

**MINUTES**  
**State Board of Education Meeting**

**Date**  
**Thursday, May 12, 2011**

**Time**  
**1:00 p.m. State Board Regular Meeting**

**Location**  
**Rutledge Conference Center**  
**1429 Senate Street**  
**Columbia, South Carolina**

*Gerrita Postlewait, Chair*  
*Dennis Thompson, Chair-elect*  
*Mick Zais, PhD*  
*State Superintendent of Education*  
*Secretary and Administrative Officer to the Board*

*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/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The State Board of Education meeting convened at 1:05 p.m. Chair Postlewait called the meeting to order and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following State Board of Education (SBE) members were in attendance: Gerrita Postlewait, Chair, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; Dennis Thompson, Jr., Chair-elect, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; David Longshore, PhD, First Judicial Circuit; Tim Moore, Esq., Second Judicial Circuit; David Blackmon, PhD, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Rose Sheheen, Fifth Judicial Circuit; Josie Gaston, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Dru James, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Larry Kobrovsky, Ninth Judicial Circuit (arrived at 1:15 p.m.); Marilyn (Lyn) Norton, EdD, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Barry Bolen, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Phillip Bowers, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; John Rampey, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit; and Mike Brenan, Governor's Appointee.

Absent with apologies were Bonnie Disney, Third Judicial Circuit; and Neil Willis, Seventh Judicial Circuit.

The following South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff were in attendance: Mick Zais, PhD, State Superintendent of Education; Scott English, Deputy Superintendent for Administration; Charmeka Bosket, Deputy Superintendent for Policy, Office of Policy; Jay W. Ragley, Deputy Superintendent for Legislative and Public Affairs, Office of Legislation; Shelly Bezanson Kelly, General Counsel and Parliamentarian, Office of General Counsel; Valerie Harrison, EdD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Standards and Learning; Betsy Carpentier, Deputy

Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Support; Mark Bounds, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership; Nancy Busbee, PhD, Interim Deputy Superintendent, Division of Accountability; and Cindy Clark, Recording Secretary.

**II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING ON APRIL 14, 2011**

Chair Postlewait asked for a motion to approve or amend the minutes for the SBE meeting on April 14, 2011. Marilyn (Lyn) Norton moved to approve the minutes, and Phillip Bowers seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR MAY 12, 2011**

Chair Postlewait asked for a motion to approve or amend the SBE agenda for May 12, 2011. Phillip Bowers moved to approve the agenda. John Rampey seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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

Chair Postlewait welcomed all visitors. There was no news media present.

**V. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT**

State Superintendent of Education Zais reported that he visited Midlands Middle College (MMC) located on the Airport Campus of Midlands Technical College. Midlands Middle College serves juniors and seniors from high schools in eight school districts in Fairfield, Lexington and Richland counties, and has a 97 percent graduation rate. Dr. Zais asked several students why they are doing better at MMC, and they said that the schedules fit their needs; the teachers listen to them; they are provided tutoring, and the school feels like family.

Also, Dr. Zais visited some of the schools in the Palmetto Unified School District which provides educational opportunities for Department of Corrections inmates.

Dr. Zais visited the Beaufort County superintendent and two Beaufort County schools: Riverview Charter School and Lady's Island Elementary School. He also visited Johnston-Edgefield-Trenton (JET) Middle School and Fox Creek Charter High School, both in Edgefield County, and Schofield Middle School in Aiken County.

In addition, Dr. Zais met with the Dean of Education at USC-Aiken and the Dean of Education at Clemson University, and is pleased that both of these schools are focused on internships as the central part of their teacher training instead of a quick class at the end of three and a half years.

Dr. Zais met with Columbia's Mayor Steve Benjamin to discuss a partnership to establish a Promise Zone in Columbia and is looking forward to working with the Mayor on this program.

## **VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Charlene Herring, Interim Executive Director, South Carolina Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (SC-ASCD) and Cookie Winburn, SC-ASCD Board member spoke during the public comment period. They did a presentation on *The Whole Child* which is a whole-child approach to education that will develop and prepare students for the challenges and opportunities of today and tomorrow.

## **VII. STATE BOARD ITEMS**

### **ECC EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION CASES**

**Committee Report**—Mike Brennan, Chair

Mr. Brennan moved that the State Board ratify the educator certification cases presented during the ECC Committee meeting. The motion carried.

### **EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS**

**Committee Report**—David Longshore, Chair

Dr. Longshore reported that the EP Committee did not meet today.

### **PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE**

**Committee Report**—Gerrita Postlewait, Chair

Chair Postlewait provided the Board with an overview of the Committee meeting and stated there were four items for approval and one item for information as follows:

**FOR APPROVAL**

02. **McCormick County School District Waiver Request of Section 59-1-425(A) of the South Carolina Code of Laws**—Steve Abbott, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

Chair Postlewait moved, on behalf of the PL Committee, that the Board approve the following motion which was approved by the Committee: “to approve McCormick County School District’s waiver request of the requirement to start school no earlier than the third Monday in August for one year. The school district must report to the SBE after the one-year period on the progress made by the school. At that time, the school district can request a renewal of the waiver requirement.” She called for a vote and the motion carried.

06. **South Carolina’s Membership in the Assessment Consortia of States**—Elizabeth Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Account

Chair Postlewait moved, on behalf of the PL Committee, that the Board approve the motion that South Carolina continue its membership with the PARCC and SBAC consortia. She called for a vote and the motion carried.

07. **Consent Agenda**—Gerrita Postlewait, Chair State Board of Education

Chair Postlewait moved, on behalf of the PL Committee, that the Board approve the “consent agenda” format for the Board meetings. She called for a vote and it was approved unanimously.

09. **State Board of Education Goals**—Gerrita Postlewait, Chair State Board of Education

Chair Postlewait reported that each of the Board committees will select one goal to comply with Dr. Zais’ administrative plan, and the committees will present progress made toward their goals to the full board in November 2011. She said the PL Committee’s goal states, “The State Board of Education will encourage and incentivize innovative approaches to personalized learning, including, but not limited to more powerful uses of technology and competency-based learning.”

Dru James reported on the SLA Committee’s goal which states, “The State Board of Education (SBE) will ensure that the Common Core Standards maintain South Carolina’s rigorous expectations for student learning and will monitor the development and implementation plan for the Common Core Standards, aligned curriculum resources, and professional development. A recommendation will be made by November 2011 regarding affordable formative and summative assessments that will: a)

provide learners and teachers with immediate feedback that is useful to them; b) provide program planners with information they need; and c) provide students, parents, teachers, and the public information regarding which instructional delivery approaches are making the greatest impact.”

Chair Postlewait summarized the SLA Committee goal which is to be very clear on high quality outcomes for all children in South Carolina schools and very clear about the evidence that the Board will accept that our students are making progress toward those outcomes.

David Longshore reported on the EP Committee’s goal which states, “The State Board of Education (SBE) will ensure that a new teacher evaluation system is well under development. This system must be fair, efficient, and include: a) a refined ADEPT teacher performance formal evaluation instrument which provides a score for all teachers; b) a revised formal review cycle; c) a plan for including value-added information into teacher evaluations where possible; and d) a plan for including other measures of teacher effectiveness.”

Chair Postlewait, on behalf of the PL committee, motioned that the Board approve the recommended package of goals. She called for the vote and it was approved unanimously.

### **FOR INFORMATION**

- 08. National Association of State Boards of Education**—Gerrita Postlewait, Chair, State Board of Education

Chair Postlewait stated that the State Board is in receipt of a letter from the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) regarding their annual conference to be held June 29–30, 2011. The association will pay travel expenses for one Board member to attend.

Chair Postlewait moved, on behalf of the PL Committee, that the Board approve Board member Bonnie Disney to attend the conference. She called for a vote and it was approved unanimously.

## **VIII. CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items were approved in committee and placed on the Consent Agenda:

### **Policy and Legislative (PL) Committee**

01. School District of Marlboro County Waiver Request of State Board of Education Regulation 43-261, District and School Planning—Steve

Abbott, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

03. Request from the Charter School Advisory Committee (CSAC) and the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce to the State Board of Education (SBE) to reappoint Cynthia Bennett to the CSAC—Julie A. Hartwell, PhD, Education Associate, Office of Public School Choice and Innovation
04. Request from Florence County School District Two to Waive the Requirement for a Local Board Member to Attend the SCSBA New Board Orientation—Shelly Bezanson Kelly, General Counsel, Office of General Counsel
05. Waiver of Requirement to Reduce Millage—Orangeburg Consolidated School District Four—Betsy Carpentier, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Support

Standards, Learning, and Accountability (SLA) Committee

01. Instructional Materials Report from the Instructional Materials Review Panels—Valerie Harrison, EdD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Standards and Learning
02. South Carolina Academic Standards for Social Studies 2011 (First Reading)—Lewis Huffman, Education Associate, Office of Standards and Support, Division of Standards and Learning
03. Recommendation for 2011–12 Instructional Television Resources—Bette Jamison, Educational Association, Office of eLearning, Division of Standards and Learning

Chair Postlewait asked if any member wanted to have any item removed from the Consent Agenda. Hearing none, she moved that the Board approve the consent agenda. She called for a vote and the motion carried.

<b>IX. LEGISLATIVE REPORT AND REQUESTS REGARDING REGULATIONS, IF NECESSARY</b>
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Jay W. Ragley, Deputy Superintendent, Legislative and Public Affairs, updated the Board on the budget, and the status of pending legislation effecting schools, including the charter school bill.

**X. OTHER BUSINESS**

Tim Moore stated that he and Dennis Thompson attended the 2011 Teacher of the Year (TOY) Banquet held on April 27. Mr. Moore said this was a very inspirational event and it is supported by the business community. He encouraged all Board members to attend next year's ceremony. Dr. Zais added that South Carolina's TOY program has been praised as one of the best recognitions of this type.

Gerrita Postlewait stated that Valerie Harrison, who has served as Deputy Superintendent, Division of Standards and Learning; and Betsy Carpentier, who has served as Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Support will be leaving the South Carolina Department of Education at the end of the month. Dr. Postlewait thanked Dr. Harrison and Mrs. Carpentier for their commitment to the children of South Carolina and for their service to the Board.

Gerrita Postlewait said that it is unlikely that the Board will meet in July.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 2:25 p.m.