

MINUTES

State Board of Education Meeting

Date

Wednesday, October 13, 2010

Time

1:00 p.m. State Board Regular Meeting

Location

Rutledge Conference Center
1429 Senate Street
Columbia, South Carolina

E. Tim Moore, Jr., Esq., Chair
Gerrita Postlewait, PhD, Chair-elect
Jim Rex, 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 (SBE) convened at 1:00 p.m. Chair Moore called the meeting to order and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Color Guard from Mid-Carolina High School Army JROTC presented the colors.

The following State Board of Education (SBE) members were in attendance: Tim Moore, Esq., Chair, Second Judicial Circuit; Gerrita Postlewait, PhD, Chair-Elect, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; David Longshore, PhD, First Judicial Circuit; Bonnie Disney, Third Judicial Circuit; Hampton Hubbard, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Rose Sheheen, Fifth Judicial Circuit; Josie Gaston, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Libby Swad, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Dru James, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Cindy Clark, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Marilyn (Lyn) Norton, EdD, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Amelia Herlong, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Michael Blue, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; Phillip Bowers, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; Dennis Thompson, Jr., Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; Britt Blackwell, OD, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit; and Mike Brenan, Governor's Appointee.

The following South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff were in attendance: Jim Rex, PhD, State Superintendent of Education; Janice Poda, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Administration; Sandy Smith, Deputy Superintendent, Policy and Legislation; Shelly Bezanson Kelly, General Counsel and Parliamentarian, Office of General Counsel; Barbara Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Wendy Cartledge, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Mark Bounds, Deputy

Superintendent, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership; Betsy Carpentier, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Support; Valerie Harrison, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Standards and Learning; Teri Siskind, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Accountability; Don Tudor, Director, Office of Transportation, Division of Innovation and Support; and Cindy Clark, Recording Secretary.

II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 8, 2010

Chair Moore asked for a motion to approve or amend the SBE minutes for September 8, 2010. Marilyn (Lyn) Norton moved to approve the minutes and Dru James seconded the motion. The motion carried.

III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 13, 2010

Chair Moore asked for a motion to approve or amend the SBE agenda for October 13, 2010. Marilyn (Lyn) Norton moved to approve the agenda with the addition of the 2010 SBE Volunteer Award Winners list and Rose Sheheen seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA

Chair Moore welcomed all visitors including those from Anderson School District Five; Florence School District 5; Kershaw County Schools; Richland School District One; Richland School District Two; Spartanburg School District Two; and Spartanburg School District Five. There was no news media present.

V. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT AND RECOGNITIONS

State Superintendent of Education Rex recognized the winners of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, which is the highest recognition that a kindergarten through twelfth-grade math or science teacher may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States. This program was enacted by Congress in 1983 and is administered by the National Science Foundation on behalf of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. The program's goal is to expand and exemplify the definition of excellent science and mathematics teaching.

Awardees serve as models for their colleagues, inspirations to their communities, and leaders in the improvement of mathematics and science education. Grade levels are recognized by the program in alternating years. The 2010 awards are for teachers working in grades K-6. Teachers in

grades 7–12 are eligible for awards next year. Those selected for the honor receive a \$10,000 award, a Presidential citation, and a trip to Washington, DC, for a series of recognition events, information exchange programs, and an awards ceremony. The award recipients are as follows:

- Angelia Michelle Cargill—Science Teaching Finalist

Angelia is a science and math teacher at Boiling Springs Intermediate School in Spartanburg School District Two. She has 13 years of experience, including eight at her current school. Angelia is represented by State Board of Education member Libby Swad.

- Tonya Arm Jackson—Science Teaching Finalist

Tonya is a science lab teacher for grades K–5 at Blaney Elementary School in Kershaw County. She has 16 years of experience, including three at Blaney. Tonya is represented by State Board of Education member Rose Sheheen.

- Mirandi Owens Squires—Science Teaching Finalist

Mirandi teaches all subjects in a third-grade, self-contained classroom at Johnsonville Elementary in Florence School District Five, where she has worked for 22 years. Mirandi is represented by State Board of Education member Bishop Michael Blue.

- Stephanie Johnson—Math Teaching Finalist

Stephanie is a second-grade teacher at Carver-Lyon Elementary School in Richland School District One and has five years of classroom experience. Stephanie is represented by State Board of Education member Rose Sheheen.

- Kelly Sutton—Math Teaching Finalist

Kelly is a fifth-grade teacher at Centerville Elementary School in Anderson School District Five and has eight years of experience in math instruction. Kelly is represented by State Board of Education member Dr. Lyn Norton.

- Brook Wiant—Math Teaching Finalist

Brook is a fifth-grade teacher at Beech Springs Intermediate School in Spartanburg School District Five and has nine years of experience. Brook is represented by State Board of Education member Libby Swad.

Also recognized by Dr. Rex was Charles Vaughan, faculty member at Richland Northeast High School in Richland School District Two. Charles has

been named 2010 Outstanding Social Studies Teacher of the Year for grades 7–12 by the National Council for the Social Studies.

The award recognizes exceptional classroom personnel who teach social studies at least half-time in middle, junior high, and high school settings. Winners of this award receive \$2,500, a complimentary one-year membership in the National Council, present a session on their work at the group's annual conference, and receive a financial stipend for transportation and lodging for conference attendance. Charles will be honored next month at the National Council's annual conference in Denver. He is represented by State Board of Education member Rose Sheheen.

Dr. Rex commented on the difficult circumstances faced by South Carolina's teachers and schools. Last year, Medicaid calculations for poverty indicated that 74.9 percent of students are at or below the poverty level. This year, the number will probably increase. In 2007, South Carolina had 6,033 homeless children; this year, we have 10,820 homeless students. Part of the answer is resources. So far this year, the SCDE has successfully competed for and received over \$88 million. This is an indicator of how competitive South Carolina has become to gain financial resources to help our children. Dr. Rex said the entire community needs to come together to address these issues, but we have to start with great teachers. He urged the Board to approve a resolution on today's agenda to accept the Teach for America program. The program's goal is to attract and retain quality teachers. Dr. Rex added that we need to be more creative about bringing in the quality of people we need into our classrooms. South Carolina has been recognized as a leader in this area because of programs such as Troops to Teachers, PACE, Turnaround Schools, and City Year. The Teach for America program recruits young, highly motivated people right out of college who will commit to two years to teach in our most challenged high-poverty rural schools. Dr. Rex hopes the program will be approved by the end of this calendar year. Nearly \$4 million will need to be put up front to start the program, and we are fortunate to have partners who will help with the fundraising.

Ms. Cindy Clark, on behalf of Dr. Janice Poda, presented to Dr. Gerrita Postlewait the Excellence in Encouragement Award in appreciation of her efforts to discover and implement educational initiatives for the students of South Carolina and our nation. The United States flag was flown over the U.S. Capitol in her honor on October 12, 2010. Ms. Clark added that Dr. Postlewait has gone above and beyond the call of duty to encourage and make our public schools a better place for our teachers and students.

After the recognitions and report presentation, Chair Moore called for a five-minute recess.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one present for public comment.

VII. STATE BOARD ITEMS

SBE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

For Approval

- 01. Procedures for Suspension, Revocation, and Refusal to Issue or Renew a School Bus Inspection Certification, School Bus Driver's Certificate, or School Bus Driver Instructor/Tester Certificate for Second Reading**—Don Tudor, Director, Office of Transportation, Division of Innovation and Support

Don Tudor reported that the procedures were presented in first reading, but that he would elaborate further or answer any questions Board members might have. There being no further discussion, Chair Moore called for a vote. The motion was made by Mike Brenan and seconded by David Longshore. The motion carried.

EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS

Committee Goal: Conduct a pilot for a value-added process to link (a) student achievement to individual teachers, (b) school effectiveness to principal performance, and (c) performance of graduates to their South Carolina educator preparation unit (including alternative programs) for the purposes of improving the effectiveness of these programs and increasing student achievement.

Committee Report—Amelia Herlong, Chair

Mrs. Herlong reported that the Education Professions Committee met Wednesday, October 13, 2010, at 9:00 a.m., in Rutledge Room 1000. Mrs. Herlong provided the Board with an overview of the Committee meeting and stated there were five items for approval and one item for information as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

- 01. Proposed Amendments to 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regulations 43-62 (Supp. 2009), Requirements for Additional Areas of Certification (First Reading)**—Mark Bounds, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

Mrs. Herlong moved, on behalf of the EP Committee, that the Board approve the Proposed Amendments to 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regulations 43-62 (Supp. 2009), Requirements for Additional

Areas of Certification. Chair Moore called for a vote and the item was approved unanimously.

- 02. Proposed Amendments to 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regulations 43-64 (Supp. 2009), Requirements for Certification at the Advanced Level (First Reading)**—Mark Bounds, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership, and Mary Beth Copenhaver, PhD, Education Associate, Office of School Leadership, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

Mrs. Herlong moved, on behalf of the EP Committee, that the Board approve the Proposed Amendments to 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regulations 43-64 (Supp. 2009), Requirements for Certification at the Advanced Level. Chair Moore called for a vote and the item was approved unanimously.

- 03. Proposed Amendments to 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regulations 43-165.1 (Supp. 2009), Program for Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Principal Performance (First Reading)**—Mary Beth Copenhaver, PhD, Education Associate, Office of School Leadership, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

Mrs. Herlong explained that this regulation establishes tiered certification for administrators. The proposed regulation includes a recommendation that principals be evaluated annually instead of once every 3 years. A handout was provided on the different tiers of the certification.

Mrs. Herlong moved, on behalf of the EP Committee, that the Board approve the Proposed Amendments to 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regulations 43-165.1 (Supp. 2009), Program for Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Principal Performance. Chair Moore called for a vote and the item was approved unanimously.

- 04. Request by Charleston County School District for a Declaratory Ruling of Regulation 43-205.1, Pursuant to State Board Rule BCBMB**—Mark Bounds, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

Mrs. Herlong reported that the EP Committee recommends the following declaratory ruling be approved: "Regulation 43-205.1(v)(B) must be read to be consistent with the Joint Resolution, Act 336, which extended the contract issuance date to May 15 from April 15. The Board rules that consistent with this joint resolution districts must notify teachers that they will be formally evaluated on or before the date contracts are issued."

Mrs. Herlong moved, on behalf of the EP Committee, that the Board approve the request by Charleston County School District for a Declaratory Ruling of Regulation 43-205.1, Pursuant to State Board Rule BCBMB. Chair Moore called for a vote and the item was approved unanimously.

05. State Board of Education Resolution in Support of Teach for America—Mark Bounds, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

Mrs. Herlong reminded the Board members that they have a copy of the Teach for America (TFA) talking points. She then called on Mr. Bounds to present the TFA program.

Mr. Bounds introduced a partner in the SCDE's Teach for America effort—Jim Fields, Executive Director of the Palmetto Institute. The TFA program will allow the SCDE to focus talent and energy where it is needed. South Carolina is the only state in the southeast that does not have TFA currently. Over the next couple of months, the SCDE plans to work with a group of individuals to fashion guidelines which we think will support bringing TFA to South Carolina. If South Carolina is selected, the initial plans are for TFA to place corps members in school districts within the rural Pee Dee region. Francis Marion University has been approached to be the university partner in this effort. There will be 30 graduates placed in this region to work in the most needed areas in the coming school year. The organization will pursue partnerships with area school districts. A total of \$3.6 million in private funding will be sought to offset the costs of recruiting, training, and supporting corps members in South Carolina.

Mr. Bounds advised the Board that this item is a resolution in support of Teach for America. It directs the Department to establish guidelines for Teach for America. If guidelines are approved by the Board, the alternative certification pathway for TFA corps members would be the third alternative certification route available in South Carolina.

Dr. Norton asked how much training will be given before they are put in the classroom. Mr. Bounds said they will have a five-week training program in the content area in which they plan to teach. He explained that first, the district will request the person they would like to hire; second, the students will participate in TFA training; and the third phase will be to ensure that the students pass the PRAXIS exam in their content field. The students will also receive on-site professional development support.

Mrs. Disney asked if the course will be heavy in Common Core standards. Mr. Fields addressed her question.

Dr. Rex added that the TFA program is very selective and the students who complete it will be tremendous additions to the state's teaching staff.

Dr. Postlewait commented that she learned about TFA three years ago and has had an opportunity to work with many of these young men and women. They are deeply committed to public education. She thinks it is well worth the effort for the SCDE to start this program, is excited about the opportunity, and hopes South Carolina is selected as the next site.

Dr. Longshore asked why we are just now applying for the TFA program. He commented that he supports the program, and said that sometimes we forget teaching is as much an art as it is a science. Dr. Longshore added that he thinks this is a great opportunity for the best students to serve in the rural community and elsewhere.

Mr. Brenan stated that he also supports the TFA program. He had a recent opportunity to sit down with the students who have been in the TFA program for 10 years. He agrees they are passionate about teaching, and they feel this is their life's work. Mr. Brenan believes TFA has the potential to transform our rural districts.

Dr. Norton asked for clarity on what the committee is asking the Board to do. Mr. Bounds said he is asking the Board to instruct the SCDE to create guidelines and bring them back to the Board for approval in December.

Chair Moore called for a vote and the item was approved unanimously.

FOR INFORMATION

- 06. Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Professional Teaching (ADEPT) Results for 2009–10**—Kathy Meeks, PhD, Education Associate, Office of Educator Preparation, Support, and Assessment, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

Mrs. Herlong stated that the committee received the ADEPT results for 2009–10 as information.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Herlong shared the good news that the SCDE's Division of Educator Quality and Leadership will receive a \$42 million grant

for teacher incentive funds to continue the TAP program, and that eleven more districts will be added.

IF INNOVATION AND FINANCE

Committee Goal: *SCDE staff confer with leaders of eligible districts/schools to identify innovations that could improve student achievement and performance and recommend such waivers in accordance with pertinent statutes and regulations.*

Committee Report—Britt Blackwell, OD, Chair

Dr. Blackwell reported that the Innovation and Finance (IF) Committee did not meet on Wednesday, October 13, 2010.

SLA STANDARDS, LEARNING, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Committee Goals:

The SBE will ensure that the Common Core Standards maintain South Carolina's rigorous expectations for student learning and, if so, adopt a development and implementation plan for Common Core Standards, aligned curriculum resources, formative/summative assessments, and professional development.

The SBE will implement the Connect the Dots recognition for SC Department of Education staff members receiving national and state distinctions for their efforts to provide quality educational experiences for South Carolina students.

Committee Report—Cindy Clark, Chair

Ms. Clark reported that the Standards and Learning (SLA) Committee met Wednesday, October 13, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. in Rutledge Room 806. The Connect the Dot Award was given to Marlene Metts and the Office of Exceptional Children. Ms. Clark provided the Board with an overview of the Committee meeting and stated there were three items for information as follows:

For Information

01. Update on Assessment Consortia—Elizabeth Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Assessment

Ms. Clark reported that Ms. Jones gave a brief overview on the Assessment Consortia. She stated that the USED awarded four-

year cooperative agreements for two consortia of states, and South Carolina is currently a member of both consortia.

02. Update on the Recommendations of the South Carolina Advisory Council for the Education of Students with Disabilities—Marlene Metts, Director, Office of Exceptional Children, Division of Standards and Learning

Ms. Metts presented the update on the recommendations of the South Carolina Advisory Council for the Education of Students with Disabilities. She introduced JoAnne Bachman, Chair of the Advisory Council for Students with Disabilities, Greenville County Schools. Ms. Metts also gave a brief history on the committees formed to address concerns that Dr. Rex had involving students with disabilities. She communicated the goals, recommendations, and objectives of the Dispute Resolution Committee and shared general demographic information related to students with disabilities in South Carolina.

Dr. Rex commented that Ms. Metts has done an excellent job as a leader concerning the issues related to exceptional children. Ms. Clark added that she agrees with Dr. Rex and extended thanks to him, the Board, and everyone involved in the improvement process.

Ms. Clark also gave a brief background on the goals and progress of the SLA Committee and the progress of the Board during her time serving as a Board member.

03. Alignment of LiteracySC to Common Core Standards; Implementation Plan; Explanation of Fordham Report on State Standards—Valerie Harrison, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Standards and Learning

Ms. Clark gave a brief overview of the Fordham Report on the State Standards.

PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE

Committee Goal: *Devise effective means to broadly share information about the progress being made to transform the education system in the state.*

Committee Report—Tim Moore, Esq., Chair

Chair Moore reported that the Policy and Legislative Committee met Wednesday, October 13, 2010, at 10:45 a.m. in the Rutledge Conference Center. Chair Moore provided the Board with an overview

of the Committee meeting and stated there were two items for approval as follows:

For Approval

- 01. Proposed State Board of Education (SBE) Meeting Schedule for 2011**—Janice Poda, PhD, Deputy Superintendent for Administration

Chair Moore reviewed the proposed State Board of Education (SBE) Meeting Schedule for 2011 and noted that the January orientation and full Board meeting dates will be changed from January 12 and 13 to January 13 and 14. It is also recommended that meetings dates be changed from the second Wednesday of each month to the second Thursday of each month.

Dr. Norton and Mr. Bowers questioned why the meeting days changed from Wednesdays to Thursdays.

Mr. Thompson moved that the Board approve the proposed SBE Meeting Schedule for 2011, as amended. Dr. Postlewait seconded. The motion carried.

Mr. Bowers asked whether the SBE will have a joint meeting with the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) during the next year. It was determined that the next SBE Chair will make that decision.

- 02. SBE Volunteer Award Winners**—Peggy Hogan, SBE Volunteer Coordinator

The Policy Committee approved a motion to accept the SBE Volunteer Award Winners. Chair Moore reviewed the SBE volunteer award winners list with the SBE and called for the vote. The motion was approved unanimously.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 2:45 p.m.