

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

August 16, 2018

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Board meeting at 10:04 a.m. on Thursday, August 16, 2018, 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 (by phone), Mr. Johnny Franklin, Dr. John R. Kelly, and Mr. Sean Suggs. Board member absent: Mr. Charles McClelland. Dr. Carey M. Wright was also present.

- I. Dr. Jason S. Dean, Chair, called the Board meeting to order. 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. Sean Suggs led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Johnny Franklin gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2018, Board meeting.
- IV. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, to add item 04.A. information only and item 04.B. as action item to the agenda jointly with a motion from Mr. Buddy Bailey to remove the current item 04: Spring 2018 ACT results due to a delay in the release of the data for the 2018 graduation class, and seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as amended.

Added:

04. Action: Approval of a temporary rule and to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2018*, specifically, the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System effective for the 2017-2018 school year [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)
- 04.A. Information: Approval of a temporary rule and to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System to reset the baseline scores for schools with Grade 12 effective for school year 2017-2018 [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)

- 04.B. Action: Approval of a temporary rule and to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System to assign a grade classification to all schools in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-17-6(5) and *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* effective for school year 2017-2018 [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)

V. Recognition Ceremony

2018 Parent of the Year

Mrs. Heather M. Church

Ocean Springs School District

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

- Dr. Wright stated that she wanted to give an overview of how Mississippi is being perceived around the Nation. Dr. Wright stated that there is a lot that is happening that the public and media are not aware of it, but it is important that you realize the amount of recognition that Mississippi is getting for the gains and all the folks that are wanting to know how we did it.
- Dr. Wright stated that she received a call to do a presentation at the Southern Regional Education Board's (SREB) annual meeting and the theme of the meeting was "Looking Closer." Dr. Wright stated that 16 states are in the southern region and that Mississippi was the only state that showed gains on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Dr. Wright stated that the audience was 150 legislators from the 16 states and she talked about our literacy-based promotion act, early learning collaborative act, and our K-3 literacy pieces. Dr. Wright stated that people are starting to ask a lot of questions about our progress.
- Dr. Wright stated that she and one other state superintendent were asked by the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading who has a national meeting every year called Funder Huddle to come and present data on K-3 literacy. Dr. Wright thanked all the Pre-K through third grade literacy staff and stated hats off to you.
- Dr. Wright stated that Alabama is in the SREB. Dr. Wright stated 14 people from Alabama including the Governor's Policy Advisor, state board chair, representatives, and department staff came to MDE to learn what we are doing. Dr. Wright stated that the Department hosted the group all day letting them know what we are doing in Mississippi. Dr. Wright stated hats off to Ms. Robin Lemonis for organizing this meeting. Dr. Wright stated hats off to the staff that did presentations to this group.
- Dr. Wright stated that she got a call from the National Assessment Governing Board who oversees NAEP and they interviewed her about what

we are doing since Mississippi is only one of a few states in the Nation that continues to show growth on NAEP.

- Dr. Wright stated she received a call from the Foundation for Excellence in Education who is doing a research study and came to interview all the staff that are involved with literacy in Mississippi. Dr. Wright stated that Mississippi will be featured in the research article. Dr. Wright stated hats off to the teachers, principals, superintendents, and to the Department staff for all the hard work day in and day out. Dr. Wright stated that the Nation's eyes are on Mississippi.
- Dr. Wright stated that Dr. Nathan Oakley and Dr. Paula Vanderford attended the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) Summer Leadership Conference along with her and she spoke about our work.
- Dr. Wright stated that she was on the Paul Gallo Radio Show.
- Dr. Wright stated that our team held a conference with 200 in attendance and had a waiting list for the conference. Dr. Wright stated the title of the conference was "EL Teacher Symposium: Teaching and Engaging English Learners." Dr. Wright thanked all the cross offices for their hard work on the conference.
- Dr. Wright stated that she met with Dr. Alfred Rankins, Commissioner of Higher Education. Dr. Wright stated that he wants to continue our strong partnership with K-12 and wants us to be a part of P-16 partnership.
- Dr. Wright stated that she met with the President of the Education Commission of the States (ECS), Mr. Jeremy Anderson, about what he could do for Mississippi or what the organization could do for Mississippi. Dr. Wright stated that Governor Phil Bryant chairs ECS right now. Dr. Wright stated that it is nice to have Mississippians leading three national organizations at the same time, National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE), ECS, and CCSSO.
- Dr. Wright stated that the new Superintendent of Noxubee County School District, Mr. Rodriguez Broadnax, met with the staff and the community and they are glad he is here.
- Dr. Wright stated that she met with the Secretary of State, Delbert Hosemann, to inform him of the things happening in Mississippi.
- Dr. Wright stated that she met with Mr. Scott Waller, Executive Director of the Mississippi Economic Council, who is very interested in partnering with the Department on Workforce Development.
- Dr. Wright stated the Spotlight for this Board meeting is "Blended Pre-K Program – Students of All Abilities Learning Together - Clinton Public School District." Dr. Wright stated this is starting Pre-K classes with students with disabilities along with their typically developing peers. Dr. Wright stated that she has seen this work and she has done this work and it gives children a leg up. Dr. Wright stated that it gets the special education students into general education programs and that is where they are going to blossom. Dr. Wright stated that you know how passionate she is about

high quality early education programming and she feels no less passionate around students with disabilities. Dr. Wright stated that the Department gave grants to five districts for blended Pre-K programs: Clinton, Pass Christian, Columbia, Houston, and North Tippah. Dr. Wright thanked Dr. Tim Martin, Superintendent, Clinton Public School District; Ms. Chaffie Gibbs, Special Education Director, Clinton Public School District; Ms. Kelli Pope, Principal, Clinton Park Elementary School; and Ms. Sandi Beason, Public Information Officer, Clinton Public School District. Dr. Wright stated that eventually the goal would be for these students to be in general education all the time and be dismissed from special education. Dr. Wright stated that the research is so powerful about early intervention with these little ones. Dr. Wright stated hats off to the leadership of the superintendent, principal, special education director, and the teachers at Clinton Public School District.

- VII. Dr. Jason S. Dean as the Chair of the State Board gave the following report:
- Dr. Dean thanked the Board members for selecting him as the State Board Chair.

VIII. There were no subcommittee reports.

IX. Discussion of Board Items

Dr. Wright stated that Mr. Johnny Franklin had asked for an update around what we are doing about teacher development, teacher recruitment, and teacher leadership. Dr. Wright stated that the Office of Teaching and Leading will give the overview of what we have currently in place and for the future.

01. Dr. Paula Vanderford, Dr. Cory Murphy, Mr. Phelton Cortez Moss, and Dr. Debra Burson gave an update from the Office of Teaching and Leading on strategies for attracting, recruiting, preparing, supporting, and retaining teachers [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]. The Board had comments, suggestions, and asked questions.
02. Dr. Vanderford and Dr. Nathan Oakley reported the Spring 2018 Kindergarten Readiness Assessment Results [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

Mr. Johnny Franklin, as a matter of personal privilege, thanked Dr. Wright, Dr. Oakley, and the staff for all you do for early childhood education.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:40 a.m. and reconvened at 12:30 p.m. Mr. Sean Suggs did not return to the meeting.

03. Dr. Vanderford and Dr. Oakley reported the Spring 2018 Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP) results [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
04. Dr. Vanderford, Mr. Alan Burrow, and Ms. Anna Furniss discussed approval of a temporary rule and to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2018*, specifically, the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System effective for the 2017-2018 school year [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]. The Board discussed and asked questions.
 - 04.A. Information: Approval of a temporary rule and to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System to reset the baseline scores for schools with Grade 12 effective for school year 2017-2018 [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)

Based on the discussion, Dr. Jason S. Dean stated that the Board would like to remand back to the Commission on School Accreditation the decision to reset the baseline scores for schools with Grade 12 effective for school year 2017-2018 for additional consideration.

On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved to remand to the Commission on School Accreditation the decision to reset the baseline scores and have a Special-Called Board meeting on Thursday, August 23, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. to discuss resetting the baseline scores in accordance with current State Board of Education policy for schools with Grade 12 effective for school year 2017-2018.

- 04.B. Action: Approval of a temporary rule and to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System to assign a grade classification to all schools in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-17-6(5) and *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* effective for school year 2017-2018 [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Vanderford recommended approval.
05. Dr. Felica Gavin discussed approval of the Mississippi Department of Education Contracts [Goals 1, 2, 3, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Gavin recommended approval.

- 05.A. Action: Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Felicia Gavin)
- 05.B. Action: Contract with personnel to provide consultative services relative to serving as a literacy coach in literacy support schools [Goal 1 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
- 05.C. Action: Contract with Glen H. Stribling to provide optometry and low-vision services for the Mississippi School for the Blind Low Vision Clinic for the 2018-2019 school year [Goals 1, 2, and 3 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)
- 06. Dr. Gavin discussed approval of the Mississippi Department of Education grant awards [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Gavin recommended approval.
 - 06.A. 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)
 - 06.B. Action: Approval to award a grant to Mississippi School Boards Association to conduct basic and continuing education for local school boards, and conduct training for school board members and school superintendents in failing school districts, as required by Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-4 [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Paula Vanderford)
- 07. Dr. Jason S. Dean gave the Board an opportunity to discuss the following consent agenda items.
 - A. Approval of Resolution declaring the boundary of the Greenwood-Leflore School District (Nathan Oakley)
 - B. Approval of methodology to award grants to school districts, public institutions of higher learning, community colleges, and state agencies to participate in a Mississippi Department of Education Educators-in-Residence program (Nathan Oakley)
 - C. Approval to revise State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 36, Rule 36.3: Policies for Carnegie Unit Credit (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Paula Vanderford)

- D. Approval to revise State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 56, Rule 56.1:
Distance Learning/Online Courses
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Paula Vanderford)
 - E. Approval to revise State Board Policy Chapter 36, Rule 36.4:
Assessments Required for Graduation
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments) (Paula Vanderford)
 - F. Approval of the appointment to the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development
(Paula Vanderford)
 - G. Approval of Statewide Purchasing Program fee structure for School Year 2018-2019 (Felicia Gavin)
- X. Approval of Action Items
- 04. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved a temporary rule and to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System to assign a grade classification to all schools in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-17-6(5) and *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* effective for school year 2017-2018 [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan].
(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)
 - 04.B. Action: Approval of a temporary rule and to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System to assign a grade classification to all schools in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-17-6(5) and *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* effective for school year 2017-2018 [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]
(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)
 - (1) Business Rule 3.1.1: Revise the business rule to provide alternate measures of performance for schools not meeting the minimum N-count.

(2) Business Rule 22.3: Revise the business rule to clarify that grades will be assigned to schools with only Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students.

(3) Business Rule 23.2.1: Delete the business rule stating Mississippi School for the Blind (MSB) and Mississippi School for the Deaf (MSD) will not have grades assigned.

05. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved the Mississippi Department of Education Contracts [Goals 1,2, 3, and 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief of Operations Officer)

05.A. Action: Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan]
(Office of Chief of Operations Officer)

05.B. Action: Contract with personnel to provide consultative services relative to serving as a literacy coach in literacy support schools [Goal 1 – MBE Strategic Plan]
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

05.C. Action: Contract with Glen H. Stribling to provide optometry and low-vision services for the Mississippi School for the Blind Low Vision Clinic for the 2018-2019 school year [Goals 1, 2, and 3 – MBE Strategic Plan]
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

06. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved the Mississippi Department of Education grant awards [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief of Operations Officer)

06.A. 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] (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)

06.B. Action: Approval to award a grant to Mississippi School Boards Association to conduct basic and continuing education for local school

boards, and conduct training for school board members and school superintendents in failing school districts, as required by Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-4 [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]
(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)

07. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board unanimously approved the consent agenda items A., B., C., D., E., F., and G. (copy attached).

- A. Approval of Resolution declaring the boundary of the Greenwood-Leflore School District
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)
- B. Approval of methodology to award grants to school districts, public institutions of higher learning, community colleges, and state agencies to participate in a Mississippi Department of Education Educators-in-Residence program
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)
- C. Approval to revise State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 36, Rule 36.3: Policies for Carnegie Unit Credit
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments)
(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)
- D. Approval to revise State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 56, Rule 56.1: Distance Learning/Online Courses
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments)
(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)
- E. Approval to revise State Board Policy Chapter 36, Rule 36.4: Assessments Required for Graduation
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process without public comments)
(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)
- F. Approval of the appointment to the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development
(Office of Chief Accountability Officer)

- G. Approval of Statewide Purchasing Program fee structure for School Year 2018-2019
(Office of Chief of Operations Officer)

XI. Consideration of Executive Session

Mr. Buddy Bailey moved that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a vote of 6 to 0. Dr. Jason S. Dean asked Dr. Carey M. Wright, Ms. Raina Lee, 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 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). Dr. John R. Kelly seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 6 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 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. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board voted 6 to 0 to come out of Executive Session.

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

01. On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Dr. Jacquelyn Sampsell as Educ-Bureau Director II to serve as Director of Student Assessment in the Office of Accountability at a salary of \$96,000.00.
02. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Dr. Sebrina R. Palmer as Educ-Bureau Director II to serve as Director of Professional Development in the Office of Academic Education at a salary of \$92,000.00.

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XII. State Board of Education

1. There were no meetings attended.
2. There were no requests to attend meetings.

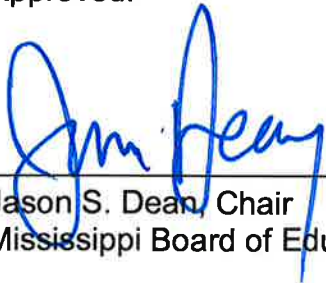
XIII. Other Business

The September Board meeting will be held September 20, 2018, 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 Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 2:19 p.m.

Approved:



Jason S. Dean, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education



Carey M. Wright
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education