

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

August 4, 2025

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a Special-Called Teleconference Board meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, August 4, 2025 for the purpose of consideration of the approval of an Emergency Contract for Statewide Assessments. The location of the meeting available to the public was in the 4th Floor Boardroom at the Central High School Building, Mississippi Department of Education, 359 North West Street, Jackson Mississippi. Board members present via Teams were: Dr. Wendi Barrett (Ocean Springs, Mississippi), Mr. Glen V. East (Gulfport, Mississippi), Mr. Bill Jacobs (Brookhaven, Mississippi), Dr. Ronnie L. McGehee (Madison, Mississippi), Mr. Matt Miller (Hattiesburg, Mississippi), Mr. Matt Mayo (Magee, Mississippi), Mr. Mike Pruitt (Hattiesburg, Mississippi), Ms. Billye Jean Stroud (New Albany, Mississippi), and Ms. Mary Werner (Pueblo, Colorado). Dr. Lance Evans is present in the Fourth Floor Boardroom to participate in the meeting.

- I. Mr. Matt Miller called the Special-Called Board meeting to order at 4:05 p.m., after determining that a quorum of the Board existed for the purpose of conducting a meeting through teleconference and video means in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-5.
- II. Mr. Miller stated that this is a Special-Called meeting of the Board of Education being held today and the notice was posted in accordance with state law and included the date, time, place, and purpose of the meeting and identified the location of the meeting available to the public. Mr. Miller stated that each Board member received a copy of the agenda. Mr. Miller stated that this is a Special-Called Board meeting and therefore the only business that can be transacted is that which has been specified in the call of this meeting.
- III. On a motion by Mr. Matt Mayo, seconded by Ms. Mary Werner, the Board unanimously approved the agenda as presented.
- IV. Consideration of Executive Session

Mr. Matt Mayo moved that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session. Mr. Mike Pruitt seconded the motion, and the motion passed by unanimous vote. Mr. Matt Miller asked for legal counsel to remain in the room.

Mr. Matt Mayo then moved that the Board go into Executive Session for a strategy session or negotiations with regards to prospective litigation involving the MDE and the issuance of an appealable order related to the protest filed by Cambium based on the ITS/SBE awarded contract for the statewide assessments, such executive session being in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-7 (4)(b). Ms. Billye Jean Stroud seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote. 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 strategy sessions or negotiations with regards to prospective litigation and the issuance of an appealable order.

On a motion by Mr. Matt Mayo, seconded by Mr. Glen V. East, the Board unanimously voted to come out of the Executive Session.

The public came back into the Board meeting and Mr. Miller reported that during the Executive Session the Board discussed prospective litigation related to the protest filed by Cambium based on the ITS/SBE awarded contract for the statewide assessments and the need for an emergency contract with Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) for Fiscal year 2026.

On a motion by Mr. Matt Miller, seconded by Mr. Matt Mayo, the Board unanimously approved an emergency contract with Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) for Fiscal Year 2026 to administer statewide assessments for the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program, (MAAP) including the alternate assessment program (MAAP-A) (copy attached).

- V. On a motion by Mr. Glen V. East, seconded by Mr. Bill Jacobs, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 4:22 p.m.

Approved:



Matt Miller, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education



Lance Evans
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education