



**Minutes of the
Commission on School Accreditation
Regularly Scheduled Teleconference Meeting
Central High School Building
4th Floor Board Room
359 North West Street
Jackson, Mississippi
October 18, 2016
10:00 a.m.**

The regularly scheduled teleconference meeting of the Commission on School Accreditation (CSA or Commission) took place at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 18, 2016. The Commission members present in the Fourth (4th) Floor Board Room of the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi included: Chuck Blackwell, Sean Brewer, Sarah Foster, Roy Gill, Michael Lindsey, Michael Miller, John Mistilis, Eddie Prather, and Heather Westerfield. Dr. Lee Childress, Ann Jones, Dr. Valencia Martin, Anthony Montgomery, and Rob Tyner participated via teleconference. Kenny Bush did not attend.

The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE), Office of Accreditation staff members present included: Dr. J.P. Beaudoin, Chief, Research and Development, Dr. Paula Vanderford, Executive Secretary, Erin Meyer, Special Assistant Attorney General, Teresa Jones, Brenda Shelby, Ken Stamps, and James Thompson. Other MDE staff present included Dr. Carey Wright, State Superintendent, Jean Cook, Walt Drane, Patrice Guilfoyle, Brooks Little, and Pete Smith.

I. Announcement of Quorum and Call to Order

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

The following Commission members attended the meeting:

Chuck Blackwell	Fourth Floor Board Room, Jackson, MS
Sean Brewer	Fourth Floor Board Room, Jackson, MS
Lee Childress	Via teleconference, Destin, FL
Sarah Foster	Fourth Floor Board Room, Jackson, MS
Roy Gill	Fourth Floor Board Room, Jackson, MS
Ann Jones	Via teleconference, Shreveport, LA
Michael Lindsey	Fourth Floor Board Room, Jackson, MS
Valencia Martin	Via teleconference, Greenwood, MS
Michael Miller	Fourth Floor Board Room, Jackson, MS
John Mistilis	Fourth Floor Board Room, Jackson, MS
Anthony Montgomery	Via teleconference, Gulfport
Eddie Prather	Fourth Floor Board Room, Jackson, MS
Rob Tyner	Via teleconference, Sumner, MS
Heather Westerfield	Fourth Floor Board Room, Jackson, MS

The following Commission member did not attend:

Kenny Bush

Dr. Childress announced that a quorum of the Commission existed at the locations stated for the purpose of conducting a meeting via teleconference.

Dr. Childress called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

II. Adoption of Agenda

Dr. Childress asked the Commission members to review the agenda they received previously. On a motion by John Mistilis, seconded by Michael Lindsey, the Commission unanimously approved the agenda.

Members voting aye: Chuck Blackwell
Sean Brewer
Lee Childress
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Ann Jones
Michael Lindsey
Valencia Martin
Michael Miller
John Mistilis
Anthony Montgomery
Eddie Prather
Rob Tyner
Heather Westerfield

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: None

Members absent: Kenny Bush

III. Approval of the minutes of the August 16, 2016, Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Commission on School Accreditation

Dr. Childress asked the Commission members to review the minutes from the August 16, 2016, regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission on School Accreditation they received previously. On a motion by Ann Jones, seconded by Sean Brewer, the Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the August 16, 2016, meeting of the Commission.

Members voting aye: Chuck Blackwell
Sean Brewer
Lee Childress
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Ann Jones
Michael Lindsey
Valencia Martin
Michael Miller
John Mistilis
Anthony Montgomery
Eddie Prather
Rob Tyner
Heather Westerfield

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: None

Members absent: Kenny Bush

IV. Discussion of Annual District Accreditation Statuses for School Year 2016-2017 and Districts with Deficiencies in accordance with Accreditation Policies 2.0, 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2016*

Dr. Vanderford presented the recommended annual district accreditation statuses in accordance with Accreditation Policies 2.0, 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2016*, for 144 districts. The Office of Accreditation recommended an ACCREDITED status for 127 districts and a PROBATION status for 17 districts. The back-up material presented included the process standard deficiencies on each district's Accreditation Record Summary.

Dr. Vanderford explained that all districts assigned a PROBATION status will be required to submit a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) within 60 days of notification of the assigned status in accordance with Accreditation Policy 2.8. When a district clears all deficiencies on record, the Office of Accreditation will present a recommendation to the Commission to upgrade the District's status.

V. Request for Approval of District Accreditation Statuses for 2016-2017 and Permission to Submit to State Board of Education for Approval on October 20, 2016

On a motion by Anthony Montgomery, seconded by Eddie Prather, the Commission unanimously approved the District Accreditation Statuses for 2016-2017 (with the exception of the West Tallahatchie School District) and Permission to Submit to State Board of Education for Approval on October 20, 2016.

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Members voting aye: Chuck Blackwell
Sean Brewer
Lee Childress
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Ann Jones
Michael Lindsey
Valencia Martin
John Mistilis
Michael Miller
Anthony Montgomery
Eddie Prather
Rob Tyner
Heather Westerfield

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: None

Members absent: Kenny Bush

On a motion by Ann Jones, seconded by Sarah Foster, the Commission unanimously approved the District Accreditation Status for 2016-2017 for the West Tallahatchie School District, and Permission to Submit to State Board of Education for Approval on October 20, 2016.

Members voting aye: Chuck Blackwell
Sean Brewer
Lee Childress
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Ann Jones
Michael Lindsey
Valencia Martin
Michael Miller
John Mistilis
Anthony Montgomery
Eddie Prather
Heather Westerfield

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: Rob Tyner

Members absent: Kenny Bush

VI. Report of the Internal Review of Preliminary Accountability Results in accordance with Accreditation Policy 3.1.3 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2016*

Dr. Beaudoin presented the results of the Internal Review of Preliminary Accountability Results in accordance with Accreditation Policy 3.1.3 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2016*.

The 2015-2016 Preliminary Accountability Results were released to districts on September 8, 2016. The Internal Review Committee met on October 3, 2016, to review the appeals submitted by the Districts during the appeal window. A total of 1,587 appeals were submitted. Based on the evidence provided by the Districts, 1,363 appeals were granted and 224 appeals were denied.

VII. Discussion of District/School Performance Reports and District/School Performance Classifications for School Year 2016-2017

Dr. Beaudoin presented the District/School Performance Reports and District/School Performance Classifications and key findings for School Year 2016-2017, based on school year 2015-2016. He reminded the Commission that the 2015-2016 Performance Classifications (Grades) do not include the ESEA accountability waiver allowed for the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 Accountability Results.

One hundred and forty three (143) Districts were assigned Performance Classification for the 2016-2017 School Year:

14 Districts (9.8%) received an "A" Performance Classification
39 Districts (27.3%) received a "B" Performance Classification
36 Districts (25.1%) received a "C" Performance Classification
35 Districts (24.5%) received a "D" Performance Classification
19 Districts (13.3%) received a "F" Performance Classification

Note: Corinth School District was not assigned a Performance Classification for School Year 2016-2017 at this time, based on the Innovative School District Waiver approved by the State Board of Education on February 18, 2016.

VIII. Request for Approval of District/School Performance Classifications for School Year 2016-2017 (based on School Year 2015-2016), with the Stipulation that the Information Continue to be Embargoed to the Public until October 20, 2016

On a motion by Roy Gill, seconded by Chuck Blackwell, the Commission unanimously approved the District/School Performance Classifications for School Year 2016-2017 (based on School Year 2015-2016), with the stipulation that the information continue to be embargoed to the Public until October 20, 2016.

Members voting aye: Chuck Blackwell
Sean Brewer
Lee Childress
Sarah Foster

Roy Gill
Ann Jones
Michael Lindsey
Valencia Martin
Michael Miller
John Mistilis
Anthony Montgomery
Eddie Prather
Rob Tyner
Heather Westerfield

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: None

Members absent: Kenny Bush

IX. Report on the Mississippi Assessment Program (MAP) achievement gap results by subgroup

Dr. Beaudoin discussed the emphasis that reauthorization, *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) will place on improving the achievement of all subgroups and presented the Mississippi Assessment Program (MAP) state achievement gap results by subgroup.

Gap analysis compares the percentage of proficient students between subgroups, such as comparing the percentage of proficient white students to the percentage of proficient African American students. The purpose of gap analysis is to show the disparity between the groups being compared. The gap percentage points were calculated by determining the difference between the percentage of proficient students in the groups being compared.

Data for the following subgroups were reported: Minority-African American, Minority-Other, Economically Disadvantaged (ED), Students with Disability (SWD), English Learners (EL) and Male. Results for English/Language Arts (ELA) and Math were presented.

X. Other Business

John Mistilis reported attendance at a recent high school football game in North Panola School District. He discussed the challenges the District had faced over the years, such as two (2) state takeovers. He highlighted the number of people in attendance at the football game, as well as the current community involvement and progress the District is making.

Rob Tyner moved to nominate Dr. Lee Childress as the Chair of the Commission on School Accreditation, Anthony Montgomery seconded this nomination. Eddie Prather made a motion to close the nominations and Mike Miller seconded this motion.

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The Commission unanimously elected Dr. Lee Childress as the Chair of the Commission on School Accreditation.

Members voting aye: Chuck Blackwell
Sean Brewer
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Ann Jones
Michael Lindsey
Valencia Martin
Michael Miller
John Mistilis
Anthony Montgomery
Eddie Prather
Rob Tyner
Heather Westerfield

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: Lee Childress

Members absent: Kenny Bush

Eddie Prather nominated Heather Westerfield to serve as Vice-Chair of the Commission on School Accreditation. Sarah Foster seconded this nomination. Sean Brewer made a motion to close nomination. Roy Gill seconded the motion to close the nominations.

The Commission unanimously elected Heather Westerfield as the Vice-Chair of the Commission on School Accreditation.

Members voting aye: Chuck Blackwell
Sean Brewer
Lee Childress
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Ann Jones
Michael Lindsey
Valencia Martin
Michael Miller
John Mistilis
Anthony Montgomery
Eddie Prather
Rob Tyner

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: Heather Westerfield

Members absent: Kenny Bush

Dr. Paula Vanderford requested that the Commission consider moving the regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission on School Accreditation from Thursday, December 1, 2016, to Tuesday, December 6, 2016, at 10:00 a.m.

On a Motion by Roy Gill, seconded by Ann Jones, the Commission unanimously approved moving the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission on School Accreditation to Tuesday, December 6, 2016, at 10:00 a.m.

Members voting aye: Chuck Blackwell
Sean Brewer
Lee Childress
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Ann Jones
Michael Lindsey
Valencia Martin
Michael Miller
John Mistilis
Anthony Montgomery
Eddie Prather
Rob Tyner
Heather Westerfield

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: None

Members absent: Kenny Bush

XI. Adjournment

On a motion by John Mistilis, seconded by Eddie Prather, the Commission unanimously adjourned the meeting at 11:43 a.m.

Members voting aye: Chuck Blackwell
Sean Brewer
Lee Childress
Sarah Foster
Roy Gill
Ann Jones
Michael Lindsey
Valencia Martin
Michael Miller

John Mistilis
Anthony Montgomery
Eddie Prather
Rob Tyner
Heather Westerfield

Members voting nay: None

Members abstaining: None

Members absent: Kenny Bush

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION:

2 2 2017
(Month) (Day) (Year)

Edward Lee Childers
Chair of the Commission

[Signature]
Executive Secretary of the Commission