

MINUTES

State Board of Education Meeting

Date

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Time

1:00 p.m. State Board Regular Meeting

Location

Rutledge Conference Center

1429 Senate Street

Columbia, South Carolina

E. Tim Moore, Jr., Esq., Chair

Gerrita Postlewait, PhD, Chair-elect

Jim Rex, PhD

State Superintendent of Education

Secretary and Administrative Officer to the Board

I. WELCOME/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The State Board of Education (SBE) convened at 1:00 p.m. Chair Moore called the meeting to order and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Air Force JROTC Color Guard, Lexington High School, Lexington School District One, led by Senior Instructor Lt. Col. James Tucker, USAF, presented the colors.

The following SBE members were in attendance for the meeting: Tim Moore, Esq., Chair, Second Judicial Circuit; Gerrita Postlewait, PhD, Chair-Elect, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; David Longshore, PhD, First Judicial Circuit; Hampton Hubbard, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Rose Sheheen, Fifth Judicial Circuit; Josie Gaston, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Libby Swad, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Dru James, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Cindy Clark, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Marilyn (Lyn) Norton, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Amelia Herlong, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Michael Blue, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; Phillip Bowers, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; and Dennis Thompson, Jr., Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; Britt Blackwell, O.D., Sixteenth Judicial Circuit; and Mike Brenan, Governor's Appointee.

Absent with apologies was Bonnie Disney, Third Judicial Circuit.

South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff in attendance were Janice Poda, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Administration; Shelly Bezanson Kelly, General Counsel and Parliamentarian, Office of General Counsel; Barbara Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Karla Hawkins, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Mark Bounds, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership; Teri Siskind, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Accountability; Valerie Harrison, EdD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Standards and Learning; John Cooley, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Finance and Operations; Betsy Carpentier, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and

Support; Sandy Smith, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Policy and Legislation; and Cindy Clark, Recording Secretary.

II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR APRIL 14, 2010

Chair Moore asked for a motion to approve the SBE minutes for April 14, 2010. Dennis Thompson moved to approve the minutes and Phillip Bowers seconded the motion. The motion carried.

III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR MAY 12, 2010

Chair Moore asked for a motion to approve or amend the SBE agenda for May 12, 2010. Marilyn "Lyn" Norton moved to approve the agenda and Cindy Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA

Chair Moore welcomed all visitors including those from AOPG S²MART Center, Busbee Creative Arts Academy, Educational Testing Service (ETS), Fairfield County School District, Greenville County School District, Horry County School District, Lexington School District Two, Lowcountry S²MART Center, Marlboro County School District, Midlands S²MART Center, Richland School District One, and Upper Savannah S²MART Center. There was no news media present and no one signed up for public comment.

V. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT AND RECOGNITIONS

In the absence of State Superintendent of Education Rex, Chair Moore recognized the recipient of the School Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) of the Year award. This honor recognizes a nurse who provides outstanding health services while working in a school setting. Linda Waters of Sevier Middle School, Greenville School District, is the 2010 recipient of this award. She is represented by SBE member Phillip Bowers.

Chair Moore also acknowledged the recipient of the South Carolina School Nurse (RN) of the Year Award. This award is presented annually by the South Carolina Department of Education and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control to a registered nurse who provides outstanding health services while working in a school setting. Pamela Allsbrook, Horry County School District, is the 2010 recipient of this award. She is represented by SBE member Dr. Gerrita Postlewait.

Chair Moore recognized the 2010 Exceptional Educator of the Year Award winner. The South Carolina Council for Exceptional Children presented this award to Wendy Richardson, Marshall Elementary School, Orangeburg District Five. She is represented by SBE member Dr. David Longshore.

Also recognized by Chair Moore was the recipient of the Charles Dickerson Service Award, which was established in honor of the late Charles Dickerson, former CEO of the R.L. Bryan Company. This honor is given annually to a district Teacher of the Year who exemplifies the true spirit of community service. Eriresha Terry-Lewis is the 2010 award winner. Mrs. Terry-Lewis is a teacher at Cyril B. Busbee Creative Arts Academy, Lexington School District Two. She is represented by SBE member Amelia Herlong.

After the awards presentation, Chair Moore called for a five-minute recess.

The Board reconvened after the break, and Chair Moore announced that the winners of the upcoming Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards will be recognized at a later time. There are a total of 403 schools who won the award this year.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one present for public comment.

VII. STATE BOARD ITEMS

EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS

Committee Goal: *Conduct a pilot for a value-added process to link (a) student achievement to individual teachers, (b) school effectiveness to principal performance, and (c) performance of graduates to their South Carolina educator preparation unit (including alternative programs) for the purposes of improving the effectiveness of these programs and increasing student achievement.*

Committee Report—Amelia Herlong, Chair

Chair Herlong reported that the Education Professions Committee met Wednesday, May 12, 2010, at 9:02 a.m. in the Rutledge Conference Center. Mrs. Herlong provided the Board with an overview of the committee meeting and stated there was one item for approval and two items for information as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

- 01. Adopt Passing Scores for New Praxis Examinations in Special Education (First Reading)**—Jim Turner, Director,

Office of Educator Certification, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

A motion was made by Mrs. Herlong and recognized by Chair Moore that the Board Adopt Passing Scores for New Praxis Examinations in Special Education effective September 2010 and to waive second reading. The motion was approved unanimously.

FOR INFORMATION

- 02. The 2009 Title II Higher Education Report Card**—Allison Jacques, PhD, Director, Office of Educator Preparation, Support, and Assessment, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

Mrs. Herlong stated that the 2009 Title II Higher Education Report Card is helpful in identifying strengths and weaknesses in educating teachers. There were three institutions designated as low performing based on the ADEPT performance of their graduates. The three institutions are Charleston Southern University, Bob Jones University, and University of South Carolina Aiken.

- 03. South Carolina Educator Preparation Unit Fact Sheets**—Allison Jacques, PhD, Director, Office of Educator Preparation, Support, and Assessment, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

Mrs. Herlong reported on the South Carolina Educator Preparation Unit Fact Sheets and stated that the report shows state averages, number of graduates in certain areas, and serves as an aid for showing what is being taught in each of our schools.

Mrs. Herlong also said that the Division of Educator Quality and Leadership continues to work on Project HEAT, which is one of the committee goals. She stated that an update was provided on the progress being made by Pickens County School District concerning their implementation of the South Carolina Teacher Advancement Program (SCTAP) in some of their schools.

IF INNOVATION AND FINANCE

Committee Goal: *SCDE staff to confer with leaders of eligible districts/schools to identify innovations that could improve student achievement and performance and recommend such waivers in accordance with pertinent statutes and regulations.*

Committee Report—Britt Blackwell, O.D., Chair

Dr. Blackwell reported that the Innovation and Finance Committee met Wednesday, May 12, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. in the Rutledge Conference Center. He provided the Board with an overview of the committee meeting and stated there were two items for approval and one item for information as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

- 01. Request from the South Carolina Association of Public Charter Schools (SCAPCS) for Reappointment of a Charter School Advisory Committee (CSAC) Member**—Joel Medley, Education Associate, Office of Public School Choice, Division of Innovation and Support

A motion was made by Dr. Blackwell and recognized by Chair Moore that the Board approve the request from SCAPCS for reappointment of CSAC member, Richard Weldon, one of the founders of the SCAPCS, to serve another two-year term on the committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

- 02. Request for Approval of Property Disposal—Calhoun County School District**—Alex James, Director, Office of School Facilities, Division of Innovation and Support

A motion was made by Dr. Blackwell and recognized by Chair Moore that the Board approve the Request for Approval of Property Disposal—Calhoun County School District. The motion was approved unanimously.

FOR INFORMATION

- 03. Dropout Prevention and Graduation Innovations**—Virgie Chambers, Director, Office of Public School Choice and Innovation, Division of Innovation and Support

Dr. Blackwell informed the Board that approximately 8,000 children in South Carolina drop out yearly, leaving us with one of the highest dropout rates in the country. This results in an annual wage and tax revenue loss of \$3,200 per dropout. Dr. Blackwell added that Ms. Elaine Metcalf will make a presentation on Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) at the June meeting.

SLA STANDARDS, LEARNING, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Committee Goals:

The SBE will ensure that the Common Core Standards maintain South Carolina's rigorous expectations for student learning and, if so, adopt a development and implementation plan for Common Core Standards, aligned

curriculum resources, formative/summative assessments, and professional development.

The SBE will implement the Connect the Dots recognition for SC Department of Education staff members receiving national and state distinctions for their efforts to provide quality educational experiences for South Carolina students.

Committee Report—Cindy Clark, Chair

Chair Clark reported that the Standards and Learning Committee met Wednesday, May 12, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. in Rutledge Room 806. Ms. Clark provided the Board with an overview of the committee meeting and stated there were two items for approval and one item for information as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

01. Recommendations for 2010–11 Instructional Television Resources—Bette Jamison, Education Associate, Office of eLearning, Division of Standards and Learning

A motion was made by Ms. Clark and recognized by Chair Moore that the Board approve the Recommendations for 2010–11 Instructional Television Resources. The motion was approved unanimously.

02. Adoption of Common Core Standards (First Reading)—Valerie E. Harrison, EdD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Standards and Learning

Ms. Clark reported on the Adoption of Common Core Standards (First Reading).

Mr. Bowers asked whether social studies and physical education will be standardized. Dr. Harrison said there are plans to standardize these areas in the future. Dr. Poda added that science and math will be blended with ELA.

Mr. Bowers said he is worried about losing control of our state standards to the federal government. Ms. Clark responded by stating we can control what we can, and believes they are state-driven standards, not federal standards. Mr. Bowers stated he is not against the common core standards, but he is concerned about there being so many strings attached to the standards. Chair Moore commented there are always some strings attached to all levels of government and asked that the Board not get bogged down in this area.

Dr. Postlewait asked about the timeline for common core standards and stated concern about the assessment of standards. Dr. Harrison and Dr. Poda responded that the standards go to the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) in June for approval and in July will come back to the Board for second reading. Dr. Poda added that assessments are in process of finalization now. Along with Dr. Harrison and Dr. Siskind, Dr. Poda verified this will be updated.

Mr. Brennan asked if the standards were not linked to the Race to the Top (RT3) application, what would be the consequences for South Carolina not adopting the standards. Dr. Harrison said there are reasons beyond RT3. The standards should prepare South Carolina's children to be competitive and successful. She added that the standards are about the children and the quality of the standards.

Dr. Poda added there is more information concerning cost savings on page two of the Executive Summary. She added that almost all federal money will be disbursed by competition in the future. This puts a tremendous responsibility on us; if we do not compete successfully, there will be no money for our schools. South Carolina already gets more money from the federal government than it collects from state taxes. Without the assistance of the federal government, we'd be in far worse shape than we are today.

Mr. Brennan asked Dr. Poda if she believes that future federal funding will be linked to performance on common core standards. She responded that it does not have to be the "Common Core" but South Carolina does not have the resources to do what the National Governors Association (NGA) or the CCSSO/Governors have done with 48 states or less.

Also, Mr. Brennan asked how the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) will be affected as a result of our only national report card. Dr. Poda said we would be looking more at international assessments as well as NAEP and others. Dr. Siskind added that NAEP is maintaining its independent role and serves as an independent check on our performance.

Dru James asked whether we may be doing ourselves a disservice because the federal government is involved. Rose Sheheen stated that the schools of education throughout the United States are looking at training their teachers in the common core standards and that it is more than just an RT3 goal.

Dr. Longshore asked which two states were not involved in the Common Core. Texas and Alaska are those states

Mr. Thompson asked if Work Keys is a national exam and stated that if we do not approve the common core standards, there will be gaps in all areas of education.

Dr. Harrison reminded the Board to review the executive summary for further information.

A motion was made by Ms. Clark and recognized by Chair Moore that the Board approve the Adoption of Common Core Standards (First Reading). The motion was approved unanimously.

FOR INFORMATION

- 03. Update on Assessment and the Biology End-of-Course Test**—Elizabeth Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Accountability

Ms. Clark reported that the committee received the Update on Assessment and the Biology End-of-Course Test.

The recipient of the Connect the Dot award for May 2010 was made by Ms. Clark. She also thanked the SLA Committee members and the Board for all their hard work.

PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE

Committee Goal: *The SBE will devise effective means to broadly share information about the progress being made to transform the education system in the state.*

Committee Report—Tim Moore, Chair

Chair Moore reported that the Policy and Legislative Committee met Wednesday, May 12, 2010, at 10:43 a.m. in the Rutledge Conference Center. Chair Moore provided the Board with an overview of the committee meeting and stated there were three items for approval and one item for information as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

- 01. South Carolina's Race to the Top Grant Application**—Betsy Carpentier, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Support

Chair Moore reported on South Carolina's Race to the Top grant application and moved that the Board allow the Chair of the State Board of Education to sign the application on behalf of the Board. The motion was approved unanimously.

- 02. New Guidelines for Meeting Expected Progress**—David Rawlinson, Director, Office of Special Projects

Chair Moore called on David Rawlinson to give a summary of the new guidelines for meeting expected progress to the Board.

Chair Moore stated the motion was approved in committee that the Board approve the New Guidelines for Meeting Expected Progress. The motion was approved unanimously.

- 03. Designation of Newly Identified Schools that Failed to Meet Expected Progress as Palmetto Priority Schools**—David Rawlinson, Director, Office of Special Projects

Chair Moore stated that the motion was approved in committee to approve the newly identified schools that failed to meet expected progress as Palmetto Priority Schools. Representatives from the Districts affected by this motion were present at the meeting either in person or via Elluminate. Representatives from Williamsburg County School District were present. The members from Barnwell 19 (Blackville Hilda) School District and Charleston County School District attended via Elluminate. The motion was approved unanimously.

FOR INFORMATION

- 04. Release of Identified Schools Meeting Expected Progress from the Palmetto Priority Initiative**—David Rawlinson, Director, Office of Special Projects

Mr. Rawlinson shared the good news that last year six schools from the Palmetto Priority Initiative met expected progress. This year, we have 13 schools who met expected progress. Mr. Rawlinson recognized each of these schools during his report. He said eleven of the thirteen schools requested they remain a part of the Palmetto Priority Schools initiative in a monitoring status. Mr. Rawlinson thanked his staff for their hard work

VIII. LEGISLATIVE REQUEST REGARDING REGULATIONS, IF NECESSARY

Shelly Kelly, General Counsel and Parliamentarian, Office of General Counsel

Ms. Kelly informed the Board that the SCDE received no requests from the legislature regarding regulations this month.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Poda explained the reason for some of the Board members not receiving their January and February travel reimbursements in a timely manner. She added that this will improve since we are now utilizing the new payment system, South Carolina Enterprise Information Systems (SCEIS), for a few months. Dr. Poda thanked the Board members for their patience as the SCDE transitioned to the new system.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 2:45 p.m.