

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

October 16, 2014

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a work session at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 16, 2014 in the 4th Floor Boardroom of the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present were: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Ms. Kami Bumgarner, Mr. Johnny Franklin, Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Mr. William H. Jones, Dr. John R. Kelly, Mr. Charles McClelland, Mr. Richard Morrison, and Mr. Danny J. Spreitler.

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

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

- Dr. Wright stated she made a presentation to the Mississippi Association of Grantmakers about building a better education system in Mississippi and how it will take the collective will of schools, families, communities, and businesses to move the state's education system forward. Members of the Association were interested in the Department and wrote a letter of support for MDE's Preschool Development Grant application to the U.S. Department of Education.
- Dr. Wright stated she met with the Public Information Officers around the state to provide information on the good things that are happening in education.
- Dr. Wright stated she spoke at the Excel by 5 Community Collaboration Summit about the importance of high-quality early childhood education. Excel by 5 works to create communities that support child well-being from birth to age 5.
- Dr. Wright stated she participated in the Celebration of Ocean Springs High School's extraordinary achievement on Advance Placement (AP) exams. The school's participation in the National Math and Science Initiative College Readiness Program set a national and historic record for the largest first-year increase in qualifying AP exam score. The number of qualifying scores jumped from 18 to 195 in just one year. Dr. Wright commended Dr. Bonita Coleman-Potter (superintendent), the principal, and the teachers.
- Dr. Wright stated the Charter Board met and two applications were approved to proceed to the next level.
- Dr. Wright spoke at the Vicksburg Chamber of Commerce and then toured Bomar Elementary School. Dr. Wright reported that she was impressed that students conducted the tours instead of the principal. The Chamber partnered with businesses to raise over \$280,000.00 to implement the Leader in Me pilot program in two schools in the area. The Chamber plans to raise funds to implement the program in other schools in the district.
- Dr. Wright recognized Ms. Staci Curry, Mr. Tollie Thigpen, Mr. Billy Buchanan, Ms. Serita Williams, Ms. Ellen Burnham, Ms. Deborah Donovan, Ms. Keshia Hudson, and Dr. Paula Vanderford for their work on the Accountability Results.

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She also thanked Mr. Pat Ross and Dr. John Porter for their leadership with the work between MDE offices that it took to obtain the Accountability results.

- Dr. Wright recognized Dr. Kim Benton, Mr. Nathan Oakley, Ms. Robin Lemonis, Ms. Rachel Canter, Ms. Linda Reeves, and Ms. Trecina Green for their work on the U.S. Department of Education Preschool Development Grant that was signed by the Governor and send to Washington, D.C.
- Dr. Wright welcomed Senator Brice Wiggins to the Board meeting.

Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair, School Performance and Accountability Subcommittee reported the subcommittee met prior to today's work session and discussed Items 04 through 08. These items will be presented to the Board this morning.

Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Chair, Academic Achievement PreK-12 Subcommittee reported this subcommittee discussed the items that will be presented today. He stated that the staff had done an outstanding job focusing on schools that need improvement.

Dr. Wright gave a report on the development of the MDE 5-Year Strategic Plan based on the *Instructions for Preparing 5-Year Strategic Plans for the Fiscal Years 2016-2020*. The Board discussed the progress made so far on the Plan. Dr. Wright stated the Plan will go to the program offices to create the action plan for each office. The Plan will come back to the Board to be approved at a later date (copy attached).

Mr. Pat Ross and Dr. Paula Vanderford discussed the final rule to revise the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System to include the process of evaluation and reporting for districts and schools participating in the *Excellence for All* program for school year 2013-2014. The item has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with no public comments (copy attached). Mr. Ross recommended approval on Friday.

Mr. Ross and Dr. Vanderford reported on action of the Commission on School Accreditation concerning the assignment of district accreditation statuses (copy attached). Mr. Ross recommended approval on Friday.

Mr. Ross, Dr. Vanderford, Ms. Staci Curry, and Mr. Tollie Thigpen discussed the 2014 Accountability Results (copy attached). A presentation was given with an overview of the history of the new Accountability System and explanation of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver for one year. The Board discussed the outcomes of the system. Ms. Curry, Mr. Thigpen, Dr. Billy Buchanan, Dr. John Porter, and the staff of the Office of Technology and Strategic Services collaborated together therefore improving transparency. Mr. Ross recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Kelly welcomed Dr. Laurie Smith from the Governor's Office to the Board meeting.

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Mr. Ross and Dr. Vanderford discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish the accreditation audit procedures that may lead to the declaration of a State of Emergency in accordance with Sections 37-17-6 (12)(a) and 37-17-6 (12)(b) of the *Mississippi Code of 1972*, as amended (copy attached). Mr. Ross recommended approval on Friday.

Mr. Ross and Dr. Vanderford discussed beginning the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise Accreditation Policy 2.9.2, *Penalty for the Withdrawal of Accreditation*, of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2014* (copy attached). Mr. Ross and Dr. Vanderford discussed proposed legislative changes restricting travel for board members, the superintendent, and district teachers and reducing per diem for board members for school districts whose accreditation is withdrawn. Mr. Ross recommended approval on Friday.

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Mr. Ross reported on the New Start School Program Regulations as per Section 37-167-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended (copy attached). Mr. Ross stated the regulations would be coming to the Board in November for approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process.

Mr. Ross discussed awarding competitive grants for the Mississippi Community Oriented Policing Services in Schools (MCOPS) grant program (copy attached). Mr. Ross recommended approval on Friday.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:48 am and reconvened at 12:45 pm.

Dr. Kim Benton, Ms. Robin Lemonis, and Mr. Nathan Oakley reported on the Statewide Kindergarten Readiness results for Mississippi K-3 Assessment Support System (MKAS²) (copy attached). The Board discussed the results of the Statewide Kindergarten Readiness.

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Dr. Benton discussed contracting with the University of Kansas Center for Research, Inc. (KUCR) on behalf of Center for Educational Testing and Evaluation (CETE) to administer Online Alternate Assessments for English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science for grades 3-12 (copy attached). Dr. Benton recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Benton discussed beginning the Administrative Procedure Act process: To establish CTE endorsement codes for Television Broadcasting and Production and Cosmetology (copy attached). Dr. Benton recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Benton and Mr. Oakley discussed modifying the contract with Jill Dent to support state and local early childhood education efforts (copy attached). Dr. Benton recommended approval on Friday.

Mr. Todd Ivey and Ms. Donna Hales reported on the contract with NCS Pearson, Inc., to administer the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Assessments. The Board discussed the emergency procurement, the process of an RFP, and a new contract for next year that should be coming to the Board in May for approval.

Dr. Kelly gave the Board an opportunity to discuss the following consent agenda item:

- A. Discussion of monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits (Todd Ivey)

Mr. William H. Jones moved that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session with respect to personnel issues, prospective litigation, investigative proceedings and security plans or devices in accordance with Mississippi Code Sections 25-41-7 (4)(a), (b), (c), (d), and (k). The motion was seconded by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, and the motion passed on a vote of 8 to 0.

Mr. William H. Jones, then moved that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of 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 (4)(a) and (k), discussion of a strategy session with respect to prospective litigation involving the Department in accordance with Mississippi Code Session 25-41-7 (4)(b), discussion with respect to investigative proceedings of school districts regarding allegations of misconduct or violation of law in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(d), and discussion regarding the report, development or course of action regarding security plans in accordance with Section 25-41-7 (4)(c). Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 8 to 0.

Dr. Kelly stated the following to remain in the Executive Session: Dr. Carey M. Wright, Executive Leadership Team, Ms. Kathy Boteler, and Mr. Walt Drane. Ms. Boteler informed the public of the Board's vote to go into Executive Session for the above-stated reasons.

Minutes of the Executive Session

The Board discussed 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 (4)(a) and (k), discussed a strategy session with respect to prospective litigation involving the Department in

accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(b), discussed with respect to investigative proceedings of school districts regarding allegations of misconduct or violations of law in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(d), and discussed the report, development or course of action regarding security plans in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(c).

The Board took action on the following items during the Executive Session:

1. On a motion by Mr. Danny J. Spreitler, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved on an 8 to 0 vote to approve the contract with Caveon Test Security to provide investigative auditing services for an amount not to exceed \$276,250.00.

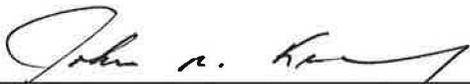
Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Mr. Charles McClelland, and Mr. William H. Jones left the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

2. On a motion by Mr. Danny J. Spreitler, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved on a 5 to 0 vote to appoint Ms. Deborah Donovan, Bureau Director II, to serve as Director for the Data Science Group at a salary of \$84,000.00.
3. On a motion by Mr. Danny J. Spreitler, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved on a 5 to 0 vote to appoint Mr. Walter Jacobs, Bureau Director II, to serve as Director of Strategic Information Systems at a salary of \$84,000.00.

On a motion by Mr. Richard Morrison, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the motion passed on a vote 5 to 0 to come out of Executive Session.

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Approved:



Dr. John R. Kelly, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education



Dr. Carey M. Wright
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

October 17, 2014

The regular meeting of the Mississippi Board of Education was held at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, October 17, 2014, in the 4th Floor Boardroom of the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present were: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Ms. Kami Bumgarner, Mr. Johnny Franklin, Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Dr. John R. Kelly, Mr. Charles McClelland, Mr. Richard Morrison, and Mr. Danny J. Spreitler. Board member absent was: Mr. William H. Jones.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. John R. Kelly, Chair. Dr. Kelly noted the statement on the agenda that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during the Board meeting.

- I. Ms. Kami Bumgarner led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Mr. Charles McClelland gave the Invocation.
- II. On a motion by Mr. Danny J. Spreitler, seconded by Ms. Kami Bumgarner, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the September 18-19, 2014 Board meeting.

Dr. Kelly stated that Item 06 was reworded to read as follows: Approval of the 2014 Accountability Results, including the adjusted grades for four schools impacted by equi-percentile process of business rule 22.1.2.

- III. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Mr. Danny J. Spreitler, the Board unanimously approved the revised agenda as presented.
- IV. Report of the Chair

Dr. Kelly reported that the Board voted yesterday in Executive Session on the following:

1. The Board approved the appointment of Deborah Donovan as Bureau Director II to serve as Director of the Data Science Group.
2. The Board approved the appointment of Walter Jacobs as Bureau Director II to serve as Director of Strategic Information Systems.
3. The Board approved the extension of a contract with Caveon.

Dr. Kelly stated there was a consensus of the Board last month to establish a Finance Subcommittee. He appointed Mr. Danny J. Spreitler as Chair and Dr. O. Wayne Gann as a member of the subcommittee.

VI. Approval of Action Items

(Items below are numbered to correspond to the items as discussed on Thursday, October 16, 2014.)

04. On a motion by Mr. Danny J. Spreitler, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved a final rule to revise the business rules of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System to include the process of evaluation and reporting for districts and schools participating in the *Excellence for All* program for school year 2013-2014. The item has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with no public comments (copy attached).
(Office of Chief School Performance Officer)
05. On a motion by Mr. Danny J. Spreitler, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved the action of the Commission on School Accreditation concerning the assignment of district accreditation statuses (copy attached).
(Office of Chief School Performance Officer)
06. On a motion by Mr. Danny J. Spreitler, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved the 2014 Accountability Results, including the adjusted grades for four schools impacted by equi-percentile process of business rule 22.1.2 (copy attached).
(Office of Chief School Performance Officer)
07. On a motion by Mr. Danny J. Spreitler, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish the accreditation audit procedures that may lead to the declaration of a State of Emergency in accordance with Sections 37-17-6 (12)(a) and 37-17-6 (12)(b) of the *Mississippi Code of 1972*, as amended (copy attached).
(Office of Chief School Performance Officer)
08. On a motion by Mr. Danny J. Spreitler, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise Accreditation Policy 2.9.2, *Penalty for the Withdrawal of Accreditation*, of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2014* (copy attached).
(Office of Chief School Performance Officer)
09. [PULLED]

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11. On a motion by Mr. Danny J. Spreitler, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved awarding competitive grants for the Mississippi Community Oriented Policing Services in Schools (MCOPS) grant program (copy attached).

(Office of Chief School Performance Officer)

13. [PULLED]

14. [PULLED]

15. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, the Board unanimously approved to contract with University of Kansas Center for Research, Inc. (KUCR) on behalf of Center for Educational Testing and Evaluation (CETE) to administer Online Alternate Assessments for English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science for grades 3-12 (copy attached).

(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

16. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedure Act process: To establish CTE endorsement codes for Television Broadcasting and Production and Cosmetology (copy attached).

(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

17. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, the Board unanimously approved to modify contract with Jill Dent to support state and local early childhood education efforts (copy attached).

(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

19. On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved the following consent item (copy attached):

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

(Office of Chief Operations Officer)

VII. Recognition Ceremony

Outstanding High Schools in Mississippi

Oxford High School

Mr. Michael Martin, Principal

Mr. Brian Harvey, Superintendent

Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science
Dr. Germain McConnell, Executive Director
Mr. Charlie Brown, former Executive Director

2014 October Employee of the Month

Margaret Thompson
Office of Compulsory School Attendance
School Attendance Officer

VIII. State Board of Education

01. Report on meeting attended

Mr. Richard Morrison stated that he has area principal meetings about the accountability model and takes questions of things that the Department could look at with the Accountability Task Force.

Mr. Johnny Franklin stated he met with the South Central Mississippi Consortium in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) contract was discussed. Mr. Franklin requested the Department to compile answers to questions regarding the PARCC contract. Mr. Franklin reported it was a good session with people on the front lines.

Dr. Kelly stated that he attended the celebration in Ocean Springs, Mississippi celebrating the accomplishments of Advance Placement (AP) students and teachers at Ocean Springs High School.

Dr. Kelly attended a meeting of the Gulf Coast Business Council who is interested in better preparing high school students for the workforce. The Council is going to meet with legislators about a university on the Coast.

Dr. Kelly stated that on September 30, 2014, Ms. Gracie Sanders, Dr. Carey M. Wright, and he attended the Joint Legislative Budget Office (LBO) hearing. Mr. Danny J. Spreitler and Mr. Johnny Franklin also attended the meeting.

Dr. O. Wayne Gann stated that when the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessment was first presented to the Board, it was decided that if a better assessment was available later, then the Board and the leadership of the state would consider it. Dr. Gann stated that the Board wants what is best for the boys and girls of this state.

02. Approval of attendance at meetings

Mr. Johnny Franklin stated that he will tour the Coahoma County Agricultural High School and then attend a benefit.

IX. Other Business

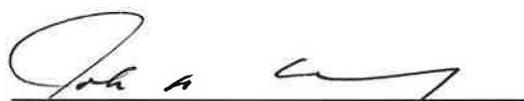
The November Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2014 starting at 8:30 a.m. and will be a one-day meeting instead of November 20-21, 2014 due to Dr. Wright and Dr. Kelly attending the 2014 National Summit on Education Reform in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Kelly stated that on November 5, 2014 the Board would have a retreat with a trainer from the National Association of State Board of Education (NASBE) conducting the training from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Public Broadcasting Building.

X. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 a.m.

Approved:



Dr. John R. Kelly, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education



Dr. Carey M. Wright
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education