

## MINUTES

### State Board of Education Meeting

#### Date

Wednesday, June 10, 2015

#### Time

1:30 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 1:30 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; Jim Griffith, Second Judicial Circuit; Lonzena Harry, Third Judicial Circuit; Gerald Reeves, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Ivan Randolph, PhD, Eighth 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, Chair-elect, Governor's Appointee.

SBE members Jane P. Harmon, Seventh Judicial Circuit, and Richard Kizer, Ninth Judicial Circuit, were absent with apologies. James Stroman, Sixth Judicial Circuit, participated via conference call.

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; Julie Fowler, Deputy Superintendent, Division of College and Career Readiness; Cathy L. Hazelwood, Deputy Superintendent and Parliamentarian, Division for Legal Affairs; Mellanie Jinnette, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance; Emily Heatwole, Director, Division of Legislative Affairs; 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; LáTonia Holloway, Administrative Assistant, Office of General Counsel, Division for Legal Affairs; and Catherine Oates-Robinson, Law Clerk, Office of General Counsel, Division for Legal Affairs.

**II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR MAY 13, 2015**

Chair Cooper asked if there were any objections to approving the minutes as presented for the SBE meeting on May 13, 2015. Hearing none, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

**III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR JUNE 10, 2015**

Chair Cooper asked if there were any objections to approving the agenda for the SBE meeting on June 10, 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. Chair Cooper acknowledged Dr. Craig Witherspoon, Superintendent, Richland County School District One in the Fifth Judicial Circuit, and provided some brief background information about Dr. Witherspoon.

**V. STATE BOARD CHAIR REPORT**

Chair Cooper reported that she only had one information item which was related to the survey results from the 2015 SBE Retreat. She reported that the results were very favorable. She further stated that the subcommittee chairs would receive a template for purposes of recording evidence of actions done by each committee on how their work aligns and supports the core goals that the Board is working toward for the remainder of the year.

This ended her report.

**VI. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT**

Dr. Cooper recognized Superintendent Molly Spearman to present her report. Mrs. Spearman shared her visits during the last month.

- Mrs. Spearman visited the primary, middle, and high schools in Batesburg-Leesville, Lexington School District Three. She stated that they have a great career and technology program, and she was able to go to the construction site where the program built a home. She also acknowledged Dr. Chester Floyd who has decided to retire and congratulated Dr. Randall Gary on being named the new Superintendent of Lexington School District Three.
- During the month she also went to the upstate to Greenville County School District, our largest school district, and visited Carolina High School. She stated that their principal is fantastic and that the graduation rate under his leadership has increased from 47 percent to the mid 70s. She added that they have a new tech high school within the building. .
- Following this visit, Mrs. Spearman highlighted her visit to Hollis Academy. She stated that a non-profit organization—the Public Education Partners, who has been in place for 30 years—was having a book fair to which they donated \$500,000 and bought books for 28 elementary schools. Each student went to the book fair and was afforded the opportunity to “purchase for free” 12 books. Mrs. Spearman extended a special “thank you” to the Public Education Partners for what they are doing in the schools there.
- She also visited the new Dr. Phinnize J. Fisher Middle School, a STEAM-focused school housed at the Clemson University ICAR Complex.
- Mrs. Spearman highlighted her meeting at the SCDE with the new Parent Advisory Council and their discussion about improving communication with parents across the state.
- She also stated that she had an opportunity to visit Sanders Clyde Elementary School in Charleston where she was able to see the benefits resulting from their arts-infusion program when she attended the production of “Annie” put on by the fifth-grade students.
- Mrs. Spearman met and spoke with the South Carolina Technical College presidents’ during their retreat and shared our vision of the Profile of the S.C. Graduate.
- She also went to Presbyterian College and visited Palmetto Girl’s State. She stated that when she sees all these students, these rising seniors, she feels peaceful and hopeful about the future of South Carolina.
- Mrs. Spearman met with the House Education Policy Review and Reform Task Force, the final meeting to take testimony and discuss possible solutions to the Abbeville lawsuit. They are now breaking into five subcommittees with the charge to work and come up with recommendations to present to the legislature in the late fall.
- Mrs. Spearman provided an update on the ESEA Waiver, stating that the SCDE had a telephone conference with the U.S. Department of Education. Some of the recommended revisions were not approved. Specifically, the SCDE will not be able to phase in the teacher evaluation program and the training of our teachers process over the course of a two-year timeframe as requested. She stated further that the SLOs training will be implemented this summer in preparation for the 2015–16 school year. Our Office of Teacher Evaluation will be announcing the SLO design process for all of our administrators. Mrs. Spearman also reported that the Teacher Equity Plan has been completed and sent in for review and that the request for proposals for assessments for grades 3–8 and high school is currently posted on the website.

Mrs. Spearman acknowledged Ms. Emily Heatwole to provide a brief legislative update. Ms. Heatwole stated that all of the regulations had timed out and that everything went well and she stated that we had four bills that became law. Ms. Heatwole explained in detail that these bills were related to snow days,

interscholastic activities (S.154), and the James B. Edwards civics education initiative (S.437). This concluded her update.

Mrs. Spearman recognized the following three students: Nikhila Cheepurupalli from Spring Valley High School and Kevin Rabinovich from A.C. Flora High School, who were named the 2015 National Youth Science delegates, as well as Arionna Russell, who was named the 2014 National Youth Science delegate. She presented certificates and congratulated them on their outstanding accomplishments.

Mr. Brenan asked Superintendent Spearman if the U.S. Department expressed why they denied a portion of the ESEA waiver request. Ms. Carpentier stated that the SCDE was surprised that they denied this request after being encouraged to file it in the waiver; she stated, however, that the SCDE had written the guidelines so that if it did not get approved, we would not have to rewrite the guidelines.

This concluded the State Superintendent's report.

## **VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

- Mike DiNicola, ACT

## **VIII. STATE BOARD ITEMS**

### **EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS—COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair Cooper recognized Dr. Varat, who reported that the Committee met and addressed three items, one being item SLA-02, which will be placed on the consent agenda. He stated that Furman requested a program modification and stated that it was a lengthy discussion. He stated the committee and the SCDE staff agreed that this was a new program, which required a lengthy review. After much discussion, the Committee decided not to accept Furman's request and in the interim ask the SCDE staff try to find a way to dramatically shorten the process for the sake of the schools.

### **FOR APPROVAL**

- 01. Professional Review Committee (PRC) Recommendation for Program Modification Request—Rachel Harvey, Education Associate, Office of Educator Services, Division of Educator Effectiveness**

02. **Clemson University's Agricultural Education Out-of-State Student Teaching Appeal**—Rachel Harvey, Education Associate, Office of Educator Services, Division of Educator Effectiveness

**FOR INFORMATION**

03. **Professional Review Committee (PRC) Background Information**—Rachel Harvey, Education Associate, Office of Educator Services, Division of Educator Effectiveness

**IF INNOVATION AND FINANCE—COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair Cooper recognized Mr. Ewart who reported that the Committee met and had four action items presented for approval all of which were placed on the consent agenda and five information items. Mr. Ewart explained these matters in detail. Dr. Cooper also took a moment to recognize CFO Mellanie Jinnette and members of staff for their support and assistance in hosting the Spring SBE Retreat.

**FOR APPROVAL**

01. **Request for Approval of Property Disposal—Greenwood County School District Fifty (disposal of the 0.83 acres located at the intersection of Merrywood Drive and S.C. Bypass 72)**—Delisa Clark, Director, Office of School Facilities, Division of Operations and Support
02. **Request for Approval of Property Disposal—Greenwood County School District Fifty (disposal of the old Merrywood School 10.5 acres)**—Delisa Clark, Director, Office of School Facilities, Division of Operations and Support
03. **Authority for the Office of School Facilities to Approve South Carolina School Facilities Planning and Construction Guide (Guide) Changes**—Delisa Clark, Director, Office of School Facilities, Division of Operations and Support
04. **Selection of State Textbook Depository**—Clare Luther, Instructional Materials Manager, Instructional Materials Section, Office of Finance

**FOR INFORMATION**

05. **Request for Office of School Facilities (OSF) Approval of Alternate Means and Methods—Charleston County School District**—Delisa Clark, Director, Office of School Facilities, Division of Operations and Support

06. **Request for Office of School Facilities (OSF) Approval of Alternate Means and Methods—Greenville County School District**—Delisa Clark, Director, Office of School Facilities, Division of Operations and Support
07. **Instructional Materials Allocation Methodology 2014–15 School Year**—Clare Luther, Instructional Materials Manager, Instructional Materials Section, Office of Finance
08. **Schedule of Liquidated Damages**—Clare Luther, Instructional Materials Manager, Instructional Materials Section, Office of Finance
09. **Financial Update for Fiscal Year 2014–15**—Mellanie Jinnette, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance

**PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE—COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair Cooper reported that the Committee met and took action on the following matters. She stated that the committee approved items waiver requests PL-01 through PL-03 as well as PL-04 and PL-05 and provided detailed information regarding each item. Dr. Cooper stated that the Committee suspended any action regarding item PL-06 and asked SCDE staff to obtain additional information and present that information at the August meeting. Dr. Cooper stated that all of the action items approved in committee have been placed on the consent agenda.

**FOR APPROVAL**

01. **Anderson School District One Waiver Request of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-261 (R.43-261), District Strategic and School Renewal Planning**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Innovation & Effectiveness
02. **Dorchester School District Four Waiver Request of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-205 (R.43-205), Administrative and Professional Personnel Qualifications, Duties and Workloads**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Innovation & Effectiveness
03. **Kershaw County School District Waiver Request of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-205 (R. 43-205), Administrative and Professional Personnel Qualifications, Duties and Workloads**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Innovation & Effectiveness
04. **Greenville County Schools' Waiver Request of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-205 (R.43-205), Administrative and**

**Professional Personnel Qualifications, Duties and Workloads**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Innovation & Effectiveness

05. **Changes to the State Report Card under the Education Accountability Act, as Amended**—Betsy Carpentier, COO and Interim Deputy, Division of Innovation & Effectiveness
06. **Smart Start Day School Requests State Board of Education (SBE) Approval of S.C. Code Ann. § 59-65-10 (2012)**—Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Innovation & Effectiveness

#### **SLA STANDARDS, LEARNING, AND ACCOUNTABILITY—COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair Cooper recognized Dr. Randolph who stated that the Committee met and were presented with two action items and one information item. He stated that Dr. Fowler gave a report to the Committee regarding the Early Readiness Assessments recommendations by the Education Oversight Committee and the adoption of the 4K assessment for the 2015–16 school year. He stated that the Committee adopted the following three formative assessments that were recommended by the SCDE staff and the Office of First Steps: PALS PreK–2, myIGDIs, and Teaching Strategies GOLD. He stated further that the items were approved by the Committee. Dr. Randolph stated that Liz Jones gave a report regarding the procurement process regarding statewide assessments for grades 3–8 and 11, in addition to providing an assessments update. He stated further that both action items SLA-01 and SLA-02 were placed on the consent agenda.

Dr. Fowler stated that she needed to add the 5K assessment to the list, which is DRA2+.

#### **FOR APPROVAL**

01. **Early Readiness Assessment Recommendations by the Education Oversight Committee (EOC)**—Betsy Carpentier, Chief Operating Officer and Interim Deputy, Division of Innovation & Effectiveness
02. **Consultation on Request for Proposals (RFP) for Assessments for Grades 3–8 and 11**—Liz Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness

#### **FOR INFORMATION**

03. **Assessment Update**—Liz Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness

**ECC EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION CASES COMMITTEE—COMMITTEE REPORT**

Dr. Cooper reported that the Full Board ELC committee met earlier and approved and ratified all of the actions of the ELC committee at that time; therefore, no report was required.

**SBE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**FOR APPROVAL**

- 01. SC State Reading Plan (Second Reading)**—Jennifer Morrison, Director, Office of School Transformation, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness

Chair Cooper recognized Director Jennifer Morrison to provide information for the second reading of the SC State Reading Plan. Ms. Morrison thanked Dr. Edwards for being in attendance at the Read to Succeed Advisory meeting. After a thorough explanation and much discussion, it was the SCDE staff's recommendation to accept the SC State Reading Plan (second reading) as presented. It was moved by Dr. Wall and seconded by Mr. Griffith that the second reading of the SC State Reading Plan be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

- 02. Interim Guideline for Middle Level Certification**—Betsy Carpentier, Chief Operating Officer and Interim Deputy, Division of Innovation & Effectiveness

Chair Cooper recognized Betsy Carpentier to provide regarding the request interim guideline for middle level certification. Ms. Carpentier provided detailed information as to why this request was being brought before the Board. It was moved by Dr. Randolph to approve the request for interim guidelines for middle level certification. The motion was seconded by Mr. Griffith. It was later clarified by Mrs. Carpentier that the motion was as follows: the Board approves an interim guideline that teachers with a high school or secondary content area certification are certified to teach that content area at the middle level until enactment of the proviso in the fiscal year 15–16 budget or adoption of full certification guidelines, whichever comes sooner. The motion carried.

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Mr. Griffith made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Dr. Randolph seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

<b>X. OTHER BUSINESS</b>
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Dr. Cooper reminded everyone to turn in their travel form prior to leaving the meeting. Dr. Cooper reminded everyone that the Board would not convene in July and stated the next scheduled meeting would be held on August 12. Dr. Cooper thanked all the statewide school district staff for all of their hard work done in the school districts. She recapped some of the highlights that have taken place so far this academic year.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 2:30 p.m.