

MINUTES

State Board of Education Meeting

Date

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Time

11:30 a.m. Educator Certification Cases Meeting

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. EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION CASES

The State Board of Education (SBE) convened at 11:30 a.m. to hear Educator Certification cases. The following SBE members were in attendance for the meeting: Tim Moore, Chair, Second Judicial Circuit; Gerrita Postlewait, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; Bonnie Disney, Third Judicial Circuit; Hampton Hubbard, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Rose Sheheen, Fifth Judicial Circuit; Al Simpson, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Libby Swad, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Charles McKinney, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Cindy Clark, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Marilyn Norton, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Amelia Herlong, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Phillip Bowers, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; Dennis Thompson, Jr., Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; and Britt Blackwell, O.D., Sixteenth Judicial Circuit.

Absent with apologies were Patsy Pye, First Judicial Circuit, and Fred "Trip" DuBard III, Twelfth Judicial Circuit.

South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff in attendance were Cindy Clark, Minutes Taker; Janice Poda, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Administration; Shelly Bezanson Kelly, General Counsel and Parliamentarian, Office of General Counsel; Wendy Cartledge, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; and Paul Bozard, Investigator, Office of General Counsel.

There was a motion and a second for the SBE to go into executive session to consider personnel matters. The motion carried.

**SBE Chair Moore declared the SBE in Executive Session.
Open Session**

A motion was made and seconded that the State Board of Education approve the reinstatement of the educator certificate of James White. The motion carried with one opposing vote by Cindy Clark.

**SBE Chair Moore declared the SBE in Executive Session.
Open Session**

A motion was made and seconded that the State Board of Education approve the reinstatement of the educator certificate of Gary L. Burgess, certificate 123553. The motion carried with opposing votes by Phillip Bowers and Charles McKinney.

**SBE Chair Moore declared the SBE in Executive Session.
Open Session**

Hampton Hubbard moved that the State Board of Education deny the reinstatement of the educator certificate of Thomas W. Braswell, certificate 184786. Phillip Bowers seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**SBE Chair Moore declared the SBE in Executive Session.
Open Session**

Britt Blackwell moved that the State Board of Education approve the reinstatement of the educator certificate of Marty D. Phillips, certificate 166905. Phillip Bowers seconded the motion. The motion carried.

There being no further teacher cases, the SBE recessed at 12:45 p.m. for lunch.

II. WELCOME/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SBE reconvened at 1:25 p.m. Board Chair Tim Moore called the meeting to order and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Army JROTC unit from Blythewood High School, Richland School District Two, presented the colors.

The following SBE members were in attendance for the meeting: Tim Moore, Chair, Second Judicial Circuit; Gerrita Postlewait, Chair-Elect, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; Bonnie Disney, Third Judicial Circuit; Hampton Hubbard, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Rose Sheheen, Fifth Judicial Circuit; Al Simpson, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Libby Swad, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Charles McKinney,

Eighth Judicial Circuit; Cindy Clark, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Marilyn Norton, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Amelia Herlong, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Phillip Bowers, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; Dennis Thompson, Jr., Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; and Britt Blackwell, O.D., Sixteenth Judicial Circuit.

Absent with apologies were Patsy Pye, First Judicial Circuit, and Fred "Trip" DuBard III, Twelfth Judicial Circuit.

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

III. PRESENTATION OF THE GAVEL

Chair Tim Moore took the Oath of Office as the new Chair of the South Carolina State Board of Education, and former Chair Al Simpson, Sixth Judicial Circuit, presented him with the gavel.

IV. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR AUGUST 12, 2009

A motion was made and seconded that the SBE minutes for August 12, 2009, be approved. The motion carried.

V. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 9, 2009

Al Simpson moved to approve the SBE agenda for September 9, 2009. Cindy Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried.

VI. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA

Board Chair Moore welcomed all visitors to the SBE meeting. The following news media were present: Gina Smith, *The State*.

VII. ELECTION OF CHAIR-ELECT FOR 2009–10/OATH OF OFFICE

Chair Moore stated that he appointed a nominating committee to fill the position of Chair-Elect, South Carolina Board of Education, and that he appointed Charles McKinney as Chair of the nominating committee. The Board members eligible for nomination because of the years left on their terms were Bonnie Disney, Third Judicial Circuit; Rose Sheheen, Fifth Judicial Circuit; Lyn Norton, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Phillip Bowers, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; Dennis Thompson, Jr., Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; and Gerrita Postlewait, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit. The committee unanimously chose Gerrita Postlewait, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, as their nomination to serve as Chair-Elect for the remainder of 2009 and for 2010. Chair Moore asked for other nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he called for a vote on the nomination, which resulted in an unanimous decision. Chair Moore congratulated Dr. Postlewait.

Chair Moore turned the meeting over to Superintendent Jim Rex to present recognitions and his report.

VIII. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT AND RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Rex presented plaques to the 2009 Honor Roll Teachers and the South Carolina Teacher of the Year. This year marks the forty-fourth year of the South Carolina Teacher of the Year Program. The honorees were as follows:

2009 Honor Roll Teachers and Teacher of the Year

- **Amanda McKee**, Honor Roll Teacher, Johnsonville High School, Florence School District Five—SBE member Trip DuBard
- **Derenda Marshall**, Honor Roll Teacher, McDonald Elementary School, Georgetown County—SBE member Gerrita Postlewait
- **Deborah Moore**, Honor Roll Teacher, Gallman Elementary, Newberry County—SBE member Charles McKinney
- **Dywanna Smith**, Honor Roll Teacher, Hand Middle School, Richland School District 1—SBE member Rose Sheheen
- **Bryan Coburn**, Teacher of the Year, Northwestern High School, York School District 3—SBE member Britt Blackwell

Dr. Rex announced Governor Sanford has reconsidered and signed the Common Core Standards Agreement. South Carolina is now one of 48 states working together to develop curriculum standards internationally benchmarked in English/language arts, reading, and math. The adoption of standards will be decided by the SBE and the EOC next spring. Dr. Rex stated it is good South Carolina is part of this very important process.

Dr. Rex gave an update on our application for "Race to the Top" for a portion of four billion dollars held by the U.S. Secretary of Education. Dr. Rex is optimistic that the South Carolina Department of Education will be competitive because no points will be deducted from our application for not being part of the Common Core Standards project. Betsy Carpentier is leading the effort within the SCDE and with other partners in South Carolina to put our proposal together focusing on accountability, turning around low performing schools, incentives for the best teachers to go into the most challenged schools, pay-for-performance programs, and data tracking systems. The money would help us do things in a few years instead of a decade, especially in light of recently finding out \$85 million was cut from the education budget in addition to the \$300 million taken last year. Dr. Rex said this will be a difficult year, and he is concerned about the effect on morale and performance.

After Dr. Rex's report, Chair Moore presented the Oath of Office to the new Chair-Elect, Gerrita Postlewait.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No one signed up for public comment.

X. STATE BOARD COMMITTEE ITEMS

EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS

Committee Report—Amelia Herlong

Amelia Herlong reported on behalf of Patsy Pye, Chair, who was absent. The Education Professions Committee met Wednesday, September 9, 2009, at 9:00 a.m., in the Rutledge Building, Room 1000. She expressed appreciation to Mark Bounds, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership, and his division for their hard work on all the programs. Mrs. Herlong shared information provided by Mr. Bounds and reported he spoke on funding issues, the Student Protection Project, and the Teacher Village. She informed the Board that if they have questions to submit to the SCDE, to please do so. She said the deans of colleges meet four times a year, and there is a Personnel Roundtable meeting that Jim Turner attends. Mrs. Herlong also provided the Board with an overview of the committee meeting and stated there were two items submitted for information. The two items presented for information were as follows:

01. Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Professional Teaching (ADEPT) Results for 2008-09

02. District Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Professional Teaching (ADEPT) Plans for 2009–10

SL&A STANDARDS, LEARNING, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Committee Report—Cindy Clark, Chair

Cindy Clark, Chair, reported that the Standards, Learning, and Accountability Committee met Wednesday, September 9, 2009, at 9:10 a.m., in the Rutledge Building, Room 806. Ms. Clark provided the Board with an overview of the committee meeting and stated there were three items submitted for information. The three items presented for information were as follows:

01. South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) Response to Education Oversight Committee (EOC) Review of Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS) and Information from the EOC about PASS Standard-Setting and Ratings Determinations
02. South Carolina Mathematics Advisory Panel: Revised Indicators and Standards and the Revised Standards Support Document
03. Update on the Common Core Initiative

F&O FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Committee Report—Phillip Bowers, Chair

Chair Bowers reported Finance and Operations did not meet. He reported as information that Mr. Cooley advised him the Board operations budget has been reduced by 4.04 percent.

I&ES INNOVATION AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Committee Report—Phillip Bowers, Chair

SBE Chair Moore stated that he was merging the Finance and Operations Committee with the Innovation and Educational Services Committee and had asked Phillip Bowers to take over as Chair of the merged Committee and that Mr. Bowers had agreed to do so. Chair Moore also reported Innovation and Educational Services did not meet.

P&L POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE

Committee Report—Tim Moore, Chair

Chair Moore reported the Policy and Legislative Committee met Wednesday, September 9, 2009, at 10:30 a.m., in the Rutledge Conference Center. Chair Moore provided the SBE with an overview of the committee meeting and stated there were two items presented for information. The two items presented for information were as follows:

01. Status Report from the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) about Act 282
02. Report on the Process for Contracting for the Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)

XI. CONSENT AGENDA

There were no approval items.

XII. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Moore stated that Mark Bounds asked him to address the need for a committee to be formed to study standards for substitute teachers. The committee will consist of two district superintendents, two district assistant superintendents for instruction, two district personnel administrators, a representative from the Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement (CERRA), a representative from the South Carolina Education Association (SCEA), a representative from the Palmetto State Teachers Association (PSTA), and a representative from the South Carolina Education Deans Alliance (SCEDA). Chair Moore said some cases come before the Board where people applied for a certificate, are already working in schools, but have not received a certificate yet, or the Board may have denied a certificate. Action on certificates has not prevented them from continuing to work as substitutes. The committee will determine whether there is a need for a regulation by the SCDE or the SBE to address this problem. Chair Moore asked for two or three members of the Board to serve on the committee. Four members volunteered: Hampton Hubbard, Amelia Herlong, Rose Sheheen, and Lyn Norton. Committee Chair Moore informed the volunteers that Mark Bounds will get in touch with them concerning this newly-formed committee.

Dr. Rex reported on the agreement with SLED for background checks on positions other than teachers. Last year, the cost was \$8.00 per background check, and the cost has more than tripled this year. He stated this is an unexpected increase that affects school volunteers and substitute teachers. Dr. Rex is working with SLED to see if the SCDE can get some relief on that increase.

A motion was made and seconded that the ratification agenda for the Educator Certification cases that were reviewed at the 9:00 a.m. meeting be approved. The motion carried.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 2:15 p.m.