

## MINUTES

### State Board of Education Meeting

#### Date

Wednesday, September 11, 2013

#### Time

1:00 p.m.

#### Location

Rutledge Conference Center  
1429 Senate Street  
Columbia, South Carolina

*David Blackmon, PhD, Chair*

*Barry Bolen, 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 1:30 p.m. Chair Blackmon 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: David Blackmon, PhD, Chair, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Barry Bolen, Chair-elect, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; David Longshore, PhD, First Judicial Circuit; Jim Griffith, Second Judicial Circuit; Lonzena Harry, Third Judicial Circuit; Traci Young Cooper, EdD, Fifth Judicial Circuit; Raye O'Neal Boyd, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Dru James, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Larry Kobrovsky, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Jeffrey Kubu, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Bishop Michael Blue, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; Rhonda Edwards, EdD, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; Thomas Shortt, EdD, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; John Rampey, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit; and Mike Brenan, Governor's Appointee.

Absent with apologies were Neil Willis, Seventh Judicial Circuit, and Danny Varat, PhD, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit.

The following South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff were in attendance: Scott English, Chief Operating Officer; Charmeka Childs, Deputy Superintendent, Division of School Effectiveness; Nancy Busbee, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Accountability; Jay W.

Ragley, Director, Office of Legislative and Public Affairs; Shelly Bezanson Kelly, General Counsel and Parliamentarian, Office of General Counsel; Don Cantrell, Chief Information Officer; Briana Timmerman, PhD, Director, Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations, Division of School Effectiveness; Bradley Mitchell, Director, Office of Virtual Education, Division of School Effectiveness; Elizabeth Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Accountability; Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability; Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability; John Payne, Education Associate, Office of Exceptional Children, Division of Accountability; Bruce Moseley, Director, Office of School Leadership; Cathy Jones Stork, Education Associate, Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations, Division of School Effectiveness; Laura Bayne, Policy Analyst, Office of Legislative and Public Affairs, and Rachel Kerley, Public Information Specialist, Office of Legislative and Public Affairs.

**II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR AUGUST 14, 2013**

Chair Blackmon asked if there were any objections to approving the minutes for the SBE meeting on August 14, 2013, as presented. Hearing none, he called for a vote and the motion carried.

**III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 11, 2013**

Chair Blackmon asked if there were any objections to approving the agenda for the SBE meeting on September 11, 2013, with all items referring to goals and objectives. Hearing none, he called for a vote and the motion carried.

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

Dr. Blackmon welcomed visitors to the SBE meeting. No news media were present.

**V. STATE CHAIR REMARKS**

Dr. Blackmon reported that he attended a superintendent's symposium in Charleston, and he introduced the new district superintendents to policy matters in South Carolina, such as SBE duties. Several SBE members met with the EOC on Monday to discuss assessments.

## **VI. SUPERINTENDENT REMARKS**

Dr. Zais stated that he tries to spend at least one day per week visiting schools. School is back in session, so he has started visiting schools again. Since the last SBE meeting, he visited with students, parents, teachers, and school leaders at the following schools:

- In Florence 1, Dr. Zais visited Williams Middle, McLaurin Elementary, Delmae Elementary, and South Florence High School.
- In Beaufort County, Dr. Zais visited St. Helena Elementary. This school went from an “F” to an “A” in one year. They showed tremendous improvement on their report card, but they know they have more work to do.
- In Jasper County, Dr. Zais visited Royal Live Oaks Academy of the Arts and Sciences Charter School. This school is sponsored by the SC Public Charter School District and is in its second year of operation.
- Dr. Zais welcomed students back to school at Midlands Middle College. This is a new public charter school sponsored by the SC Public Charter School District. However, it has been open for many years as a program supported by seven Midlands school districts. It has been very successful with a graduation rate well over 90 percent.

### **Meetings with School Leaders**

As he has throughout his administration, Dr. Zais met with school leaders on an individual basis or in small groups.

- Dr. Zais delivered remarks at the opening convocation for Laurens School District 56. Laurens 56 was the school district that most “beat the odds” based on poverty using the most recent school letter grades. Afterwards, he had the opportunity to interact with teachers and school leaders about their goals for the new school year.

### **Public Appearances**

Finally, listed below are some public appearances Dr. Zais made recently. This is not an all-inclusive list.

- Dr. Zais attended a South Carolina Chamber of Commerce grassroots event in Greer.
- Dr. Zais participated in an event in Manning with Governor Haley. The SCDE and several other agencies have formed a partnership called Work Ready SC. This effort aims to help counties that have high unemployment by providing job skills training, including helping people earn their GED. Clarendon County is the first Work Ready SC community.
- Dr. Zais spoke to and took questions from the Education Policy Fellows, a program offered by the South Carolina School Improvement Council.

- Dr. Zais participated in several board meetings that he regularly attends: the Board of Trustees at the University of South Carolina and the Board of Visitors at the Citadel.

Finally, Dr. Zais, speaking for the entire South Carolina Department of Education, stated that his prayers and thoughts are with the families of the victims who were killed on September 11, 2011. Today marks the 12th anniversary of these terrorist attacks, the effects of which are still felt today. Dr. Zais also noted that today marked the first anniversary of the terrorist attack on the US Embassy in Benghazi, Libya, where four Americans were killed including Ambassador Christopher Stevens. He expressed his gratitude for the men and women who protect this country every day.

## **VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following individual participated in the public comment period:

- Kathy Maness, Palmetto State Teacher's Association

## **VIII. STATE BOARD ITEMS**

### **ELC EDUCATOR LICENSURE COMMITTEE**

**Committee Report**—Mike Brennan, Chair

#### **FOR APPROVAL**

#### **Approval of the Ratification Agenda**

Dr. Blackmon called for a motion to approve the committee report. The motion carried.

### **EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS**

**Committee Report**—Dr. David Longshore, Chair

The action item the committee heard dealt with certification requirements at the advanced level. The amendments would replace “certification” with “licensure” and would add a new subsection to create an endorsement for a school transformational leaders academy. The committee placed the action item on the consent agenda. The committee also received an informational update on the ESEA waiver, specifically the educator evaluation piece.

#### **FOR APPROVAL**

01. **Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-64 (R 43-64), Requirements for Certification at the Advanced Level (First Reading)**—Cindy Van Buren, PhD, Director, Office of Educator Services, Division of School Effectiveness

Dr. Blackmon called for a motion to approve the committee report. The motion carried.

## SLA STANDARDS, LEARNING, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

**Committee Report**—Dr. Thomas Shortt, Chair

The committee heard two action items and one informational item.

### FOR APPROVAL

01. **Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-248 (R 43-248), South Carolina Virtual School Program (SCVSP) (First Reading)**—Bradley Mitchell, Director, Office of Virtual Education, Division of School Effectiveness

The bulk of the changes to EP-01 brought the regulation into compliance with the statute passed during the last legislative session.

Dr. Blackmon called for a motion to approve EP-01. The motion carried. Dr. Traci Young Cooper asked that her vote against the motion be recorded in the minutes.

02. **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, PhD, Director, Office of Student Intervention Services, Division of Accountability

Dr. Blackmon called for a motion to approve EP-02. The motion carried. Mr. Kobrovsky asked that his vote against the motion be recorded in the minutes.

## IF INNOVATION AND FINANCE

**Committee Report**—Barry Bolen, Chair

The committee heard several informational items. They received an update on the charter schools in South Carolina. Mr. Richardson presented the monthly financial report. Unless changes are proposed, the current appropriation will be recommended for the 2014–15 year.

Dr. Blackmon called for a motion to approve the committee report. The motion carried.

**PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE**

**Committee Report**—Dr. David Blackmon, Chair

**FOR APPROVAL**

- 01. Dorchester County Career and Technology Center’s Request to Waive State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 43-261 (2011), District and School Planning**—Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

This item was placed on the consent agenda.

- 02. School District of Williamsburg County Waiver Request of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-205 (2011), Administrative and Professional Personnel Qualifications, Duties, and Workloads**—Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

This item was placed on the consent agenda.

- 03. Proposed Repeal of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-130 (R 43-130), Accreditation Standards Filed (First Reading)**—Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

The SCDE asks the Board to repeal as these schools are covered under a different accreditation regulation (43-300). Mr. Brenan motioned to approve the proposed repeal of the regulation, and Dr. Cooper seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- 04. Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-188 (R 43-188), Displaying the Flag (First Reading)**—Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

The amendment request would allow the national flag to be flown at half-staff when the governor issues a proclamation not inconsistent with law. Dr. Blackmon called for a vote and the motion carried.

- 05. Proposed Repeal of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-201.1 (R 43-201.1), Teacher Grants (First Reading)**—Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

The SCDE requested this repeal as the funding stream no longer exists for the grant program. Dr. Blackmon called for a vote and the motion carried.

- 06. Proposed Amendments to 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 (First Reading)**—Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

The amendments to this regulation would give districts more flexibility in deciding how to best use staff members by deleting several sets of staffing ratios. This regulation would not change the requirements laid forth in statute.

Ms. James asked for the SCDE to provide any feedback received well in advance of the second reading.

Dr. Blackmon called for a vote and the motion carried. Ms. Boyd and Dr. Cooper asked that their votes against the motion be noted in the minutes.

- 07. Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-274 (R 43-274), Student Attendance (Absences and Excuses) (First Reading)**—Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

The amendments would allow time to complete make-up work due to extenuating circumstances (currently included in guidelines, but not in regulation).

Dr. Blackmon called for a vote and the motion carried.

- 08. Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-300 (R 43-300), Accreditation Criteria (First Reading)**—Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

In addition to wording and verbiage changes, the amendment allows districts to be accredited by going through the AdvancedEd process. The SCDE would continue to publish an annual list of accredited schools and would include those accredited through AdvancedEd.

Dr. Blackmon called for a vote and the motion carried.

09. **Proposed Repeal of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-500 (R 43-500), Operation and Funding of Teacher Training Courses in Mathematics, Science, Reading and Computer Education (First Reading)**—Cathy Jones-Stork, Team Leader, Office of Instructional Practices and Evaluations, Division of School Effectiveness

This item proposes the repeal of Regulation 43-500 as the funding source for this regulation no longer exists.

Dr. Blackmon called for a vote and the motion carried.

10. **Dorchester County School District Two's Request to Waive the Accountability Testing Requirements Listed in State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 43-262 (2011), State Assessment**—Nancy Busbee, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Accountability

This item was placed on the consent agenda.

11. **Spartanburg School District One's Request to Waive the Accountability Testing Requirements Listed in State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 43-262 (2011), State Assessment**—Nancy Busbee, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Accountability

This item was placed on the consent agenda.

12. **Spartanburg School District Six's Request to Waive the Accountability Testing Requirements Listed in State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 43-262 (2011), State Assessment**—Nancy Busbee, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Accountability

This item was placed on the consent agenda.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

13. **School District Request Regarding a Student Athlete**—Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

This item was not given a favorable report at the committee level.

Dr. Blackmon called for a motion to approve the committee report. The motion carried.

**SB STATE BOARD ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

01. **South Carolina School Improvement Council Presentation**—Cassie Barber, Executive Director, SC School Improvement Council

**IX. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS**

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**PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE**

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02. **School District of Williamsburg County Waiver Request of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-205 (2011), Administrative and Professional Personnel Qualifications, Duties, and Workloads**—Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability
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Division of Accountability

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Division of Accountability

Bishop Blue motioned to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Rampey seconded the motion. The motion carried.

<b>X. OTHER BUSINESS</b>
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Mr. Brenan reminded everyone that the TransformSC conference will occur at the end of September.

Dr. Blackmon thanked Ms. James for the refreshments and reminded the SBE members to turn in their travel forms.

<b>XI. ADJOURNMENT</b>
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There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 2:44 p.m.