

## MINUTES

### State Board of Education Meeting

#### Date

Wednesday, August 13, 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*

**Notice: Due to allergies of staff and visitors, we ask that visitors refrain from wearing scented products when attending the State Board of Education meetings in SCDE facilities.**

*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**

The State Board of Education (SBE) meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. Chair Bolen called the meeting to order. Chair Bolen welcomed the Navy JROTC unit from Eau Claire High School in Richland School District One to present the colors and Chair-elect Young Cooper invited the members and guest to say the Pledge of Allegence.

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; Lonzena Harry, Third Judicial Circuit; David Blackmon, PhD, Fourth Judicial Circuit; James Stroman, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Neil Willis, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Ivan Randolph, PhD, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Larry Kobrovsky, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Thomas Ewart, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; Danny Varat, PhD, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; Rhonda Edwards, EdD, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; Thomas Shortt, EdD, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; John Rampey, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit; Jim Griffith, Second Judicial Circuit; and Mike Brenan, Governor's Appointee.

Jeffrey Kubu, Tenth Judicial Circuit, was absent with apologies.

The following South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff were in attendance: Scott English, Chief Operating Officer; 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; Nancy Busbee, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Accountability; Briana Timmerman, PhD, Director, Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations, Division of School Effectiveness; Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability; Paul Butler-Nalin, Director, Office of Research and Data Analysis; Mellanie Jinnette, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance; Kenneth Puett, Chief Information Security Officer; Donna Manning, Education Associate, Office of Charter and Special Focus Schools; Tresa Diggs, Education Associate, Office of Exceptional Children, Division of Accountability; Tina Jamison, Education Associate, Office of School Transformation; Jennifer Green, Education Associate, Office of School Transformation; Barbara Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Joel Griggs, Investigator, Office of General Counsel; Anna Burns, Program Coordinator, Office of Legislative and Public Affairs; and Catherine Oates-Robinson, Law Clerk, Office of General Counsel.

**II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR JULY 9, 2014**

Chair Bolen asked if there were any objections to approving the minutes for the SBE meeting on July 9, 2014, as presented. Hearing none, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

**III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR AUGUST 13, 2014**

Chair Bolen asked if there were any objections to approving the agenda for the SBE meeting on August 13, 2014. Hearing none, the agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

**IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA**

Chair Bolen welcomed visitors to the SBE meeting, including Jeffery Reuer, Candidate for Berkeley County School Board; Adam Hearn, CEO of Accept Apps; and Deborah Myers.

**VI. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT**

**Travel**

Since the June Board meeting, Dr. Zais has traveled to the following places.

- China with the Confucius Institute at the University of South Carolina for the purpose of strengthening student and teacher exchanges between China and public schools in South Carolina
  - Chinese K-12 schools
  - Beijing University of Language and Culture
- Annual Conference of the Council of Chief State School Officers in Orlando, Florida

- The Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) meeting in Nashville, Tennessee
- Training program at the BB&T Leadership Institute in High Point, NC
- The Citadel Board of Visitors Annual Retreat in Pinopolis, South Carolina
- Education Oversight Committee Annual Retreat in Hilton Head, South Carolina

**Public Appearances and Media Interviews**

Dr. Zais listed some public appearances in the last couple of months, as well as media interviews:

- Participated in a meeting of TransformSC
- Interviewed by local radio personality Keven Cohen on a variety of education topics
- Participated in Boys and Girls State at the Capital
- Participated in meetings of the Board of Trustees of the University of South Carolina.
- Participated in South Carolina Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Annual Retreat on the campus of Clemson University
- Interviewed by Jamie Self from *The State* newspaper on Act 200
- Participated in ETV Board of Directors quarterly meeting in Columbia
- Attended the first meeting of the math team that will be writing our new, high-level South Carolina standards
- Delivered the opening address at the Midlands Homeschool Convention
- Participated in and was recognized at Senator Tim Scott's Vietnam Veterans Recognition Ceremony
- Attended a press conference hosted by the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce at Pure Power, an automotive parts manufacturer in Blythewood
- Attended the United Way Kickoff at the Capital City Club
- Participated in a press conference at the State Museum, unveiling their new telescope, planetarium, 4-D theater, and collection of antique telescopes; six TV stations were present, as well as print media

Dr. Zais encouraged everyone to connect online with the Department of Education for updates. He specifically pointed to the Department's homepage where the following social media can be found at the top right: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Google Plus, Pinterest, and Instagram.

Dr. Zais also encouraged everyone to review his blog where he posted on the following subjects: the career and technology programs and award-winning financial literacy course at the Lexington Technology Center; two

special student volunteers who were honored by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards Program; Independence Day; schools with exemplary writing programs; the 2014 Research to Practice Institute; the process for developing new standards; school supplies and the tax-free weekend; and the importance of summer reading for our students.

This concluded the superintendent's report.

## **VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

- Sherri Few, President of South Carolina Parents Involved in Education: Objection to the new AP U.S. History Standards
- Christina Jeffrey, South Carolina Parents Involved in Education: Objection to the new AP U.S. History Standards
- Michael Acquilano, South Carolina Parents Involved in Education: Objection to the new AP U.S. History Standards
- Sherri Timmerman, Secretary of the Greater Charleston Chapter of the South Carolina Parents Involved in Education: Objection to the new AP U.S. History Standards
- Kathy Sullivan, South Carolina Parents Involved in Education: Objection to the new AP U.S. History Standards
- Garden Cashwell, Walls Ministry : Objection to the new AP U.S. History Standards
- Eugene Lemieux, Summerville 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> and Naval Veteran: Objection to the new AP U.S. History Standards
- Sandy Chiong, South Carolina Parents Involved in Education: Objection to the new AP U.S. History Standards
- Bill Bates, Retired Teacher and Veteran: Objection to the new AP U.S. History Standards
- Dr. Rob Dylan, President of the South Carolinians for Science Education: Objection to HB5 amendment

## **VIII. STATE BOARD ITEMS**

### **EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS**

The committee heard one action item and one information item. Item EP-01 was placed on the consent agenda. The information item was about new teaching endorsement areas.

**FOR APPROVAL**

01. **Professional Review Committee (PRC) Recommendations for Four New Educator Preparation Programs**—Mary Hipp, Director, Office of Educator Services, Division of School Effectiveness

**IF INNOVATION & FINANCE**

The committee heard three action items and two information items. Items IF-01, IF-02, and IF-03 were all placed on the consent agenda. The information items were an update on Smart snacks in schools and exempt fundraisers, and a fiscal update. The fiscal update revealed that the State Board had not spent any FY 2014 budget money yet and that the allocation was the same as FY 2013, \$58, 034.

**FOR APPROVAL**

01. **2014 Call for Bids for Instructional Materials**—Kriss Stewart, Program Coordinator, Instructional Materials Section, Office of Finance
02. **Digital Instructional Materials Proviso 1.77**—Kriss Stewart, Program Coordinator, Instructional Materials Section, Office of Finance
03. **Technology/Device Pilot (FY 2014–15 Provisos 1.83 and 1A.65)**—Mellanie Jinnette, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance

**PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE**

The Committee heard two action items and one information item. Item PL-01 was placed on the consent agenda. The information item was the annual report of the accreditation of schools and districts for the 2013–14 school year.

**FOR APPROVAL**

01. **Carolina Consortium for Enterprise Learning (CCEL) Waiver Request of 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-261 (2011), District and School Planning**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability
02. **2014–15 State Priority Schools' Challenge to Achieve Plan Approvals**—Tina Jamison, Education Associate—State Priority School Program Lead, Office of School Transformation, Division of School Effectiveness

Tina Jamison, Education Associate–State Priority School Program Lead, Office of School Transformation, Division of School Effectiveness, presented the information. Dr. Reynolds from the National Drop Out Prevention Network at Clemson also spoke on the proposed plans.

Chair Bolen called for a vote. The motion carried.

**SBE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**FOR APPROVAL**

**01. Consideration of Education Oversight Committee’s Recommendation Regarding Science Standards—Traci Young Cooper, Chair-Elect, State Board of Education**

Dr. Cooper read the standard proposal for the record: “H.B.5D- Conceptual Understanding: Science is the systematic gathering of information through both direct and indirect observation, and the testing of this information by experimentation with the aim of developing concepts and formulation of laws and theories. Scientific conclusions are tested by experiment and observation, and evolution, as with any aspect of science, is continually open to and subject to experimental and observational testing. Under the Performance Indicator we would ask students to explain how scientists develop theories and laws by using deductive and inductive reasoning in situations where direct observation and testing are possible and also by inference through experimental and observational testing of historical scientific claims. Students should understand assumptions scientists make in situations where direct evidence is limited and understand that all theories may change as new scientific information is obtained.”

Dr. Blackmon moved to defer any action on the recommendation until we have a recommendation from the Department of Education; the motion was seconded. Mr. Kobrowsky made a substitute motion to not defer and to not approve the recommendation; the motion was not seconded. The Board returned to Dr. Blackmon’s motion; the motion passed unanimously.

**02. Standards Writing Process—Cindy Van Buren, Deputy Superintendent, Division of School Effectiveness, and Mellanie Barton, Executive Director, Education Oversight Committee**

Cindy Van Buren and Mellanie Barton presented the proposed process and timeline.

There was some discussion about the process and the cooperation between the SCDE team and the EOC.

Mr. Griffith read a resolution concerning the review of the English language arts and mathematics standards:

This is a South Carolina Board of Education Resolution concerning the review process of state's standards for English Language Arts and mathematics, where as, Act 200 passed the South Carolina General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor on May 30, 2014, requiring the development of the new college and career readiness standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics state content standards, and where as, the process of revising the current state English Language Arts and Mathematics standards must begin on or before January 1, 2015, and where as the new standards must be in place by South Carolina Public Schools for the students beginning school in 2015, and where as the development process is an important opportunity for our state to use years of research and experience at the state and national levels in crafting rigorous standards, and where as if our state is to implement the very best standards it can, it is wrong to reject any body of careful study about the skills and knowledge students need, and where as the state attorney in a written opinion confirming that the law states and what the legislature intended to say 'it is clear the general assembly intended the review of the current common core English Language Arts and Mathematics standards to be a starting point for the development of new college and career readiness standards' and where as the state board of education and the South Carolina Education Oversight Committee are under Act 200 required to approve the adoption of these standards, now therefore be it resolved that the South Carolina Board of Education does hereby strongly support complying with Act 200 and its mandate that review of the states current English Language Arts and Mathematics content standards must be a starting point, must be the starting point for the process of developing new state ELA and mathematics content standards, be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be delivered to members of the South Carolina Education Oversight Committee, Chairs of the K-12 Education Committee of the House of Representatives and South Carolina Senate and State Superintendent of Education.

Dr. Cooper moved to adopt the resolution as prescribed with emphasis that the standards revision process that has been developed by the State Board be utilized and honored.

Mr. Griffith seconded the motion.

Chair Bolen opened the floor to discussion.

There was discussion of the appropriate interpretation of Act 200. The debate was whether common core standards were to be the basis of review or a source for developing new standards.

Dr. Blackmon called for the question. The motion was seconded. Chair Bolen asked for a vote by show of hands. The motion failed and discussion resumed.

Mr. Ewart called for the question. Dr. Blackmon seconded the motion. Chair Bolen asked for a vote by show of hands. The motion failed and discussion resumed.

Mr. Griffith withdrew his second of the motion to adopt the resolution. No other second was heard on the motion.

Dr. Varat moved to approve the proposed Standards Writing Process and the timeline that was presented by Dr. Van Buren, provided any amendments agreed upon by the Department of Education and the Education Oversight Committee. Dr. Randolph seconded the motion. The motion passed.

#### FOR INFORMATION

03. **State Board of Education (SBE) Waiver Progress Report for the District Strategic and School Renewal Plan for John de la Howe**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability
04. **Riverbanks Zoo Educational Programs**—Elizabeth Clemens; Director of Education, Riverbanks Zoo
05. **Expanded Educator Evaluation System Update**—Briana Timmerman, PhD, Director, Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations, Division of School Effectiveness

<b>IX. CONSENT AGENDA</b>
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**EP EDUCATOR PROFESSIONS**

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Mr. Griffith moved to approve the consent agenda. Dr. Varat seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

<b>X. OTHER BUSINESS</b>
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Chair Bolen addressed the writing of standards again and Dr. Varat's suggestion that Chair Bolen write a letter to the Department to clarify his expectations.

Dr. Cooper addressed paper reduction.

<b>XI. ADJOURNMENT</b>
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There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 4:50 p.m.