Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development
Teleconference Meeting
Central High School
Jackson, MS
4th Floor Boardroom
November 1, 2019
10:00 a.m.

In accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 37-3-2(3) and 25-41-5, the members of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development (Commission) met at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, November 1, 2019 in the 4th Floor Board Room located at Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Central High School, 359 N. West Street, Jackson, MS.

Members Attending in the 4th Floor Boardroom located at MDE Central High School:

Kenny Goza                      William Hamilton          Mary Hill-Shular
Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson        Dr. Cindy Melton          Lisa Reeves-Guice
Etta Taplin                   Corey Welch

Members Attending via Teleconference:

Dr. Patrick Gray               Rebecca Skinner-Gray     Rilla Jones
Dr. Bernell Kelly             David Martin               Dr. Susan McClelland

Members Absent:

John Howard

Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Personnel Attending:

Dr. Debra Burson               Regina Chatman           Krystal Cormack
Brian McGairty                 Mary-Catherine McGregor  Dr. Cory Murphy
Kristina Oxendine              Debbie Stoulig            Courtney Van Cleve
Dr. Paula Vanderford          Whitney Young

Special Assistant Attorney General Attending:

Joseph Runnels
I. Call to Order

Kenny Goza called the meeting to order on Friday, November 1, 2019 at 10:04 a.m. The meeting took place in the 4th floor Boardroom at the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi.

II. Establishment of a Quorum

Kenny Goza Present, Jackson, MS
Dr. Patrick Gray Present, via teleconference, Hattiesburg, MS
Rebecca Skinner-Gray Present, via teleconference, Iuka, MS
William Hamilton Present, Jackson, MS
Mary Hill-Shular Present, Jackson, MS
John Howard Absent
Rilla Jones Present, via teleconference, Tupelo, MS
Dr. Bernell Kelly Present, via teleconference, Gulfport, MS
David Martin Present, via teleconference, Brookhaven, MS
Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson Present, Jackson, MS
Dr. Susan McClelland Present, via teleconference, Oxford, MS
Dr. Cindy Melton Present, Jackson, MS
Lisa Reeves-Guice Present, Jackson, MS
Etta Taplin Present, Jackson, MS
Corey Welch Present, Jackson, MS

Kenny Goza announced that a quorum of the Commission existed.

III. Approval of the minutes of the September 6, 2019 Meeting of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development

On a motion by Etta Taplin, seconded by William Hamilton, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Commission minutes for the September 6, 2010 meeting of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development.

Members voting aye:

Kenny Goza Dr. Patrick Gray Rebecca Skinner-Gray
William Hamilton Mary Hill-Shular Rilla Jones
Dr. Bernell Kelly David Martin Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson
Dr. Susan McClelland Dr. Cindy Melton Lisa Reeves-Guice
Etta Taplin Corey Welch

Members abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None

Members absent: John Howard
IV. Approval of the hearing subcommittee minutes of October 9, 2019

On a motion by David Martin, seconded by Dr. Bernell Kelly, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the subcommittee minutes for October 9, 2019.

Members voting aye:

Kenny Goza                  Dr. Patrick Gray                    Rebecca Skinner-Gray
William Hamilton           Mary Hill-Shular                    Rilla Jones
Dr. Bernell Kelly          David Martin                      Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson
Dr. Susan McClelland       Dr. Cindy Melton                   Lisa Reeves-Guice
Etta Taplin                Corey Welch

Members abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None

Members absent: John Howard

V. Adoption of the Agenda

On a motion by Dr. Cindy Melton, seconded by Mary Hill-Shular, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the adoption of the agenda.

Members voting aye:

Kenny Goza                  Dr. Patrick Gray                    Rebecca Skinner-Gray
William Hamilton           Mary Hill-Shular                    Rilla Jones
Dr. Bernell Kelly          David Martin                      Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson
Dr. Susan McClelland       Dr. Cindy Melton                   Lisa Reeves-Guice
Etta Taplin                Corey Welch

Members abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None

Members absent: John Howard

VI. Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Updates

Courtney Van Cleve reported that Krystal Cormack is working with Educational Testing Services (ETS) to provide an overview of available Praxis resources for educator preparation programs. ETS subsequently attended a three (3) day visit with Mississippi institutions for three (3) days in October. It is intended to offer this opportunity to all institutions in creating specific solutions to issues that candidates are facing with the Praxis.

Mrs. Van Cleve also stated that the bi-annual stakeholders’ meeting was held in October. In an ongoing commitment to increase stakeholder’s access to updates across the Office of Teaching and Leading, a virtual component was added in response to feedback.
Mrs. Van Cleve also shared that the Mississippi Teacher Residency and Performance-Based Licensure pilots were fully launched through the Human Capital Highways grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation. As outlined in the grant, the first year was dedicated to planning and this year (the second year) has fully launched both programs with over 100 candidates into teaching. Specifically:

The Mississippi Teacher Residency partnered with the Ocean Springs, Gulfport, Jackson Public, and Sunflower County Consolidated school districts; and

The Performance-Based Licensure pilot partnered with the Jackson Public, Sunflower County Consolidated, Greenwood-Leflore Consolidated, Mississippi Achievement, Clarksdale Municipal, Clarksdale Collegiate, Quitman County, and Tunica County school districts.

Mrs. Van Cleve also stated that the Division of Educator Licensure processed 16,286 applications during the peak season for June-October and noted that Mississippi has achieved the number one (1) spot in the nation for gains on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), otherwise known as the Nation’s Report Card.

Mrs. Van Cleve expressed her gratitude to the Commission members in promoting meaningful progress on behalf of Mississippi’s children.

VII. Mississippi Association of College of Teacher Education (MACTE) Updates

Dr. Cindy Melton reported that the Mississippi Association of College and Teacher Education (MACTE) partnered with MDE in July 2019 for the Educators Rising conference to host the awards ceremony for Outstanding Teacher Intern, Teacher, and Administrator from each university.

Dr. Melton also stated that MACTE will be partnering with MDE to assist with the 2020 Elevate conference to provide more workshops and seminars for Mississippi teachers and educators.

Dr. Melton also noted that MACTE appointed some new officers over the summer, and they have been working on some shared assessment instruments as the universities are getting ready to go through program reviews to prepare for accreditation with CAEP.

Dr. Melton also shared that Mississippi universities are working towards completing the required reports for MDE, along with looking for additional opportunities to promote the teaching profession and to recruit students as education majors.

VIII. Discussion and/or Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act Process: To revise Miss. Admin. Code 7 – 4: Part 4: Licensure Guidelines K-12 to adopt and establish a passing score for the Praxis Subject Assessments, Algebra I and Geometry and New Endorsement Codes, as recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (Mrs. Krystal Cormack)
Krystal Cormack reported that on October 9, 2019 an Ad Hoc Committee of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development convened and voted to set passing scores and test codes for two Praxis Subject Assessments, and the adoption of these assessments to be added to the Mississippi approved list of licensure assessments.

*Praxis Subject Assessment, Algebra I,* will have an assigned Test Code of 5162 and a passing score of 148

*Praxis Subject Assessment, Geometry,* will have an assigned Test Code of 5163 and a passing score of 139

Mrs. Cormack stated that the Algebra I test has been designed to assess the mathematical knowledge and competencies necessary for a beginning Algebra I teacher. A passing score on the Algebra I assessment will be used as one option for adding an Algebra I supplemental endorsement to a standard five (5) year or provisional alternate route three (3) year license.

Mrs. Cormack noted that the Geometry test has been designed to assess the mathematical knowledge and competencies necessary for a beginning Geometry teacher. A passing score on the Geometry assessment will be used as one option for adding a Geometry supplemental endorsement to a standard five (5) year or provisional alternate route three (3) year license.

During discussion on the agenda item by members of the Commission, Dr. Cory Murphy shared that the Algebra I Praxis has currently been adopted by seven (7) states: Alaska, Alabama, Hawaii, Louisiana, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia; and that the Geometry Praxis has currently been adopted by three (3) states: Alaska, Alabama, and West Virginia.

On a motion by Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson, seconded by William Hamilton, the Commission voted unanimously to approve to begin the Administrative Procedures Act Process to revise Miss. Admin. Code 7-4: Part 4: Licensure Guidelines K-12 to adopt and establish a passing score for the Praxis Subject Assessments, Algebra I and Geometry and new endorsement codes, as recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee of the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification, and Licensure and Development.

Members voting aye:

Kenny Goza
William Hamilton
Dr. Bernell Kelly
Dr. Susan McClelland
Etta Taplin

Dr. Patrick Gray
Mary Hill-Shular
David Martin
Dr. Cindy Melton
Corey Welch

Rebecca Skinner-Gray
Rilla Jones
Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson
Lisa Reeves-Guice

Members abstaining: None
Members voting nay: None

Members absent: John Howard

IX. Discussion and/or approval of Jackson State University’s request to modify its existing Specialist (Ed.S.) and Doctorate (Ph.D.) in Educational Administration and Supervision Program by removing 18-hours prerequisite for students who do not hold a master’s/specialist’s degree in Educational Leadership and modifying several courses in the curriculum. (Dr. Jennifer Young Wallace)

Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson recused herself from the meeting at 10:16 a.m. due to her affiliation with Jackson State University.

Dr. Debra Burson noted that the proposed changes are an extension of the changes presented to, and approved by, the Commission on September 6, 2019 for the Masters of Science in Educational Administration. Changes being made to the programs in Educational Leadership are based on data from licensure exams, feedback from students, district principals and representatives, superintendents, surveys, assessments, and collaboration with stakeholders. Proposed changes are a result in changes in the national standards’ organization, NELP, and PSEL.

Dr. Jennifer Young Wallace stated that Jackson State University is requesting to remove the 18-hours prerequisite for student’s seeking a Specialist or Doctorate in Educational Administration and Supervision who do not currently hold a Master’s or Specialist degree in the field because these 18 hours of coursework are being incorporated into the curriculum. Changes to the curriculum and requirements will also result in the required hours for internship to be reduced from 600 hours to 400 hours.

Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson returned to the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

On a motion by Etta Taplin, seconded by Lisa Reeves-Guice, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the request by Jackson State University to modify its existing Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) and Doctorate (Ph.D.) in Educational Administration and Supervision programs by removing 18-hours prerequisite for students who do not hold a master’s/specialist’s degree in Educational Leadership and modifying several courses in the curriculum.

Members voting aye:

Kenny Goza
William Hamilton
Dr. Bernell Kelly
Dr. Susan McClelland
Etta Taplin

Dr. Patrick Gray
Mary Hill-Shular
David Martin
Dr. Cindy Melton
Corey Welch

Rebecca Skinner-Gray
Rilla Jones
Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson
Lisa Reeves-Guice

Members abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None

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Members absent: John Howard

X. Discussion and/or approval of ratifications of agreed orders and/or voluntary surrenders (Mr. Brian McGairty)

Alisha Davis, license #248353, has executed an Agreed Order acknowledging that she violated Standard 4 of the MS Educator Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct. The Respondent’s license shall be relinquished, suspended, or otherwise surrendered for a minimum of one (1) year(s) from the date the Commission ratifies this AGREED ORDER. Respondent shall not apply for reinstatement before the expiration of one (1) year(s) from the date of ratification. After one (1) year(s) from the ratification by the Commission, the Respondent may petition for reinstatement of Respondent’s educator license pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2 (14)(a) and the Rules of Procedure Governing Disciplinary Proceedings of the Commission. Prior to petitioning for reinstatement, the Respondent, at her own expense, shall complete a 3-hour course related to educator classroom management. The Respondent shall provide proof of successful completion of the required course as part of her reinstatement application. The Commission, in its discretion, may reinstate the Respondent’s educator license only by a majority vote of all members of the Commission present at the meeting called for that purpose upon the Respondent’s satisfactory showing of evidence of rehabilitation.

Lacy Figueroa, license #184455, has executed an Agreed Order acknowledging that she violated Standard 9 of the MS Educator Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct. The Respondent’s license shall be relinquished, suspended, or otherwise surrendered for a minimum of two (2) year(s) from the date the Commission ratifies this AGREED ORDER. Respondent shall not apply for reinstatement before the expiration of two (2) year(s) from the date of ratification. After two (2) year(s) from the ratification by the Commission, the Respondent may petition for reinstatement of Respondent’s educator license pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2 (14)(a) and the Rules of Procedure Governing Disciplinary Proceedings of the Commission. Prior to petitioning for reinstatement, the Respondent, at her own expense, shall complete a 3-hour ethics course related to educator professionalism. The Respondent shall provide proof of successful completion of the required course as part of her reinstatement application. The Commission, in its discretion, may reinstate the Respondent’s educator license only by a majority vote of all members of the Commission present at the meeting called for that purpose upon the Respondent’s satisfactory showing of evidence of rehabilitation.

Lauri Flynt, license #173525, has executed an Agreed Order acknowledging that she violated Standard 4 and Standard 6 of the MS Educator Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct. The Respondent’s license shall be relinquished, suspended, or otherwise surrendered for a minimum of one (1) year(s) from the date the Commission ratifies this AGREED ORDER. Respondent shall not apply for reinstatement before the expiration of one (1) year(s) from the date of ratification. After one (1) year(s) from the ratification by the Commission, the Respondent may petition for reinstatement of Respondent’s educator license pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-2 (14)(a) and the Rules of Procedure Governing
Disciplinary Proceedings of the Commission. Prior to petitioning for reinstatement, the Respondent, at her own expense, shall complete a 3-hour related to classroom management. The Respondent shall provide proof of successful completion of the required course as part of her reinstatement application. The Commission, in its discretion, may reinstate the Respondent’s educator license only by a majority vote of all members of the Commission present at the meeting called for that purpose upon the Respondent’s satisfactory showing of evidence of rehabilitation.

On a motion by Dr. Cindy Melton, seconded by Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the ratification of agreed orders and/or voluntary surrenders.

Members voting aye:

Kenny Goza          Dr. Patrick Gray         Rebecca Skinner-Gray
William Hamilton    Mary Hill-Shular       Rilla Jones
Dr. Bernell Kelly   David Martin          Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson
Dr. Susan McClelland Dr. Cindy Melton     Lisa Reeves-Guice
Etta Taplin         Corey Welch

Members abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None

Members absent: John Howard

XI. Other Business


Dr. Cory Murphy proposed the following Commission Meeting dates for 2020:

January 10, 2020                  July 10, 2020
March 6, 2020                     September 4, 2020
May 1, 2020                       November 6, 2020

The following potential conflicts with the proposed dates were discussed:
- July 10, 2020 posed a potential conflict with the dates of the MAEP Conference
- September 4, 2020 posed a potential conflict due to the Labor Day holiday falling on Monday, September 7, 2020

The following decisions were made regarding adjustments to the proposed schedule:
-All proposed dates would remain the same with the exception of September. The Commission Meeting date for September will be changed from September 4, 2020 to September 11, 2020.
On a motion by Mary Hill-Shular, seconded by Dr. Cindy Melton, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the proposed Commission Meeting dates with the agreed upon adjustment.

Members voting aye:

Kenny Goza  Dr. Patrick Gray  Rebecca Skinner-Gray  
William Hamilton  Mary Hill-Shular  Rilla Jones  
Dr. Bernel Kelly  David Martin  Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson  
Dr. Susan McClelland  Dr. Cindy Melton  Lisa Reeves-Guice  
Etta Taplin  Corey Welch

Members abstaining: None

Members voting nay: None

Members absent: John Howard

XII. Adjournment

On a motion by Etta Taplin, seconded by Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

Approved:

Kenny Goza, Chair  
Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development

Cory Murphy, Ph.D., Executive Secretary  
Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development