

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

August 15, 2019

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Board meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 15, 2019, in the 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 (via phone from Beach Mountain, North Carolina), and Mr. Sean Suggs. Student Representatives present: Ms. Shelby Dean and Mr. Omar G. Jamil. Board members absent: Dr. John R. Kelly, Mr. Charles McClelland, and Ms. Brittney Rye. Dr. Carey M. Wright was also present.

- I. Dr. Jason S. Dean called the Board meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Dr. Dean noted that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during the meeting. Dr. Dean stated that the meeting was being live streamed.

Dr. Dean welcomed Ms. Shelby Dean, the student representative from Clinton, Mississippi and Mr. Omar G. Jamil, student representative from Hernando, Mississippi to the Board. Dr. Dean stated he looked forward to working with the student representatives and what they bring to the Board.

- II. Dr. Jason S. Dean led the Pledge of Allegiance and Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman gave the Invocation.
- III. On a motion by Mr. Sean Suggs, seconded by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2019, Board meeting.
- IV. On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.
- V. Recognition Ceremony

July 2019 Employee of the Month

Ida Cannon

School Attendance Officer – Sunflower County

Office of Compulsory School Attendance Enforcement

August 2019 Employee of the Month

Arthur Goss

Projects Officer III, Special

Office of Federal Programs

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

- Dr. Wright stated that in the blue folder at each Board members' seat includes the following:
 - Dr. Wright stated that the Board meeting is being lived streamed and people are watching. Dr. Wright stated that an article from *Education Week* with quotes from Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, Mr. Johnny Franklin, and Mr. John Kraman from a previous Board meeting where they were discussing our outdated data system. Dr. Wright stated the article says this is an issue in a lot of states around the nation.
 - Dr. Wright stated the Department is hosting our first ever Literacy Summit on September 13-14, 2019, at the Jackson Convention Center. Dr. Wright stated hats off to the team for getting this organized. Dr. Wright encouraged the Board to come to the Literacy Summit. Dr. Wright stated the flyer provides more information about the Summit.
 - Dr. Wright stated there are three PowerPoints that will be presented this morning and a one-page flyer entitled Early College High School and Middle College Programs with information for the Board to review. Dr. Wright stated that in North Carolina the Early College High School starts in the ninth grade and by the time the students graduate they have a college degree. Dr. Wright stated this Early College High School was set up to produce teachers for North Carolina. Dr. Wright stated the Mississippi Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee Annual Report is included for the Board's review.
- Dr. Wright stated that North Carolina sent a group to visit with the Department and with our higher education deans. Dr. Wright stated they brought their higher education deans with them and wanted to know about our K-3 literacy initiative and our education preparation programs because we have talked about a lot of our teachers coming in not ready on Day 1. Dr. Wright stated that North Carolina has the exact same problem. Dr. Wright stated that they spent a day sharing what MDE is doing and what they are doing.
- Dr. Wright attended a meeting with the Woodward Hinds Education Foundation. Dr. Wright stated that Mississippi is only one of eight states in the nation that does not have a postsecondary goal meaning that we have no goal out there for when our students graduate. Dr. Wright stated that she believes that you set a goal for a reason and if you do not know what you are aiming at, you are never going to get there. Dr. Wright stated that MDE is going to be talking a lot more about this in the future.
- Dr. Wright spoke on the Paul Gallo Radio Show about a variety of topics.
- Dr. Wright stated that she, Dr. Nathan Oakley, and Dr. Paula Vanderford attended the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) Summer Leadership Convening. Dr. Wright stated this is a smaller group with the Chief State School Officers and their Deputies where they learn a lot more about what is happening in other parts of the nation.
- Dr. Wright stated that Chiefs for Change had its annual meeting.

- Dr. Wright stated that she was on a call yesterday with the Alaska Policy Forum and the Alaska Legislators and they were asking the same questions that North Carolina was asking – what are you doing to get the results that we are achieving and the senators and representatives were asking key questions since they are getting ready to draft legislation like Mississippi's literacy based promotion act. Dr. Wright stated this makes 12 or 13 states that have now contacted Mississippi about the good news we are sharing. Dr. Wright stated that it makes you feel good when you are able to share. Dr. Wright stated this is all about children – not about adults. Dr. Wright stated that we are all in this together and we are trying to make sure that all children of each state are growing and will be successful when they leave public education. Dr. Wright stated that if we can share what is working for us and another state can take it and make it theirs by all means do so.

VII. Dr. Jason S. Dean, Chair of the State Board, gave the following report:

- Dr. Dean stated that he attended The Aspen Institute to represent Mississippi where the discussion was on equity. Dr. Dean stated there were several states that attended this meeting. Dr. Dean stated that it was a very productive meeting and he challenged them to come up with some actionable executable steps. Dr. Dean stated they discussed growing trends across America, like in Mississippi, a lot of push back on too much testing, a push for civics, a push for computer science, and more broadly the idea the workforce development system is a key partner to the K-12 education system. Dr. Dean stated there are policies that can be developed that can put the Department at the table when it comes to workforce development through career and technical education, through economic development opportunities, and through businesses in Mississippi. Dr. Dean stated that this is music to the public's ears. Dr. Dean stated that a lot can develop from that and we have already started.

VIII. Report on State Board of Education Subcommittee Meetings.

Mr. Sean Suggs, Chair of the Workforce/Career and Technical Education Subcommittee, stated they met yesterday and had a really good meeting. Mr. Suggs stated they talked about a lot of meaty topics. Mr. Suggs stated that we have momentum, a lot of energy and passion to do something different, and some breakthrough ideas. Mr. Suggs stated that Dr. Nathan Oakley will present the PowerPoint this morning during the meeting.

Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, acting as Chair of the School Performance and Accountability Subcommittee in the absence of Dr. John R. Kelly, stated that Dr. Paula Vanderford reported on the statewide results from the 2018-2019 Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP) which is very exciting news.

Ms. Aultman stated she would let Dr. Vanderford present the information to the Board.

IX. Discussion and/or Approval of Board Items

01. Dr. Nathan Oakley gave a report on Career and Technical Education statewide efforts [Goal 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached). The Board had some comments and questions that were answered.

02. Dr. Oakley gave a report on The Equal Opportunity for Students with Special Needs Act (Miss. Code Ann. §§ 37-181-1 through 37-181-21) [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

03. [PULLED]

04. Dr. Paula Vanderford and Dr. Oakley gave the Spring 2019 Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP) results [Goals 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan] (copy attached).

05. Action: Approval of the MDE contracts [Goals 1, 2, ,3, 4, and 5 – MBE Strategic Plan]. Dr. Gavin recommended approval.

05.A. Action: Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits [Goal 4 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Felicia Gavin)

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Mr. Sean Suggs, the Board unanimously approved item 05.A. (copy attached).

05.B. Action: Contract with Brustein & Manasevit, PLLC to provide consultative services to the MDE relative to federal education grants management [Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 – MBE Strategic Plan] (Nathan Oakley)

On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board unanimously approved item 05.B. (copy attached).

06. Consent Agenda

A. Approval to establish the Mississippi Alternate Academic Achievement Standards for High School Alternate History Elements and Alternate Social Studies Elements
(Has cleared the Administrative Procedures Act Process with public comment) (Nathan Oakley)

- B. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish State Board Policy Part 3, Chapter 28, Rule 28.8 – Mississippi Seal of Biliteracy (Paula Vanderford)
- C. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To establish State Guidelines for the Mississippi Seal of Biliteracy (Paula Vanderford)
- D. Approval of a new school site for the DeSoto County School District (Paula Vanderford)
- E. Approval of educator preparation programs as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development May 3, 2019 (Paula Vanderford)

On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Dr. Karen J. Elam, the Board voted unanimously to approve items A., B., C., D., and E. (copy attached).

X. Consideration of Executive Session

Mr. Buddy Bailey moved that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session. Mr. Sean Suggs seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a vote of 4 to 0. Dr. Jason S. Dean asked Dr. Carey M. Wright, Ms. Erin Meyer, and the Executive Leadership Team to remain in the Executive Session.

Mr. Buddy Bailey, then moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters related to the appointment of a Educ-Bureau Director II to serve as Director for Reporting and Compliance in the Office of Career and Technical Education in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k) and to discuss a new salary amount for an Educ-Bureau Director II serving as Director of Student Assessment for the Mississippi School for the Blind and the Deaf in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k). Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 4 to 0. Ms. Erin Meyer informed the public of the Board's vote to go into Executive Session for the above stated reason.

Minutes of the Executive Session

During the Executive Session, the Board discussed personnel matters related to the appointment of an Educ-Bureau Director II to serve as Director for Reporting and Compliance in the Office of Career and Technical Education in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k) and discussed a new salary amount for an Educ-Bureau Director II serving as Director of Student Assessment for the Mississippi School for the Blind and the Deaf in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. §§ 25-41-7 (4)(a) and (k).

On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Mr. Sean Suggs, the Board voted 4 to 0 to come out of Executive Session.

The public came back into the Board meeting and Dr. Dean reported the actions taken during the Executive Session.

01. On a motion by Mr. Buddy Bailey, seconded by Mr. Sean Suggs, the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Ms. Rozelia Harris as Educ-Bureau Director II to serve as Director for Reporting and Compliance in the Office of Career and Technical Education at a salary of \$84,000.00.

02. On a motion by Mr Sean Suggs, seconded by Mr. Buddy Bailey, the Board voted unanimously to approve a new salary amount for Ms. Madelyn Harris as Educ-Bureau Director II serving as Director of Student Assessment for the Mississippi School for the Blind and the Deaf at a salary of \$74,119.09.

XI. State Board of Education

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

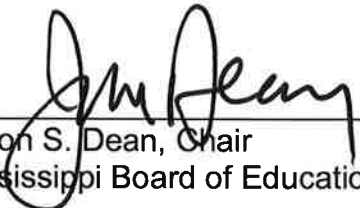
XII. Other Business

The September Board meeting will be held on September 12, 2019, in Jackson, Mississippi at the Central High School Building starting at 10:00 a.m.

XIII. Adjournment

On a motion by Ms. Rosemary G. Aultman, seconded by Mr. Sean Suggs, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:39 a.m.

Approved:



Jason S. Dean, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education



Carey M. Wright
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education