

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

June 13, 2019

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Board meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 13, 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, Dr. Karen J. Elam (called in from Washington, D.C.), Mr. Johnny Franklin, and Mr. Sean Suggs. Board members absent: Dr. John R. Kelly, Ms. Brittney Rye, and Mr. Charles McClelland. Dr. Carey M. Wright was also present.

- I. Dr. Jason S. Dean, Chair, called the Board meeting to order at 10:01 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. Buddy Bailey led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Johnny Franklin gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Mr. Sean Suggs, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2019, Board meeting.
- IV. On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.
- V. Recognition Ceremony

2019 Mississippi Parent of the Year

Leslie Fye

Starkville Oktibbeha Consolidated School District

- VI. Dr. Carey M. Wright gave the following report as the State Superintendent of Education:
 - Dr. Wright stated that she finished session four of the Broad Academy and the final session will be held in September. Dr. Wright stated that this session was on school improvement, special education, and communication particularly in a time of crisis.
 - Dr. Wright stated that she had a debriefing with a lot of the teachers that administered the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program – Alternate (MAAP-A) assessment for students with disabilities. Dr. Wright stated this is the third year that the Department has held this debriefing and we take all their feedback and meet with Questar to make any changes the teachers feel are needed.
 - Dr. Wright stated she participated in a webinar conducted by Grantmakers for Education and Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), and the

whole focus was on our early childhood strategies and our partnership with Kellogg. Dr. Wright stated that Kellogg was on the call also.

- Dr. Wright stated that she and Mr. Pete Smith met with Georgia's Governor, his staff, the Lt. Governor's staff, Georgia Department of Education staff, a representative from Foundation of Excellence in Education, and a lot of non-profits regarding our Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 3 literacy strategies. Dr. Wright stated that a visit has been scheduled with a delegation from North Carolina in August and the Governor's Office from Alaska has asked to meet and possibly have us testify before their Legislature.
- Dr. Wright introduced Dr. Nathan Oakley and Dr. Paula Vanderford to give the results of the third-grade assessment. Dr. Vanderford thanked the Academic Team and the Assessment Team for all their hard work for providing technical assistance to the field and to the parents. Dr. Vanderford stated due to the change in the cut score to pass we have had numerous calls from across the state. Dr. Oakley presented the results of the third-grade gate.
- Dr. Wright stated the Spotlight for this Board meeting is "Girls in Engineering, Math, and Science (GEMS) and Robotics Programs." Dr. Wright stated the spotlight features the Girls in Engineering, Math, and Science (GEMS) after-school program at Starkville High School, which encourages girls to participate in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) courses. Dr. Wright stated that Starkville promotes STEM through two programs. Dr. Wright stated that one is called BEST (Boosting Engineering, Science, and Technology), and it uses robotics design to inspire students to pursue careers in STEM. Dr. Wright stated the other program is called SeaPerch, and it is an underwater robotics program that teaches students to build an underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle. Dr. Wright stated that students use the skills they learn through these programs to compete in state and regional robotics competitions. Dr. Wright stated that Starkville routinely wins or places in the top spots at these competitions. Dr. Wright stated that in the video you will see how Starkville is inspiring girls to consider careers in STEM. Dr. Wright recognized Dr. Eddie Peasant, Superintendent for Starkville Oktibbeha Consolidated School District; Ms. Denise Adair, Engineering Teacher, BEST and SeaPerch Robotics Coach, Starkville High School; and Mr. Ty Adair, Assistant Robotics Coach, Starkville High School. Dr. Wright stated what a great way to challenge students with getting girls involved in STEM!

VII. Dr. Jason S. Dean, Chair of the State Board, gave the following report:

- Dr. Dean stated there are challenges in the public education system but every month the Board comes in to address the challenges, but what you see in the Spotlight every month is so energizing. Dr. Dean stated that yesterday the Board had the opportunity to execute a strategy that Dr. John R. Kelly had initiated about a year ago to add student representatives to the State Board of Education. Dr. Dean stated that it took 37 years for the

Board to come to the conclusion that maybe we need a student voice. Dr. Dean stated the four students came in and floored the Board with who they are and their backgrounds. Dr. Dean stated that Mr. Johnny Franklin alluded to these students being a beautiful product of public education in Mississippi. Dr. Dean stated that the Board added one incoming junior who will serve two years and one incoming senior who will serve one year starting in July or August. Dr. Dean thanked Dr. John R. Kelly, Mr. Buddy Bailey, and Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman for their hard work of going through the 52 applicants to bring four fantastic students to the Board. Dr. Dean stated that the junior student representative is Mr. Omar Jamil from the DeSoto County School District and his term in office will be July 1, 2019, until April 30, 2021. Dr. Dean stated the senior student representative is Ms. Shelby Dean from the Clinton Public School District and her term in office is July 1, 2019, until April 30, 2020. Dr. Dean stated that the junior alternate is Ms. Meghan Cospers-Gamache from the West Jasper School District and the senior alternate is Mr. Alvin Ray Jones, Jr. from the East Jasper Consolidated School District. Dr. Dean said that he is excited to have this addition to the Board.

VIII. There were no reports of Subcommittee meetings.

IX. Discussion and/or Approval of Board Items

01. Dr. Nathan Oakley gave an update on the Computer Science for Mississippi pilot program [Goals 2 and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan].
02. Action: Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 28, Rule 28.7 – Districts of Innovation and Schools of Innovation [Goals 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process to establish State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 28, Rule 28.7 – Districts of Innovation and Schools of Innovation.

03. Action: Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System to include the Mississippi School for the Blind and the Mississippi School for the Deaf, Early College High Schools, and University-Based Schools and to provide for the reporting of available performance measures for these schools as well as Child Development Centers [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process to revise the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System to include the Mississippi School for the Blind and the Mississippi School for the Deaf, Early College High Schools, and University-Based Schools and to provide for the reporting of available performance measures for these schools as well as Child Development Centers.

04. Action: Approval of the Mississippi Department of Education contracts [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Felicia Gavin recommended approval.
 - 04.A. Action: Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Felicia Gavin)
 - 04.B. Action: Award competitive contracts to various produce distributors to supply and deliver produce to local organizations in the State Food Purchasing Program (Five Regions in the State) [Goal 1 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Felicia Gavin)
 - 04.C. Action: Renew contract with Cynthia Hunter for Fiscal Year 2020 as the part-time accompanist for the Mississippi School of the Arts Vocal Music Program [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
 - 04.D. Action: Contract with North Atlantic Security for the operation of security services for the Mississippi School of the Arts [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
 - 04.E. Action: Renew contract with Terri Ford for Fiscal Year 2020 for the Mississippi School for the Blind [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
 - 04.F. Action: Renew contract with Andrew Thurman for Fiscal Year 2020 for the Mississippi Schools for the Blind and the Deaf [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
 - 04.G. Action: Renew contract with Laydell Chambers for Fiscal Year 2020 for the Mississippi Schools for the Blind and the Deaf [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
 - 04.H. Action: Contract with Mid-South Rehab Services, Inc. to provide independent contractual services for occupational therapy services to meet the individualized and unique needs of students as stated in each student's Individualized Education Programs and required by

Miss. Admin. Code 7-3:74.19, State Board Policy, Chapter 74, Rule 74.19 [Goal 1 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)

- 04.I. Action: Renew contract with Susan Andrews for 2019-2020 as an Accreditation Auditor [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)

On a motion by Mr. Sean Suggs, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved items 04.A., 04.B., 04.C., 04.D., 04.E., 04.F., 04.G., 04.H., and 04.I.

- 05. Action: Approval of the Mississippi Department of Education grant awards [Goals 1, 2, 3, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Gavin recommended approval.
 - 05.A. Action: Award competitive grant for Combined Services [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
 - 05.B. Action: Award K-3 Literacy Support grants to school districts to implement summer reading camps [Goals 1, 2, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
 - 05.C. Action: Award competitive grants for the Non-Profit Workforce Professional Development Grants [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
 - 05.D. Action: Award competitive grants for Smart Lab Project [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
 - 05.E. Action: Award Educator-in-Residence grant to the Institutions of Higher Learning to coordinate K-12 and post-secondary initiatives [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
 - 05.F. Action: Award competitive grants to school districts to support pre-kindergarten programs [Goal 3 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
 - 05.G. Action: Award Educators-in-Residence grants to school districts for literacy coaches [Goals 1, 2, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
 - 05.H. Action: Award grant to Mississippi University for Women to operate the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science for the 2019-2020 school year (Nathan Oakley)

- 05.I. Action: Renew grant to the University of Mississippi for the Mississippi Teacher Fellowship Program (subject to the availability of funds) [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)
- 05.J. Action: Award grants to three (3) Institutions of Higher Educations (IHEs) for the Mississippi Teacher Residency Program [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)
- 05.K. Action: Modify Early Learning Collaborative Council grants to support pre-kindergarten programs [Goal 3 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)

On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Mr. Sean Suggs, the Board unanimously approved items 05.A., 05.B., 05.C., 05.D., 05.E., 05.F., 05.G., 05.H., 05.I., 05.J., and 05.K.

- 06. Mr. John Kraman and Ms. Deborah Donovan gave a demonstration on enhancements to the Mississippi Succeeds Report Card website [Goal 5 – MBE Strategic Plan].
- 07. [PULLED]
- 08. Mr. John Kraman gave a presentation on the Mississippi Student Information System (MSIS 2.0) Modernization [Goal 5 – MBE Strategic Plan].
- 09. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval to dissolve and lift the September 16, 2013 emergency declaration for the Leflore County School District so the District as stated in Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-104.6 can be consolidated with the Greenwood Municipal Separate School District into the Greenwood-Leflore School District effective July 1, 2019 (Nathan Oakley)
 - B. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish the Mississippi Alternate Academic Achievement Standards for High School Alternate History Elements and Alternate Social Studies Elements (Nathan Oakley)
 - C. Approval of the 2019-2020 Student Handbooks for the State Schools (Nathan Oakley)
 - 1. Mississippi School for the Blind
 - 2. Mississippi School for the Deaf

- D. Approval of the 2019-2020 Crisis Management Plans for the State Schools (Nathan Oakley)
 - 1. Mississippi School of the Arts
 - 2. Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science
- E. Approval of Interlocal Agreement with Brookhaven School District to provide instructional services for the Mississippi School of the Arts for Fiscal Year 2020 (Nathan Oakley)
- F. Approval of methodology to award grants to local school districts to support high-quality early childhood programs under the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (Nathan Oakley)
- G. Approval to award formula grants to school districts for the purpose of providing reimbursement for K-3 universal screening assessments (Nathan Oakley)
- H. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise Process-Standard 14.1 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2019* (Paula Vanderford)
- I. Approval of the appointments to the Commission on School Accreditation (Paula Vanderford)
- J. Approval to adopt State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 36, Rule 36.6: Optional Graduation Requirements for Students Displaced by a Federally or Nationally Declared Natural Disaster (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Paula Vanderford)
- K. Approval to revise Miss. Admin. Code 7-3: 36.5, State Board Policy Chapter 36, Rule 36.5: Additional Assessment Options for Meeting End-of-Course Assessment Graduation Requirements and Appendix A-5 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2019* (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Paula Vanderford)
- L. Approval to adopt and establish a qualifying passing score for the newly regenerated version of the *Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators (Praxis Core): Mathematics Assessment (Test Code 5733)* and to adopt new test codes only for the *Praxis Core Reading (5713)* and *Praxis Core Writing (5723)* components (Paula Vanderford)

- M. Approval to establish a *Special, Non-renewable Performance-Based License (PBL) for Prospective Teachers* to be used during the three-year PBL Pilot Study (Paula Vanderford)
- N. Approval of school districts with need for administrators to participate in the Mississippi School Administrator Sabbatical Program (Paula Vanderford)
- O. Approval of methodology to award Mississippi Community Oriented Policing (MCOPS) grant dollars to local and county law enforcement agencies or local education agencies with School Resource Officers (SRO) certified in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-321 (Paula Vanderford)
- P. Approval of educator preparation programs as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development May 3, 2019 (Paula Vanderford)
- Q. Approval of the appointment of a Chairman for the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (Paula Vanderford)

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Sean Suggs, the Board unanimously approved consent agenda items A., B., C., D., E., F., G., H., I., J., K., L., M., N., O., P., and Q. (copy attached).

X. Consideration of Executive Session

Mr. Buddy Bailey moved that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session. Mr. Johnny Franklin seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a vote of 5 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 personnel matters related to the appointment of a Educ-Bureau Director to serve as Director of Data Analytics in the Office of District and School Performance in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k); to discuss personnel matters related to the appointment of an Educ-Bureau Director II to serve as Director of Student Assessment for the Mississippi Schools for the Blind and the Deaf in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k); to discuss personnel matters related to the appointment of an Educ-Bureau Manager to serve as Director for Career and Technical Education in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k); and to discuss personnel matters related to the appointment of an Educ-Bureau Manager to serve as Director for Special Education in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k), which passed on a vote of 5 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 personnel matters related to the appointment of a Educ-Bureau Director to serve as Director of Data Analytics in the Office of District and School Performance in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k); discussed personnel matters related to the appointment of an Educ-Bureau Director II to serve as Director of Student Assessment for the Mississippi Schools for the Blind and the Deaf in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k); discussed personnel matters related to the appointment of an Educ-Bureau Manager to serve as Director for Career and Technical Education in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k); and discussed personnel matters related to the appointment of an Educ-Bureau Manager to serve as Director for Special Education in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k).

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board voted 5 to 0 to come out of Executive Session at 12:01 p.m.

The public came back into the Board meeting and Dr. Dean reported the actions taken during the Executive Session.

01. On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Ms. Devon Cantwell as Educ-Bureau Director to serve as Director of Data Analytics within the Office of District and School Performance at a salary of \$84,000.00.
02. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Sean Suggs, the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Ms. Madelyn Harris as Educ-Bureau Director II to serve as Director of Student Assessment for the Mississippi Schools for the Blind and the Deaf at a salary of \$71,960.28.
03. On a motion by Mr. Sean Suggs, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Dr. Aimee Chandler Brown as Educ-Bureau Manager to serve as Director of Career and Technical Education at a salary of \$110,000.00.
04. On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Ms. Robin Lemonis as Educ-Bureau Manager to serve as Director of Special Education at a salary of \$100,000.00.

XI. State Board of Education

1. Dr. Jason S. Dean stated that he attended graduation at the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science (MSMS). Dr. Dean stated that great things are going on at MSMS and Dr. Germain McConnell is doing a great job.
2. Dr. Dean requested approval for Dr. John R. Kelly to attend the National Association of School Boards of Education (NASBE) New Member Orientation meeting held on June 13-15, 2019, in Alexandria, Virginia.

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board unanimously approved for Dr. Kelly to attend the NASBE New Member Orientation meeting on June 13-15, 2019, in Alexandria, Virginia.

XII. Other Business

The July Board meeting will be held on July 18, 2019, in Jackson, Mississippi at the Central High School Building starting at 10:00 a.m.

XIII. Adjournment

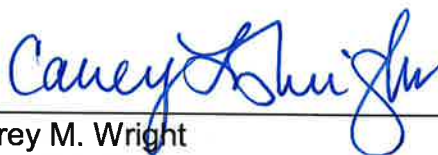
On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Sean Suggs, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 12:07 p.m.

Approved:



Jason S. Dean, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education

As Acting Chair



Carey M. Wright
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education