

## MINUTES

### State Board of Education Meeting

#### Date

Wednesday, May 11, 2016

#### Time

1:00 p.m.

#### Location

Rutledge Conference Center  
1429 Senate Street  
Columbia, South Carolina

*Michael R. Brenan, Chair*

*Samuel Ivan Randolph, PhD, 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 1:00 p.m. Chair Brenan called the meeting to order.

The following SBE members were in attendance: Mike Brenan, Chair, Governor's Appointee; Samuel Alston, EdD, First Judicial Circuit; Del-Gratia Jones, Second Judicial Circuit; Janice Murray Gamble, EdD, Third Judicial Circuit; Gerald Reeves, Fourth Judicial Circuit; James Stroman, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Jane P. Harmon, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Ivan Randolph, PhD, Chair-elect, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Richard Kizer, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Dr. Sharon Wall, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Thomas Ewart, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; David Whittemore, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; Rhonda Edwards, EdD, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; Renee R. Hembree, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; and Sharon Bynum, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit. Traci Young Cooper, EdD, Fifth Judicial Circuit, was absent with apologies along with Jeffrey Kubu, Tenth Judicial Circuit, who participated via telephone conference.

The following South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff were in attendance: Betsy Carpentier, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Superintendent; Cathy Hazelwood, Deputy Superintendent and Parliamentarian, Division for Legal Affairs; Sheila Quinn, EdD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness; Karla McLawhorn Hawkins, Deputy

Superintendent, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources, Julie Fowler, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of College and Career Readiness; Mellanie Jinnette, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance; Liz Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness; Robert Benn, Information Resource Consultant, Service and Support Center, Chief Information Office; Lori Smith, Information Resource Consultant, Service and Support Center, Chief Information Office; Don Cantrell, Chief Information Officer, Service and Support Center, Chief Information Office; Barbara Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Division for Legal Affairs; and LaTonia Holloway, Administrative Assistant, Office of General Counsel, Division for Legal Affairs.

**II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR APRIL 12, 2016**

Chair Brenan asked if there were any objections to approving the minutes as presented for the SBE meeting on April 12, 2016. Hearing none, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

**III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR MAY 11, 2016**

Chair Brenan asked if there were any objections to approving the agenda as presented for the May 11, 2016, SBE meeting. Mr. Brenan noted that one item had been pulled, item PL-01, which was dealing with the Charleston County Waiver. Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

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

Chair Brenan welcomed visitors to the SBE meeting. Mr. Brenan recognized and welcomed Deanna Scott, daughter of Dr. Rhonda Edwards.

**V. STATE BOARD CHAIR REPORT**

Chair Brenan stated that during the month of April and May, there has been a lot of focus on teachers. He stated that he wanted to remind everyone as the Board does their work that they not only need to keep in mind the students of South Carolina but also the teachers who have invested their time in teaching the children in this state.

This concluded Chair Brenan's report.

**VI. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT**

Chair Brenan recognized Superintendent Molly Spearman to present her report. Mrs. Spearman greeted everyone and provided a PowerPoint presentation that highlighted the 2017 Teacher of the Year award recipient, Ms. Jennifer Wise, and the extended learning opportunities for the students of South Carolina.

Mrs. Spearman stated that Ms. Wise is a graduate of Gaffney High School and that she was one of the first teaching fellows. Mrs. Spearman also noted that Ms. Wise is the first teaching fellow we have had to become state teacher of the year and that she would be joining us at next month's SBE meeting. Mrs. Spearman noted that she has been spending a lot of time working with organizations who want to assist with the extended learning opportunities for students within their respective communities.

Mrs. Spearman further reported that she had the privilege to speak at the National Afterschool Conference in Detroit, Michigan, where South Carolina was recognized for the work being done in afterschool programming.

This concluded Superintendent Spearman's report.

Mr. Brenan stated that he wanted to share that he gets positive feedback from the General Assembly about the relationship that Superintendent Spearman and staff have established with them and that there is a real sense of trust and collaboration between the SCDE and the General Assembly.

## **VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Brenan stated that no one signed up for public comment.

## **VIII. STATE BOARD ITEMS**

### **PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE—COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair Brenan reported that the P&L subcommittee met to address four action items (waivers); however, item PL-01 was pulled after consultation with counsel and the Superintendent. It was determined that the Charleston County waiver could be resolved under a current waiver that was approved approximately two years ago. Mr. Brenan provided detailed information regarding the remaining three action items and stated that they were all unanimously approved by the committee and placed on the consent agenda. He stated further that another matter addressed was an informational item wherein Ms. Jennifer Morrison provided an update on Florence Four. Mr. Brenan recognized Jennifer Morrison, Director of the Office of School Transformation, who provided information to the Board about the progress that Florence County School District Four has made to date. Ms. Morrison noted that one of the things in the District that is really transformative has been Dr. Jefferson's ability to engage the parents and community with what is happening in the district. She has implemented Friday FYI sessions to keep parents informed and stated that Dr. Jefferson understands that being a participant in the schools is more than just bringing snacks to your student on their birthday but to actually get involved in the academic and learning processes.

After much discussion, Mr. Brenan stated that he wanted to comment on points that Dr. Edwards made in the Committee meeting, stating that as the SCDE and Florence District Four staff are

going through this process, and knowing that Ms. Morrison will be documenting everything, that in the event the Board has to take this type of action again against another district, we will have information readily available regarding what works and what doesn't based on this experience with Florence Four. Additionally, this information can also be used by other districts who may have some concern over these issues; it will be good for them to know the kind of things that the SCDE is doing to really begin to transform the district. Mr. Brennan thanked Ms. Morrison for her update.

01. **Charleston County School District's (CCSD) Request for Exemption Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-19-350 (Supp. 2014), Schools of Choice Exempt from State Laws and Regulations**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources (Item Pulled)
02. **The School District of Chester County's (District) Waiver Request of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-261 (R.43-261), District and School Planning**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
03. **Lexington School District Four's (District) Waiver Request of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-231 (R.43-231), Defined Program K-5, Section II.C. Guidance Program**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
04. **Marion County School District's (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 Federal, State, and Community Resources

**FOR INFORMATION**

05. **Florence County School District Four Update**—Jennifer Morrison, Director, Office of School Transformation, Division of Innovation & Effectiveness

**EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS—COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair Brennan recognized Dr. Edwards who reported that the Committee met and heard one action item and three information items. Dr. Edwards provided a thorough explanation regarding item EP-01. The Committee placed this item on the consent agenda. This concluded her report.

**FOR APPROVAL**

01. **Request for Approval to Extend the Required Submission Date for District Plans as Required by Regulation 43-205.1 (R.43-205.1), Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Professional Teaching (ADEPT)**—Sheila Quinn, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness

**FOR INFORMATION**

02. **Anderson University Physical Education Program Voluntary Termination**—Rachel Harvey, Education Associate, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
03. **Benedict College Art Program Notification**—Rachel Harvey, Education Associate, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
04. **Overview of the Office of Educator Services**—Mary Hipp, Director, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

**IF INNOVATION AND FINANCE—COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair Brennan recognized Mr. Ewart who reported that the Committee met and heard one action item, which was placed on the consent agenda, and one information item. He stated that they received a financial update noting that the SBE has a surplus of \$8,000 for 2015–16 fiscal year, which will carry over to the 2016–17 budget. This concluded his report.

**FOR APPROVAL**

01. **Review Panel Recommendation for District-Requested Instructional Materials**—Kris Stewart, Program Coordinator, Instructional Materials Section, Office of Finance

**FOR INFORMATION**

02. **Financial Update for Fiscal Year 2015–16**—Mellanie Jinnette, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance

**SLA STANDARDS AND LEARNING—COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair Brenan recognized Dr. Wall who reported that the SLA Committee met and had one item for action by the full Board. Dr. Wall provided a detailed explanation relative to the second reading of the American Sign Language Proficiency Standard and stated that the Committee recommended that this item be approved for second reading by the Board. The motion was made to approve and carried unanimously. Dr. Wall stated further that there were two information items that were presented to the Committee as well. She stated that there were no items for the Consent Agenda. This concluded her report.

**FOR APPROVAL**

01. **American Sign Language Proficiency Standard (Second Reading)**—Ruta Couet, Education Associate, Office of Standards and Learning, Division of College and Career Readiness

**FOR INFORMATION**

02. **Adoption List of Formative Assessment**—Susan Creighton, Education Associate, Office of Assessment, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness
03. **Update on Statewide Assessment Programs**—Elizabeth Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness

**ELC EDUCATOR LICENSURE—COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Brenan reported that the educator licensure cases were ratified in the Full Board ELC meeting at 11:30; therefore, there was no official report to be provided by Dr. Alston.

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| <b>IX. CONSENT AGENDA</b> |
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**PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

02. **The School District of Chester County’s (District) Waiver Request of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-261 (R.43-261), District and School Planning**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
03. **Lexington School District Four’s (District) Waiver Request of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-231 (R.43-231), Defined Program K–5, Section II.C. Guidance Program**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State

Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

04. **Marion County School District's (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 Federal, State, and Community Resources

**EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS—COMMITTEE REPORT**

01. **Request for Approval to Extend the Required Submission Date for District Plans as Required by Regulation 43-205.1 (R.43-205.1), Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Professional Teaching (ADEPT)—**Sheila Quinn, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness

**IF INNOVATION AND FINANCE—COMMITTEE REPORT**

01. **Review Panel Recommendation for District-Requested Instructional Materials—**Kriss Stewart, Program Coordinator, Instructional Materials Section, Office of Finance

Mr. Brenan called for the vote for approval of the consent agenda. Dr. Wall moved that the consent agenda be approved as presented; the motion was seconded by Ms. Jones. The motion passed unanimously.

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| <b>X. OTHER BUSINESS</b> |
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Mr. Brenan recognized Dr. Fowler to provide an update regarding the Uniform Grading Policy (UGP). Dr. Fowler provided a thorough PowerPoint presentation that detailed the work that has taken place or is in progress for the successful implementation of the UGP for next school year. Dr. Fowler stated that she and Dr. Quinn have made presentations to stakeholders in person and via webinars to all who wanted information related to UGP. After much discussion, Chair Brenan and other members of the Board thanked Dr. Fowler and Dr. Quinn for all of their hard work regarding this matter.

Chair Brenan reminded all members to turn in their travel forms prior to their departure. Additionally, he stated that the Board would not be having a meeting in July, that they would reconvene in August, and that in addition to the September 13, 2016, SBE meeting, the SBE and the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) would have a joint meeting on September 14, 2016. More details are forthcoming.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 2:50 p.m.