

## Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

June 16, 2017

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Board meeting at 9:02 a.m. on Friday, June 16, 2017, in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom at Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present: Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Mr. Buddy Bailey, Dr. Jason S. Dean, Dr. Karen J. Elam, Mr. Johnny Franklin, Dr. John R. Kelly, and Mr. Charles McClelland. Board members absent were: Ms. Kami Bumgarner and Mr. William H. Jones. Dr. Carey M. Wright was also present.

- I. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair, called the Board meeting to order. Ms. Aultman noted the statement on the agenda that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during the meeting.

Mr. Aultman welcomed Dr. Linda Smith, Superintendent of Lumberton Public School District, Mr. Mike Pruitt, Board member from Lamar County School District, and Dr. Germain McConnell, Executive Director of Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science.

- II. Mr. Charles McClelland led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Buddy Bailey gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of May 18, 2017, Board meeting.
- IV. Mr. Johnny Franklin asked to discuss Consent Agenda items A., I., N., P., R., and S.

On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board unanimously approved to discuss Consent Agenda items A., I., N., P., R., and S. separately.

On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved the amended agenda.

- V. Recognition Ceremony

### **2017 U. S. Presidential Scholars**

Kelly Bates

West Lauderdale High School

Braeden Foldenauer  
Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science

**2017 June Employee of the Month**

Joey Dickerson  
Senior Systems Administrator  
Office of Technology and Strategic Services

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

- Dr. Wright stated that she attended a meeting with Special Education teachers who are responsible for administering the Mississippi Assessment Program (MAP-A) Alternate assessment which the federal law requires for students with significant cognitive disabilities (SCD). Dr. Wright stated that she wanted to hear directly from the teachers to get their feedback. Dr. Wright stated that Questar was there and received really good feedback on how to make the assessment more valid, reliable, and appropriate for those students.
- Dr. Wright stated that she had lunch with the First Lady Deborah Bryant and continued the discussion about how we can partner to recognize the great teachers in our state. Dr. Wright stated that both are enthusiastic about celebrating teachers and are trying to arrange an event in the fall.
- Dr. Wright stated that she served on a Women's Leadership panel put together by Senator Sally Doty during the Mississippi's New Leadership Day at the Capitol. Dr. Wright stated that the audience included college-age women who are interested in public service. Dr. Wright stated the panel was made up of seven women who lead state agencies and was a great opportunity for us to share our insights with some of Mississippi's future leaders.
- Dr. Wright stated that she spoke at the Minority Leadership Conference on the Coast and their focus was on equity. Dr. Wright stated that you will hear more about that today when Dr. Nathan Oakley presents the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* state plan. Dr. Wright stated that ESSA's clear focus is around equity.
- Dr. Wright stated that she spoke at the annual Making Connections Conference in Biloxi, Mississippi and stated that she thanked the teachers and administrators from across the state for all their hard work and all the wonderful results we are getting as a direct result from these two groups.
- Dr. Wright stated that she spoke at the statewide Curriculum Coordinators' Meeting telling them they are the unsung heroes. Dr. Wright stated they push standards and resources to our teachers and administrators for the students.
- Dr. Wright stated that she and Ms. Aultman attended the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading called Funder Huddle in Denver, Colorado. Dr. Wright stated that she was a panelist talking about chronic absenteeism. Dr. Wright

stated that this will become a very prominent reporting feature in our state and that we need to develop more policies around chronic absenteeism.

- Dr. Wright recognized Mr. Pete Smith, Ms. Patrice Guilfoyle, and Ms. Jean Cook from the Office of Communications and Government Relations for five state awards from the Public Relations Association of Mississippi (PRAM) for projects that effectively communicated Mississippi's public education priorities, initiatives, and achievements. Dr. Wright stated they received awards for Mississippi Achieves News Blog, the Statewide ESSA Listening Tour, 2016 Celebration of Excellence Tour of the Top Achieving Schools and Districts, 2016 Superintendent's Annual Report, and the Farm to Classroom Mississippi School Video.
- Dr. Wright stated the Spotlight for this Board meeting is "Houston School District's Solar Car Race Team." Dr. Wright stated the Solar Car is called the Sundancer and it is a 16 foot long vehicle and is featured in Big-Screen IMAX Film "Dream Big: Engineering Our World." Dr. Wright stated that the team built their first solar car 19 years ago as a Tech Prep project and the Solar Car Team has won national competitions for 14 years in a row. Dr. Wright stated that in 2015 the Team traveled to Australia to race the Sundancer in the Bridgestone World Silver Challenge. Dr. Wright stated that this race is a 1,700 mile race and the Sundancer set a record for the most miles traveled in one day – 252 miles. Dr. Wright stated that the IMAX crew followed the Houston School District Solar Race Team to Australia to document the journey. Dr. Wright recognized Mr. Tony Horton, Career and Technical Education Director, and Mr. Hunter Moore, Captain of the Houston School District Race Team. Dr. Wright congratulated all the students.

VII. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman as the Chair of the State Board gave the following report:

- Ms. Aultman stated that she attended the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science graduation. Ms. Aultman stated that it was a great experience and Dr. McConnell had the respect of the students and families when he asked them to hold their applause until the end and they did. Ms. Aultman stated the school provides a wonderful opportunity for their students.
- Ms. Aultman stated that she and Dr. Wright attended the Annual Funder Huddle in Denver, Colorado for the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading. Ms. Aultman stated we have to jump on the chronic absenteeism issue because it is expensive for schools, is devastating for the students, and difficult for our teachers having students chronically absent. Ms. Aultman stated that another initiative that we have already begun is pre-school readiness K-3 and the importance of it. Ms. Aultman stated that the community, the leadership, and the state have to buy into it.
- Ms. Aultman stated that good things are going on but we are not telling our story. Ms. Aultman stated there are miles to go. Ms. Aultman stated we have too many failing school districts across the state but we have many wonderful

things happening in school districts around the state that teachers are providing fabulous opportunities for students. Ms. Aultman stated for the students of Houston High School to take a car to Australia to compete, we need to tell our story to our state and around the world.

VIII. Dr. Karen J. Elam, Chair of the Academic Achievement PreK-12 Subcommittee, stated that the Migrant grant and School Improvement grants were discussed in detail and will be presented today. The diploma options were presented and will be brought to the Board in July to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process.

IX. Discussion of Board Items

01. Dr. Nathan Oakley presented the *Every Student Succeeds Act* state plan [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached). The Board discussed the plan. Dr. Oakley recommended approval.

Dr. Wright recognized Dr. Oakley for his work on the *Every Student Succeeds Act* plan and thanked the Mississippi Department of Education staff that helped with the work on the plan.

02. Dr. Kim Benton discussed awarding a competitive grant for the Migrant Education Program [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Benton recommended approval.

03. Dr. Benton and Dr. Sonja Robertson discussed awarding competitive School Improvement Grants (SIG) [Goal 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]. The Board discussed the process and the awards. Dr. John R. Kelly requested at the end of the first year a report be presented to the Board. Dr. Benton recommended approval.

04. Dr. Benton and Mr. Mike Kent discussed the resolutions of the Lumberton Public School District and the Lamar County School District to abolish and dissolve the Lumberton Public School District and its central administrative office and to merge that former territory into the Lamar County School District under the authority provided in Miss. Code Ann. §§ 37-7-103 and 37-7-113 [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Benton recommended approval.

05. Dr. John Q. Porter and Mr. Mac Curlee discussed reconstituting Aberdeen School District that is in conservatorship and approve the resolution from

the State Board of Education by finding that satisfactory corrective action has taken place and by requesting that the Governor declare that the emergency no longer exists in the district [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Porter recommended approval.

The Board thanked Mr. Curlee for the outstanding job he has done while the Conservator at Aberdeen School District.

06. Ms. Aultman gave the Board an opportunity to discuss the following consent agenda items. Mr. Johnny Franklin requested to discuss items A., I., N., P., R., and S.

Dr. Kim Benton and Mr. Quentin Ransburg stated that item A. should be pulled from the agenda.

Dr. Benton answered questions on item I.

Dr. Paula Vanderford answered questions on item N.

Mr. Scott Clements answered questions on items R. and S.

- A. [PULLED]
- B. Contract with Reading Language Art Centers, Inc. D.B.A. Brainspring to provide professional development training system based on the Orton Gillingham reading methodology (Kim Benton)
- C. [PULLED]
- D. Establish the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Arts Learning Standards for (1) Dance, (2) Media Arts, (3) Music, (4) Theatre, and (5) Visual Arts  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments) (Kim Benton)
- E. Revise the methodology to award McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act grants in accordance with Title IX, Part A of the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) (Kim Benton)
- F. Revise the methodology to reallocate relinquished Homeless Education grant dollars in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (Kim Benton)
- G. [PULLED]

- H. Grant to Mississippi University for Women to operate the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science for the 2017-2018 school year (Kim Benton)
- I. Contract with Advert Group, USA to provide security services on the campus of the Mississippi School of the Arts for Fiscal Year 2018 (Kim Benton)
- J. Interlocal Agreement with Brookhaven School District to provide instructional services for the Mississippi School of the Arts for Fiscal Year 2018 (Kim Benton)
- K. Discretionary grant to the Research and Curriculum Unit at Mississippi State University to enhance the statewide system of support and coordinated services to local school districts (Kim Benton)
- L. [PULLED]
- M. Appointments to the Commission on School Accreditation (Paula Vanderford)
- N. Revise Part 4: *Licensure Guidelines K-12* to amend the criteria for a special, non-renewable educator license (Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments) (Paula Vanderford)
- O. Educator preparation programs as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development on May 5, 2017 (Paula Vanderford)
- P. Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To add additional CTE endorsements as approved by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development on May 5, 2017 (Paula Vanderford)
- Q. Appointment to the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (Paula Vanderford)

- R. Renew competitive contracts to milk and ice cream distributors to supply and deliver products to local organizations in the State Food Purchasing Program (Seven Regions in the State) (Felicia Gavin)
- S. Renew competitive contracts to various food and non-food distributors to supply and deliver products to local organizations in the State Food Purchasing Program (Seven Regions in the State) (Felicia Gavin)

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:31 a.m. and reconvened at 12:33 p.m.

X. Approval of Action Items

- 01. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved the *Every Student Succeeds Act* state plan [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
- 02. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved to award a competitive grant for the Migrant Education Program [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
- 03. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board approved to award competitive School Improvement Grants (SIG) [Goal 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**

Members voting aye:  
Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Dr. Jason S. Dean  
Dr. John R. Kelly  
Mr. Charles McClelland

Member voting nay: Mr. Johnny Franklin

Members absent:  
Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Mr. William H. Jones

- 04. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved the resolutions of the Lumberton Public School District and the Lamar County School District to abolish and dissolve

the Lumberton Public School District and its central administrative office and to merge that former territory into the Lamar County School District under the authority provided in Miss. Code Ann. §§ 37-7-103 and 37-7-113 [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**

05. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board unanimously approved to reconstitute Aberdeen School District that is in conservatorship and approve the resolution from the State Board of Education by finding that satisfactory corrective action has taken place and by requesting that the Governor declare that the emergency no longer exists in the district [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

**(Office of Chief of Technology and District Transformation)**

06. On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean, seconded by Mr. Johnny Franklin, the Board unanimously approved consent agenda items B., D., E., F., H., I., J., K., M., N., O., P., Q., R., and S. (copy attached).

B. Contract with Reading Language Art Centers, Inc. D.B.A. Brainspring to provide professional development training system based on the Orton Gillingham reading methodology  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**

D. Establish the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Arts Learning Standards for (1) Dance, (2) Media Arts, (3) Music, (4) Theatre, and (5) Visual Arts  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments)  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**

E. Revise the methodology to award McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act grants in accordance with Title IX, Part A of the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA)  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**

F. Revise the methodology to reallocate relinquished Homeless Education grant dollars in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**



- H. Grant to Mississippi University for Women to operate the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science for the 2017-2018 school year  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
  
- I. Contract with Advert Group, USA to provide security services on the campus of the Mississippi School of the Arts for Fiscal Year 2018  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
  
- J. Interlocal Agreement with Brookhaven School District to provide instructional services for the Mississippi School of the Arts for Fiscal Year 2018  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
  
- K. Discretionary grant to the Research and Curriculum Unit at Mississippi State University to enhance the statewide system of support and coordinated services to local school districts  
**(Office of Chief Academic Officer)**
  
- M. Appointments to the Commission on School Accreditation – Mr. Brian Harvey, Superintendent, Congressional District 1; Ms. Kelle Barfield, Non-Educator, Congressional District 4; Mr. John Paul Mistilis, Teacher, Congressional District 1; Mr. Kenny Bush, Non-Educator, Congressional District 2; Mr. Roy Gill, Superintendent, Congressional District 5; Mr. Anthony Montgomery, Non-Educator, Congressional District 5  
**(Office of Chief of Research and Development)**
  
- N. Revise Part 4: *Licensure Guidelines K-12* to amend the criteria for a special, non-renewable educator license  
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments)  
**(Office of Chief of Research and Development)**
  
- O. Educator preparation programs as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development on May 5, 2017
  - A. Belhaven University to implement a new teacher approved program in English as a Second Language that will lead to a supplemental endorsement

- B. Mississippi College to modify the number of hours required for the Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership
- C. Mississippi College to implement a new program for a Master of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction for a class AA license upgrade
- D. Mississippi University for Women to modify the Master of Reading Literacy program to reduce the number of courses, course name change, and to add a new internship course
- E. Mississippi University for Women to modify the Master of Gifted Studies program to reduce the number of hours required and include a common core set of courses
- F. Mississippi University for Women to modify the Master of Educational Leadership to reduce the number of hours required, include a common core set of courses, and change the number of internship hours
- G. Mississippi University for Women to modify the Elementary Education K-3 and K-6 program by replacing three courses and adding three residencies courses

**(Office of Chief of Research and Development)**

- P. Begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To add additional CTE endorsements as approved by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development on May 5, 2017

966 – Career Pathway: Automotive Technician

992 – Career Pathway: Agriculture and Environmental Science and Technology (AEST)

309 – Special Populations Personnel

Guidelines for Postsecondary Interim Career and Technical Education Certification

**(Office of Chief of Research and Development)**

- Q. Appointment to the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development – Ms. Pam Chatman, Layperson, Congressional District 2

**(Office of Chief of Research and Development)**

- R. Renew competitive contracts to milk and ice cream distributors to supply and deliver products to local organizations in the State Food Purchasing Program (Seven Regions in the State)

**(Office of Chief Operations Officer)**

- S. Renew competitive contracts to various food and non-food distributors to supply and deliver products to local organizations in the State Food Purchasing Program (Seven Regions in the State)  
**(Office of Chief Operations Officer)**

#### XI. Consideration of Executive Session

Dr. John R. Kelly moved that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session. Dr. Jason S. Dean seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a vote of 6 to 0. Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman asked Dr. Carey M. Wright, Ms. Raina Lee, Ms. Erin Meyer, and the Executive Leadership Team to remain in the Executive Session.

Dr. John R. Kelly, then moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss discrete personnel matters related to the job performance of persons holding specific positions in the Department of Education in accordance with Mississippi Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k), discussion of a strategy session or negotiations with respect to prospective litigation involving the Department and the issuance of an appealable order in accordance with Mississippi Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(b), and discussion with respect to investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or violation of law in accordance with Mississippi Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(d). Dr. Jason S. Dean seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 6 to 0. Ms. Erin Meyer informed the public of the Board's vote to go into Executive Session for the above-stated reasons.

#### **Minutes of the Executive Session**

During the Executive Session, the Board discussed discrete personnel matters related to the job performance of persons holding specific positions in the Department of Education in accordance with Mississippi Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k), discussed a strategy session or negotiations with respect to prospective litigation involving the Department and the issuance of an appealable order in accordance with Mississippi Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(b), and discussed with respect to investigative proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct or violation of law in accordance with Mississippi Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(d).

On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board voted 6 to 0 to come out of Executive Session.

The public came back into the Board meeting and Ms. Aultman reported the action taken during the Executive Session.

01. On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. Cory Murphy as an Education

Bureau Manager to serve as the Executive Director of the Office of Teaching and Leading at a salary of \$110,000.00 (no change in salary).

02. On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. Tarance Hart as Education Bureau Director II to serve as Director of Educator Effectiveness in the Office of Teaching and Leading at a salary of \$91,560.00 (no change in salary).
03. On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean, seconded by Dr. John R. Kelly, the Board approved to rescind the renewal of the 2017-2018 (Year 5) contract with NCS Pearson, Inc. for grades 5 and 8 Science (MST2), Biology I, and U.S. History (SATP2) assessments, which the Board approved at the April 2017 Board meeting.

Members voting aye:  
Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Dr. Jason S. Dean  
Mr. Johnny Franklin  
Dr. John R. Kelly

Member voting nay: None

Member abstaining: Mr. Charles McClelland

Members absent: Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Mr. William H. Jones

4. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved to terminate the remainder of the 10-year contract with NCS Pearson, Inc. for grades 5 and 8 Science (MST2), Biology I, and U.S. History (SATP2) assessments, effective June 30, 2017.

Members voting aye:  
Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Dr. Jason S. Dean  
Mr. Johnny Franklin  
Dr. John R. Kelly

Member voting nay: None

Member abstaining: Mr. Charles McClelland

Members absent: Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Mr. William H. Jones

5. On a motion by Dr. Jason S. Dean, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved to secure an emergency contract with Questar Assessment, Inc. (QAI) for grades 5 and 8 Science, Biology I, and U.S. History assessment for one year (2017-2018) at the cost of \$2,200,000.00.

Members voting aye: Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Dr. Jason S. Dean  
Mr. Johnny Franklin  
Dr. John R. Kelly

Member voting nay: None

Member abstaining: Mr. Charles McClelland

Members absent: Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Mr. William H. Jones

6. On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board approved to withdraw the Attorney General's official opinion request for the Mississippi Achievement School District.

Members voting aye: Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Dr. Jason S. Dean  
Dr. John R. Kelly  
Mr. Charles McClelland

Member voting nay: Mr. Johnny Franklin

Members absent: Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Mr. William H. Jones

7. On a motion by Dr. John R. Kelly, seconded by Dr. Jason S. Dean, the Board approved for the Chair to establish a committee to develop policy and procedure for selection of Superintendent for the Achievement School District to be brought back to the Board.

Members voting aye: Mr. Buddy Bailey  
Dr. Jason S. Dean

Dr. John R. Kelly  
Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman

Member voting nay: Mr. Charles McClelland

Members abstaining: Dr. Karen J. Elam  
Mr. Johnny Franklin

Members absent: Ms. Kami Bumgarner  
Mr. William H. Jones

XII. State Board of Education

1. There were no meetings attended.
2. There were no requests to attend meetings.

XIII. Other Business

Ms. Aultman stated the July Board meeting will be held on July 13, 2017, in Biloxi, Mississippi at the DuKate Building starting at 10:00 a.m.

XIV. Adjournment

On a motion by Dr. Karen J. Elam, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 2:28 p.m.

Approved:

  
Rosemary G. Aultman, Chair  
Mississippi Board of Education

  
Carey M. Wright  
Executive Secretary  
Mississippi Board of Education