

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

March 28, 2019

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Board meeting at 9:59 a.m. on Thursday, March 28, 2019, in the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Mr. Buddy Bailey, Dr. Jason S. Dean, Mr. Johnny Franklin, Dr. John R. Kelly, and Mr. Charles McClelland. Board members absent: Dr. Karen J. Elam, Ms. Brittney Rye, and Mr. Sean Suggs. Dr. Carey M. Wright was also present.

- I. Dr. Jason S. Dean, Chair, called the Board meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Dr. Dean noted that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during the meeting. Dr. Dean stated that the meeting was being live streamed.
- II. Mr. Johnny Franklin led the Pledge of Allegiance and Dr. John R. Kelly gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2019, Board meeting.
- IV. Mr. Johnny Franklin asked to discuss Consent Agenda items F. and G.

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board voted unanimously to discuss Consent Agenda item F. Dr. Dean stated this would be item 07.

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board voted unanimously to discuss Consent Agenda item G. Dr. Dean stated this would be item 08 and the consent agenda would move to item 09.

- V. Recognition Ceremony

AP District Honor Roll

Pass Christian School District

2019 March Employee of the Month

Chiquita Nichols

Operations Management Analyst Principal

Office of Child Nutrition

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

- Dr. Wright stated a team from Colorado visited the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) to learn more about K-3 literacy in Mississippi.
- Dr. Wright stated she and Ms. Kelly Butler went to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to meet with Mr. John White, Superintendent, and leadership about PreK-third grade in Mississippi.
- Dr. Wright stated that she has met with the Education Chairs, Senator Gray Tollison and Representative Richard Bennett, to discuss MDE's budget.
- Dr. Wright stated that she held the Superintendent's Advisory Council meeting and discussed proposed changes to the accountability model and the graduation guide. Dr. Wright thanked Mr. John Kraman and Ms. Deborah Donovan for their work on the model.
- Dr. Wright stated she presented the keynote at the National Education Leaders' Workshop focusing on our success and importance of addressing equity.
- Dr. Wright stated that she conducted the Teachers' Council Meetings and discussed the changes in the accountability model.
- Dr. Wright stated there was a Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) site visit from the federal government. Dr. Wright stated this is the second visit for SLDS which is located at NSPARC at Mississippi State University and there will be a follow-up visit with recommendations.
- Dr. Wright stated there were interviews conducted for the Achievement School District (ASD) superintendent. Dr. Wright stated MDE is moving forward and at the April Board meeting an item will be brought to establish the ASD districts and then an offer for the superintendent job can be made.
- Dr. Wright stated that she and Ms. Robin Lemonis visited the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) Dyslexia Center. Dr. Wright stated they learned a lot and she wants to meet with the University of Mississippi Medical Center to discuss a partnership with MDE and the UCSF Dyslexia Center.
- Dr. Wright stated that last month Dr. Dean asked for the Communication Team to share their plan for raising awareness about rising student achievement and how the Board members can help share all the good news. Dr. Wright stated the Communication Team is Mr. Pete Smith, Ms. Patricia Guilfoyle, and Ms. Jean Cook. Dr. Wright gave some background information about their leadership in public relations and how effective they have been during the almost five years they have worked together. Dr. Wright introduced the Communication Team who discussed the information provided in the notebooks for each of the Board members to use for talking points and PowerPoints when they are asked to speak or talking to the public.

- Dr. Wright recognized Dr. Felicia Gavin, Mr. Pete Smith, Ms. Deborah Donovan, and Mr. John Kraman for their work with budgets and teacher pay raise calculations for the Legislature during the session.
- Dr. Wright stated the Spotlight for this Board meeting is “School Improvement Grant Fuels Student Achievement.” Dr. Wright stated the spotlight features Quitman County Elementary School and how the school’s participation in the School Improvement Grant (SIG) program helped improve student achievement. Dr. Wright stated MDE redesigned its approach to school improvement to build in more collaboration and accountability among stakeholders at the local and state level. Dr. Wright stated schools now form teams that include their superintendent, board president, principal, teacher, and parent representatives. Dr. Wright stated these teams work with the MDE school improvement staff to create and implement targeted improvement plans for their school. Dr. Wright stated there is no “one-size-fits-all” plan for school improvement. Dr. Wright stated Quitman County Elementary School was chosen for the spotlight because the school’s improvement plan helped raise its letter grade from a D to an A within one year. Dr. Wright stated this video will show the school’s strategy for school improvement and how it used its resources in a targeted way. Dr. Wright acknowledged the staff from the Office of School Improvement: Dr. Sonja Robertson, Director and Ms. Shakinna Patterson, Bureau Director. Dr. Wright stated there were no representatives from Quitman County due to testing. Dr. Wright congratulated Quitman County and stated there is no limit to what students can achieve when schools are equipped to work strategically to improve student outcomes.

VII. Dr. Jason S. Dean as the Chair of the State Board stated that he, Mr. Johnny Franklin, and Dr. John R. Kelly toured the Mississippi Schools for the Blind and the Deaf yesterday. Dr. Dean stated they toured the campus, talked with the staff, and talked with the students.

VIII. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair of the Academic Achievement PreK-12 Subcommittee, stated they met yesterday and Dr. Nathan Oakley gave an update on the professional development offered across the state. Ms. Aultman stated information was presented on the middle school initiatives and information on the Perkins V renewal which will be presented later in the Board meeting.

Dr. Jason S. Dean, Chair of the Legislative Subcommittee, asked Mr. Pete Smith to come give an update from the meeting. Mr. Smith gave an update on some of the bills that are being discussed and he stated that the Legislative session would be finished on Friday or Monday.

Dr. John R. Kelly, Chair of the School Performance and Accountability Subcommittee, stated they met today and discussed the business rules that will come to the Board later today. Dr. Kelly stated they discussed the internal plan

to audit some offices within the MDE. Dr. Kelly stated they approved the semi-finalists for the student representative program. Dr. Kelly thanked Ms. Sonya Amis and her team for their work on protocol and the work completed for the applications for the student representatives.

IX. Discussion and/or Approval of Board Items

01. Dr. Nathan Oakley presented a report of The Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act Transition Plan [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan].

02. Information: Updates on the Districts of Transformation [Goal 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Washington Cole)

02.A. Leflore County School District

Dr. Washington Cole gave the update for Mr. James Johnson-Waldington, Interim Superintendent for Leflore County School District. Dr. Cole stated the district is in various stages of transformation. Dr. Cole stated that on July 1, 2019, Leflore County School District will be consolidated into the Greenwood-Leflore Consolidated School District.

02.B. Noxubee County School District

Dr. Cole introduced Mr. Rodriguez F. Broadnax, Interim Superintendent for Noxubee County School District. Mr. Broadnax gave an update on the work that has taken place in the district and they are working for the students in the district.

02.C. Tunica County School District

Dr. Cole introduced Dr. Margie B. Pulley, Interim Superintendent for Tunica County School District. Dr. Pulley gave an update on the progress that is taking place in the Tunica County School District. Dr. Pulley stated that every day it is about what we can do for children in Tunica County.

03. Action: Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System effective for school year 2018-2019 and thereafter [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System effective for school year 2018-2019 and thereafter [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

04. Dr. Felicia Gavin discussed approval of the Mississippi Department of Education contracts [Goals 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Gavin recommended approval.

04.A. Action: Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Felicia Gavin)

On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved the monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

04.B. Action: Contract with Mississippi State Department of Health to provide health inspections for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Summer Food Service Program for the FY2020 [Goal 1 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Felicia Gavin)

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved to contract with Mississippi State Department of Health to provide health inspections for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Summer Food Service Program for the FY2020 [Goal 1 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

04.C. Action: Contract with Interim Superintendent for Tunica County School District [Goals 4 and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Washington Cole)

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved to contract with Dr. Margie B. Pulley, Interim Superintendent for Tunica County School District [Goals 4 and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

04.D. Action: Modify contract with Guidesoft, Inc., d/b/a Knowledge Services under the terms of the Master Consulting Services Agreement to provide for the acquisition of Information Technology Consulting Services [Goal 5 – MBE Strategic Plan] (John Kraman)

On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board approved to modify the contract with Guidesoft, Inc., d/b/a Knowledge Services under the terms of the Master Consulting Services Agreement to provide for the acquisition of Information Technology Consulting Services [Goal 5 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

Members voting aye: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman
Mr. Buddy Bailey

Dr. John R. Kelly
Mr. Charles McClelland

Member voting nay: Mr. Johnny Franklin

Members absent: Dr. Karen J. Elam
Ms. Brittney Rye
Mr. Sean Suggs

04.E. Action: Renew contract with Michael D. Kent for 2019-2020 to perform the administrative duties for the Mississippi Superintendents Academy and consolidation [Goals 4 and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)

On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved to renew contract with Michael D. Kent for 2019-2020 to perform the administrative duties for the Mississippi Superintendents Academy and consolidation [Goals 4 and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

04.F. Action: Contract with North Mississippi Education Consortium to coordinate and facilitate regional training sessions and procure related services for Mississippi Department of Education for 2019-2020 [Goals 1, 2, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)

On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board approved to contract with North Mississippi Education Consortium to coordinate and facilitate regional training sessions and procure related services for Mississippi Department of Education for 2019-2020 [Goals 1, 2, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

Members voting aye: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman
Mr. Buddy Bailey
Dr. John R. Kelly
Mr. Charles McClelland

Member voting nay: Mr. Johnny Franklin

Members absent: Dr. Karen J. Elam
Ms. Brittney Rye
Mr. Sean Suggs

05. Mr. John Kraman and Ms. Deborah Donovan gave an update on the Mississippi Succeeds Report Card Website [Goal 5 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Mr. Kraman thanked Ms. Donovan and her team for all their hard work on

updating the website. Ms. Donovan stated three new components have been added to the Mississippi Succeeds Report Card. Ms. Donavon stated the new components include discipline data from the Office of Civil Rights, school-level per-pupil expenditure data, and additional student group data.

06. Action: Approval of District of Innovation for 2019-2020 [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)

On a motion from Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved Oxford School District as a District of Innovation for 2019-2020.

07. Action: Approval of the methodology to award grants to three (3) Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) to establish teacher residency programs in Mississippi [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)

On a motion from Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved the methodology to award grants to three (3) Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) to establish teacher residency programs in Mississippi [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

08. Information: Annual School Board Meeting Attendance Report in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-6-13 [Goal 5 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)

Mr. Johnny Franklin had a question and Dr. Paula Vanderford answered the question.

09. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval to establish the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards for Construction Core, Electrical, Carpentry, Welding, and STEM Applications
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Nathan Oakley)
- B. Approval to establish the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards for Instrumentation Technology
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Nathan Oakley)
- C. Approval of the appointments to the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development
(Paula Vanderford)

- D. Approval of Corrective Action Plans (CAPs) for Districts assigned a PROBATION or WITHDRAWN status in accordance with Accreditation Policy 2.8.1 (Paula Vanderford)
- E. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 10, Rule 10.1 – Audit, State Department of Education Resolution Process (Sonya Amis)

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board unanimously approved the consent agenda items A., B., C., D., and E. (copy attached).

XI. Consideration of Executive Session

Mr. Buddy Bailey moved that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a vote of 4 to 0. Dr. Jason S. Dean asked Dr. Carey M. Wright, Ms. Erin Meyer, and the Executive Leadership Team to remain in the Executive Session.

Mr. Buddy Bailey, then moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss with respect to investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or violations of law in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(d), specifically concerning cooperation with the OIG. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 4 to 0. Ms. Erin Meyer informed the public of the Board's vote to go into Executive Session for the above stated reason.

Minutes of the Executive Session

During the Executive Session, the Board discussed investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or violations of law in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(d), specifically concerning cooperation with the OIG.

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board voted 4 to 0 to come out of Executive Session.

The public came back into the Board meeting and Dr. Dean reported there was no action taken during the Executive Session.

XII. State Board of Education

1. There were no meetings attended.

2. Dr. Jason S. Dean requested approval to attend the National Association of State Boards of Education's (NASBE) Board of Directors' Meeting and Legislative Conference on April 7-9, 2019, in Washington, D.C.

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board approved for Dr. Dean to attend NASBE's Board of Director's Meeting and Legislative Conference on April 7-9, 2019, in Washington, D.C.

XIII. Other Business

1. Dr. Dean stated that the Board previously discussed meeting at a district to hold a State Board meeting. The Board is requesting to have the April 11, 2019, Board meeting at the Jackson Public School District Board Meeting Room starting at 11:30 a.m.

On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved the State Board of Education Board meeting on April 11, 2019, to be held at the Jackson Public School District Board Meeting Room starting at 11:30 a.m.

The April Board meeting will be held April 11, 2019, in Jackson, Mississippi at the Jackson Public School District Board Meeting Room, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi starting at 11:30 a.m.

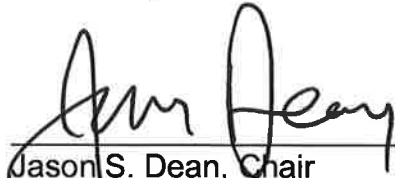
2. Dr. Dean stated the State Board has been invited to tour Wingfield High School from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on April 11, 2019.

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board unanimously approved for the State Board to tour Wingfield High School on April 11, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.


XIV. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Approved:



Jason S. Dean, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education



Carey M. Wright
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education