

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Columbia, South Carolina

May 9, 2001

The State Board of Education held its May meeting at ten o'clock, Wednesday morning, May 9, 2001, in the Basement Conference Room of the Rutledge State Office Building. The following State Board members were in attendance: Mr. Greg Killian, Chair; Mr. Carlos A. Cervantes; Mrs. Queen A. Davis; Mr. Clarence Dickert; Mr. Thomas C. Ewart; Mr. John H. Hostetler; Dr. Mary E. Jones; Mr. Marion B. Lee, Jr.; Mrs. Frances P. Lewis; Mr. James Mattos; Mr. James C. McRae; Mrs. Gail Moss; Mr. Robert E. Scarborough; Mr. Chris Verenes; and Mr. Jim White. Also present were State Superintendent of Education Inez Moore Tenenbaum, Secretary and Administrative Officer of the Board, and other staff of the State Department of Education. *(Board members unable to attend were Mrs. Kristin Maguire and Mr. Spratt White, who were excused for their absence.)*

INVOCATION

Mrs. Queen Davis delivered the invocation prior to the May 9, 2001, meeting of the State Board of Education.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 11, 2001

Mr. James Mattos moved for the approval of the minutes of the April 11, 2001, meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Frances Lewis and then approved by the Board.

APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA

Mr. Clarence Dickert moved for the approval of the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. James McRae and approved by the Board.

Chair Killian announced that the Charter School appeal scheduled following the regular Board meeting had been cancelled.

AWARD TO RETIRING BOARD MEMBER

Chair Killian recognized Ms. Stephanie J. Smart, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit. On behalf of the Board and the citizens of this Judicial Circuit, Chair Killian thanked Ms. Smart for her service and presented her with a certificate.

Ms. Smart stated that it was a pleasure and honor to have been on the Board and expressed her appreciation to the Board members and Superintendent Tenenbaum for all they have done for the children in Allendale.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA

Chair Killian welcomed the visitors present.

Mr. Rob Harper introduced Mr. Bill Robinson, *The State*.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT

RECOGNITION OF STUDENT WITH MAXIMUM SAT SCORE (1600)

State Superintendent of Education Tenenbaum recognized David Williams, a senior from Spartanburg High School, Spartanburg County School District Seven. David scored the maximum score of 1600 on the SAT. His mother, Mrs. David Williams; his principal, Joseph Clarke; and the Director of Guidance, John Wolfe, accompanied David.

Superintendent Tenenbaum presented an engraved marble pencil holder to David for his accomplishment.

**RECOGNITION OF THE 2002 HONOR ROLL TEACHERS AND THE SOUTH CAROLINA
TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

State Superintendent of Education Tenenbaum recognized the four South Carolina Honor Roll Teachers for 2002, Fran Warwick Emmel, a third-grade teacher at Duncan Elementary School in Spartanburg School District Five; Vicky Graham Horne, a sixth-grade language arts teacher at Crossroads Middle School in Lexington/Richland School District Five; Dr. Pamela J. Simpson, a gifted and talented social studies and technology teacher at Chukker Creek Elementary School in Aiken County School District; and Shelley White, a second-grade teacher at Easterling Primary School in Marion School District One.

Superintendent Tenenbaum also recognized the 2002 South Carolina Teacher of the Year, Traci Young Cooper, an English/reading curriculum resource teacher at C. A. Johnson High School in Richland School District One.

Superintendent Tenenbaum presented an engraved plaque to each teacher.

**RECOGNITION OF ODYSSEY OF THE MIND GERMAN INTERNATIONAL
COMPETITION WINNERS**

State Superintendent of Education Tenenbaum recognized the Odyssey of the Mind team from Gaffney High School, Cherokee County School District. The members present included James Byars, Jenna Cabaniss, Ashley Huskey, Philipp Muller, Ricky Rudnick, and Heidi Villa. Another member, Damien Villa, was unable to attend. The coaches, Mike and Cindy Byars, were with the team, as well as Mr. Jackie Queen, the Principal of Gaffney High School. The Gaffney High School Odyssey of the Mind team won the German International Competition on March 16, 2001, in Berlin. They will now attend the world Odyssey of the Mind finals June 2-5 at the University of Maryland.

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Superintendent Tenenbaum presented an engraved marble pencil holder to each team member for his or her accomplishments.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were three public speakers for this meeting, as follows:

1. Mr. Bobby Chandler, Social Studies teacher, Horry County—Mr. Chandler spoke regarding the Social Studies Standards and history.
2. Mr. Tommy Collier, Teacher from Irmo High School—Mr. Collier spoke regarding the Social Studies Standards and teacher participation at State Board of Education meetings.
3. Dr. Paul Peterson, Political Science Professor, Coastal Carolina University, and Horry County Board Member—Dr. Peterson spoke regarding the Social Studies Standards.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Marion Lee moved that the Consent Agenda be approved. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Queen Davis and approved by the Board. The following items were approved by the Board without further debate:

- 55-03. Annual Report of the Accreditation of School Districts in South Carolina for the 2000-2001 School Year
- 55-04. South Carolina Department of Education Technical Assistance Plans for the Review Committees' Recommendations in Impaired School Districts (Allendale, Bamberg Two, Clarendon One, Florence Four, Jasper, Lee, and Marion Three) (Intervention Where Quality of Education in a Local School District is of Greatest Need) State Board Regulation 43-301 (EIA Section 59-18-30; Repealed 1998) (EAA Section 59-18-1500; Enacted 1998)
- 55-05. Approval of teachers chosen to receive contracts under the Teacher Specialists On-Site (TSOS) Program
- 54-03. Facility Waiver Request – Edisto Beach Elementary School, Colleton County School District
- 54-04. Facility Waiver Request – Pickens County School District
- 52-04. House Request Regarding State Board of Education Regulation 43-300, Accreditation Criteria
- 52-05. Selection of Candidates for NASBE President, Vice-President, and Southern Area Director for 2002

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Marion B. Lee, Chair
Teacher Recruitment, Training, and Certification Committee

Mrs. Frances Lewis, Chair
Curriculum and Instructional Materials Committee

Mr. James G. Mattos, Chair
Finance and Legislative Committee

Mrs. Queen A. Davis, Chair
Educational Policy Committee

56. Teacher Recruitment, Training, and Certification Committee—Mr. Marion B. Lee reported that the Teacher Recruitment, Training, and Certification Committee (*TRTC*) met on Tuesday, May 8, 2001.

01. Approval of Agenda for May 8, 2001—Mr. Lee reported that the agenda for the May 8, 2001, meeting was approved.

02. Approval of Minutes of April 10, 2001, TRTC Committee Meeting—Mr. Lee reported that the minutes from the April 10, 2001, meeting were approved.

Mr. Lee reported that there were no action items considered at this meeting.

55. Curriculum and Instructional Materials Committee—Mrs. Frances Lewis reported that the Curriculum and Instructional Materials Committee met on Tuesday, May 8, 2001.

01. Approval of Agenda for May 8, 2001—Mrs. Lewis reported that the agenda for May 8, 2001, was approved.

02. Approval of Minutes of April 10, 2001—Mrs. Lewis reported that the minutes of the April 10, 2001, Curriculum and Instructional Materials Committee meeting were approved.

Mrs. Lewis reported that items 55-03, 55-04, and 55-05 were placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Lewis reported that the following item was submitted for information:

- **Guidelines for Testing Students with Documented Disabilities**

54. Finance and Legislative Committee—Mr. James Mattos reported that the Finance and Legislative Committee met on Tuesday, May 8, 2001.

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01. Approval of Agenda for May 8, 2001—Mr. Mattos reported that the agenda for the May 8, 2001, meeting was approved.

02. Approval of Minutes of April 10, 2001—Mr. Mattos reported that the minutes of the April 10, 2001, Finance and Legislative Committee meeting were approved.

Mr. Mattos reported that items 54-03 and 54-04 were placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Mattos reported that the following items were submitted for information:

- **Transportation Issues from the Pee Dee Education Center**
- **State Board of Education Financial Statements**
- **Legislative Update**

52. Educational Policy Committee—Chair Killian reported that the Educational Policy Committee met on Tuesday, May 8, 2001.

01. Approval of Agenda for May 8, 2001—Chair Killian reported that the agenda for the May 8, 2001, meeting was approved as amended, removing the reports from the Committee Chairs since the Board members were all present at each meeting and adding a Report on Final Regulations for information.

03. Approval of Educational Policy Committee Minutes of April 10, 2001—Chair Killian reported that the minutes for the April 10, 2001, Educational Policy Committee meeting were approved.

Chair Killian reported that items 52-04 and 52-05 were placed on the consent agenda.

Chair Killian reported that the following item was submitted for information:

- **Report on Final Regulations**

REPORT OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TEACHER LICENSURE ISSUES

Chair Killian gave a report of the actions taken by the State Board of Education concerning teacher certification issues in the State of South Carolina on Tuesday, May 8, 2001.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 8, 2001

Mr. James Mattos moved for the approval of the minutes of the May 8, 2001, meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Robert Scarborough and approved by the Board.

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OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Jim White stated his concerns that the Board is not addressing certain issues like the Social Studies Standards, phonics, and Charter Schools. He stated that he did not feel that the Board is being proactive. Mr. White asked the Board to consider having study sessions on these issues.

Mr. Carlos Cervantes supported Mr. White and said that the Board needs to spend time considering what the citizens of South Carolina put before them and they need to communicate more. Mr. Cervantes suggested that the Board meet earlier on the Wednesday of the Board meetings to discuss the issues that come before them.

Mr. Robert Scarborough agreed with Mr. Cervantes' concept; however, on the issue of the Social Studies Standards, the Board had been given explanations and had discussions regarding the standards.

Chair Killian stated that although the Board does not respond during public comment periods, that does not mean that the issues are not being looked into.

Mr. Marion Lee stated that he would like to go back to having study sessions.

Mrs. Gail Moss agreed and stated that the Board needed an informal setting to discuss issues.

Mr. White said that he has talked with history teachers and they agree with the public speakers earlier regarding the Social Studies Standards.

Mr. Chris Verenes stated that a process was in place when the Social Studies Standards were written and approved and that this process should not be down-played and changed.

Mr. White stated that he feels that a mistake has been made and the Board should listen and take action.

Mr. Dickert reminded the Board and the public in attendance that the committee that wrote the Social Studies Standards had history teachers on it. He stated that he agreed with Mr. Verenes that a process was in place and he reiterated that history teachers were the foundation of the committee.

Mr. Cervantes stated that the Board needs to be careful to not invalidate the processes, but that discussion between the Board members would be helpful.

Mrs. Frances Lewis asked where the teachers against the Social Studies Standards were when the document was put out for public review. She stated that they had a chance to express their concerns at that time and that the process was handled properly.

Superintendent Tenenbaum reported that the education decision making process has many participants, such as the Education Oversight Committee, the State Department

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of Education, legislators, and the State Board of Education, and it can be frustrating for a Board member because they have not been involved in all the discussions. She stated that the Board can have study sessions for the entire Board or an individual member can ask for information.

Dr. Mary Jones expressed her appreciation for the comments and information she has received and gave her support for better communication opportunities with the Board.

Mr. James Mattos stated that whatever goes through the Board, goes through a process. If there is a problem, the Board should listen for a solution. The Social Studies Standards went through the process and arrived at what was thought to be the best.

Chair Killian added that he appreciates the comments and the fact that the Board wants to spend more time on issues. He said that a time could be scheduled on Tuesday or Wednesday for a study session, but the Board members have to be willing to commit to that time.

Mr. Dickert reminded the Board that they are a part of the process, not the process and they would be remiss and unprofessional if they made decisions based on anything other than merit.

Mr. Verenes suggested scheduling the meetings on an as needed basis rather than setting a specific time each month.

Mrs. Lewis supported having study sessions on Wednesday after the Board meetings and Mr. McRae agreed with this idea. Chair Killian added that the public could then stay and be kept informed.

Mr. John Hostetler remarked that he has found the Board to be extremely professional and he has never been denied access to any information. He stated that he would like to see the study sessions scheduled on Tuesday mornings prior to the committee meetings.

Mrs. Davis suggested that the Chair and Chair-Elect set up the schedule for study sessions. Mr. Scarborough concurred with her suggestion.

Mr. Cervantes suggested that next month's time be used to discuss and set priorities and identify objectives and concerns.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. James Mattos moved that the Board adjourn. Mrs. Frances Lewis seconded the motion. There being no further business the Board adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Chair

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Secretary

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