

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

January 18, 2024

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 18, 2024, 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 Central High School Building, 4th Floor Boardroom, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members physically present included: Mr. Glen V. East, Dr. Wendi Barrett, Mr. Bill Jacobs, Mr. Matt Miller, and Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee. Board members participating virtually: Mr. Mike Pruitt (Hattiesburg, Mississippi) and Ms. Mary Werner (Saltillo, Mississippi). Student Representatives participating virtually: Mr. Charlie Frugé (Oxford, Mississippi) and Ms. Kate Riddle (Oxford, Mississippi). Dr. Raymond C. Morgigno, Interim State Superintendent, was also present.

- I. Mr. Glen V. East called the Board meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., after determining that a quorum of the Board existed for the purpose of conducting a meeting.
- II. Mr. Matt Miller led the Pledge of Allegiance and Dr. Wendi Barrett gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee, seconded by Ms. Mary Werner, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of December 21, 2023 Board meeting.
- IV. On a motion by Dr. Wendi Barrett, seconded by Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee, the Board unanimously adopted the Consent agenda.

On a motion by Mr. Bill Jacobs, seconded by Mr. Matt Miller, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

- V. Recognition Ceremony

National Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Distinguished School

Category 2 - Closing the achievement gap between student groups
Jackson County School District
Vancleave Lower Elementary School
Krista Sablich, Principal

- V. Dr. Raymond C. Morgigno gave the following report as the Interim State Superintendent of Education:

- Dr. Morgigno stated that the 2024 Legislative session is underway, and that Ms. Holly Spivey is at the Capitol daily working with the legislators to advance the State Board's and MDE's legislative priorities.
- Dr. Morgigno stated he, Mr. Bill Jacobs, and Dr. Lance Evans attended the Mississippi Economic Council Winter Board of Governors meeting.
- Dr. Morgigno stated that Mississippi had three Milken Educator Award winners which is very unusual. Dr. Morgigno stated the winners were: Jennifer Hite, Pearl Upper Elementary School, 5th grade science teacher; Kristen Long; Neshoba Central Elementary School, 5th grade math and science teacher, and Anna Katherine ("AK") Davis, Houston High School, math teacher.
- Dr. Morgigno stated that Superintendent's Annual Report has been released and was given to all legislators and sent to all superintendents. Dr. Morgigno thanked Jeremy Cole, lead designer; Shanderia Minor, lead editor, and all MDE staff who contributed content about achievements.
- Dr. Morgigno stated that MDE received a number of questions and media inquiries about Mississippi not participating in the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) program. Dr. Morgigno stated that the Mississippi Department of Human Services is the lead agency for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and they informed MDE that they do not have the personnel to manage the Summer EBT program. Dr. Morgigno stated that MDE will continue to administer the federally funded Summer Food Service Program, which provides meals at sites in low-income communities, and the Seamless Summer Option, which allows schools participating in the national school lunch program to provide free meals to children during the summer and school vacation periods.
- Dr. Morgigno stated that due to the weather MDE used their telework option this week. Dr. Morgigno stated that the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (MSDB) had some damage due to a sprinkler system.

VI. Mr. Glen V. East, Chair of the State Board, gave the following report:

- Mr. East stated that William Carey College will sponsor the New Teacher Conference again and it will be held on February 7, 2024. Mr. East stated more information will come later.

VII. Reports from Student Representatives

Ms. Kate Riddle spoke on the opportunities provided by testing. Ms. Riddle stated the proper planning and preparation for testing could create endless opportunities for students, and in order for Mississippi to flourish, we have to do something about it.

Mr. Charlie Frugé announced that he will be attending Harvard College next fall on an Army ROTC scholarship and hopefully be studying government or economics. Mr. Frugé thanked MDE and the Board members for their counsel

and support over the length of his term. Mr. Frugé spoke on his love for reading and the importance of libraries. Mr. Frugé stated he hoped his report encouraged all of you to remember the teachers and librarians that made an impact in your life.

- VIII. Dr. Wendi Barrett, Chair, Academic Achievement PreK-12/Early Childhood Subcommittee, stated that the subcommittee met yesterday, and Dr. Jill Dent gave results from the Hanover and PEER reports on the Early Learning Collaboratives and it was a positive report. Dr. Barrett stated an audit has to be conducted every three years on the program. Dr. Barrett stated there was a discussion on future options on workforce development.

Mr. Bill Jacobs, Chair, Internal Accountability, stated they met on January 11, 2024, and received biannual reports from Dr. Dana Seymour and Tracy Riggins which included 14 internal projects, nine technical assistance projects, and eight external audit projects. Mr. Jacobs stated they discussed the need to build capacity for the Bureau of Internal Audit and Program Evaluation on the loss of the pins over the last few years which has limited the number of projects that bureau can complete and audit. Mr. Jacobs stated that Ms. Donna Hales discussed the 2024-26 Board student representative recruitment process and the timeline that began on December 7, 2023, with the release of applications that are due on January 26, 2024. Mr. Jacobs stated appointments were approved for the Ad Hoc Steering Committee which include: Mr. Matt Miller (Board member), Mr. Limeul Eubanks, Mr. Chris Norwood, Dr. Dana Seymour, and Dr. Courtney Van Cleve. Mr. Jacobs stated that in March the Steering Committee will review all applications and rate each one selecting the top 10 finalists then the Internal Audit Subcommittee will interview the finalists the first of May.

- X. Discussion and/or Approval of Board Items

01. Information: Progress on the Mississippi State Board of Education's (SBE) Strategic Plan [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Raymond C. Morgigno)

Dr. Raymond C. Morgigno presented the progress on the Mississippi State Board of Education's Strategic Plan.

02. Information: Report of the 2024 graduation rates for the state, district, and school levels [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)

Dr. Paula Vanderford and Mr. Alan Burrow presented the 2024 graduation rate for the state, district, and school levels. The graduation rate for the state for 2022-23 was 89.4% and the dropout rate fell to 8.5%.

03. Action: Approval of the MDE Contract [Goal 5 – MBE Strategic Plan]
(Felicia Gavin)

- 03.A. Action: Modify contract with Mythics, Inc. to provide Oracle Licensing Support [Goal 5 – MBE Strategic Plan] (John Kraman)

On a motion by Mr. Matt Miller, 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 (Donna Boone)
- B. Approval of monthly expenditures for the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (Donna Boone)
- 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 (Donna Boone)
- D. Approval to adopt policies required by state statute for the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind to be placed on the District Policy Service website established by the Mississippi School Boards Association (Donna Boone)
 - 1. Section: I; Policy Code: ICF
Policy: Curriculum Adoption
 - 2. Section: I; Policy Code: IC
Policy: Curriculum Development
 - 3. Section: I; Policy Code: ICB
Policy: Curriculum Development Planning
 - 4. Section: I; Policy Code: ICA
Policy: Curriculum Development Resources/Equipment and Supplies Section and Adoption
 - 5. Section: J; Policy Code: JRD
Policy: Detention Facility Records
 - 6. Section: J; Policy Code: JCDAC
Policy: Drugs and Alcohol (Possessions or Reasonable Suspicion)

7. Section: J; Policy Code: JGCDA-P
Policy: Management of Narcan and Other Opioid Antagonists
8. Section: I; Policy Code: ICG
Policy: Sex-Related Education
- E. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise State Board Policy Chapter 56, Rule 56.1 – Distance Learning, Blended Learning, and Online Courses (Donna Boone)
- F. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise State Board Policy Chapter 28, Rule 28.2 – Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools (Donna Boone)
- G. Approval to add Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) K-8 to the Mississippi Department of Education adopted textbook list (Donna Boone)
- H. Approval of appointments to the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (Paula Vanderford)
- I. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2023, Appendix F*, Requirements of the Mississippi Statewide Assessment System - Standard 16 (Paula Vanderford)
- J. Approval to revise Miss. Admin. Code 7-3: Chapter 1 – Accountability, Rule 1.1 – Educational Accountability
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Sonya Amis)
- K. Approval to revise Miss. Admin. Code 7-2: Chapter 2 – Organization of the State Board, Rule 2.3 – Student Representatives of the Mississippi State Board of Education
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Sonya Amis)

On a motion by Ms. Mary Werner, seconded by Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee, the Board unanimously approved items A., B., C., D., E., F., G., H., I., J., and K. (copy attached).

- XI. No Executive Session.
- XII. State Board of Education

January 18, 2024

1. No report on meetings attended.
2. No request to attend a meeting.

XIII. Other Business

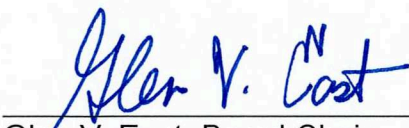
Mr. East stated that Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee (Board member) and Ms. Kate Riddle (Student Representative) will serve on the Internal Accountability Subcommittee for the purpose of conducting Student Representative semi-finalist interviews in May 2024, and selecting the Student Representative finalists that will be interviewed by the State Board in June 2024.

Mr. East stated the February Board meeting will be held on February 15, 2024, in Jackson, MS at the Central High School Building in the 4th Floor Boardroom starting at 10:00 a.m.

XIV. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Mike Pruitt, seconded by Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:09 a.m.

Approved:



Glen V. East, Board Chair
Mississippi Board of Education



Raymond C. Morgigno
Interim Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education