



**Minutes of the
Commission on School Accreditation
Regularly Scheduled Meeting (Teleconference)
Central High School Building
4th Floor Board Room
359 North West Street
Jackson, Mississippi
February 1, 2018
10:00 a.m.**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission on School Accreditation (CSA or Commission) took place at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 1, 2018 via teleconference. The Commission members present in the 4th Floor Board Room of the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi included:

Heather Westerfield, Chair
Kelle Barfield
Sean Brewer
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Michael Miller

Attending via teleconference:

Brian Harvey, Clinton, MS
Michael Lindsey, Gulfport, MS
Dr. Valencia Martin, Greenwood, MS (joined late)
John Mistilis, Oxford, MS
Eddie Prather, Tupelo, MS

The following members did not attend:

Kenny Bush
Ann Jones
Anthony Montgomery
Rob Tyner

The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE), Office of Accreditation staff members present included: Dr. Jo Ann Malone, Executive Director, John Cartwright, Teresa Jones, and Michael Martin.

Other MDE staff present included: Jean Massey and Gretchen Cagle

Also in attendance: Joseph Runnels, Special Assistant Attorney General.

I. Announcement of Quorum and Call to Order

Heather Westerfield, Chair of the CSA, opened the Commission meeting and conducted a roll-call of the Commission members.

The following Commission members attended the meeting:

Heather Westerfield, Chair
Kelle Barfield
Sean Brewer
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Brian Harvey
Michael Lindsey
Dr. Valencia Martin (joined late)
Michael Miller
John Mistilis
Eddie Prather

The following Commission members did not attend:

Kenny Bush
Ann Jones
Anthony Montgomery
Rob Tyner

Ms. Westerfield announced that a quorum of the Commission did exist.

Ms. Westerfield called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Sean Brewer gave the invocation.

Ms. Westerfield introduced and welcomed Commission Member Ms. Kelle Barfield. This was her first time to attend a meeting in person.

II. Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Westerfield asked the Commission members to review the agenda they received previously. On a motion by Sean Brewer, seconded by Roy Gill, the Commission unanimously approved the agenda.

Members voting aye: Kelle Barfield
Sean Brewer
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Brian Harvey
Michael Lindsey
Michael Miller

John Mistilis
Eddie Prather

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: None

Members absent: Kenny Bush
Ann Jones
Dr. Valencia Martin
Anthony Montgomery
Rob Tyner

Discussion: None

III. Approval of the minutes of the December 7, 2017, Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Commission on School Accreditation

On a motion by Sarah Foster, seconded by Michael Miller, the Commission unanimously approved the approval of the minutes of the December 7, 2017 meeting.

Members voting aye: Kelle Barfield
Sean Brewer
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Brian Harvey
Michael Lindsey
Michael Miller
John Mistilis
Eddie Prather

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: None

Members absent: Kenny Bush
Ann Jones
Dr. Valencia Martin
Anthony Montgomery
Rob Tyner

Discussion: None

Dr. Malone explained that she would be sitting in for Dr. Vanderford, Executive Secretary who was unable to attend and Joseph Runnels would be sitting in for Erin Meyer as the Special Assistant Attorney General representing the Attorney General's office.

IV. Approval to upgrade the accreditation status of the West Bolivar Consolidated School District from PROBATION to ACCREDITED

On a motion by Kelle Barfield, seconded by Roy Gill, the Commission unanimously approved the request to upgrade the accreditation status of the West Bolivar Consolidated School District from PROBATION to ACCREDITED.

Members voting aye: Kelle Barfield
Sean Brewer
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Brian Harvey
Michael Lindsey
Michael Miller
John Mistilis
Eddie Prather

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: None

Members absent: Kenny Bush
Ann Jones
Dr. Valencia Martin
Anthony Montgomery
Rob Tyner

Discussion: None

V. Approval of the request from the Okolona Public School District to waive the requirements of Process Standard 2.1 of the Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2017 for the 2017-2018 school year.

On a motion by Sean Brewer, seconded by Roy Gill, the Commission unanimously approved the request from the Okolona Public School District to waive the requirements of Process Standard 2.1 of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2017* for the 2017-2018 school year.

Members voting aye: Kelle Barfield
Sean Brewer
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Brian Harvey
Michael Lindsey
Michael Miller
John Mistilis
Eddie Prather

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: None

Members absent: Kenny Bush
Ann Jones
Dr. Valencia Martin
Anthony Montgomery
Rob Tyner

Discussion: The request was made to make sure that the Okolona School District understood that this waiver is being granted for the current school year only.

VI. Consideration of the proposed revisions to Standards 14.1.4 and 26 and Appendices A and B of the Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2017

A presentation was made by Jean Massey, Executive Director, Office of Secondary Education.

Discussion: Sarah Foster asked Ms. Massey for clarity on standard 26. Sean Brewer asked for clarity on the Cambridge program, the ACT Quality Core assessments and their equivalency as indicated in Appendix A-4.

VII. Approval to submit request to the State Board of Education to begin the APA process to amend Standards 14.1.4 and 26 and Appendices A and B of the Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2017

On a motion by Kelle Barfield, seconded by Roy Gill, the Commission unanimously approved the request to submit a request to the State Board of Education to begin the APA process to amend Standards 14.1.4 and 26 and Appendices A and B of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2017*.

Members voting aye: Kelle Barfield
Sean Brewer
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Brian Harvey
Michael Lindsey
Michael Miller
John Mistilis
Eddie Prather

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: None

Members absent: Kenny Bush
Ann Jones
Dr. Valencia Martin
Anthony Montgomery
Rob Tyner

Discussion: None

VIII. Discussion of proposed Mississippi Innovation Lab Network (MS-ILN), a partnership between the Mississippi Department of Education and selected local school districts, to advance new models of learning that can better prepare all students for success in the 21st century.

A presentation was made by Jean Massey, Executive Director, Office of Secondary Education.

Discussion: Sarah Foster and Eddie Prather asked for clarification as to why it was for A and B districts only. Roy Gill asked for clarification on which process standards were being considered. Sarah Foster asked if the Commission would have to approve each process standards being waived or if MDE would approve. Jean Massey explained that MDE would determine which standards were being waived by district. Sean Brewer asked which districts would serve as mentors. Jean Massey said that Corinth and Gulfport would be heavily relied upon but that others such as Booneville and Madison would be considered as needed.

IX. Approval to establish the Mississippi Innovation Lab Network (MS-ILN)

On a motion by John Mistilis, seconded by Brian Harvey, the Commission unanimously approved the request to establish the Mississippi Innovation Lab Network (MS-ILN).

Members voting aye: Kelle Barfield
Sean Brewer
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Brian Harvey
Michael Lindsey
Michael Miller
John Mistilis
Eddie Prather

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: None

Members absent: Kenny Bush
Ann Jones
Dr. Valencia Martin
Anthony Montgomery
Rob Tyner

Discussion: None

X. Discussion of the proposed revision to Standard 14.3 and establishment of Appendix A-6 of the Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2017 for the requirements for a Certificate of Completion for Students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) beginning in school year 2018-2019.

A presentation was made by Gretchen Cagle, Executive Director, Office of Special Education.

Discussion: Kenny Bush asked if the goal was to keep the students in school. Ms. Cagle responded that the goal was two-fold: to keep them in school and to get them a diploma.

Roy Gill asked for clarification on the requirements to test students with disabilities. Ms. Cagle explained that federal requirements dictate that all students, regardless of disability, are required to participate in state assessments.

Dr. Malone noted that the motion should indicate Appendix A-11 rather than A-6 because there is already an Appendix A-6 in place.

Note: Dr. Valencia Martin joined the meeting via teleconference during the presentation of this item.

XI. Approval to submit request to the State Board of Education to begin the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) process to establish Appendix A-11 of the Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2017 for the requirements for a Certificate of Completion for Students with Disabilities

On a motion by Kelle Barfield, seconded by Sarah Foster, the Commission unanimously approved the request to ask the State Board of Education to begin the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) process to establish Appendix A-11 of the *Mississippi Public Schools Accountability Standards, 2017* for the requirements for a Certificate of Completion for Students with Disabilities.

Members voting aye: Kelle Barfield
Sean Brewer
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Brian Harvey
Michael Lindsey
Dr. Valencia Martin
Michael Miller
John Mistilis
Eddie Prather

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: None

Members absent: Kenny Bush
Ann Jones
Anthony Montgomery
Rob Tyner

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Discussion: None

XII. Other Business

Ms. Westerfield informed the Commission that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission is April 5, 2018.

XIII. Adjournment

On a motion by Michael Miller, seconded by Eddie Prather, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

Members voting aye: Kelle Barfield
Sean Brewer
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Brian Harvey
Michael Lindsey
Dr. Valencia Martin
Michael Miller
John Mistilis
Eddie Prather

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: None

Members absent: Kenny Bush
Ann Jones
Anthony Montgomery
Rob Tyner

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION:

April 12 2018
(Month) (Day) (Year)

Heath Westerfield
Chair of the Commission

[Signature]
Executive Secretary of the Commission