

MINUTES

State Board of Education Meeting

Date

Wednesday, March 11, 2015

Time

1:00 p.m.

Location

Rutledge Conference Center
1429 Senate Street
Columbia, South Carolina

Traci Young Cooper, EdD, Chair

Michael Brenan, Chair-elect

Molly M. Spearman

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 1:05 p.m. Chair Cooper called the meeting to order.

The following SBE members were in attendance: Traci Young Cooper, EdD, Chair, Fifth Judicial Circuit; Samuel Alston, EdD, First Judicial Circuit; Lonzena Harry, Third Judicial Circuit; Gerald Reeves, Fourth Judicial Circuit; James Stroman, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Jane P. Harmon, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Ivan Randolph, PhD, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Richard Kizer, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Jeffrey Kubu, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Dr. Sharon Wall, Eleventh 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; Sharon Bynum, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit; and Mike Brenan, Governor's Appointee.

SBE member Jim Griffith, Second Judicial Circuit, was absent with apologies.

The following South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff were in attendance: Betsy Carpentier, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Superintendent, and Interim Deputy, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness; Angela H. Bain, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator

Effectiveness; Dino Teppara, Director, Office of Public Affairs; Cathy Hazelwood, Deputy Superintendent and Parliamentarian, Division for Legal Affairs; Mellanie Jinnette, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance; Julie Fowler, Deputy Superintendent, Division of College and Career Readiness; Robert Benn, Information Resource Consultant, Service and Support Center, Chief Information Office; Duane Martin, Information Resource Consultant, Service and Support Center, Chief Information Office; Barbara Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Division for Legal Affairs; and LáTonia Holloway, Administrative Assistant, Office of General Counsel, Division for Legal Affairs.

II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 11, 2015

Chair Cooper asked if there were any objections to approving the minutes as presented for the SBE meeting on February 11, 2015. Hearing none, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR MARCH 11, 2015

Chair Cooper asked if there were any objections to approving the agenda for the SBE meeting on March 11, 2015. Hearing none, the agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA

Chair Cooper welcomed visitors to the SBE meeting.

V. STATE BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Chair Cooper reminded Board members that the SBE Spring Retreat would be held May 13 and 14, 2015, in Columbia. She reviewed the agenda and discussed in detail the theme and the main focus areas of the Board. Chair Cooper stated that the text chosen by the Board is entitled *Mindset*. The book talk will be led by Chair-elect Mike Brenan, who recommended this book.

Chair Cooper highlighted some appearances she made since the last Board meeting. She served as speaker for the South Carolina School Improvement Council State Annual Meeting at River Bluff High School, provided opening remarks to the State Safe Schools Summit at EdVenture, served on the Richland 2 focus group of community leaders, read to fourth- and fifth-grade students at Burton Pack Elementary for Dr. Seuss's birthday, and attended the South Carolina ETV debut broadcast of the documentary "180 Days: Hartsville." Chair Cooper again encouraged members of the Board to participate in some of the activities within their community if schedules would permit.

This ended her report.

VI. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT

Dr. Cooper recognized Superintendent Molly Spearman to present her report. Mrs. Spearman shared a PowerPoint presentation that addressed the Profile of the SC Graduate and stated that everything that we do needs to be focused on what we are doing to better prepare every South Carolina student in a personalized way for whatever the next step may be. Mrs. Spearman highlighted some details from her recent trip to Germany; specifically, she addressed the signing of the Rhineland-Palatinate Memorandum of Understanding.

Mrs. Spearman mentioned some of the highlights of her visit to the Charleston County School District and discussed the different delivery types of instruction at Pine Hurst Elementary, where project-based learning is utilized, as opposed to Stall High School, where active learning is utilized.

Mrs. Spearman reported that she traveled across the state naming the finalists for the 2016 State Teacher of the Year. The first finalist is Susan Coty from Sumter High School. Mrs. Spearman acknowledged Ms. Coty, who was present at the meeting. The second finalist was Jenny Durham from Rawlings Road Middle, the third finalist was Al Robertson from Meadow Glenn Middle, the fourth finalist was Daniel Otto from Dreher High School, and the fifth finalist was Hunter Jolly from Boiling Springs High School.

At this point, Mrs. Spearman acknowledged Brad Nickles, Principal of Emerald High School in Greenwood School District 50, who made a brief presentation to inform the SBE about the great things that are happening at Emerald High School. Mr. Brennan commented on some of the information shared with the Board and referenced the TransformSC spring conference held earlier in the week. He thanked Mr. Nickles for being one of the TransformSC schools.

This ended the State Superintendent's report.

Chair Cooper recognized members of the Sumter County Teacher Forum. Tina Sorrells provided a brief presentation.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

- Leigh Newman
- Craig King
- Vicky Brockman
- Bernadette Hampton
- Cindy Doolittle

VIII. STATE BOARD ITEMS

EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Cooper recognized Dr. Varat, who reported that the Committee met and discussed a number of things and that he would begin with the information items. He stated that the Committee received a briefing regarding Read to Succeed (R2S) and commended Jen Morrison and team on doing such a great job with the lack of resources and lack of time frame for which they need to comply with the law. He stated further that the Committee also received an annual report on the ABCTE program, stating that he would not go into detail; however, he stated that one sticky point was communication between the SCDE and the ABCTE entity, which has gotten better. There were two items for approval—the ADEPT and PADEPP educator evaluation guidelines, which were approved in Committee and placed on the Consent Agenda. Dr. Varat further stated that since there were changes, he asked Betsy Carpentier to provide the Board members with the presentation that was provided in the subcommittee meeting. Mrs. Carpentier provided the Board with the PowerPoint presentation that displayed in detail the specific changes in all of the guidelines.

Dr. Cooper recognized Dr. Edwards who followed up Dr. Varat on complementing the SCDE staff who have worked hard on the R2S program. Dr. Edwards stated that the R2S committee would be making a presentation in April and stated that it was requested that SBE members e-mail Ms. Morrison expressing what each member would like to see in the presentation. She encouraged all members to send their request to her before the next meeting. Chair Cooper asked Dr. Varat to ask for recommendations regarding the Read to Succeed Advisory Committee. Dr. Varat extended an appeal for names of persons from fellow board members who could serve on the Committee from their local areas, especially the rural areas, and further stated that a list of persons who currently serve on the Advisory Committee would be forwarded to their attention.

01. **Expanded South Carolina Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Professional Teaching (ADEPT) Educator Evaluation System Revision Approval for Submission with the 2015 ESEA Renewal Application**—Angela Bain, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator Effectiveness
02. **PADEPP Guidelines**—Bruce Moseley, Director, Office of School Leadership, Division of Educator Effectiveness

FOR INFORMATION

03. **Briefing on Read to Succeed (R2S)**—Jennifer Morrison, Director, Office of School Transformation, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness

04. **Annual Report on Individuals Who Have Applied for Certification in South Carolina Based on Qualifying for the Passport to Teaching Certificate through the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE)**—Laura Covington, Education Associate, Office of Educator Services, Division of Educator Effectiveness

PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Cooper reported that the Committee met and heard one item of information, providing detailed information regarding the Horry County School District Wavier Request.

FOR INFORMATION

01. **Horry County School District (HCSD) Report on a Waiver Request Approval (September 12, 2012) by the State Board of Education (SBE) of R.43-234 (II)(B), Defined Program, Grades 9–12 [and Graduation Requirements]**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness

IF INNOVATION AND FINANCE—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Cooper recognized Tom Ewart who reported that the Committee heard three action items for approval, two of which dealt with the disposal of property and one dealing with appointment recommendations for the 2015 instructional review panels. All of the action items were voted upon and placed on the consent agenda. Mr. Ewart also stated that Mellanie Jinnette provided a budget update reporting that all was good in regards to the current state of the budget.

FOR APPROVAL

01. **Request for Approval of Property Disposal—Marion County School District**—Delisa Clark, Director, Office of School Facilities, Division of Operations and Support
02. **Request for Approval of Property Disposal—Lee County School District**—Delisa Clark, Director, Office of School Facilities, Division of Operations and Support
03. **Appointment Recommendations for the 2015 Instructional Materials Review Panels**—Kriss Stewart, Program Coordinator, Instructional Materials Section, Office of Finance

FOR INFORMATION

- 04. Financial Update for Fiscal Year 2014–15**—Mellanie Jinnette, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance

SLA STANDARDS, LEARNING, AND ACCOUNTABILITY—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Cooper recognized Dr. Ivan Randolph who stated that the Committee met and mentioned that the Committee had previously requested SCDE staff to provide the subcommittee with a list of all of the current assessments administered to our students in South Carolina in an effort to potentially streamline some of the tests being used to eliminate possible overlapping of state- and federal-mandated tests, allowing teachers more time to teach. Dr. Randolph acknowledged Liz Jones who provided a PowerPoint presentation update addressing the questions and concerns regarding the assessments.

Mr. Reeves asked Ms. Jones if the Iowa Assessment was a federally mandated assessment. She stated this was an assessment used by students for entrance in the gifted and talented program. Dr. Shortt asked Ms. Jones to explain the definition of high stakes assessment. Ms. Jones complied by addressing each assessment and identifying whether or not the test was considered “high stakes” by the student, parent(s), or schools.

Mr. Kubu pointed out that there was an excessive amount of assessments listed in the document. He stated further that the discussion of student and teacher stress could be attributed to the number of assessments. He suggested that, in moving forward, the Board needed to go one step further and address what can be done to eliminate some of the overlapping elements of the assessments. Chair Cooper acknowledged Mrs. Spearman who thanked the Committee for their leadership regarding this matter and stated that this is something that educators and parents are definitely interested in. Mrs. Spearman concurred that we need to try and streamline the assessments, as well as the number of assessments, and make certain that we are assessing the right thing. She stated further that we are currently assessing content knowledge only; however, in moving forward and talking about project-based learning and being able to apply that knowledge, that would be more difficult to assess. She stated that maybe during the retreat the Board could look at and discuss possible options, indicating that they had her full support.

Dr. Varat asked additional questions regarding the Circle assessment. Ms. Jones stated that the person that could read the data files is out of the country and would be returning after the meeting. Upon returning, she would review the data files in hopes of providing Dr. Varat with more specific data pertaining to the Circle assessment. After much discussion, Dr. Randolph acknowledged Mr. DiNicola, who provided an ACT Aspire and WorkKeys Assessment PowerPoint update. Chair Cooper commented on the referenced “road bumps” pertaining to the implementation of the ACT assessment acknowledged by Mr. DiNicola and stated that she was glad that he has this on his dashboard so that the product and this process is supportive of the teachers and the students.

After much discussion and comments, Dr. Randolph stated that there were no action items that were voted upon by the Committee or consent items placed on the consent agenda. Dr. Randolph thanked Ms. Jones and staff for putting together the assessment document pursuant to his prior request.

FOR INFORMATION

- 01. Assessment Update**—Liz Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Accountability Innovation and Effectiveness
- 02. ACT and WorkKeys Assessment**—Mike DiNicola, ACT

ECC EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION CASES COMMITTEE—COMMITTEE REPORT

FOR APPROVAL

Approval of the Ratification Agenda

Chair Cooper recognized Dr. Alston, who stated that the Educator Licensure Committee met and made a motion to ratify the ECC agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Randolph. The motion carried.

SBE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Chair Cooper acknowledged Dr. Fowler to come forward and provide a brief recap of the 2015 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics process and to provide the feedback that has been given from the Education Oversight Committee (EOC). Mr. Brennan made a motion to approve the South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standards for Mathematics 2015 and the South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standards for English Language Arts 2015. This motion was seconded by Dr. Shortt. Chair Cooper called for the vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Varat commented again on earlier comments made by the EOC regarding the development of the standards and wondered why some of these comments were mentioned during the course of the entire process. Chair Cooper acknowledged Dr. Varat's concerns and frustration and asked if other members had any comments. She stated that perhaps there can be some follow-up conversations later on but reminded the Board that the key thing was that the Board was taking critical, significant action for our teachers and students. Dr. Shortt thanked all those who criticized the Standards development because that criticism helped to make them better.

Chair Cooper made a motion to approve the 2015 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics. The motion carried unanimously.

FOR APPROVAL

01. **South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standards for Mathematics 2015 (Second Reading)**—Julie Gore Fowler, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of College and Career Readiness
02. **South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standards for English Language Arts 2015 (Second Reading)**—Julie Gore Fowler, PhD, Deputy Superintendent Division of College and Career Readiness

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS—COMMITTEE REPORT

FOR APPROVAL

01. **Expanded South Carolina Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Professional Teaching (ADEPT) Educator Evaluation System Revision Approval for Submission with the 2015 ESEA Renewal Application**—Angela Bain, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator Effectiveness
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Mr. Brenan made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Dr. Edwards seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Tom Hudson, Executive Director of the South Carolina School Improvement Council (SC-SIC), presented a PowerPoint presentation that gave an update on what has happened with the SC-SIC over the last three years, and he discussed the council's vision and mission. Dr. Cooper thanked Mr. Hudson for his presentation and the information provided.

Mrs. Spearman thanked Dr. Julie Gore Fowler and team for all of their hard work on the ELA and Mathematic Standards.

Dr. Cooper reminded everyone that the next Board meeting would be held on April 8, 2015.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 3:00 p.m.