

AGENDA

State Board of Education Meeting

Date

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

Time

1:00 p.m.

Location

**Rutledge Conference Center
1429 Senate Street
Columbia, South Carolina**

Barry Bolen, Chair

Traci Young Cooper, EdD, Chair-elect

Mick Zais, PhD

State Superintendent of Education

Secretary and Administrative Officer to the Board

SBE Mission: The State Board of Education's mission is to provide a leadership role in helping South Carolina set policy and direction to transform teaching and learning so that students are prepared with the necessary knowledge and skills, including innovation, to compete globally and live a productive life.

I. WELCOME/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The State Board of Education (SBE) meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. Chair Bolen called the meeting to order. Dr. Cooper, Chair-elect, led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following SBE members were in attendance: Barry Bolen, Chair, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Traci Young Cooper, EdD, Chair-elect, Fifth Judicial Circuit; Samuel Alston, EdD, First Judicial Circuit; Jim Griffith, Second Judicial Circuit; Lonzena Harry, Third Judicial Circuit; David Blackmon, PhD, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Neil Willis, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Ivan Randolph, PhD, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Larry Kobrovsky, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Danny Varat, PhD, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; Thomas Shortt, EdD, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; Rhonda Edwards, EdD, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; and Mike Brenan, Governor's Appointee.

Absent with apologies were James Stroman, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Jeffrey Kubu, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Bishop Michael Blue, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; and John Rampey, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit.

The following South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff were in attendance: Cindy Van Buren, Deputy Superintendent, Division of School Effectiveness; Dino Teppara, Director, Office of Legislative and Public Affairs; Shelly Bezanson Kelly, General Counsel and Parliamentarian, Office of General Counsel; Don Cantrell, Chief Information Officer; Mary Hipp, Interim Director, Office of Educator Services, Division of School Effectiveness; Nancy Busbee, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Accountability; Cathy Jones-Stork, Education Associate, Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations, Division of School Effectiveness; Briana Timmerman, PhD, Director, Office of

Instructional Practices and Evaluations, Division of School Effectiveness; Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability; Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability; Karla Hawkins, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Paul Butler-Nalin, Director, Office of Research and Data Analysis; Bradley Mitchell, Director, Office of Virtual Education, Division of School Effectiveness; Joseph Tadlock, Team Leader, Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations, Division of School Effectiveness; Wendy Cartledge, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Jesulon Gibbs-Brown, Director, Office of School Transformation, Division of School Effectiveness; Katie Smith, Research Associate, Office of Research and Data Analysis; Rinice Sauls, Education Associate, Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations, Division of School Effectiveness; Anita Parker, Education Associate, Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations, Division of School Effectiveness; Barbara Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Anna Burns, Program Coordinator, Office of Legislative and Public Affairs; and Rachel Kerley, Recording Secretary, Office of Legislative and Public Affairs.

II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR MARCH 12, 2014

Chair Bolen asked if there were any objections to approving the minutes for the SBE meeting on March 12, 2014, as presented. Hearing none, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR APRIL 9, 2014

Chair Bolen asked if there were any objections to approving the agenda for the SBE meeting on April 9, 2014.

Mr. Brenan moved to suspend the Board rules to allow the discussion of item PL-03 by the full Board. Dr. Varat seconded the motion. The motion, requiring at least a two-thirds vote, passed. Chair Bolen stated that the item would be placed under Other Business.

The amended agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA

Chair Bolen welcomed visitors to the SBE meeting, including Jamie Self from *The State*.

V. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT

Dr. Zais started his report by wishing everyone a happy Easter.

School Visits

Dr. Zais visited four school districts and met with numerous principals, superintendents, and administrators since the March Board meeting.

- Dr. Zais toured Woodruff Middle and Woodruff High in Spartanburg District Four.
- On March 24, Dr. Zais visited with Dr. Eddie Ingram in Darlington County School District and toured the Darlington County Institute of Technology and Thornwell School for the Arts.
- Dr. Zais met staff at the Dorchester Two district office, and along with Superintendent Joe Pye, he visited Rollings Middle School for the Arts.
- After visiting Rollings, Dr. Zais travelled to Dorchester District Four and visited with their superintendent, Jerry Montjoy. Later they toured Woodland High School.

Public Appearances

Dr. Zais listed some recent public appearances:

- Attended the 2014 Legislative Conference of the Council of Chief State School Officers in Washington, D.C.
- Attended the South Carolina Prayer Breakfast
- Testified before the Senate K–12 Budget Subcommittee
- Attended and spoke at the South Carolina Teacher of the Year luncheon at ETV
- Spoke at the South Carolina Technical College System Breakfast in Columbia
- Addressed the principals and board members at the Charter School Leadership Summit
- Spoke at TeenPact, a Christian, teen leadership group
- Presented with the Golden Apple Award at the Public School Options Day event on the south steps of the State House
- Attended the inauguration of Winthrop's tenth president, Dr. Jayne Comstock
- Spoke at the Financial Literacy Month Press Conference
- Participated in a conference of all of South Carolina's Teach for America Core Members
- Watched a screening of a documentary on literacy at the State House auditorium
- Attended regular board meetings at the Citadel and the University of South Carolina

Media Interviews

Dr. Zais was interviewed by the following media this month:

- Zach Fox of the *Spartanburg Herald Journal*
- Stephen Dial of WLTX-TV
- SCETV's "Workforce Development" program of the Education Insight live series

Dr. Zais encouraged everyone to connect with the Department via social media and on his blog. This month the blog covered the following topics: providing options to South Carolina's public school students, the importance of school nurses, and financial literacy. The Deputy Superintendent of School Effectiveness, Cindy Van Buren, also posted a superb video blog about changes to South Carolina's educator and principal evaluation system.

This concluded the superintendent's report.

- Recognitions

The following individuals were recognized as finalists for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching:

- Jeff Gregory, Spring Valley High School, Richland District Two
- Brooke Lance, Lakeside Middle School of Inquiry and Innovation, Anderson District Five
- Beth Meade Leavitt, Wade Hampton High School, Greenville School District
- Melanie Longtin, Wren Middle School, Anderson District One
- Joseph Paul Parker, Southwood Academy of the Arts, Anderson District Five
- Gail Vawter, Springfield Middle School, York District Four

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals participated in the public comment portion of the meeting:

- Kathy Maness, PSTA
- Betsy Carpentier, SCASA
- Debbie Elmore, SCSBA
- Bonnie Wilson, School Principal
- Patricia Hayes, EdFirst SC
- Jackie Hicks, SCEA
- Eddie Ingram, Superintendent, Darlington County Schools

VII. STATE BOARD ITEMS

ELC EDUCATOR LICENSURE COMMITTEE

Committee Report—Mike Brennan, Chair

FOR APPROVAL

01. Approval of the Ratification Agenda

Mr. Bolen called for a vote to approve the ratification agenda. The motion carried.

EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS

Committee Report—Dr. Danny Varat, Chair

The Committee heard one action item which was brought to the full Board.

FOR APPROVAL

- 01. Expansion of South Carolina Educator Evaluation System (First Reading)**—Briana Timmerman, PhD, Director, Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations, Division of School Effectiveness

Danny Varat reported that the committee approved the item in committee with very deep reservations. He proposed discussing the matter further at the May meeting. The committee would like to hear more feedback from teachers and stakeholders.

He emphasized that to him, the purpose of first reading is to get the item on the table. He encouraged the committee to approve the system today with the understanding that there will be further discussion in May and in June when the item will come up for second reading.

Dr. Cindy Van Buren, Dr. Briana Timmerman, Joseph Tadlock, Anita Parker, Rinice Sauls, and Dr. Paul Butler Nalin gave a presentation to the Board about the proposed evaluation system.

Dr. Blackmon asked the Board to consider the costs to districts both in money and time.

Mr. Willis asked why the pilot-testing data has not been made available to the Board. Dr. Timmerman iterated that they are working through personnel privacy issues to make that information available. Dr. Zais recommended having a closed discussion with the information available during the May Board retreat.

Mr. Kobrovsky asked what the impact of the system has on the state's ESEA waiver. Dr. Zais said that if we do not pass an educator evaluation system, we will be in violation of our ESEA waiver and will revert back to No Child Left Behind, which means that under AYP the majority of our schools would be considered failing under the euphemism 'Not Met.' Ultimately this would create a list of sanctions, which Dr. Busbee provided to the members.

Dr. Cooper asked who at the Department would be monitoring and ensuring high quality of the SLOs. Rinice Sauls said that there will be extensive training, but ultimately much of that will fall to the school districts.

Dr. Van Buren said that she would like to create a work group of stakeholders to create discussion and solicit feedback before the May meeting. Chair Bolen appointed Dr. Varat and Dr. Blackmon to assist with this group.

Chair Bolen called for a vote. The motion passed first reading.

Dr. Varat asked for a recess. Chair Bolen said the Board would reconvene at 4:10 p.m.

SLA STANDARDS LEARNING & ACCOUNTABILITY

Committee Report—Dr. Thomas Shortt, Chair

The Committee heard one action item and one information item. The information item was an update on the Common Core standards.

FOR APPROVAL

- 01. Selection of State Textbook Depository**—Bruce Shealy, Manager, Instructional Materials and District Auditing Section, Chief Financial Office

SLA-01 was placed on the consent agenda.

IF INNOVATION AND FINANCE

Committee Report—John Rampey, Chair

Mr. Griffith standing in for Mr. Rampey gave the committee report. The IF Committee heard one action item and two information items. The first information item was a financial update for fiscal year 2013–14. The second was about funding for the SBE retreat, which will take place May 14–15 in Columbia.

FOR APPROVAL

- 01. Request for Approval of Property Disposal—Pickens County School District**—Delisa Clark, Director, Office of School Facilities, Division of Operations and Support

IF-01 was placed on the consent agenda.

PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE

Committee Report—Barry Bolen, Chair

The PL Committee heard three action items and two information items.

FOR APPROVAL

01. **Beaufort County School District Waiver Request of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-232, Defined Program Grades 6-8**—Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability

PL-01 was placed on the consent agenda.

02. **Spartanburg County School District Seven's Cleveland Academy of Leadership's Waiver Request of the School Start Date Requirement pursuant to S. C. Code Ann. § 59-1-425(A) (Supp. 2013)**—Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability

PL-02 was placed on the consent agenda.

03. **Request to Withdraw from the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium**—Nancy Busbee, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Accountability

PL-03 was not given a favorable report from the committee and by a suspension of the rules was placed back on the full Board agenda under "Other Business."

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were approved in committee and placed on the Consent Agenda:

SLA STANDARDS LEARNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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Dr. Cooper moved to approve the consent agenda. Dr. Blackmon seconded the motion. The motion passed.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

01. **Legislative Update and General Assembly Requests Related to SBE Regulations (if necessary)**—Dino Teppara, Director, Office of Legislative and Public Affairs

Shelly Kelly instructed the Board that the House Education and Public Works Subcommittee requested that the State Board withdraw, amend, and resubmit three regulations. The letter and the recommended changes were handed out to the Board members with a recommendation from the SCDE to make the changes as requested.

Dr. Blackmon moved to withdraw Document Number 4407: R 43-248, South Carolina Virtual School Program; make the changes as requested by the House Education and Public Works Subcommittee; and resubmit the regulation as amended. Dr. Varat seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Dr. Shortt moved to withdraw Document Number 4419: R 43-259, Adult Education; make the changes as requested by the House Education and Public Works Subcommittee; and resubmit the regulation as amended. Mr. Griffith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Dr. Cooper moved to withdraw Document Number 4408; R 43-274, Student Attendance; make the changes as requested by the House Education and Public Works Subcommittee; and resubmit the regulation as amended. Dr. Randolph seconded the motion. The motion carried.

02. **Waiver of the Rules to Allow Action Items to be Considered by the Full Board at the May 14, 2014, Meeting**—Shelly Bezanson Kelly, General Counsel

Dr. Blackmon moved to waive the rules to allow action items to be considered by the full Board at the May 14, 2014, meeting. Dr. Varat seconded the motion. The motion carried.

03. **Request to Withdraw from the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium**—Nancy Busbee, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Accountability

This item was placed on the full Board agenda by a suspension of the rules at the beginning of the meeting.

Mr. Brennan moved that the the Board approve the SCDE recommendation and withdraw from the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium. Mr. Kobrovsky seconded the motion.

Dr. Busbee made a brief presentation about the Department's proposal to withdraw from the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium.

Mr. Bolen asked why the Department can't start the procurement process before withdrawing so as to give the Board concrete assessment options. Dr. Busbee responded that when taking into consideration the time that the Office of Assessment is spending as a governing state with Smarter Balanced, there is not enough manpower to do both effectively.

Dr. Zais clarified that as a governing state, we are committed to using Smarter Balanced. However, if South Carolina were to withdraw as a governing state, it keeps the Smarter Balanced assessment open as an option.

Mr. Bolen asked why there would not be enough time to procure a new test if we withdrew at the end of the school year. Dr. Busbee said that starting June or later would not give enough time to procure and implement a new assessment.

Mr. Brennan asked Dr. Zais if there is an alternate assessment that he is leaning towards. Dr. Zais answered that he wants to keep all options open, including creating our own assessment. Mr. Brennan shared that the General Assembly is leaning toward an ACT assessment, Aspire.

Chair Bolen called for a vote. The motion failed with a vote of four in favor and nine opposed.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 5:08 p.m.