

## Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

March 7, 2024

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 7, 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, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members physically present included: Mr. Glen V. East, Mr. Bill Jacobs, Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee, Mr. Matt Miller, Mr. Mike Pruitt, and Ms. Mary Werner. Board member participating virtually: Dr. Wendi Barrett (Biloxi, Mississippi). Student Representatives present: Mr. Charlie Frugé and Ms. Kate Riddle. 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. Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Mike Pruitt gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Ms. Mary Werner, seconded by Mr. Mike Pruitt, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of February 15, 2024 Board meeting and minutes of February 27, 2024 Special-Called Board meeting.
- IV. On a motion by Mr. Mike Pruitt, seconded by Ms. Mary Werner, the Board unanimously adopted the Consent agenda as presented.

On a motion by Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee, seconded by Mr. Bill Jacobs, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

- V. Recognition Ceremony

### **U.S. Department of Homeland Security Invent2Prevent Winner**

North Panola Career and Technical Center  
North Panola School District

- VI. Dr. Raymond C. Morgigno gave the following report as the Interim State Superintendent of Education:
  - Dr. Morgigno welcomed Dr. Lance Evans to the Board meeting.
  - Dr. Morgigno stated he presented to the House Education Committee about MDE and answered questions.

- Dr. Morgigno stated he attended the superintendents meeting at East Mississippi Center for Educational Development (EMCED) in Meridian, Mississippi.
  - Dr. Morgigno stated he attended the Superintendents Advisory Council meeting yesterday and asked the Director of Child Protective Services (CPS) to work on communication pieces between the school districts and CPS.
  - Dr. Morgigno stated he introduced Lt. Governor Delbert Hoseman and House Speaker Jason White at the Future Farmers of America (FFA) Legislative Luncheon where more than 600 FFA students, agriculture education teachers, legislators, and supporters attended. Dr. Morgigno stated that Ms. Abbigail Dugas and Mr. Brett Robinson did a good job putting this luncheon on for the students.
  - Dr. Morgigno stated he brought greetings at the Annual Collaborative Fiscal Conference in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Dr. Morgigno stated that Mr. Mike Pruitt joined for the opening session.
  - Dr. Morgigno stated he had the privilege to visit with student teacher interns at Mississippi State University last week. Dr. Morgigno stated he was impressed to see how many students are student teaching that will be entering the profession next year.
  - Dr. Morgigno stated he attended the Accountability Task Force meeting, and the next meeting will be held on April 5, 2024.
  - Dr. Morgigno stated he attended the Mississippi School Safety Summit sponsored by the Rankin County School District in partnership with MDE and various organizations. Dr. Morgigno stated that included a national school safety advocate to discuss lessons learned and make sure school districts are doing the best they can to protect their students. Dr. Morgigno thanked Mr. Brian McGairty and his team on their work on the Summit.
  - Dr. Morgigno stated he attended some of the MDE Literacy trainings.
  - Dr. Morgigno stated he is working with Dr. Paula Vanderford, and they are in the initial discussions about free tutoring and ACT/SAT/AP test prep opportunities for school districts. Dr. Morgigno stated they are just beginning the discussions.
  - Dr. Morgigno asked Ms. Holly Spivey to give an update on the legislative bills that she is following after the deadline.
- VII. Mr. Glen V. East, Chair of the State Board, gave the following report:
- Mr. East thanked Ms. Holly Spivey for her many hours of work with the Legislature.
  - Mr. East thanked Dr. Courtney Van Cleave for her work with several school districts concerning teacher recruitment and retention.
  - Mr. East thanked Mr. Alan Burrow for getting him the information so he could watch the Accountability Task Force meeting.

- Mr. East stated he has been watching the legislative bills from the superintendent's level to know when to react.

VIII. Reports from Student Representatives

Ms. Kate Riddle stated that the Gifted Program was one of her favorite memories in public school. Ms. Riddle stated that the critical thinking skills she developed through logic puzzles helped her not only in school but in everyday life. Ms. Riddle stated the same students she was in the Gifted Program with are the same students in her AP and Honors classes.

Mr. Charlie Frugé stated he had been asked as a member of the Oxford student council to sit down with a consultant and work to create Oxford's strategic five-year plan. Mr. Frugé stated this caused them to think about what Oxford does well, what Oxford could do better, what Oxford values, and in five years what should Oxford be like? Mr. Frugé stated this caused him as a student representative to think about Mississippi using the same questions. Mr. Frugé stated he wanted Board members and MDE staff to work on congratulating those who succeed in our state, supporting those that are improving our state, remembering our values, and keeping the big picture in mind.

IX. Report on State Board of Education Subcommittee

Mr. Bill Jacobs, Chair, Internal Accountability Subcommittee, stated that the subcommittee met today and were updated on the student representative application process. Mr. Jacobs stated that 33 applications were received from 17 school districts. Mr. Jacobs stated the steering committee will review the applications and select 10 semi-finalists. Mr. Jacobs stated that interviews will be held on May 1 and 2 to select the top four finalists and the Board will interview them on June 19, 2024 to select the student representative and an alternate. Mr. Jacobs stated the student representative will come on board January 1, 2025. Mr. Jacobs stated a program evaluation process was given about upcoming contracts and will be presented to the Board later.

X. Discussion and/or Approval of Board Items

01. Action: Approval and renewal of Districts and Schools of Innovation for 2024-2025 [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Donna Boone)

On a motion by Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee, seconded by Ms. Mary Werner, the Board unanimously approved item 01. (copy attached).

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

- 02.A. Action: Contract with Creative Distillery to develop technical training videos and accompanying user guides [Goal 5 – MBE Strategic Plan] (John Kraman)

On a motion by Mr. Bill Jacobs, seconded by Mr. Mike Pruitt, the Board unanimously approved item 02.A. (copy attached).

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

- 03.A. Action: Award competitive grants for the ELC Cohort V Round IV Grant [Goal 3 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Donna Boone)

- 03.B. Action: Award grant to Mississippi School Boards Association to conduct basic and continuing education for local school boards as required by Miss. Code Ann § 37-3-4 [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)

On a motion by Mr. Matt Miller, seconded by Ms. Mary Werner, the Board unanimously approved item 03.A. and 03.B. (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 revise State Board Policy Chapter 28, Rule 28.2 – Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Donna Boone)
- E. Approval to revise State Board Policy Chapter 56, Rule 56.1 – Distance Learning, Blended Learning, and Online Courses (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Donna Boone)

- F. Approval of the Agreement between the Union County School District and New Albany School District for the Construction of the New Albany Center for Innovation (Erin Meyer)
- G. Approval of Corrective Action Plans (CAPs) for Districts assigned a PROBATION or WITHDRAWN status in accordance with Accreditation Policy 2.8.1 (Paula Vanderford)
- H. Approval of the appointments to the Commission on School Accreditation (Paula Vanderford)
- I. Approval of methodology to reallocate Title I School Improvement 1003 to schools within the Local Educational Agencies for support and improvement in accordance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as reauthorized by Every Student Succeeds Act (Donna Boone)
- J. Approval of methodology to reallocate Title I, Part A to local educational agencies in accordance with Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as reauthorized in the Every Student Succeeds Act (Donna Boone)
- K. Approval of methodology to reallocate Title II, Part A to local educational agencies in accordance with Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as reauthorized in the Every Student Succeeds Act (Donna Boone)
- L. Approval of methodology to reallocate Title III to local educational agencies in accordance with Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as reauthorized in the Every Student Succeeds Act (Donna Boone)
- M. Approval of methodology to reallocate Title IV, Part A to local educational agencies in accordance with Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as reauthorized in the Every Student Succeeds Act (Donna Boone)
- N. Approval of methodology to reallocate Title V, Part B, Subpart 2 Rural and Low Income School to local educational agencies in accordance with Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as reauthorized in the Every Student Succeeds Act (Donna Boone)
- O. Approval to amend the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise Mississippi Administrative Code 7-3:23.1. State Board Policy Chapter 23, Rule 23.1 - Contracts

(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Felicia Gavin)

- P. Approval to modify district calendar for the Mississippi School of the Arts due to weather-related events (Donna Boone)
- Q. Approval to modify district calendar for the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind due to weather-related events (Donna Boone)
- R. Approval to modify district calendar for the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science due to weather-related events (Donna Boone)

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

XI. No Executive Session.

XII. State Board of Education

1. Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee gave a report on The School Superintendents Association (AASA) 2024 National Conference in San Diego, California. Dr. McGehee stated that several plans were being discussed such as a Portrait of a Graduate to see what their outcomes are and what the postsecondary success is and also creating their plans for 2035 (this year's first graders) and 2036 (this year's kindergarteners). Dr. McGehee stated it was interesting to hear the conversations about their thought process about what will it look like in 2036 knowing they are going to change the delivery, the reception, and maybe the model of delivery. Dr. McGehee stated there were several districts that presented and maybe we need to look at following that and see their outcomes going forward.
2. No request to attend a meeting.

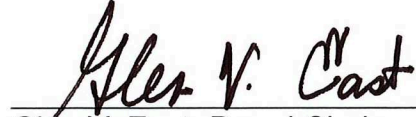
XIII. Other Business

Mr. Glen V. East stated the April Board meeting will be held on April 18, 2024, in Jackson, MS at the Central High School Building in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom starting at 10:00 a.m.

XIV. Adjournment

On a motion by Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee, seconded by Mr. Bill Jacobs, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Approved:



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Glen V. East, Board Chair  
Mississippi Board of Education



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Raymond C. Morgigno  
Interim Executive Secretary  
Mississippi Board of Education