

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

October 19, 2017

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Board meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 19, 2017, in the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Mr. Buddy Bailey, Ms. Kami Bumgarner, Dr. Karen J. Elam, Mr. Johnny Franklin, Dr. John R. Kelly, and Mr. Charles McClelland. Board member absent: Dr. Jason S. Dean. Dr. Carey M. Wright was also present.

- I. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair, called the Board meeting to order. Ms. Aultman noted the statement on the agenda that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during the meeting.

Dr. Carey M. Wright stated the Board meeting was being live streamed and for the Board members to speak into their microphones so everyone could hear them.

- II. Mr. Johnny Franklin led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Buddy Bailey gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of September 14, 2017, Board meeting.
- IV. Mr. Johnny Franklin requested to change item 5 to make it an action item and to add Contracts to the item to be discussed.

Dr. Wright asked to move item 6: Action: Approval of Mississippi Achievement School District selection criteria [Goals 1, 2, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] to be discussed as 3B.

On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved the agenda as amended.

Mr. Franklin asked to discuss Consent Agenda items A and F.

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board unanimously approved to discuss Consent Agenda items, A and F.

V. Recognition Ceremony

There was no Board recognition.

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

- Dr. Wright stated she presented at the American Institutes for Research Conference on early childhood education in Mississippi. Dr. Wright stated that it gave her an opportunity to let them know what is happening in Mississippi. Dr. Wright thanked all the teachers across the state that work with PreK-Grade 3. Dr. Wright stated that we are looking to expand our look at early learning from Birth-Grade 3.
- Dr. Wright attended the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) Grantmakers for Education Conference which is a group of large funders from across the country. Dr. Wright stated that each incoming president of CCSSO sets their platform for the entire year and her platform is Early Childhood and the importance of access and equity where it is concerned. Dr. Wright stated that she talked to funders from across the nation about what we are doing in Mississippi. Dr. Wright stated that even with all the challenges, we are doing amazing things for our young ones. Dr. Wright stated that if Mississippi can do this, then any other state can do this. Dr. Wright stated that we could all work together to get this accomplished.
- Dr. Wright presented the Mississippi Department of Education's FY19 budget request to the Legislative Budget Office. Dr. Wright stated that her approach was return on investment. Dr. Wright stated that Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman was also present.
- Dr. Wright met with the Jackson Legislative delegation about the Jackson Public School District audit. Dr. Wright stated this was a good meeting.
- Dr. Wright and Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman were interviewed on the Paul Gallo Radio Show. Dr. Wright stated that Ms. Aultman would provide more information.
- Dr. Wright stated that she was on the "Tell John" show with Senator John Hohm and talked about the audit of the Jackson Public School District.
- Dr. Wright stated that she talked to the Black Caucus about Jackson Public Schools.
- Dr. Wright said that she had finished the first round of the Teacher Advisory Committee. Dr. Wright stated the group has been enlarged to 170 members and they have three regional meetings per year. Dr. Wright stated the group always provides good feedback.
- Dr. Wright stated the first Superintendents' Advisory Council meeting was held to get advice and to bounce ideas off of them since they are boots on the ground.
- Dr. Wright stated the Achievement School District Planning Committee met recently.

- Dr. Wright stated that the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met for two days to go over the assessments and the upcoming alternate assessments for Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP) for our little ones with Significant Cognitive Disability (SCD).
- Dr. Wright recognized Ms. Sonya Amis and her team for their work on internal audits. Dr. Wright stated that she asked Ms. Amis and her team to dig into what Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) had to say that was a concern. Dr. Wright thanked them for all their hard work and stated that the team reports directly to the Board and you will receive a report when they are finished. Dr. Gavin will provide more information in her presentation.
- Dr. Wright stated the Spotlight for this Board meeting is “In One Accord – The Starkville-Oktibbeha School District.” Dr. Wright stated the Starkville-Oktibbeha School District was consolidated in 2015. Dr. Wright stated the district had about one and a half years to get ready for the consolidation and during that time the district leaders, parents, and students all worked together to make this transition as smooth as possible. Dr. Wright stated the community viewed the consolidation as an opportunity for both districts. Dr. Wright stated as a result all students have access to advanced course work, honors programs, and more advanced curriculum opportunities.

VII. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman as the Chair of the State Board gave the following report:

- Ms. Aultman stated that she attended along with Dr. Wright the Legislative Budget Office Hearing recently. Ms. Aultman stated that the report was well received in the manner presented with the Mississippi Department of Education’s accomplishments presented first.
- Ms. Aultman stated that she and Dr. Wright were interviewed on the Paul Gallo Radio Show. Ms. Aultman stated that he asked probing questions.
- Ms. Aultman stated that she spoke at the Clinton Retired Educators meeting about what is going on across the state.
- Ms. Aultman stated that she spoke at the Optimist Club about what is happening at the Mississippi Department of Education. Ms. Aultman stated this is a group of businessmen who are interested about workforce training.

VIII. Dr. John R. Kelly, Chair of the School Performance and Accountability Subcommittee, stated the staff presented the accountability results which will be presented later in the meeting.

Dr. Karen J. Elam, Chair of the Academic Achievement PreK-12 Subcommittee, stated that Dr. Kim Benton presented information about conferences and trainings offered by her offices. Dr. Elam stated the results of round three of the School Improvement Grants will be presented later in the meeting.

IX. Discussion of Board Items

01. Dr. Felicia Gavin gave an update on the Mississippi Department of Education, Office of Operations Reorganization [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached). The Board asked questions about the reorganization. Dr. Karen J. Elam requested an organization chart for the Office of Chief Operations.

Based on questions from the Board, Dr. Wright asked Ms. Sonya Amis to address her job duties. Ms. Amis stated that her duties are stated in Board policy. Ms. Amis stated that she reports the audit findings at the School Performance and Accountability Subcommittee meetings and Dr. Kelly reports out to the Board. The Board discussed this process.

02. Dr. Gavin discussed the Mississippi Department of Education Contracts [Goal 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Gavin recommended approval.
 - 2A. Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits (Felicia Gavin)
 - 2B. Contract with School Improvement Coaches for 2017-2018 (Kim Benton)
03. Dr. Gavin and Dr. Kim Benton discussed the Mississippi Department of Education grant awards [Goal 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]. The Board had questions. Dr. Benton recommended approval.
 - 3A. Competitive School Improvement Grants (SIG)
 - 3B. Dr. Carey M. Wright discussed the Mississippi Achievement School District selection criteria [Goals 1, 2, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]. The Board discussed and asked questions. Dr. Wright recommended approval.
04. Dr. Paula Vanderford discussed the 2016-2017 statewide accountability results [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]. The Board asked questions. Dr. Vanderford recommended approval.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:57 a.m. and reconvened at 12:47 p.m. Ms. Kami Bumgarner left at lunch and did not return to the meeting.

05. Mr. Johnny Franklin discussed the following items:

- A. Teacher Supply List – Mr. Franklin wanted to request that the local boards and superintendents not put out the teacher supply lists to parents in their districts. The Board discussed this request. Dr. Wright stated she would give information out at the Regional Superintendent’s Meetings.

- B. Title 37 – Mr. Franklin stated that Title 37 needed to be cleaned up to remove any old language. Mr. Franklin requested that Mr. Pete Smith pull together an external group and supervise the cleanup of Title 37. The Board discussed this request and stated it was the job of the Legislature to clean up Title 37.

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board voted against tasking Mr. Pete Smith to pull together a group to clean up Title 37.

Members voting aye: Mr. Johnny Franklin
Mr. Charles McClelland

Members voting nay: Dr. Karen J. Elam
Mr. Buddy Bailey
Dr. John R. Kelly

Members absent: Ms. Kami Bumgarner
Dr. Jason S. Dean

- C. Three Year Alternate Route Teacher Certification – Mr. Franklin stated that the Board needs to rescind the rule passed in June since some districts were having problems getting emergency licenses. Dr. Paula Vanderford stated that the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development will meet in November and will address this certification.

- D. Board Procedures – Mr. Franklin expressed concerns regarding communication to the Board and with information being sent to them ahead of time. Mr. Franklin asked the difference between action items and consent agenda items. Mr. Franklin stated that if an item is on the consent agenda, the Board has to ask for it to be discussed. Mr. Franklin thanked the agency for streaming the Board meeting. Mr. Franklin stated that he would like for the State Board meeting to move

back to two days so practitioners can have input. Mr. Franklin stated that he would like to have clarity on Ms. Sonya Amis' job. Dr. Wright explained that Dr. Mike Waldrop from the Mississippi School Boards Association had presented to the State Board on the arrangement of the agenda. Dr. Wright stated that duties of Ms. Amis' position are defined in the law and she asked was he referring to the duties above and beyond what is stated in the law. Additionally, Mr. Franklin stated that any contract issued should be a competitive contract. The Board discussed this request. Dr. Wright stated that Dr. Felicia Gavin could present information at the next Board meeting about the guidelines.

06. Ms. Aultman gave the Board an opportunity to discuss the following consent agenda items (items H. and I. are information only). The Board had approved to discuss items A. and F.

Dr. Kim Benton and Mr. Quentin Ransburg answered questions for item A.

Dr. Paula Vanderford answered questions for item F.

- A. Revise State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 40, Rule 40.1 – McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Dispute Resolution Procedure (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with one public comment) (Kim Benton)
- B. Concur with the Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County as to the apportionment of the territory of the new consolidated school district, Winona-Montgomery Consolidated School District, as stated in Mississippi Code Ann. § 37-7-104.4 (Kim Benton)
- C. Approval of an Accredited-Temporary Status for Dynamic Dyslexic Design: The 3-D School, Gulf Coast (Paula Vanderford)
- D. 2017 Onsite Process and Performance Reviews of the Teacher Education Preparation Programs as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (Paula Vanderford)
- E. Educator preparation programs as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development on September 8, 2017 (Paula Vanderford)

- F. Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise State Board policies Chapter 14, Rules 14.6, 14.6.1, and 14.10 (Paula Vanderford)
- G. Appointments for Standing Commission on School District Efficiency (Felicia Gavin)
- H. Information: Final Report from the Commission on the Administrative Consolidation of the Lumberton Public School District as stated in Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-104.5 (Kim Benton)
- I. Information: Report on action of the Commission on School Accreditation concerning the assignment of district accreditation (Paula Vanderford)
- J. Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the 2017 Mississippi Testing Accommodations Manual (Paula Vanderford)

X. Approval of Action Items

- 02. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board unanimously approved the Mississippi Department of Education Contracts [Goal 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Operations Officer)
 - 2A. Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits
(Office of Chief Operations Officer)
 - 2B. Contract with School Improvement Coaches for 2017-2018
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)
- 03. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board voted to approve the Mississippi Department of Education grant awards [Goal 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Operations Officer)
 - 3A. Competitive School Improvement Grants (SIG)
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

Members voting aye:

Dr. Karen J. Elam
Mr. Buddy Bailey
Dr. John R. Kelly

Mr. Charles McClelland

Member voting nay:

Mr. Johnny Franklin

Members absent:

Ms. Kami Bumgarner
Dr. Jason S. Dean

- 3B. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board approved the Mississippi Achievement School District selection criteria [Goals 1, 2, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of State Superintendent)

Members voting aye:

Mr. Buddy Bailey
Dr. John R. Kelly
Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman¹

Members voting nay:

Mr. Johnny Franklin
Mr. Charles McClelland

Member abstaining:

Dr. Karen J. Elam

Members absent:

Ms. Kami Bumgarner
Dr. Jason S. Dean

04. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved the 2016-2017 statewide accountability results [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)
06. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved consent agenda items A., B., C., D., E., F., G., and J. (copy attached).
- A. Revise State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 40, Rule 40.1 – McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Dispute Resolution Procedure (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with one public comment)
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

¹ Rosemary Aultman, the Chair, cast a vote to break the tie.

- B. Concur with the Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County (Option A) as to the apportionment of the territory of the new consolidated school district, Winona-Montgomery Consolidated School District, as stated in Mississippi Code Ann. § 37-7-104.4
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)
- C. Approval of an Accredited-Temporary Status for Dynamic Dyslexic Design: The 3-D School, Gulf Coast
(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)
- D. 2017 Onsite Process and Performance Reviews of the Teacher Education Preparation Programs as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development
(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)
- E. Educator preparation programs as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development on September 8, 2017
(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)
- Mississippi College to modify the number of credit hours (from 39 to 36) and the number of clock hours (from 660 to 510) required for the Master of Education in Educational Leadership
 - Mississippi State University to modify the Secondary English education program
 - Mississippi State University to offer a Master of Music Education degree program
 - Blue Mountain College to change the title for ED340 Test and Measurements to ED340 Classroom Assessment
 - Blue Mountain College to remove a required course, ED420 Physical Education for Children, in the Bachelor of Science of Education in Elementary Education and add a Physical Education module to ED280 Creative Expressions
 - Blue Mountain College to change the required course focused on physical education in the elementary school in the Bachelor of Science of Education in Physical Education from ED420 Physical Education for Children to PE316 Motor Learning and Movement Development
 - Blue Mountain College to change ED217 to Praxis Core Preparation to a 1-hour lab format

- F. Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise State Board policies Chapter 14, Rules 14.6, 14.6.1, and 14.10
(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)

- G. Appointments for Standing Commission on School District Efficiency
(Office of Chief Operations Officer)

Congressional District 1 Representative

Re-appoint: Stacey Graves, Business Manager, DeSoto County
School District – Term Expiration: September, 2020

At-Large Representative

Re-appoint: T. J. Burlison, Business Manager, Pearl River County
School District – Term Expiration: September, 2020

Congressional District 3 Representative

Appoint: Susan Cochran, Business Manager, McComb Public School
District – Term Expiration: September, 2019

- J. Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the 2017 Mississippi Testing Accommodations Manual
(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)

XI. Consideration of Executive Session

Dr. John R. Kelly moved that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session. Mr. Buddy Bailey seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a vote of 5 to 0. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman asked Dr. Carey M. Wright, Ms. Raina Lee, Ms. Erin Meyer, Ms. Leah Kathryn Anzenberger, and the Executive Leadership Team to remain in the Executive Session.

Dr. John R. Kelly, then moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss discrete personnel matters related to the job performance of persons holding specific positions in the Department of Education in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k), discussion of a strategy session or negotiations with respect to prospective litigation involving the Department and the issuance of an appealable order in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(b), and discussion with respect to investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or violation of law in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(d). Mr. Buddy Bailey seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 5 to 0. Ms. Leah Kathryn Anzenberger informed the public of the Board's vote to go into Executive Session for the above-stated reasons.

Minutes of the Executive Session

During the Executive Session, the Board discussed discrete personnel matters related to the job performance of persons holding specific positions in the Department of Education in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k), discussed a strategy session or negotiations with respect to prospective litigation involving the Department and the issuance of an appealable order in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(b), and discussed with respect to investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or violation of law in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(d).

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board voted 5 to 0 to come out of Executive Session.

Mr. Charles McClelland left the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

The public came back into the Board meeting and Ms. Aultman reported the action taken during the Executive Session.

01. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board approved the contractual agreement for Legal Services between the Office of the Attorney General, State of Mississippi, the Mississippi Department of Education, and Butler Snow not to exceed \$50,000.00.

Members voting aye: Dr. Karen J. Elam
 Mr. Buddy Bailey
 Dr. John R. Kelly

Member voting nay: Mr. Johnny Franklin

Member abstaining: Mr. Charles McClelland

Members absent: Ms. Kami Bumgarner
 Dr. Jason S. Dean

02. On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Chinchieh (Tony) Chiang as Education Bureau Director II to serve as Research Analyst for the Statewide Longitudinal Data System Grant Program within the Office of Technology and Strategic Services at a salary of \$84,000.00.

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03. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board approved the appointment of Dr. Jo Ann Malone as Education Bureau Manager to serve as the Executive Director of the Office of Accreditation at a salary of \$110,000.00 (no change).

Ms. Aultman stated that a Work Session had been scheduled immediately following the Board meeting but it was going to have to be postponed to a later date that will be announced due to Board members having to leave.

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved to postpone the Work Session that was scheduled for today immediately following the Board meeting to a later date.

XII. State Board of Education

1. There were no meetings attended.
2. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved for Dr. John R. Kelly to attend the National Association of School Boards of Education (NASBE) Annual Conference on November 1 – 4, 2017 in Atlanta, Georgia.

XIII. Other Business

The November Board meeting will be held November 9, 2017 in Jackson, Mississippi at the Central High School Building starting at 10:00 a.m.

XIV. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

Approved:



Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education



Carey M. Wright
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education