

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

January 15, 2015

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a work session at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 15, 2015, 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, and Mr. Richard Morrison. Board member absent was: 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 finished the regional superintendent meetings, which was a great opportunity to share the Board's Strategic Plan and the College and Career-Readiness Standards with the superintendents. Dr. Wright also discussed starting the Request For Proposal (RFP) process for the assessment contract.
- Dr. Wright met with the Editorial Boards in Tupelo (Daily Journal), the Gulf Coast (Sun Herald), and Hattiesburg (Hattiesburg America). Dr. Wright will meet with the Editorial Board of The Clarion Ledger in the near future. Dr. Wright spoke with each board about the College and Career-Readiness Standards and the Board's Strategic Plan.
- Dr. Wright attended the Mississippi Economic Council (MEC) Capital Day. Dr. Wright was encouraged by the speakers who all focused on early childhood education, a goal of the Board's Strategic Plan.
- Dr. Wright recognized Ms. Jean Cook for doing double duty while Ms. Patrice Guilfoyle was out on maternity leave for the past few months.
- Dr. Wright recognized and thanked the following staff for their work on the kindergarten through 3rd grade literacy instruction and intensive intervention grants: Ms. Tina Sellers, Ms. Lakechia Grant, employees in the Procurement Office, and Ms. Trecina Green. The Department received 130 proposals for the grants. This was a lot of work on top of their normal work schedule to take care of these proposals.
- Dr. Wright thanked Dr. O. Wayne Gann for attending the Regional Superintendents meeting in Oxford, Mississippi. Dr. Gann spoke on the importance of public education and standing up for children in our state.
- Dr. Wright reported that she had the pleasure to attend the Milken Foundation Award at North Bay Elementary School in Biloxi, Mississippi. Ms. Cagney Weaver, a 4th grade teacher, was surprised with a \$25,000.00 Milken Educator Award. Ms. Weaver's students shared in the excitement of their teacher receiving this award.

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Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair, School Performance and Accountability Subcommittee reported the subcommittee met prior to today's work session to discuss the items that will be brought before the Board today. After hearing Dr. Mike Waldrop on January 14, 2015 in the State Board Orientation discuss board policy setting (specifically agenda setting), the Subcommittee recommended pulling Item 12 so the full Board can obtain further information on board policy setting from the Mississippi School Boards Association. It was the consensus of the Board to remove Item 12 from the agenda. Ms. Aultman requested that Dr. Waldrop be brought back to talk with all Board members at a later date.

Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Chair, Academic Achievement PreK-12 Subcommittee reported that the subcommittee reviewed the items on the agenda. The report of the Special Education Task Force was discussed.

Mr. William H. Jones, Chair, Legislative Subcommittee reported that the subcommittee discussed at 7:30 a.m. on January 15, 2015 the technical statutory amendments that were filed.

Dr. John R. Kelly stated that Dr. Wright has asked Mr. Pete Smith to provide a brief summary of each of the education bills and send the information to the Board members on a weekly basis or as often as needed.

Ms. Sonya Amis and Mr. Pat Ross introduced Dr. J. P. Beaudoin, Consultant, who gave a report on the audit of the Mississippi Statewide Accountability System and assignment of performance classifications (grades) for districts and schools for school year 2013-2014. Dr. Beaudoin found no system errors and confirmed what the agency had found. The next steps will be for a new task force to be established. Mr. Richard Morrison, State Board member, will represent the State Board on the task force.

Mr. William H. Jones left the meeting.

Mr. Ross and Dr. Paula Vanderford discussed establishing State Board Policy 405 - Length of School Term in accordance with MS Code 37-13-63. Mr. Ross stated the policy will be reviewed and brought back to the Board next month for approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process.

Mr. Ross and Dr. Vanderford discussed the Corrective Action Plan for the following districts assigned a PROBATION or WITHDRAWN status in accordance with Accreditation Policy 2.8.1:

- A. Coahoma County Agricultural High School
- B. Wayne County School District
- C. West Bolivar Consolidated School District
- D. Leake County School District

Mr. Ross recommended approval on Friday.

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Mr. Ross, Dr. Vanderford, and Dr. Beaudoin reported on the description of the standard setting process (establishment of "cut scores") used when a new state-wide assessment is administered.

Dr. Kim Benton and Ms. Gretchen Cagle gave the report of the Mississippi Special Education Task Force. The Task Force was established by the State Board on July 1, 2014, to make recommendations on special education. Subcommittees have been formed to address the next steps. The Special Education Task Force will continue to meet. The Board discussed some of the aspects of the report.

Dr. Wright recognized all the Special Education Task Force members that were present and thanked them for their work. Dr. Wright stated that the priorities, goals, and strategies of the Task Force fit in with the State Board of Education's Strategic Plan. Dr. Wright also thanked Dr. Benton and Ms. Cagle for their hard work.

Mr. William H. Jones returned to the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Dr. Benton and Mr. Nathan Oakley discussed the textbooks, as recommended by the 2014 State Textbook Rating Committee for the adoption of textbooks in the areas of Mathematics 9-12, English Language Arts 9-12, Health Education 9-12, Family and Consumer Science 9-12, Business Education 9-12, and Technology Education 6-12. Dr. Benton recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Benton and Mr. Oakley discussed the contract with vendors as recommended by the 2014 State Textbook Rating Committee for the adoption of textbooks in the areas of Mathematics 9-12, English Language Arts 9-12, Health Education 9-12, Family and Consumer Science 9-12, Business Education 9-12, and Technology Education 6-12. Dr. Benton recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Benton and Mr. Oakley discussed the grants to school districts to support kindergarten through 3rd grade literacy instruction and intensive intervention. The Board discussed the grants as to the performance classification of the school districts and who applied for the grants. Dr. Benton recommended approval on Friday.

[PULLED]

[PULLED]

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

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

- B. Discussion to establish Career and Technical Education endorsement codes for Television Broadcasting and Production and Cosmetology (Has cleared the Administrative Procedure Act process with no public comments) (Kim Benton)

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:20 a.m. and reconvened at 12:30 p.m. The meeting began as an open meeting.

Mr. William H. Jones moved that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session with respect to litigation, prospective litigation, personnel issues, and investigative proceedings in accordance with Mississippi Code Sections 25-41-7 (4)(a), (b), (d), and (k). The motion was seconded by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, and the motion passed on a vote of 7 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 litigation involving the Board and prospective litigation regarding a contractual issue and a conservator school district in accordance with Mississippi Code Session 25-41-7 (4)(b), discussion with respect to investigative proceedings of school districts and sub-grantees regarding allegations of misconduct or violation of law in in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(d), discussion of discrete personnel matters concerning the operation of the Department, including but not limited to, the reorganization of staff in specific offices and positions within the Department of Education and the employment of personnel in accordance with Mississippi Code Sections 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k). Mr. Richard Morrison, seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 7 to 0.

Dr. Kelly stated the following to remain in the Executive Session: Dr. Carey M. Wright, Executive Leadership Team, Ms. Kathy Boteler, Ms. Gretchen Cagle, and Mr. Robert Strebeck. 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 a strategy session or negotiations with respect to litigation involving the Board and prospective litigation regarding a contractual issue and a conservator school district in accordance with Mississippi Code Session 25-41-7 (4)(b), discussed with respect to investigative proceedings of school districts and sub-grantees regarding allegations of misconduct or violation of law in in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7 (4)(d), and discussed discrete personnel matters concerning the operation of the Department, including but not limited to, the reorganization of staff in specific offices and positions within the Department of Education and the employment of personnel in accordance with Mississippi Code Sections 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k).

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

1. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved on a 7 to 0 vote to approve the contract with Dr. John Q. Porter to provide consultative services to the Department relative to the organizational review of the Office of Technology and Strategic Services for an amount not to exceed \$96,454.40.
2. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved on a 7 to 0 vote to approve the contract with Elton Stokes, Jr. to provide consultative services to the Department relative to the organizational review of the Office of Technology and Strategic Services for an amount not to exceed \$93,009.60.
3. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved on a 7 to 0 vote to deny a school district's request to appeal their 2014 accountability results based on the failure of the school district to meet the appeal deadline.

On a motion by Mr. William H. Jones, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the motion passed on a vote 7 to 0 to come out of Executive Session.

The public returned to the meeting.

On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

Approved:



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



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

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January 16, 2015

The regular meeting of the Mississippi Board of Education was held at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, January 16, 2015, 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, and Mr. Richard Morrison. Board member absent was: Mr. Danny J. Spreitler.

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. Mr. Charles McClelland led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Dr. O. Wayne Gann gave the Invocation.
- II. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of December 18-19, 2014 Board meeting.
- III. On a motion by Mr. William H. Jones, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board unanimously approved to amend the agenda to add items 14 and 15.
 14. Approval to modify contract with eScholar LLC to provide services for the Mississippi Department of Education's Business Intelligence System, as funds are available
(Office of Technology and Strategic Services)
 15. Action on the Department's participation in the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC)
(Office of State Superintendent)

On a motion by Mr. William H. Jones, seconded by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, the Board unanimously approved the agenda as amended.

- V. Report of the Chair
 - Dr. Kelly thanked all staff and colleagues for their part of the State Board of Education's Strategic Plan. He stated that the Plan was well received at the press conference.
 - Dr. Kelly reported that he was interviewed at a series of newspaper and television stations around the state.
 - Dr. Kelly reported that he had been nominated again for the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Government Affairs

Committee. Dr. Kelly will request permission later in the Board meeting to attend the NASBE meeting.

- Dr. Kelly stated the Board will convene training in 30 to 45 days in south Mississippi.

Dr. Kelly stated the Board voted yesterday in Executive Session on the following items:

1. To approve the contract with Dr. John Q. Porter to provide consultative services to the Department relative to the organizational review of the Office of Technology and Strategic Services.
2. To approve the contract with Elton Stokes, Jr. to provide consultative services to the Department relative to the organizational review of the Office of Technology and Strategic Services.
3. To deny a school district's request to appeal their 2014 accountability results based on the failure of the school district to meet the appeal deadline.

VI. Approval of Action Items

(Items below are numbered to correspond to the items as discussed on Thursday, January 15, 2015.)

05. On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board unanimously approved the Corrective Action Plan for districts assigned a PROBATION or WITHDRAWN status in accordance with Accreditation Policy 2.8.1 (copy attached).

(Office of Chief School Performance Officer)

- A. Coahoma County Agricultural High School
- B. Wayne County School District
- C. West Bolivar Consolidated School District
- D. Leake County School District

08. On a motion by Mr. Richard Morrison, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved the textbooks, as recommended by the 2014 State Textbook Rating Committee for the adoption of textbooks in the areas of Mathematics 9-12, English Language Arts 9-12, Health Education 9-12, Family and Consumer Science 9-12, Business Education 9-12, and Technology Education 6-12 (copy attached).

(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

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09. On a motion by Mr. Richard Morrison, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved the contract with vendors as recommended by the 2014 State Textbook Rating Committee for the adoption of textbooks in the areas of Mathematics 9-12, English Language Arts 9-12, Health Education 9-12, Family and Consumer Science 9-12, Business Education 9-12, and Technology Education 6-12 (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

10. On a motion by Mr. Richard Morrison, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board unanimously approved the grants to school districts to support kindergarten through 3rd grade literacy instruction and intensive intervention (copy attached).
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

11. [PULLED]

13. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved the following consent items (copy attached):
 - A. Approval of monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits
(Office of Chief Operations Officer)

 - B. Approval to establish Career and Technical Education endorsement codes for Television Broadcasting and Production and Cosmetology
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedure Act process with no public comments)
(Office of Chief Academic Officer)

14. On a motion by Mr. Johnny Franklin, seconded by Mr. Richard Morrison, the Board unanimously approved to modify the contract with eScholar LLC to provide services for the Mississippi Department of Education's Business Intelligence System, as funds are available (copy attached).
(Office of Technology and Strategic Services)

15. On a motion by Mr. William H. Jones, seconded by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, the Board unanimously voted to withdraw the Department's participation in the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC).
(Office of State Superintendent)

January 16, 2015

VII. Recognition Ceremony

AP Honor Roll

Gulfport School District
Jones County School District
Starkville School District

2015 January Employee of the Month

Christin Walters
Office of Compulsory School Attendance
School Attendance Officer

VIII. State Board of Education

01. Dr. O. Wayne Gann reported that he spoke at the Corinth Rotary Club about the Board's Strategic Plan.
02. Dr. Kelly requested to attend the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Government Affairs Committee meeting in Washington, D.C. coming up next week.

Mr. Richard Morrison, Vice Chair, entertained a motion for Dr. Kelly to attend the meeting in Washington, D.C.

On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Mr. William H. Jones, the Board unanimously approved for Dr. Kelly to attend the NASBE meeting on January 22 – 24, 2015 to represent the Board.

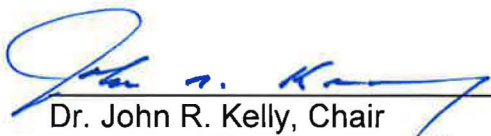
IX. Other Business

Dr. Kelly announced that the February Board meeting is February 19-20, 2015.

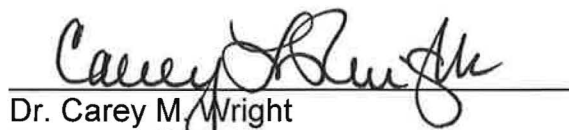
X. Adjournment

Dr. Kelly adjourned the meeting at 8:59 a.m.

Approved:



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



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