

MINUTES

State Board of Education Meeting

Date

Tuesday, August 9, 2016

Time

1:00 p.m.

Location

Rutledge Conference Center
1429 Senate Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Michael R. Brennan, 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 Brennan called the meeting to order.

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

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; Grant Gibson, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance; Emily Heatwole, Director of Governmental Affairs, Office of the Superintendent; Ryan Brown, Chief Communications Officer, Division of Governmental Affairs; 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 JUNE 14, 2016

Chair Brenan asked if there were any objections to approving the minutes as presented for the SBE meeting on June 14, 2016. Hearing none, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR AUGUST 9, 2016

Chair Brenan asked if there were any objections to approving the agenda as presented for the August 9, 2016, SBE meeting. Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA

Chair Brenan recognized and welcomed Nick Jones from WLTX to the SBE meeting. Dr. Cooper recognized Ms. Elizabeth Eason, Principal at H.B. Rhame Elementary School. Chair Brenan welcomed Ms. Eason to the SBE meeting.

V. STATE BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Chair Brenan stated that he had something a bit different for today and shared the experience he had at the State House grounds. He recalled the event wherein a teacher rally was taking place where the purpose of the rally was to pray for teachers, students, and parents as we are quickly approaching the beginning of another school year. Chair Brenan stated that he would like to encourage us, as South Carolinians, to take the moment as a personal challenge to pray for teachers, students, parents, and our State Superintendent in our own time, in our own way.

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 stated that it has been a wonderful month. She stated that these are exciting times as we have some 770,000 students and 55,000 teachers who are preparing to return to our schools this year. She stated she has been out across the state speaking with teachers and her message to them is “Thank you” for being a part of this wonderful system and sent her best wishes for a smooth school year.

Mrs. Spearman stated that she took part in a press conference last week in collaboration with the South Carolina Department of Public Safety and South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) on an initiative to really focus on curtailing negative driving habits like texting while driving and driving without your seat belts. The SCDOT has federal monies available to do personalized signs to promote safe driving. Mrs. Spearman encouraged board members to get this information out to the schools in their respective districts. Mrs. Spearman stated that data shows that during the 2015–16 school year 156 students’ ages 15 to 18 years of age died last year on our highways and over half of them had a device nearby. Mrs. Spearman reported that the SCDE and the EOC had a good retreat in Lake City last weekend and that a lot of good collaboration came out of this event. She also reported that a new initiative has been put into place as a result of a joint resolution that required the SCDE to provide training to all kindergarten through grade 3 literacy coaches, interventionist and teachers about dyslexia and related disorders. This training would include how to recognize dyslexia, and how to teach reading to children who have dyslexia. She stated that this too was a collaborative effort with stakeholder organizations, SCDE’s Office of Special Education Services. Mrs. Spearman stated that modules regarding dyslexia are up on our SCDE website and in less than one week 2,000 people had gone online and taken the course and the assessments, expressing that clearly there was a hunger within our state for this information.

Mrs. Spearman stated that she made a special visit to the Department of Juvenile Justice Birchwood High School for their graduation. She stated that it was a very moving and uplifting ceremony. She stated that she was very impressed with the students that she met, and introduced the school’s superintendent Dr. Jamie Quinn. Mrs. Spearman recognized Cadet Major Ulmer, a student at Birchwood High School, to come forward and share with the board his experience at Birchwood and what it means to him. The students’ from Birchwood presented Mrs. Spearman with a gift as a token of their appreciation.

Mrs. Spearman stated that she wanted to recognize another outstanding educator who is a third grade teacher at H.B. Rhame Elementary School. She has received the National Education Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence; she is one of 43 educators nationally to receive this award. There are five finalists that will be announced at the beginning of the school year. Mrs. Spearman recognized Ms. Stephanie Johnson and presented her with an award. Ms. Johnson addressed the board speaking about her love and passion for the teaching profession and expressing her gratitude for all of those who support her.

This concluded Superintendent Spearman’s report.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Brenan recognized Mrs. Beth Berry, HSP Manager, from Alliance for a Healthier Generation.

VIII. STATE BOARD ITEMS

P&L POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Brenan reported that the P&L subcommittee met to address seven action items, three items (PL-05, PL-06 and PL-07) were placed on the consent agenda. Chair Brenan stated that items PL-01, PL-02, PL-03 and PL-04 were dealing with the first reading of proposed amendments to regulations. Chair Brenan stated further that these items were already approved by the committee, but explained that this needed to come before the full board. Chair Brenan recognized Mr. Richard Podmore, who provided an explanation regarding item PL-01, first reading for proposed amendments to Regulation 43-80 (R.43-80). Chair Brenan called for the vote and stated that since this is coming out of committee, it doesn't require a second; but restated that this was approval for the first reading of Regulation 43-80 (R. 43-80). The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chair Brenan asked Dr. Cooper to provide information regarding the Safety Task Force prior to the presentation of items PL-02 and PL-03. Dr. Cooper thanked all the members of the task force which represent a variety of stakeholders (i.e. parents, law enforcement, students) with various backgrounds; who worked with this group to come up with the proposed amendments to address discipline within our schools. She stated that they all had one common goal which was to make sure the regulation was reviewed carefully and appropriately modified to ensure that each and every day this group was creating an environment and culture conducive for students, teachers, and administrators to operate in. Dr. Cooper stated that she wanted to publicly thank all individuals of the public who emailed, called, and provided comprehensive feedback during this process. Mrs. Spearman thanked Dr. Cooper for all of her work during this process and stated that she is encouraged by the work; and believes that this will move us along. She also thanked the board for their consideration of the proposed regulation change.

Chair Brenan recognized Dr. Moore who provided information regarding item PL-02, first reading of the new Regulation 43-210 (R. 43-210) in detail. Chair Brenan called for the vote stating that this is coming out of committee, it doesn't require a second; and restated that this was approval for the first reading of the new Regulation 43-210 (R. 43-210). The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Dr. Moore also presented information regarding item PL-03, first reading for proposed amendments of Regulation 43-279 (R.43-279). Chair Brenan called for the vote and stated that this is coming out of committee, it doesn't require a second; and restated that this was approval for the first reading of the new Regulation 43-279(R. 43-279). The motion carried unanimous vote.

Dr. Moore presented information regarding item PL-04, first reading for proposed amendments to Regulation 43-274.1(R.43-247.1). Chair Brenan called for the vote and stated that this is coming out of

committee, it doesn't require a second; restating that this was approval for the first reading of the new Regulation 43-274.1 (R. 43-247.1). The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chair Brenan asked Ms. Darlene Prevatt to come forward and provide a brief summary on PL-05, 06 and 07. Ms. Prevatt provided a thorough explanation regarding the Uniform Grading Policy (UGP) 10-point grading scale as well as the matters addressing the changes to the Waiver Request procedures.

Chair Brenan recognized Dr. Quinn who introduced Dr. LaToya Dixon, new Director for the Office of School Transformation to provide the update on Florence School District Four. Dr. Dixon provided thorough highlights of all the work going on in Florence Four to include but were not limited to; ongoing works with the Special Education department and their new director Mary Bryant, the completion of the district's ADEPT plan for 2016-17, the professional development week held July 25-28, 2016, and the completion and submission of a School Improvement Grant (SIG) application for Johnson Middle School. Dr. Dixon also stated that the SCDE continues to provide the staff in Florence Four technical support and assistance as they plan to complete and submit another SIG application for early learning for Brockington Elementary School in December.

Dr. Quinn stated that the Interim Superintendent Dr. Jefferson continues to be a force for good for Florence Four and stated that she is making progress with the board on starting the superintendent search.

Dr. Quinn provided background information regarding the State Interim Report Card. She, along with Daniel Ralyea and Dr. Dixon, presented a power point presentation that provided in great detail, the purpose and the criteria associated with the Interim State Report Card.

Dr. Cooper stated that she applauds the efforts to move towards more transparency and thinks it will be well received by stakeholders and the public. She asked for an estimated cost savings from no longer utilizing the paper copies of the report card. While Mr. Ralyea could not provide a specific cost saving dollar amount, he did state that this will be a more efficient way for administrators to access this information. Mrs. Spearman stated that by District's having the state report card information in advance allows them to find and correct errors before the final roll out these reports which in turn will make the whole process flow ; more efficiently.

Chair Brenan recognized Emily Heatwole to provide an update on John De La Howe and the relevance of proviso and what it requires. Ms. Heatwole explained in great detail the purpose of proviso 7.6 and provided some insight about John De la Howe's progress in addressing its issues regarding their accreditation.

FOR APPROVAL

01. **Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-80 (R.43-80), Operation of Public Pupil Transportation Services (First Reading)**—
Richard Podmore, Director of Safety and Information, Office of Transportation, Division of Operations and Support

02. **Proposed New State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-210 (R.43-210), School Resource Officers (First Reading)**—Sabrina Moore, Director, Office of Student Intervention Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
03. **Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-279 (R.43-279), Minimum Standards of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Enforcement Procedures to be Implemented by Local School Districts (First Reading)**—Sabrina Moore, Office of Student Intervention Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
04. **Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-274.1 (R.43-274.1) At-Risk Students (First Reading)**—Jamaal Perry, Education Associate, Office of Student Intervention Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
05. **Uniform Grading Policy (UGP): 10-point Grading Scale**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
06. **Waiver Request Procedures for 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
07. **Waiver Request Procedures for the General Appropriation Act, 2016 S.C. Acts 284, Proviso 1.88 (Proviso 1.88) (SDE: Technology Technical Assistance)**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

FOR INFORMATION

08. **Florence County School District Four Update**—Sheila Quinn, EdD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness
09. **John de la Howe's (JDLH) Accreditation Action Plan Goals, Assurances, and Accompanying Documentation to Remedy 2015–16 Accreditation Deficiencies Update**—Emily Heatwole, Director Governmental Affairs
10. **State Interim Report Cards**—Sheila Quinn, EdD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness

EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Brenan recognized Mr. Reeves who reported on behalf of Dr. Edwards, that the Committee met and heard four action items and provided a thorough explanation regarding the specifics for each of these items. Mr. Reeves stated that the Committee placed two items on the consent agenda, one of which required nominating a member of the SBE to serve on the Professional Review Committee (PRC) which would fill Dr. Varat's vacant seat. Dr. Janice Murray Gamble was nominated and unanimously approved to fill this vacant seat. Additionally, there were two EP items that were denied relative to credential classification. Mr. Reeves explained that after close review and discussion, it was determined that both requests lacked merit and all the criteria were not met within a timely manner.

This concluded his report.

Chair Brenan reported that the full board educator licensure met at 11:30 to deal with cases and at that time ratified the actions taken during the educator licensure sub-committee meeting; therefore, there was no official report to be provided by Dr. Alston.

FOR APPROVAL

01. **Recommended Adjustment in Cut Score on Praxis II Examination Mathematics: Content Knowledge (5161)**—Mary Hipp, Director, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
02. **Educator Request to Waive Provisions of R. 43-53 Credential Classification (Laura Jumper)**—Mary Hipp, Director, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
03. **Educator Request to Waive Provisions of R. 43-53 Credential Classification (Saneva Myskowsky)**—Mary Hipp, Director, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
04. **New committee members for the Professional Review Committee (PRC)**—Rachel Harvey, Education Associate, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

FOR INFORMATION

05. **Required Credentials for Professional Staff Members in the Instructional Programs of South Carolina's Public Schools 2016-17**—Mary Hipp, Director, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

FOR INFORMATION

Chair Brennan recognized Melanie Barton, Executive Director of the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) to provide an update from the EOC. Ms. Barton disbursed a document that summarized the new criteria on how under performing schools and districts are identified, and highlighted information discussed at the EOC retreat and what the committee has in mind for approaching state accountability moving forward. She stated that since the General Assembly has adopted legislation that sets the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate as the state's education goal; thus inferring that these are the goals for our K-12 education system, then the state accountability system must mirror. Ms. Barton stated that this accountability system would need to be a system that would be able to measure the knowledge, skill, and characteristics of the graduate. Ms. Barton discussed in great detail what the committee determined would be needed to be implemented in order to see these works come to fruition.

ELC EDUCATOR LICENSURE—COMMITTEE REPORT

SBE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Chair Brennan recognized Mr. Don Cantrell to provide a brief report addressing technology readiness in our schools. He stated that next month he plans to have Rob Cardelli, a contracted external consultant hired last fall, attend next month's meeting to provide information to the SCDE obtained through his team's study on how technology ready our schools are when it comes to online assessments for the 2016-17 school year.

FOR INFORMATION

01. **Technology Readiness for Online Assessments**—Don Cantrell, Chief Information Officer, Chief Information Office

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE—COMMITTEE REPORT

FOR APPROVAL

05. **Uniform Grading Policy (UGP): 10-point Grading Scale**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
06. **Waiver Request Procedures for 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

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04. **New committee members for the Professional Review Committee (PRC)**—Rachel Harvey, Education Associate, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

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

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Brenan reminded all members to turn in their travel forms prior to their departure. Additionally, Chair Brenan reminded board members that the board will meet on September 13, 2016, for their regular scheduled meeting in addition to joint meeting of the SBE and EOC on September 14, 2016, at the South Carolina School Boards Association (SCSBA).

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 2:36 p.m.