

## Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

April 19, 2018

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Board meeting at 10:01 a.m. on Thursday, April 19, 2018, 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. Jason S. Dean, Dr. Karen J. Elam, Mr. Johnny Franklin, Dr. John R. Kelly, Mr. Charles McClelland, and Mr. Sean Suggs. Dr. Carey M. Wright was also present.

- I. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair, called the Board meeting to order. Ms. Aultman noted that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during the meeting.
- II. Mr. Buddy Bailey led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Johnny Franklin gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Mr. Sean Suggs, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2018, Board meeting.
- IV. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.
- V. Recognition Ceremony

### **2018 April Employee of the Month**

Kimberly Thompson-Simms

School Attendance Officer – Hinds County

Office of Compulsory School Attendance Enforcement

Ms. Aultman recognized and welcomed Representative Orlando Paden from Bolivar and Coahoma Counties. Ms. Aultman thanked him for the work he does in the Legislature.

- VI. Dr. Carey M. Wright gave the following report as the State Superintendent of Education:
  - Dr. Wright stated that she participated in a national webinar on attendance awareness. Dr. Wright stated there were about 500 people from across the United States on the webinar about the importance of attendance especially chronic absenteeism. Dr. Wright stated that chronic absenteeism is a national issue and the Department is going to highlight this throughout the year and it will be on our school and district report cards. Dr. Wright stated

that this work will be under the leadership of Ms. Toni Kersh. Dr. Wright stated that chronic absenteeism is defined as those children who miss 10 percent or more of the year. Dr. Wright stated that 10 percent does not look like a lot but that is 18 or more days of attendance. Dr. Wright stated that we need to be identifying these children as early as September so we can turn the tide on them being absent. Dr. Wright stated that if the children are not in school, they are not available for learning.

- Dr. Wright stated that she did a presentation to the Madison County Business League and Foundation. Dr. Wright stated that her focus was on education and all the wonderful things happening in Mississippi. Dr. Wright stated that she received positive feedback after the meeting.
- Dr. Wright stated that she was invited to attend the Reagan Institute Summit on Education (RISE) at the Reagan Institute in Washington, DC. Dr. Wright stated the Summit was looking back over 35 years – A Nation at Risk and Where We are Today. Dr. Wright stated the Summit was jammed packed with lots of good information. Dr. Wright stated that she spoke on a panel with two other state superintendents which gave them an opportunity to talk about what their *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) plan is doing, what their states are doing, and how their states are leading the work. Dr. Wright stated there were a lot of good platforms for Mississippi to talk about what is happening in our schools each and every day.
- Dr. Wright stated that with all the good work being done in early childhood the new report just came out, *The State of Preschool 2017* from the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER). Dr. Wright stated that Mississippi is one of a handful of states meeting 10 out of 10 quality standards and a new standard was added that Mississippi (MS) did not meet because MS does not have coaches yet. Dr. Wright stated that with the Kellogg funds, the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) will be able to hire coaches and next year Mississippi can meet that standard. Dr. Wright stated that they asked her to serve on a national call for national reporters around this report and this gave her a chance to talk about Mississippi's learning collaboratives. Dr. Wright stated that the children coming out of the learning collaboratives are more than prepared for Kindergarten. Dr. Wright stated that on the call she learned that West Virginia is just starting to introduce universal pre-k across their state. Dr. Wright stated that they recognize what is happening in pre-k pays off all the way through school. Dr. Wright stated that research shows that children that attend pre-k are less likely to be involved in violence and crime, less likely to be involved in drugs, more likely to graduate from high school, and more likely to have a well-paying career. Dr. Wright stated that it is clear that paying on the front end, pays dividends on the backend.
- Dr. Wright stated that she has been on the Paul Gallo Radio Show recently and discussed the assessment task force that is being put together. Dr. Wright stated that the stakeholders will be parents, teachers, principals, superintendents, both Legislative Education Chairs and there is a

discussion of putting students on the task force. Dr. Wright stated that the task force would meet in June and have recommendations back before the next Legislative session starts. Dr. Wright stated they will be looking at all the testing across the state, what all 144 districts are doing, what the districts are requiring versus what the state is requiring, what is the quality of the assessments, are the assessments aligned to Mississippi standards, and are there any bright spots or best practices that can be shared? Dr. Wright stated that she would keep the Board updated as this task force meets.

- Dr. Wright stated she was interviewed by Mississippi Public Broadcasting (MPB) Radio regarding the assessment task force and the National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP) results. Dr. Wright stated there are a lot of good things happening and a lot of things to be excited about.
- Dr. Wright stated she met with the Superintendents' Advisory Committee yesterday. Dr. Wright stated they had a great discussion around assessment and they provided suggestions on how to pick students for the task force. Dr. Wright stated they thought that was a very important process as well.
- Dr. Wright stated that there is not anything that we are monitoring that is not headed in the right direction. Dr. Wright stated that Mississippi got a shout out at the Reagan Institute Summit on Education about our NAEP scores. Dr. Wright asked Dr. Kim Benton to present the NAEP information to the Board. Dr. Benton thanked Ms. Jennifer Robinson, NAEP Coordinator, Mr. Vincent Segalini, State Assessment Director, and Ms. Patrice Guilfoyle, Communications Director, for helping to put the PowerPoint slides together and for the press releases. Dr. Benton stated that Mississippi is: 4<sup>th</sup> in the nation for gains in 4<sup>th</sup> grade math, 7<sup>th</sup> in the nation for gains in 8<sup>th</sup> grade math, 2<sup>nd</sup> in the nation for gains in 4<sup>th</sup> grade reading, and 12<sup>th</sup> in the nation for gains in 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading.
- Dr. Wright stated the Spotlight for this Board meeting is "Dyslexia Services Unlock Student Learning – South Tippah School District." Dr. Wright stated that South Tippah School District offers services through a competitive grant received from the Department. Dr. Wright stated that South Tippah can use their funds to hire a dyslexia specialist, purchase instructional materials, and fund professional development. Dr. Wright stated that children with dyslexia need specialized instruction when it comes to reading and this is a part of our literacy work. Dr. Wright stated that the video will show you the impact that it is having on their school and district. Dr. Wright recognized Mr. Frank Campbell, Superintendent, and Ms. Twila Goolsby, Director of Curriculum, for their work. Dr. Wright thanked them for what they are doing for children since reading is the gateway. Dr. Wright thanked the superintendent for his leadership.

- VII. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman as the Chair of the State Board gave the following report:
- Ms. Aultman stated that she could not imagine life without reading but there are so many children out there that struggle with reading and these programs are so vital to them. Ms. Aultman stated that she was going to echo what Mr. Johnny Franklin had said that early childhood is the key. Ms. Aultman stated that first and second grades are very complimentary of each other but third grade is where you hit all those skills that are different and third grade is where you see the difference in those children that have had pre-school and a good background and those children who did not and they begin to struggle. Ms. Aultman stated that this is a no-brainer for those of us who have worked in the field who understand the program but somehow, we have to move our thinking forward until we have every child in the state in a good program. Ms. Aultman stated that we are getting all these accolades because the data proves that what works is working. Ms. Aultman stated that the teachers have bought into it, the administrators have bought into it, and the Leadership Team is moving it forward through the Department but we have to move to the point where failure is not an option in this state. Ms. Aultman stated that we do not want any F schools in this state and we do not want any F school districts. Ms. Aultman stated that if you cannot do it, get out of the way and let someone get in there that can do it. Ms. Aultman stated that this is the attitude that we need to take to move our districts forward with a lot of help and a lot of support, looking to a lot of people for financial support, and a lot of training. Ms. Aultman stated that we need to adopt the attitude that we are not going to be failures anymore. Ms. Aultman stated that we have to tell our story. Ms. Aultman thanked Dr. Wright for living on an airplane a lot of the time so she can tell our story across the nation because if we do not tell our story, who will tell it. Ms. Aultman stated that people still have that mindset that Mississippi is always on the bottom but that is not true so we have to tell our story. Ms. Aultman stated that she appreciates what the Leadership Team is doing, what the Department is doing, but more importantly what you are doing in the school districts across the state.
- VIII. Dr. Karen J. Elam, Chair of the Academic Achievement PreK-12 Subcommittee, stated that when the Subcommittee met yesterday, all members were present. Dr. Elam stated that most topics discussed are on the agenda today. Dr. Elam stated that the Mississippi Department of Education is getting very positive feedback on their professional development programs. Dr. Elam stated that you would not believe the number of compliments and statements of how helpful all this training is and the praise to the members of the staff that are providing that professional development training to the districts. Dr. Elam stated that she

wanted to give a shout out to all the staff that are involved with professional development.

Dr. John R. Kelly, Chair of the School Performance and Accountability Subcommittee, stated there were a number of items coming to the Board today for approval. Dr. Kelly stated that there were four contracts that center around testing that are up for renewal and many of those contracts will show a reduction in cost to the agency. Dr. Kelly stated there are two items coming forward to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process with one to change the business rules around English Learners (EL) and the other item for pupil teacher ratio for grades 1 through 4. Dr. Kelly stated you would hear more when the staff makes the presentations to the Board.

#### IX. Discussion of Board Items

Ms. Jean Massey as a matter of personal privilege gave a shout out to South Tippah School District for their work with the Mississippi Innovation Lab Network with our middle school project. Ms. Massey stated they are doing more than what you saw on the screen to move their district forward. Ms. Massey stated that it is great to see districts that are willing to step out be spotlighted for what they are doing for their students.

01. Dr. Kim Benton and Ms. Jean Massey presented the Mississippi Virtual Public School Update [Goals 2 and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Ms. Massey stated that the amended law, signed by Governor Bryant at the end of March 2018, states, “the provider of services under the Mississippi Virtual Public School program shall be chosen by the district using a list of vendors approved through the Mississippi Online Course Application process.” The Board had questions about this process. Dr. Benton stated that more information will be forth coming.
02. Dr. Benton and Dr. Nathan Oakley discussed the revisions to the Mississippi Early Learning Guidelines for Classrooms Serving Three- and Four-Year-Old Children (2018) [Goal 3 – MBE Strategic Plan]. The item has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments that were presented to the Board. Dr. Benton recommended approval.

Dr. Jason S. Dean as a matter of personal privilege congratulated Dr. Nathan Oakley on the approval of the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) Plan along with Dr. Wright for all their hard work.

03. Dr. Felicia Gavin introduced Mr. Bill Early and Ms. Aires Coleman from CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP. Mr. Early and Ms. Coleman stated that they audited selected financial statements and conducted a single audit findings for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017 [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan].
04. Dr. Paula Vanderford discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2017*, specifically, the business rules of the *Mississippi Statewide Accountability System* including Section 9: *Acceleration*, Section 15: *English Learners (EL)*, and Section 25: *College & Career Readiness Indicator* [Goals 1, 2, 3, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Vanderford recommended approval.
05. Dr. Gavin discussed approval of the Mississippi Department of Education Contracts [Goals 1, 2, 3, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]. The Board had questions and comments about some of the items. Dr. Gavin recommended approval.

Dr. Karen J. Elam requested to discuss items 05.A., 05.C., and 05.H. Mr. Johnny Franklin requested to discuss item 05.A.

Dr. Kim Benton answered questions on items 05.A. and 05.C.

Dr. Paula Vanderford and Mr. Walt Drane answered questions on item 05.H.

- 05.A. Renew contract with Reading Language Arts Centers, Inc. D.B.A. Brainspring for FY 2019 to provide professional development training system based on Orton Gillingham reading methodology [Goals 2 and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Kim Benton)
- 05.B. Contract with S&S Management Group LLC d/b/a Security Solutions of America / Advert Group, USA to provide security services on the campus of the Mississippi Schools for the Blind and the Deaf for the 2018-2019 school year [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Kim Benton)

- 05.C. Renew contract with Valley Services, Inc. to provide food services to the Mississippi Schools for the Blind and the Deaf (MSBD) for FY 2019 [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Kim Benton)
- 05.D. Modify contract with Glen H. Stribling, O.D. to provide optometry and low-vision medical services for the Mississippi School for the Blind for the 2017-2018 school year [Goals 1, 2, and 3 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Kim Benton)
- 05.E. Renew contract with Research and Curriculum Unit, Mississippi State University for the operation of the Mississippi Career and Planning and Assessment System, Third Edition (MS-CPAS3) [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Kim Benton)
- 05.F. Renew contract with Curriculum Associates, LLC to provide a comprehensive early learning observational screener as part of the effectiveness evaluation for pre-kindergarten programs [Goal 3 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Kim Benton)
- 05.G. Renew the contract with Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) for Fiscal Year 2019 to administer the LAS Links, English language proficiency test (ELPT) [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)
- 05.H. Renew the contract with Renaissance Learning, Inc. (RL) for Fiscal Year 2019 to provide a Kindergarten Readiness Assessment tool using Renaissance Data Integration (RDI) services [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)
- 05.I. Renew the contract with Questar Assessment, Inc. (QAI) for Fiscal Year 2019 to administer assessments for English Language Arts and Mathematics in Grades 3-8, End-of-Course in Algebra I, English II, and options for Geometry and Algebra II [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)
- 05.J. Renew the contract with Questar Assessment, Inc. (QAI) for Fiscal Year 2019 to administer alternate assessments for the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program - Alternate (MAAP-A) for English Language Arts and Mathematics in Grades 3-8; Science Grades 5 & 8; and High School Algebra I, English II, and Biology I Alternate Assessments for students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

(SCD) [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)

06. Dr. Gavin discussed approval of the Mississippi Department of Education grant awards [Goals 1, 2, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Gavin recommended approval.

Mr. Johnny Franklin requested to discuss items 06.A. and 06.C.

Dr. Benton answered questions on item 06.A.

Ms. Jean Massey answered questions on item 06.C.

06.A. Award discretionary Educators-in-Residence grants to school districts for literacy coaches [Goals 1, 2, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Kim Benton)

06.B. Award discretionary grants to local school districts for the purpose of contracting with Educators-in-Residence for Special Education for 2018-2019 [Goals 1, 2, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Kim Benton)

06.C. Award competitive grants for K-8 STEM Initiative Enhancement Project [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Kim Benton)

06.D. Award discretionary grant to Neshoba County School District for the purpose of contracting with Educator-in-Residence to provide professional development and support in science for 2018-2019 school year [Goals 1, 2, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Kim Benton)

07. Ms. Aultman gave the Board an opportunity to discuss the following consent agenda items. Mr. Johnny Franklin requested to discuss items J., Q., and S. Dr. Karen S. Elam requested to discuss items M. and U.

Dr. Benton answered questions on item J.

Dr. Vanderford answered questions on item Q.

Dr. Vanderford and Dr. Cory Murphy answered questions on item S.

Dr. Vanderford answered questions on items M. and U.

- A. Approval to revise methodology for the calculation of the reimbursement for the Educable Child Program (Kim Benton)



- B. Approval of school calendars for State Schools for 2018-2019 school year (Kim Benton)
  - 1. Mississippi School of the Arts
  - 2. Mississippi School for the Blind
  - 3. Mississippi School for the Deaf
  - 4. Mississippi School for Math and Science
- C. Approval of methodology to reimburse schools participating in advanced learning programs for teacher training (Kim Benton)
- D. Approval to establish the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards for Aquaculture Technology  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comment) (Kim Benton)
- E. Approval to establish the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards for Computer Science  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments) (Kim Benton)
- F. Approval to establish the Coahoma Early College High School  
(Kim Benton)
- G. Approval of methodology to award formula grant dollars to school districts and Early Learning Collaborative lead partners for Pre-K to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade literacy screeners (Kim Benton)
- H. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the Mississippi Public School Library Monitoring Rubric  
(Kim Benton)
- I. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish the Mississippi Nonpublic School Library Monitoring Rubric  
(Kim Benton)
- J. Approval of Title I, Part A reallocation methodology in accordance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as reauthorized in the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (Kim Benton)

- K. Approval of Title III, Part A reallocation methodology in accordance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (Kim Benton)
  
- L. Approval to upgrade the accreditation status of three (3) nonpublic Schools accredited by the MDE (Paula Vanderford)
  - 1. Gulf Oaks Day School - ADVISED to ACCREDITED
  - 2. Resurrection Catholic Middle/High School - PROBATION to ACCREDITED
  - 3. Resurrection Catholic Elementary School - PROBATION to ACCREDITED
  
- M. Approval of recommendations on exceptions to pupil-teacher ratio requirements for grades 1-4 (Paula Vanderford)
  
- N. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the *Mississippi NonPublic School Accountability Standards, 2016* (Paula Vanderford)
  
- O. Approval to revise Standard 14.3 and establish Appendix A-11 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2017*: Requirements for a Certificate of Completion for students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) effective school year 2018-2019  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments) (Paula Vanderford) (Kim Benton)
  
- P. Approval to revise Process Standards 14.1.4 and 26, and Appendices A and B of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2017*  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Paula Vanderford) (Kim Benton)
  
- Q. Approval to establish Part 189: Mississippi School Safety Manual  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Paula Vanderford)

- R. Approval to revise the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2017* specifically, the business rules of the *Mississippi Statewide Accountability System* to revise the definition of senior snapshot and add additional weights to the growth component beginning school year 2017-2018  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments) (Paula Vanderford)
- S. Approval to establish a passing score for the Praxis Subject Assessment, *Computer Science* (Test Code 5652) as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (Paula Vanderford)
- T. Approval to establish a passing score for the newly revised version of the *School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA)* (Test Code 6990) as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development  
(Paula Vanderford)
- U. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise State Board Policy Chapter 71: School Business Officials and the *Licensure Guidelines K-12* to modify requirements for the School Business Administrator License as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (Paula Vanderford) (Felicia Gavin)
- V. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish the Mississippi Alternate Academic Achievement Standards for (1) Science Grades Kindergarten – 8 and (2) High School Biology (Kim Benton)
- W. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise State Board Policy Chapter 36, Rule 36.4: Assessments Required for Graduation (Paula Vanderford)
- X. Approval of the Corrective Action Plan for Hazlehurst City School District in accordance with Accreditation Policy 2.8.1  
(Paula Vanderford)

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:56 a.m. and reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

X. Approval of Action Items

02. On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved to revise the Mississippi Early Learning Guidelines for Classrooms Serving Three- and Four-Year-Old Children (2018) [Goal 3 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached). The item has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments that were presented to the Board.

**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**

04. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2017*, specifically, the business rules of the *Mississippi Statewide Accountability System* including Section 9: *Acceleration*, Section 15: *English Learners (EL)*, and Section 25: *College & Career Readiness Indicator* [Goals 1, 2, 3, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**

05. On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean, seconded by Ms. Kami Bumgarner, the Board voted to approve the Mississippi Department of Education Contracts [Goal 1, 2, 3, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).<sup>1</sup>

**(Office of Chief Operations Officer)**

05.A. Renew contract with Reading Language Arts Centers, Inc. D.B.A. Brainspring for FY 2019 to provide professional development training system based on Orton Gillingham reading methodology [Goals 2 and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]

**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**

Members voting aye:

Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Dr. Jason S. Dean  
Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Dr. John R. Kelly  
Mr. Charles McClelland  
Mr. Sean Suggs

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise noted, the Board voted unanimously to approve the contracts.

Member voting nay: Mr. Johnny Franklin

Member abstaining: None

Members absent: None

- 05.B. Contract with S&S Management Group LLC d/b/a Security Solutions of America / Advert Group, USA to provide security services on the campus of the Mississippi Schools for the Blind and the Deaf for the 2018-2019 school year [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
  
- 05.C. Renew contract with Valley Services, Inc. to provide food services to the Mississippi Schools for the Blind and the Deaf (MSBD) for FY 2019 [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
  
- 05.D. Modify contract with Glen H. Stribling, O.D. to provide optometry and low-vision medical services for the Mississippi School for the Blind for the 2017-2018 school year [Goals 1, 2, and 3 – MBE Strategic Plan]  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
  
- 05.E. Renew contract with Research and Curriculum Unit, Mississippi State University for the operation of the Mississippi Career and Planning and Assessment System, Third Edition (MS-CPAS3) [Goals 1 and 2 MBE Strategic Plan]  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
  
- 05.F. Renew contract with Curriculum Associates, LLC to provide a comprehensive early learning observational screener as part of the effectiveness evaluation for pre-kindergarten programs [Goal 3 – MBE Strategic Plan]  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
  
- 05.G. Renew the contract with Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) for Fiscal Year 2019 to administer the LAS Links, English language proficiency test (ELPT) [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]  
**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**
  
- 05.H. Renew the contract with Renaissance Learning, Inc. (RL) for Fiscal Year 2019 to provide a Kindergarten Readiness Assessment tool

using Renaissance Data Integration (RDI) services [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]

**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**

- 05.I. Renew the contract with Questar Assessment, Inc. (QAI) for Fiscal Year 2019 to administer assessments for English Language Arts and Mathematics in Grades 3-8, End-of-Course in Algebra I, English II, and options for Geometry and Algebra II [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]

**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**

Members voting aye:  
Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Dr. Jason S. Dean  
Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Dr. John R. Kelly  
Mr. Charles McClelland  
Mr. Sean Suggs

Member voting nay: Mr. Johnny Franklin

Member abstaining: None

Members absent: None

- 05.J. Renew the contract with Questar Assessment, Inc. (QAI) for Fiscal Year 2019 to administer alternate assessments for the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program - Alternate (MAAP-A) for English Language Arts and Mathematics in Grades 3-8; Science Grades 5 & 8; and High School Algebra I, English II, and Biology I Alternate Assessments for students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities (SCD) [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]

**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**

Members voting aye:  
Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Dr. Jason S. Dean  
Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Dr. John R. Kelly  
Mr. Charles McClelland  
Mr. Sean Suggs

Member voting nay: Mr. Johnny Franklin

Member abstaining: None

Members absent: None

06. On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean, seconded by Ms. Kami Bumgarner, the Board voted to approve the Mississippi Department of Education grant awards [Goals 1, 2, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).  
**(Office of Chief Operations Officer)**
- 06.A. Award discretionary Educators-in-Residence grants to school districts for literacy coaches [Goals 1, 2, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
- 06.B. Award discretionary grants to local school districts for the purpose of contracting with Educators-in-Residence for Special Education for 2018-2019 [Goals 1, 2, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
- 06.C. Award competitive grants for K-8 STEM Initiative Enhancement Project [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
- 06.D. Award discretionary grant to Neshoba County School District for the purpose of contracting with Educator-in-Residence to provide professional development and support in science for 2018-2019 school year [Goals 1, 2, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
07. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board unanimously approved consent agenda items A., B., C., D., E., F., G., H., I., J., K., L., M., N., O., P., Q., R., S., T., U., V., W., and X. (copy attached).
- A. Approval to revise methodology for the calculation of the reimbursement for the Educable Child Program  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
- B. Approval of school calendars for State Schools for 2018-2019 school year  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**

1. Mississippi School of the Arts
  2. Mississippi School for the Blind
  3. Mississippi School for the Deaf
  4. Mississippi School for Math and Science
- C. Approval of methodology to reimburse schools participating in advanced learning programs for teacher training  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
- D. Approval to establish the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards for Aquaculture Technology  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comment)  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
- E. Approval to establish the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards for Computer Science  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments)  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
- F. Approval to establish the Coahoma Early College High School  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
- G. Approval of methodology to award formula grant dollars to school districts and Early Learning Collaborative lead partners for Pre-K to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade literacy screeners  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
- H. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the Mississippi Public School Library Monitoring Rubric  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
- I. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish the Mississippi Nonpublic School Library Monitoring Rubric  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
- J. Approval of Title I, Part A reallocation methodology in accordance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as reauthorized in the *Every Student Succeeds Act*  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**



- K. Approval of Title III, Part A reallocation methodology in accordance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the *Every Student Succeeds Act*  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
  
- L. Approval to upgrade the accreditation status of three (3) nonpublic schools accredited by the MDE  
**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**
  - 1. Gulf Oaks Day School - ADVISED to ACCREDITED
  - 2. Resurrection Catholic Middle/High School - PROBATION to ACCREDITED
  - 3. Resurrection Catholic Elementary School - PROBATION to ACCREDITED
  
- M. Approval of recommendations on exceptions to pupil-teacher ratio requirements for grades 1-4  
**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**
  
- N. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the *Mississippi NonPublic School Accountability Standards, 2016*  
**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**
  
- O. Approval to revise Standard 14.3 and establish Appendix A-11 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2017*: Requirements for a Certificate of Completion for students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) effective school year 2018-2019  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments)  
**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
  
- P. Approval to revise Standards 14.1.4 and 26, and Appendices A and B of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2017*  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments)  
**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**

- (Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
- Q. Approval to establish Part 189: Mississippi School Safety Manual  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments)  
**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**
- R. Approval to revise the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2017* specifically, the business rules of the *Mississippi Statewide Accountability System* to revise the definition of senior snapshot and add additional weights to the growth component beginning school year 2017-2018  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments)  
**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**
- S. Approval to establish a passing score for the Praxis Subject Assessment, *Computer Science* (Test Code 5652) as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development  
**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**
- T. Approval to establish a passing score for the newly revised version of the *School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA)* (Test Code 6990) as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development  
**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**
- U. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise State Board Policy Chapter 71: School Business Officials and the *Licensure Guidelines K-12* to modify requirements for the School Business Administrator License as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development  
**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**  
**(Office of Chief Operations Officer)**
- V. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish the Mississippi Alternate Academic Achievement Standards for (1) Science Grades Kindergarten – 8 and (2) High School Biology  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**

- W. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise State Board Policy Chapter 36, Rule 36.4: Assessments Required for Graduation  
**(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)**
  
- X. Approval of the Corrective Action Plan for Hazlehurst City School District in accordance with Accreditation Policy 2.8.1  
**(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 8 to 0. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman asked Dr. Carey M. Wright, Ms. Raina Lee, Ms. Erin Meyer, 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). Mr. Charles McClelland seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 8 to 0. Ms. Erin Meyer 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).

On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board voted 8 to 0 to come out of Executive Session.

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. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Ms. Sheila Franklin-Buie as an Education Bureau Director II in the Office of Accounting at a salary of \$90,000.00.

XII. State Board of Education

1. Dr. Karen J. Elam reported that she along with Dr. Cory Murphy and Dr. Debra Burson, as well as three others from Mississippi, attended the Council of Chief State School Officers' (CCSSO) Diverse and Learner-Ready Teachers Initiative meeting on April 3-5, 2018 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Dr. Elam stated this recently formed network of nine states is studying how to better diversify the education workforce and support future and current educators in effectively teaching students of different cultural backgrounds.

Dr. Elam stated that as you may have read in Dr. Wright's weekly update, this network of states will connect over the next year with each other and with experts in the field to receive individualized support as we create plans to address challenges in our respective states.

Dr. Elam stated that the MDE led by Dr. Wright, has already recognized the importance and urgency of addressing the teacher workforce disparities in our state. Dr. Elam stated that, in fact, MDE has set a goal of increasing the number of minority teachers in critical shortage school districts by 25 percent by 2025. Dr. Elam stated the work of this Initiative will advance this goal and will also assist our Board in addressing our Strategic Goal Number 4 "Every School has Effective Teachers and Leaders."

2. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman requested approval to attend the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Early Childhood Education Network meeting on April 26, 2018, in Alexandria, Virginia.

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved for Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman to attend the NASBE Early Childhood Education Network meeting on April 26, 2018, in Alexandria, Virginia.

XIII. Other Business

The May Board meeting will be held May 17, 2018, in Jackson, Mississippi at the Central High School Building starting at 10:00 a.m.

XIV. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 1:16 p.m.

Approved:



Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair  
Mississippi Board of Education



Carey M. Wright  
Executive Secretary  
Mississippi Board of Education