

MINUTES

Education Professions Committee Meeting

Date

Wednesday, April 12, 2016

Time

10:33 a.m.

Location

**Room 101, Rutledge Building
1429 Senate Street
Columbia, SC 29201**

*Dr. Rhonda Edwards, Committee Chair
Cathy Hazelwood, Acting Deputy Superintendent
Staff Liaison to the Committee*

I. Welcome and Determination of a Quorum

Dr. Rhonda Edwards welcomed everyone to the Education Professions (EP) Committee.

State Board of Education (SBE) committee members in attendance were Gerald Reeves, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Renee Hembree, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; and Dr. Janice Gamble, Third Judicial Circuit. A quorum was present.

Tom Ewart, Twelfth Judicial Circuit, was also in attendance.

Attending on behalf of the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) were Cathy Hazelwood, Deputy Superintendent and Parliamentarian, Division for Legal Affairs; Tammy Jeffers, Minutes Taker, Division for Federal, State, and Community Resources; Laura Covington, Education Associate, Office of Educator Services, Division for Federal, State, and Community Resources; and Mary Hipp, Director, Office of Educator Services, Division for Federal, State, and Community Resources.

II. Recognition of Visitors and News Media

Visitors in attendance were Tygère Charles, Craig King, Debra Lee, and Candice Moore.

III. Approval of Committee Minutes for February 10, 2016

Mr. Reeves made a motion to approve the minutes for February 10, 2016. Dr. Gamble seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

IV. Approval of Committee Agenda for April 12, 2016

Ms. Hembree made a motion to approve the agenda for April 12, 2016. Mr. Reeves seconded the motion. The motion carried.

V. Public Comment Period

No one signed up for public comment.

VI. Board Items

FOR APPROVAL

- 01. Proposal for the Greenville Alternative Teacher Education Program (GATE)**—Laura Covington, Education Associate, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

Mrs. Hipp advised the Committee of the following. Greenville County School District has worked on their proposal for quite some time to meet a need in their district using the Program for Alternative Certification for Educators (PACE) guidelines for the outline for the program. The alternative preparation programs in South Carolina are Teach for America (TFA), American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE), and PACE.

Ms. Covington provided the Committee with a background on Greenville County School District's proposal. The district has proposed a program designed to recruit and prepare educators in the fields of science and mathematics using the PACE guidelines. Through the GATE, the district plans to hire from 10–20 candidates per year and provide intensive mentoring and training for these candidates in their school placements. The SCDE will work closely with Greenville County to monitor the program success and candidate progression, to issue the alternative pathway certificates for the educators, and to provide an update on the findings to the Committee in the near future.

Dr. Gamble made a motion to approve this item. Mr. Reeves seconded the motion. The motion carried.

VII. Consent Agenda

EP-01 was placed on the consent agenda.

VIII. Other Business

Mary Hipp asked the Committee if they would like staff to present an information item on the programs and functions of the Office of Educator Services at the next meeting. The Committee agreed.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.