

## Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

March 14, 2013

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a work session at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 14, 2013 in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom of the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present were: Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Mr. Hal Gage, Mr. William H. Jones, Mr. Charles McClelland, Ms. Martha Murphy, and Mr. Simon F. Weir, II. Board members absent were: Ms. Kami Bumgarner, Dr. John R. Kelly, and Mr. Richard Morrison.

The work session was called to order by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Chair. Dr. Gann noted the statement on the agenda that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during the work session.

Dr. Lynn House gave the following report from the State Superintendent of Education:

- Stated that the legislative session is in its final weeks and the meetings with legislators and elected officials have proven to be very beneficial in keeping MDE informed of the status of bills coming from both chambers.
- Stated MDE will update the Board on the status of key legislation including the consideration of the MDE appropriations bill.
- Stated that the Accountability Task Force has been hard at work developing its recommendations for key components of the accountability model. Mr. Mike Kent and Dr. Paula Vanderford will provide information to the Board regarding the status of the recommendations, with more work taking place next week on March 20-21, 2013 in the Boardroom. Commended all members of the Task Force as well as MDE staff for their dedication to the work that has been undertaken.
- Stated she would like to publically address the inaccurate information regarding U.S. History that has been circulating among various groups since Monday. Although there has been discussion among superintendents and the Accountability Task Force regarding the U.S. History Assessment, the MDE has never advocated for any action that would diminish teaching U.S. History and/or the U.S. History Test. As has been the case for many years, U.S. History and the corresponding assessment are required for graduation.
- Reported that Ocean Springs School District has received a grant of \$982,000 from the Office of Naval Research to support the National Math and Science Initiative. Dr. Kim Benton and staff in the Office of Curriculum and Instruction assisted the school district in pursuing this grant, and MDE will recognize Ocean Springs in the near future.
- Introduced Dr. Ben Burnett, Superintendent of Lamar County School District and chair of the School Bus Safety Task Force, who presented a PowerPoint presentation on the School Bus Safety Task Force Report.
- Dr. Burnett presented a video explaining Common Core State Standards used by the Lamar County School District on their approach to more rigorous standards.

02. Mr. Hal Gage reported that the Instructional Enhancement Subcommittee discussed the changes on the gifted education policy that were requested last month at the Board meeting.
03. Dr. Larry Drawdy and Dr. Bill Welch presented conservator reports from Tate County School District, Aberdeen School District, and Okolona School District (copy attached).
04. Dr. Drawdy and Dr. Laura Jones discussed the methodology to award a supplemental grant in support of the local improvement efforts for the persistently lowest achieving schools in the State as authorized under Section 1003(g) of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* to local educational agencies (copy attached).
05. Dr. Kim Benton and Ms. Jean Massey discussed awarding additional discretionary grants to three (3) pilot school districts who have implemented the *Excellence for All* program for the purpose of purchasing testing materials (copy attached).
06. Dr. Benton, Mr. Nathan Oakley, and Ms. Trecina Green discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process to revise the *Regulations for the Gifted Education Programs in Mississippi* (copy attached).
07. Dr. Benton and Ms. Massey discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process to revise the Mississippi Secondary Curriculum Frameworks in Career and Technical Education for (1) Construction: Carpentry Concentration, (2) Culinary Arts, and (3) Introduction to Agriscience (copy attached).
08. Dr. Benton and Ms. Massey discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process to establish Mississippi Secondary Curriculum Frameworks in Career and Technical Education for (1) Law & Public Safety, (2) Energy Technology, and (3) Transportation Logistics (copy attached).
09. Mr. Mike Kent and Dr. Paula Vanderford discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process to approve the proposed recommendations for the assignment of performance classifications for the 2012-2013 State Accountability System (copy attached).
10. Mr. Kent and Dr. Vanderford discussed the Accredited Status for CARES School – Gulfport (copy attached).
11. Mr. Kent and Dr. Vanderford presented the requests of Hattiesburg Public School District, Lamar County School District, and Wayne County School District to operate the schools in the districts for less than one hundred eighty (180) days as the result of the February 10, 2013 south Mississippi tornados. The Board

discussed the requests and the special circumstance regarding the Oak Grove High School in the Lamar County School District (copy attached).

12. Mr. Kent presented the following consolidation lines for Bolivar County School Districts pursuant to Mississippi Code Section 37-7-104.1 (Senate Bill 2760, 2012 Legislative Session) (copy attached):
  - A. Discussed the boundary line for the North Bolivar Consolidated School District to consist of the territory of the former North Bolivar School District and the Mound Bayou Public School District pursuant to Section 37-7-104.1.
  - B. Discussed the apportionment of the territory of the North Bolivar Consolidated School District into five (5) new Board of Trustee election districts pursuant to Section 37-7-104.1 as depicted in the attached map and the metes and bounds description which were provided to the Board members.
  - C. Discussed the boundary line for the West Bolivar Consolidated School District to consist of the territory of the Benoit School District, West Bolivar School District, and Shaw School District pursuant to Section 37-7-104.1.
  - D. Discussed the apportionment of the territory of the West Bolivar Consolidated School District into five (5) new Board of Trustee election districts pursuant to Section 37-7-104.1 as depicted in the attached map and the metes and bounds description which were provided to the Board members.

The Board discussed the boundary lines for the territory of the two new school districts (North Bolivar Consolidated School District and the West Bolivar Consolidated School District) and the apportionment of the territory of the two new school districts into five new board of trustee election districts for each school district.

13. Mr. Todd Ivey discussed providing a recalculated Mississippi Adequate Education Program (MAEP) FY 2014 Base Student Cost to the legislature as required in House Bill 138, which is currently being debated in the 2013 Regular Session of the Mississippi Legislature, should that bill become law (copy attached).
14. Dr. Lynn House discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process to revise State Board Policy – 1404 – Meetings (copy attached).
15. Dr. Gann gave the Board an opportunity to discuss the following consent items:
  - A. Discussion of monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving

retirement benefits (Kim Benton)

- B. Discussion to award competitive contract to ConAgra Foods, Inc., to provide food products to local organizations in the State Food Purchasing Program (Kim Benton)
- C. Discussion to revise the *Mississippi Testing Accommodations Manual* (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with no public comment) (Kim Benton)
- D. Report on Personnel Actions (Cassandra Moore)

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:30 a.m.

The Board reconvened as an open meeting at 12:15 p.m.

Mr. William H. Jones moved that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session to discuss prospective litigation, investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or violation of law and personnel issues in accordance with Mississippi Code Sections 25-41-7 (4)(a), (b), (d), and (k). The motion was seconded by Mr. Simon Weir, II, and the motion passed on a vote of 5 to 0.

Mr. William H. Jones then moved that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of a strategy session or negotiations with respect to prospective litigation involving the Department of Education in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(b), discussion with respect to investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or violation of law in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(d) and discussion of discrete personnel matters related to the job performance of persons holding specific positions in the Department of Education and discussion of the employment of persons in specific positions and transaction of business related thereto in accordance with Mississippi Code Sections 25-41-7 (a) and (k). Mr. Charles McClelland seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 5 to 0.

Ms. Kathy Boteler informed the public of the Board's decision to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion of a strategy session or negotiations with respect to prospective litigation involving the Department of Education in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(b), discussion with respect to investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or violation of law in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(d) and discussion of discrete personnel matters related to the job performance of persons holding specific positions in the Department of Education and discussion of the employment of persons in specific positions and transaction of business related thereto in accordance with Mississippi Code Sections 25-41-7 (a) and (k).

March 14, 2013

Dr. O. Wayne Gann stated the following to remain in the Executive Session: Dr. Lynn House, Ms. Kathy Boteler, Dr. Kim Benton, and Mr. Mike Kent. He asked that Dr. Paula Vanderford, Ms. Ann Moore, and Mr. Quentin Ransburg to be available if requested.

Minutes of the Executive Session

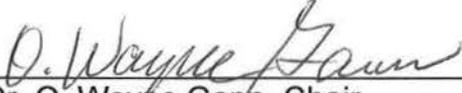
During the Executive Session, the Board discussed a strategy session with respect to prospective litigation involving the Department of Education in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(b), discussed investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or violation of law in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(d) and discussed the search for a State Superintendent and transaction of business related thereto in accordance with Mississippi Code Sections 25-41-7 (a) and (k).

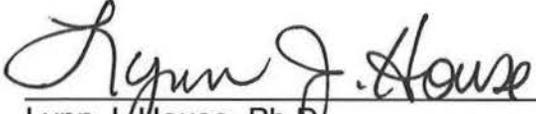
Dr. House recused herself from the meeting for the discussion of the search for a State Superintendent of Education and prospective litigation. Dr. Gann recused himself from the Executive Session for the discussion of the search for a State Superintendent. Mr. Quentin Ransburg joined the Executive Session for the discussion of the State Superintendent search. Dr. Benton left the Executive Session for the discussion of the State Superintendent search.

Mr. Hal Gage moved that the Board adjourn from Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland and the motion passed on a vote of 5 to 0.

On a motion by Mr. William H. Jones, seconded by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

Approved:

  
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Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Chair  
Mississippi Board of Education

  
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Lynn J. House, Ph.D.  
Interim Executive Secretary  
Mississippi Board of Education

## Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

March 15, 2013

The regular meeting of the Mississippi Board of Education was held at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, March 15, 2013, in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom of the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present were: Mr. Hal Gage, Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Mr. William H. Jones, Mr. Charles McClelland, Ms. Martha Murphy, and Mr. Simon F. Weir, II. Board members absent were: Ms. Kami Bumgarner, Dr. John R. Kelly, and Mr. Richard Morrison.

- I. The meeting was called to order by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Chair. Dr. Gann noted the statement on the agenda that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during the Board meeting.
- II. Mr. Simon F. Weir, II led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Dr. O. Wayne Gann gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting of February 14-15, 2013.
- IV. On a motion by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, seconded by Mr. William H. Jones, the Board unanimously approved to amend the agenda to add the following item:
  16. Approval of the assignment of PROBATION as the annual accreditation status of Claiborne County School District for school year 2012-2013, as recommended by the Commission on School Accreditation on March 7, 2013

On a motion by Mr. William H. Jones, seconded by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, the Board unanimously approved the agenda as amended.

- V. Report of the Chair
  - Stated that he taped a 30-minute public service announcement that aired in North Mississippi.
  - Announced that an article in *Visa Government Solutions* Spring 2013 issue highlighted the Mississippi Education Enhancement Fund (EEF) Procurement Card Program.
- VI. Approval of Action Items  
*(Items below are numbered to correspond to the items as discussed on Thursday, March 14, 2013.)*

04. On a motion by Mr. William H. Jones, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved the methodology to award a supplemental grant in support of the local improvement efforts for the persistently lowest achieving schools in the State as authorized under Section 1003(g) of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* to local educational agencies (copy attached).  
**(Office of School Improvement, Oversight and Recovery)**
05. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved to award additional discretionary grants to three (3) pilot school districts who have implemented the *Excellence for All* program for the purpose of purchasing testing materials (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
06. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the *Regulations for the Gifted Education Programs in Mississippi* (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
07. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the Mississippi Secondary Curriculum Frameworks in Career and Technical Education for (1) Construction: Carpentry Concentration, (2) Culinary Arts, and (3) Introduction to Agriscience (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
08. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish Mississippi Secondary Curriculum Frameworks in Career and Technical Education for (1) Law & Public Safety, (2) Energy Technology, and (3) Transportation Logistics (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
09. On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Mr. William H. Jones, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To approve the proposed recommendations for the assignment of performance classifications for the 2012-2013 State Accountability System (copy attached).  
**(Office of Educational Accountability)**
10. On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Mr. William H. Jones, the Board unanimously approved of an Accredited Status for CARES School – Gulfport (copy attached).  
**(Office of Educational Accountability)**

11. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board unanimously voted to deny the requests of Hattiesburg Public School District, Wayne County School District and, Lamar County School District to operate the schools in the district for less than one hundred eighty (180) days as the result of the February 10, 2013 south Mississippi tornados in which the Governor declared a state of emergency with the exception to grant the request to waive the one day for the Oak Grove High School in which all other schools in the Lamar County School District were in operation (copy attached).  
**(Office of Educational Accountability)**
  
12. A. On a motion by Mr. William H. Jones, seconded by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, the Board unanimously approved the boundary line for the North Bolivar Consolidated School District to consist of the territory of the former North Bolivar School District and the Mound Bayou Public School District pursuant to Section 37-7-104.1 (copy attached).  
**(Office of Educational Accountability)**
  
- B. On a motion by Mr. William H. Jones, seconded by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, the Board unanimously approved the apportionment of the territory of the North Bolivar Consolidated School District into five (5) new Board of Trustee election districts pursuant to Section 37-7-104.1 as depicted in the attached map and the metes and bounds description (copy attached).  
**(Office of Educational Accountability)**
  
- C. On a motion by Mr. William H. Jones, seconded by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, the Board unanimously approved the boundary line for the West Bolivar Consolidated School District to consist of the territory of the Benoit School District, West Bolivar School District, and Shaw School District pursuant to Section 37-7-104.1 (copy attached).  
**(Office of Educational Accountability)**
  
- D. On a motion by Mr. William H. Jones, seconded by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, the Board unanimously approved the apportionment of the territory of the West Bolivar Consolidated School District into five (5) new Board of Trustee election districts pursuant to Section 37-7-104.1 as depicted in the attached map and the metes and bounds description (copy attached).  
**(Office of Educational Accountability)**
  
13. On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Mr. Hal Gage, the Board unanimously approved to provide a recalculated Mississippi Adequate Education Program (MAEP) FY 2014 Base Student Cost to the legislature as required in

House Bill 138, which is currently being debated in the 2013 Regular Session of the Mississippi Legislature, should that bill become law (copy attached).

**(Office of State Superintendent)**

14. On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Mr. Hal Gage, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise State Board Policy – 1404 – Meetings (copy attached).

**(Office of State Superintendent)**

15. On a motion by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, seconded by Mr. William H. Jones, the Board approved the following consent items (copy attached).

A. Approval of monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits

**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**

B. Approval to award competitive contract to ConAgra Foods, Inc., to provide food products to local organizations in the State Food Purchasing Program

**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**

C. Approval to revise the *Mississippi Testing Accommodations Manual* (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with no public comment)

**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**

16. On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Mr. Simon F. Weir, II, the Board unanimously approved the assignment of PROBATION as the annual accreditation status of Claiborne County School District for school year 2012-2013, as recommended by the Commission on School Accreditation on March 7, 2013 (copy attached).

**(Office of Educational Accountability)**

VII. Recognition Ceremony

**2013 March Employee of the Month**

Carey Bass

Office of Compulsory School Attendance and Enforcement

School Attendance Officer

VIII. State Board of Education

01. Mr. William H. Jones reported visiting with former Board member, Mr. Claude Hartley.

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02. No requests to attend a meeting were received.

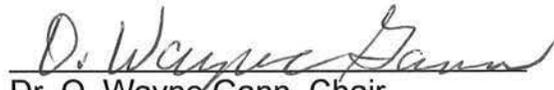
IX. There was no other business.

Dr. Gann announced that the April Board meeting is scheduled for April 18-19, 2013.

Dr. House announced the Accountability Task Force would meet on March 20-21, 2013.

X. On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Mr. Hal Gage, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 a.m.

Approved:



Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Chair  
Mississippi Board of Education



Lynn J. House, Ph.D.  
Interim Executive Secretary  
Mississippi Board of Education