

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

June 18, 2025

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Special-Called Board meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 18, 2025, in the 4th Floor Boardroom at Central High School, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present were: Mr. Glen V. East, , Mr. Bill Jacobs, Mr. Matt Mayo, Mr. Matt Miller, Ms. Billye Jean Stroud, and Ms. Mary Werner. Board members absent: Dr. Wendi Barrett, Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee, and Mr. Mike Pruitt. Student Representative absent: Mr. Crosby Parker. Dr. Lance Evans was also present.

- I. Mr. Glen V. East called the Special-Called Board meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
- II. Mr. East stated that the Board members received a copy of the agenda. Mr. East further stated that since this is a Special-Called meeting, the only business that can be transacted is that which was specified in the call of the meeting, student representative interviews.
- III. On a motion by Mr. Bill Jacobs, seconded by Ms. Mary Werner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.
- IV. Mr. East reminded the Board members of the competitive process that has taken place to get the Board to this point. Mr. East stated on January 31, 2025, 30 students from across the state submitted applications to MDE in response to the competitive application process that was released on December 5, 2024. Under the leadership of Mr. Matt Miller, an Ad-Hoc Screening Committee evaluated these applications in March. On May 1 and 2, 2025, Mr. Bill Jacobs, Mr. Matt Miller, Mr. Crosby Parker, and Ms. Billye Jean Stroud interviewed the 10 semi-finalists and named the top four students as finalists of the program.

Mr. East stated that the four finalists will interview today for the junior representative position for a term that will begin July 1, 2025 and will end on April 30, 2027. Mr. East stated the responsibilities of the student representative are outlined on the first page of the interview questionnaire in the folders that have been provided. Mr. Miller stated that in addition to the questionnaire that will be used during the interviews, the Board members will find the student applications and a Student Representative Selection Form.

Mr. East stated the interviews will be conducted in forty-five-minute increments and the Board members will rotate the interview questions as done in prior years. Mr. East stated that the Board will begin each interview by viewing the video that each student submitted as part of the application process. Mr. East stated the student will then join the meeting. Mr. East stated that following the interviews, the Board will have time for discussion and each member will rank the students on the Selection Form and submit it to Ms. Sonya Amis and the ballots will be

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counted during a brief recess and the results will be announced for subsequent vote by the Board.

The finalists interviewed pursuant to the following schedule:

- Angelina Tan (Starkville Oktibbeha School District) – 8:45 a.m.
- Katie Chung (Starkville Oktibbeha School District) – 9:30 a.m.
- Michelle Xie (Oak Grove School District) – 10:15 a.m.
- Price Denham (Oak Grove School District) – 11:00 a.m.

All the finalists were interviewed virtually since they were on vacation or at a competition.

- V. The Board discussed the junior student finalists before completing their Student Representative Selection Form.

The meeting recessed for five minutes while the results were compiled.

- VI. On a motion by Mr. Matt Mayo, seconded by Ms. Mary Werner, the Board unanimously voted to approve Ms. Michelle Xie of Oak Grove School District as the junior student representative whose term will begin July 1, 2025 and end April 30, 2027.


- VII. On a motion by Mr. Matt Mayo, seconded by Mr. Bill Jacobs, the Board unanimously voted to approve Mr. Price Denham of Oak Grove School District as the junior student representative alternate.

- VIII. Adjournment

Mr. East adjourned the Special-Called Board meeting at 11:47 a.m. for lunch. Mr. East stated the discussion on the Strategic Planning process with Studer Education will begin at 1:00 p.m.

Approved:


Glen V. East, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education


Lance Evans
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education