel Technician
 - 4. Entrepreneurship
 - 5. Logistics and Supply Chain
 - 6. Polymer Science

- G. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise selected Mississippi Secondary Curriculum Frameworks in Secondary Education (Wendy Clemons)
 - 1. Accounting Essentials
 - 2. Entrepreneurship
 - 3. Graphic Design I
 - 4. Graphic Design II
 - 5. Introduction to Information Technology
 - 6. Management Essentials
 - 7. Marketing Essentials
 - 8. Web Design I
 - 9. Web Design II

- H. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise Miss. Admin. Code: 7-24, *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2022*, Process Standard 13, 27, Appendices A-6 – A-10, A-12, B-2, and glossary and Miss. Admin. Code 7-163: *Mississippi Nonpublic School Accountability Standards, 2022*, Process Standard 11, 23, Appendices A-6 – A-10, A-12, B-2, and glossary (Wendy Clemons)

- I. Approval of methodology to award competitive grants to school districts to support kindergarten through 4th grade literacy instruction and intensive intervention through High-Dosage Tutoring (Marla Davis)
- J. Approval of methodology to award grant funds to local school districts for The Perkins Reserve Equipment Grant Program (Wendy Clemons)
- K. Approval of methodology to award grant funds to local school districts for the Career and Technical Education Industry Certification Grant Program (Wendy Clemons)
- L. Approval of a temporary rule and to begin the Administration Procedures Act process: To establish Miss. Admin. Code 7-3: 81.15, State Board Policy Chapter 81, Rule 81.15: Minimum Specifications for School Buses (Paula Vanderford)
- M. Approval of a temporary rule and to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise Miss. Admin. Code 7 – 4: Part 4: *Licensure Guidelines K-12*, to amend certain criteria regarding renewal and reinstatement of a Mississippi educator license (Paula Vanderford)
- N. Approval of certain Educator Preparation Providers to offer the Mississippi State Board of Education approved program that leads to a supplemental endorsement in the area of Elementary Education K-6 (Paula Vanderford)
- O. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise Miss. Admin. Code Title 7: Part 107: *2021 Educator Preparation Provider Process and Performance Guidelines*, to amend certain criteria (Paula Vanderford)
- P. Information: Annual School Board Meeting Attendance Report in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-6-13 (Paula Vanderford)

On a motion by Mr. Glen V. East, seconded by Mr. Matt Miller, the Board unanimously approved items A., B., C., D., E., F., G., H., I., J., K., L., M., N., and O. (copy attached).

XI. No Executive Session.

XII. State Board of Education

1. Mr. Glen V. East complemented the Mississippi Association of School Superintendents on their recent Winter Alliance Meeting and stated it was

very informative. Mr. East thanked Dr. Taylor for his comments at the William Carey University Teacher Recruitment and Retention Conference.

2. No request to attend a meeting.

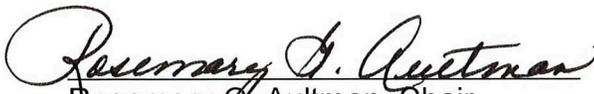
XIII. Other Business

Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman stated the March Board meeting will be held on March 9, 2023, in Ridgeland, MS at the Madison County School District Boardroom, 476 Highland Parkway starting at 10:00 a.m.

XIV. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Matt Miller, seconded by Mr. Bill Jacobs, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

Approved:


Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education


Robert P. Taylor
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education