

**MINUTES**

**State Board of Education Meeting**

**Date**

**Tuesday, April 12, 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; Traci Young Cooper, EdD, Fifth 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; Jeffrey Kubu, Tenth 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.

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; Julie Fowler, PhD, Deputy Superintendent,

Division of College and Career Readiness; Mellanie Jinnette, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance; Dino Teppara, Director, Office of Public Information; 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 MARCH 8, 2016**

Chair Brenan asked if there were any objections to approving the minutes as presented for the SBE meeting on March 8, 2016. Hearing none, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

**III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR APRIL 12, 2016**

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

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

Chair Brenan welcomed visitors to the SBE meeting.

**V. STATE BOARD CHAIR REPORT**

Chair Brenan stated that his report would be brief, stating that he and Dr. Peggy Torrey, Executive Director of Transform SC, had an opportunity to make a presentation to the National School Boards Association Meeting in Boston, MA. They shared information regarding the great things being done by Transform SC to include, but not limited to, discussing the dynamics of the collaborative relationships between the SBE, the General Assembly, and Transform SC.

Mr. Brenan recognized Melanie Barton, who addressed the Board and provided them with information from the Commission on Higher Education regarding the state of teacher recruitment and retention.

Ms. Barton also addressed the State report card and feedback provided by parents to the Education Oversight Committee. She stated that the report card information needs to be parent-friendly and to simply state how the school is performing, what grade the school received, and how a parent can help the school improve.

This concluded Chair Brenan's report.

## **VI. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT**

Chair Brennan recognized Superintendent Molly Spearman to present her report. Mrs. Spearman greeted everyone and recognized Chris Kratzner, Director of State Government Relations for ACT, who provided some brief background information on the ACT College and Career Readiness Campaign awards being presented. Mr. Kratzner presented the 2016 Exemplar High School award to Fort Dorchester High School in Dorchester School District Two. Principal Bert Postell and Assistant Principal Brian Ashley accepted the award for the school. The 2016 Exemplar Student award was presented to Jerrell Rolack from Woodland High School in Dorchester School District Four.

Mrs. Spearman also recognized our Magnet School of Merit Award winners, sponsored by Magnet Schools of America. Mrs. Spearman stated that out of 258 schools recognized in 19 states, 4 schools in Richland School District Two received awards. The recipients were as follows:

- ❖ School of Excellence: North Springs Elementary—STEM magnet program
- ❖ School of Distinction: Forest Lake Elementary—NASA Explorer magnet program
- ❖ School of Distinction: L.W. Condor Elementary—Integrated Arts magnet program
- ❖ School of Distinction: Ridgeview High School—Institute for Health Science magnet program

Mrs. Spearman introduced Debra Hamm, PhD, Superintendent of Richland County School District Two, who provided an in-depth summary on all the magnet programs recognized for their accomplishments.

Mrs. Spearman reported that she and Betsy Carpentier, Chief Operating Officer, traveled to Washington, DC, to the CCSSO conference, where they spent most of their time learning more about ESSA and sharing South Carolina's accomplishments with regards to the Profile of the SC Graduate.

This concluded Superintendent Spearman's report.

## **VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

## **VIII. STATE BOARD ITEMS**

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

Chair Brennan reported that the P&L subcommittee met and heard fourteen action items (waivers), twelve of which were placed on the Consent Agenda and two information items. Mr. Brennan stated that the majority of the time spent in the P&L committee meeting was dealing with the Uniform Grading Policy (UGP) at which time he asked Dr. Julie Fowler and Dr. Sheila

Quinn to provide a more detailed perspective on this matter. Mr. Brennan further stated that the committee unanimously approved adoption of the UGP. Dr. Fowler and Dr. Quinn provided a detailed PowerPoint presentation of the summary of work done by work group one regarding conversion of the 7-point grading scale to a 10-point grading scale and how this process would be implemented for next school year; as well as how this grade point change would affect students' GPAs. Additionally, Dr. Quinn provided a detailed insight on how this change could impact the lottery scholarship program and the potential overall fiscal impact for the state. Mr. Kubu asked Dr. Quinn for clarification regarding the data relative to the number of students that would have a 3.0 GPA and potentially be attending college and its fiscal impact.

Dr. Randolph thanked Superintendent Spearman, Dr. Fowler, and Dr. Shelia Quinn for taking on this task, stating that this would be good for the students of South Carolina. After much discussion, it was reiterated by Mr. Brennan that this recommendation was approved in committee and did not require a second. Mr. Brennan called for the vote. The motion to approve the revisions of the UGP passed unanimously.

Chair Brennan recognized Cathy Hazelwood who provided a detailed explanation regarding item PL-14 which addressed the revisions to Rules of Governance, Policy: BCAF, Procedures for Educator Certification Hearings (2009). Mr. Brennan stated that this matter was approved in the P&L committee meeting; therefore, it doesn't require a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chair Brennan recognized Darlene Prevatt to provide the Annual Report of the Accreditation of Schools and Districts in South Carolina for the 2015–16 School Year. Ms. Prevatt explained the purpose of the Accreditation Report and stated that most of the schools in our districts were clear, sixty-four were advised, eighteen were warned, and thirty were placed on probation with one denial. Ms. Prevatt clarified that John de la Howe School was denied accreditation and not the district. Mr. Brennan recognized Superintendent Webb and Principal Rose who were present to make remarks. Mrs. Spearman stated that this decision saddens her being that John de la Howe has served a very unique population of students for many years. She further expressed that this was not an easy decision; however, the SCDE's recommendation to deny accreditation was based upon the facts that show that the students weren't being served in accordance with the mission of the school.

Chair Brennan recognized Jennifer Morrison, Director of the Office of School Transformation, who provided the Board with a comprehensive update regarding Florence County School District Four.

**FOR APPROVAL**

**Items 01 and 02: Principal Waivers**

- 01. Abbeville 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

**02. Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) School District's 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

**Item 03: 1,500 Minutes Waiver**

**03. Dillon School District Four'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

**Items 04 and 05: 1,500 Minutes and Daily Preparation Waivers**

**04. Richland County School District One'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

**05. Spartanburg County School District One'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

**Items 06–11: District Strategic Plan Waivers**

**06. Charleston County School District'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

**07. Greenwood District Fifty-One'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

**08. McCormick County School District'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

09. **Orangeburg Consolidated School District Four's (District) Waiver Request of 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regulation 43-261 (R.43-261), District Strategic and School Planning**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
10. **Spartanburg School District Three'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
11. **District Five Schools of Spartanburg County's 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

**Item 12: Adjunct Instructor Waiver**

12. **The School District of Williamsburg County's (District) Waiver Request of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-62(VI)(A)(1-2) (R.43-62), Specialized Alternative Certification**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
13. **Uniform Grading Policy (UGP) Revisions: Work Group 1, Grading Scale**—Julie Fowler, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of College and Career Readiness
14. **Proposed Amendments to the State Board of Education (SBE) Rules of Governance, Policy: BCAF, Procedures for Educator Certification Hearings (2009)**—Cathy L. Hazelwood, Deputy Superintendent, Division for Legal Affairs

**FOR INFORMATION**

15. **Annual Report of the Accreditation of Schools and Districts in South Carolina for the 2015-16 School Year**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
16. **Florence County School District Four Update**—Sheila Quinn, EdD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness

EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Brenan recognized Dr. Edwards who reported that the committee met and heard one action item. 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. **Proposal for the Greenville Alternative Teacher Education Program (GATE)**—Laura Covington, Education Associate, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

**IF INNOVATION AND FINANCE—COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chair Brenan recognized Mr. Ewart who reported that the committee met and heard two action items, which were placed on the consent agenda, and two information items. Mr. Ewart recognized Mellanie Jinnette who provided an update on the School District Technology/Device Pilot Report recipients and described the types of programs that were implemented within the districts. Mr. Ewart reported that the SBE budget was in good shape. This concluded his report.

**FOR APPROVAL**

01. **Appointment Recommendations for the 2016 Instructional Materials Review Panels**—Kriss Stewart, Program Coordinator, Instructional Materials Section, Office of Finance
02. **Review Panel Recommendations for District-Requested Instructional Materials**—Kriss Stewart, Program Coordinator, Instructional Materials Section, Office of Finance

**FOR INFORMATION**

03. **School District Technology/Device Pilot Report (FY 2015–16 Proviso 1A.72)**—Mellanie Jinnette, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance
04. **Financial Update for Fiscal Year 2015–16**—Mellanie Jinnette, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance

**SLA STANDARDS AND LEARNING—COMMITTEE REPORT**

**FOR APPROVAL**

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

Chair Brenan recognized Dr. Wall who reported that the committee met and heard two items; one action item which was placed on the consent agenda, and one information item. Dr. Wall provided a detailed explanation relative to the first reading of American Sign Language Proficiency Standards.

**FOR INFORMATION**

02. **Update on Statewide Assessment Programs**—Elizabeth Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness

Chair Brenan recognized Ms. Elizabeth Jones who distributed a list of the state assessments that outlined when the assessments were administered and to which grade level. The SBE members were tasked with reviewing this document for later discussion.

**ELC EDUCATOR LICENSURE—COMMITTEE REPORT**

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

**IX. CONSENT AGENDA**

**PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Items 01 and 02: Principal Waivers**

01. **Abbeville 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
02. **Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) School District's 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

**Item 03: 1,500 Minutes Waiver**

03. **Dillon School District Four'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

**Items 04 and 05: 1,500 Minutes and Daily Preparation Waivers**

04. **Richland County School District One'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
05. **Spartanburg County School District One'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

**Items 06–11: District Strategic Plan Waivers**

06. **Charleston County School District'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
07. **Greenwood District Fifty-One'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
08. **McCormick County School District'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
09. **Orangeburg Consolidated School District Four's (District) Waiver Request of 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regulation 43-261 (R.43-261), District Strategic and School Planning**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
10. **Spartanburg School District Three'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
11. **District Five Schools of Spartanburg County's 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

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12. **The School District of Williamsburg County's (District) Waiver Request of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-62(VI)(A)(1-2) (R.43-62), Specialized Alternative Certification**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

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

**SLA STANDARDS AND LEARNING—COMMITTEE REPORT**

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

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

**X. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Brenan reminded Board members to turn in their travel forms and also that next month's meeting would be held on Wednesday, May 11, 2016, due to May 10, 2016, being a state holiday. Chair Brenan closed by saying that he is grateful for his fellow Board members and Superintendent Spearman's service.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 2:55 p.m.