

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Columbia, South Carolina

October 9, 2001

The State Board of Education held its October meeting at ten o'clock, Tuesday morning, October 9, 2001, in the Basement Conference Room of the Rutledge State Office Building. The following State Board members were in attendance: Mr. Greg Killian, Chair; Mr. Carlos A. Cervantes; Mrs. Queen A. Davis; Mr. Clarence Dickert; Mr. Thomas C. Ewart, Sr.; Mr. John H. Hostetler; Dr. Mary E. Jones; Mr. Marion B. Lee, Jr.; Mrs. Frances P. Lewis; Mrs. Kristin Maguire; Mr. James Mattos; Mr. James C. McRae; Mrs. Gail Moss; Mr. Robert E. Scarborough; and Mr. Chris Verenes. Also present was staff of the State Department of Education. (*Board members unable to attend were Mr. Spratt White, Chair-Elect and Mr. Jim White who were excused for their absence.*)

INVOCATION

Mrs. Gail Moss delivered the invocation prior to the October 9, 2001, meeting of the State Board of Education, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2001

Mrs. Kristin Maguire moved for the approval of the minutes of the September 12, 2001, meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Robert Scarborough and then approved by the Board.

APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA

Mr. Marion Lee moved for the approval of the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Maguire and approved by the Board.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA

Chair Killian welcomed the visitors present and Mr. Rob Harper, Office of Public Information introduced the Bill Robinson, *The State*.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT

REPORT ON ALLENDALE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. Leonard McIntyre, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Professional Development and School Quality, presented a report on the Allendale County School District. Dr. McIntyre shared highlights of the report with the Board and answered questions.

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Mr. Clarence Dickert expressed his pride in Allendale's progress.

Mr. Chris Verenes echoed the sentiments of Mr. Dickert and congratulated the State Department of Education and Allendale.

Mr. Carlos Cervantes stated that he would like to see the economic investment included the report. He added that the children have benefited from the difficult decision the Board made a few years ago and hopes that the Board learned that those types of decisions should not be so difficult to make in the future.

Mr. Lee stated that he would also like to see the economic impact.

Mr. James Mattos reported that many donations came in from businesses, as well, that made a difference in this school district.

Mrs. Queen Davis recommended a round of applause for the good report.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were two public speakers for this meeting, as follows:

1. Tom Truitt, Executive Director, Pee Dee Education Center—Mr. Truitt expressed his concerns regarding school bus transportation.

2. Ruth Schoonover, President, South Carolina Association of School Social Workers—Ms. Schoonover spoke in support of certification for school social workers.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Marion Lee moved that the Consent Agenda be approved. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Frances Lewis and approved by the Board. The following items were approved by the Board without further debate:

56-03. Clarification of Certification Testing Requirements in Specialty Areas
The TRTC Committee approved this item as presented.

56-04. Approved List of Teacher Education Reviewers
The TRTC Committee approved this item as presented.

56-05. Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education Regulation 43-90, Policies and Procedures and Unit Standards for Teacher Education Program Approval in South Carolina (First Reading)
The TRTC Committee approved this item as presented.

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- 56-06. Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education Regulation 43-55, Renewal of Credentials (First Reading)
The TRTC Committee approved this item as presented.
- 56-07. Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education Regulation 43-63, Requirements for Trade and Industrial Certification (First Reading)
The TRTC Committee approved this item as presented.
- 55-04. Approval of Guidelines for Retraining Assistance Grants for School Faculty and Administration for 2001-02 School Year (Second Reading)
The Curriculum and Instructional Materials Committee approved this item as presented.
- 55-06. Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education Regulation 43-240, Summer School Programs (First Reading)
The Curriculum and Instructional Materials Committee approved this item as presented.
- 55-07. Competitive Grant for the Modified School-Year or School-Day Schedule
The Curriculum and Instructional Materials Committee approved this item as presented.
- 55-08. 2001-02 Revisions to the Guidelines for Academic Plans for Students (First Reading)
The Curriculum and Instructional Materials Committee approved this item as presented.
- 54-03. State School Facilities Bond Act Resolution
The Finance and Legislative Committee approved this item with changes to the date and amount of allocation.
- 54-04. Request for Adoption of a Resolution Urging the General Assembly to Approve Adequate Funding in the FY 2003 State Budget for the Operation of the State School Bus Transportation Program
The Finance and Legislative Committee approved this item with changes combining the last two paragraphs.
- 54-05. Request for Adoption of a Resolution Encouraging the General Assembly's and Governor's Approval of Legislation to Establish and Fund a South Carolina School Bus Replacement Schedule
The Finance and Legislative Committee approved this item with changes combining the last two paragraphs.
- 52-03. Request to transfer academic assistance funds generated by Orangeburg Consolidated School District Four students in grades 4-12 for use in serving students in grades K-3
The Educational Policy Committee approved this item as presented.
- 52-04. Approval of the State Board of Education Agenda Preparation and Meeting Schedule for 2002
The Educational Policy Committee approved this item as presented.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Marion B. Lee, Chair
Teacher Recruitment, Training, and Certification Committee

Mrs. Frances Lewis, Chair
Curriculum and Instructional Materials Committee

Mr. James G. Mattos, Chair
Finance and Legislative Committee

Mrs. Queen A. Davis, Chair
Educational Policy Committee

56. Teacher Recruitment, Training, and Certification Committee—Mr. Marion B. Lee reported that the Teacher Recruitment, Training, and Certification Committee (*TRTC*) met on Monday, October 8, 2001.

01. Approval of Agenda for October 8, 2001—Mr. Lee reported that the agenda for the October 8, 2001, meeting was approved.

02. Approval of Minutes of September 11, 2001, TRTC Committee Meeting—Mr. Lee reported that the minutes from the September 11, 2001, meeting were approved.

Mr. Lee reported that the action items 56-03, 56-04, 56-05, 56-06, and 56-07 considered at this meeting were placed on the consent agenda.

08. Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education Regulation 43-64, Requirements for Initial Certification at the Advanced Level (First Reading)—Mr. Lee reported that this regulation defines the minimum criteria for advanced educator certification. S. C. Code Ann. § 59-5-60 (1990), General Powers of the State Board, requires the State Board of Education to adopt regulations that outline the minimum requirements for teacher/educator certification in South Carolina. This regulation will adopt changes recommended by the School Social Worker Association and school administrators.

On behalf of the Teacher Recruitment, Training, and Certification Committee, Mr. Lee moved that the State Board of Education approve the Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education Regulation 43-64, Requirements for Initial Certification at the Advanced Level (First Reading) after deleting Section D pertaining to school social workers.

Mrs. Davis stated that she is not convinced that removing Section D is a good plan, because she feels that anyone involved in working with children should be trained and ready when called upon, therefore, she is not in favor of deleting certification for school social workers.

Mrs. Lewis asked Dr. Sandra Rowe, Director, Office of Teacher Certification, if there is currently a test for certification of school social workers. Dr. Rowe stated that there is no longer

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a test available and they would have to seek the development of a test to be comparable to the one used previously.

Mr. Hostetler expressed his concern that prior to 1999, school social workers could be certified, but the Board changed that. He stated that if a school can afford to have certified school social workers and chooses to do so, he can only see benefits from it.

Mrs. Moss stated that she has tried to think of disadvantages to having certification for school social workers, but cannot come up with any reasons why they should not be certified.

Dr. Jones stated that she had had personal experience working with school social workers and knows their value, but on the other hand, she understands the cost. She stated that the Board should consider children instead of money.

Mr. Cervantes added that school social workers do make a difference, but is not certain how much more difference they will make if certified. He stated he needs more information to determine the ramifications.

Mr. Hostetler stated that the service is provided whether the school social worker is certified or not, and he would also like more information to see what impact this would have.

Mr. Dickert reported that social workers are already licensed and he does not see the need for certification and licensing.

Chair Killian explained how the Board made the decision in the past to certify educators and leave licensing of others to their own boards.

Mrs. Maguire asked if it was known that being certified is a benefit to children.

Mr. Cervantes stated, for example, that a CPA working in a school would not need certification. The CPA would already be licensed in his or her field.

Mr. Dickert compared the service of a school social worker to that of a school nurse and stated that certification is for educators and school social workers and school nurses do not really have teaching functions.

The motion was approved by the Board with three opposing votes by Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Moss, and Dr. Jones.

55. Curriculum and Instructional Materials Committee—Mrs. Frances Lewis reported that the Curriculum and Instructional Materials Committee met on Monday, October 8, 2001.

01. Approval of Agenda for October 8, 2001—Mrs. Lewis reported that the agenda for October 8, 2001, was approved with Item 55-03 moved to an information item.

02. Approval of Minutes of September 11, 2001—Mrs. Lewis reported that the minutes of the September 11, 2001, Curriculum and Instructional Materials Committee meeting were approved.

Mrs. Lewis reported that items 55-04, 55-06, 55-07, and 55-08 were placed on the consent agenda.

05. Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education Regulation 43-234, Defined Program Grades 9–12 (First Reading)—Mrs. Lewis reported that this regulation provides for a relevant curriculum to help students meet the requirements for the state high school diploma and also for preparing students for post-secondary education or for occupational achievement.

On behalf of the Curriculum and Instructional Materials Committee, Mrs. Lewis moved that the State Board of Education approve the Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education Regulation 43-234, Defined Program Grades 9–12 (First Reading).

Mr. Mattos expressed his concerns that College Prep and Tech Prep were really not parallel with the same content in each track. College Prep has algebra and Tech Prep has Applied Math for the Technologies. He is concerned that students may not be able to start with Tech Prep and switch to College Prep and still have the same content and background.

Mr. Dickert stated that he agrees with Mr. Mattos and that the Board must make sure the skill levels are the same in College Prep and Tech Prep to keep students from being locked in a track.

Dr. Leonard McIntyre and Mr. Harvey Chapman discussed the proposed amendments to Regulation 43-234 and answered questions.

Mr. Hostetler stated that there is confusion relating to how courses provide the opportunity for students to get where they want to go and hopes that public input will help alleviate the confusion.

Mr. Cervantes stated that he supports the position of Mr. Mattos and Mr. Hostetler and he does not feel the regulation clearly shows how the two tracks are parallel.

Mrs. Maguire agreed and said she is disturbed about the difference in Algebra 1 and Applied Math for the Technologies. She feels that all students should take Algebra 1 and that every child should have the same quality classes. All students should be prepared to become productive adults and the Board should really discuss this regulation.

Mr. Scarborough announced that a report is coming from the Governor's Task Force that actually deals with what the Board is discussing and the report should make the Board members feel better.

Dr. McIntyre stated that the intent is that both programs are parallel and contain the same skills and the department needs to make sure the intent is clear in the regulation.

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Mr. Cervantes agreed that the document needs clarification to be understood by everyone.

Mr. Dickert stated that the idea behind Tech Prep was to provide the opportunity for a student to rise to the highest level he or she could, not that it was a watered down version of College Prep. He stated that the regulation cannot encompass everything the Board is talking about and that there are curriculum guides that address those issues.

Mr. Mattos stated that he was concerned that students in Tech Prep would have a stigma and he does not want that to happen.

Mr. Cervantes stated that he is not comfortable with the intent of the document.

Chair Killian stated that he believes that all the Board members want the same thing, for Tech Prep to be a valid choice for students, but that it not be any less rigorous.

Dr. Sandra Lindsay stated that this regulation is saying to schools, these are the courses that need to be offered. She said that the requirements are separated out because Higher Education institutions have different requirements for four-year programs and two-year programs. The regulation is a defined minimum of what courses need to be taken.

Mr. Cervantes stated that it is not clear in the document that Tech Prep and College Prep have the same content.

Mr. Hostetler stated that the Board needs to be very careful to make sure that everyone who reads the regulation can understand it. It needs to be a good document for every student in the state.

Mr. Dickert called for the question. Mrs. Lewis seconded the call. The Board voted to end debate.

Afterwards, the main motion was approved by the Board with one opposing vote by Mr. Cervantes.

Chair Killian asked that the Board have a study session next month regarding College Prep and Tech Prep.

Mrs. Lewis reported that the following items were present as information:

- **A Report by the State Department of Education on the Implementation of the Monitoring System for Act 135**
- **Requested Wavier Request of the Section of Regulation 43-264.1, Half Day Child Development Programs from Marion School District One, Georgetown County School District, Orangeburg School District Five, Aiken County School District, and Edgefield County School District that stipulates that a minimum of 10-percent of the total budget shall be utilized in supplies/materials and equipment for instructional purposes (Section VI B.1. and 1.)**

- ***South Carolina English Language Arts Curriculum Standards 2001 Field Review Draft***

54. Finance and Legislative Committee—Mr. James Mattos reported that the Finance and Legislative Committee met on Monday, October 8, 2001.

01. Approval of Agenda for October 8, 2001—Mr. Mattos reported that the agenda for the October 8, 2001, meeting was approved.

02. Approval of Minutes of September 11, 2001—Mr. Mattos reported that the minutes of the September 11, 2001, Finance and Legislative Committee meeting were approved.

Mr. Mattos reported that items 54-03, 54-04, and 54-05 were placed on the consent agenda.

06. Review of South Carolina Statutes and Regulations Governing Multi-District Transportation of Students with Disabilities and Confirmation of Current Practices—Mr. Mattos reported that the Finance and Legislative Committee passed the motion to accept the State Department of Education's interpretation of South Carolina laws and regulations associated with the transportation of students with disabilities to out-of-district schools and instructs the State Department of Education to take all steps possible to collect the remaining FY 2001 balances from the school districts.

On behalf of the Finance and Legislative Committee, Mr. Mattos moved that the State Board of Education accept the State Department of Education's interpretation of South Carolina laws and regulations associated with the transportation of students with disabilities to out-of-district schools and instructs the State Department of Education to take all steps possible to collect the remaining FY 2001 balances from the school districts.

Mr. Ewart stated that the transportation of students is underfunded, in disarray, and needs commitment of the legislature. Mr. Ewart moved that this item be tabled and a committee be formed to work on this issue. The Board approved the motion.

Mrs. Maguire stated that several districts created a consortium to help disabled children and there is a cost benefit in that. She stated that the Board needs a true cost accounting.

Mr. Lee stated that it is easy for a district to say they need more money, but they should pay their bills.

Mr. Dickert reported that the problem is that student transportation is a state responsibility and it has been underfunded, which makes the State Department of Education require certain things that impact a district. Mr. Dickert voted to table this item because he does not feel the districts should pay. He feels that the problem is with the legislature and that word needs to get out. He stated that a committee should be formed to carry the message.

Chair Killian stated that he would like to have a committee that included representatives from House Ways and Means in order to facilitate a way for them to see what the Board sees.

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Mr. Verenes stated that the message really needs to get out at the grassroots level since student transportation is a state obligation by law.

Dr. Jones stated that she would be willing to serve on the committee and that she would like to see a cost analysis. The transportation issues may be less expensive than hiring more teachers.

Mr. Scarborough stated that he feels the Board is doing the right thing.

Mr. Mattos reported that the following item was submitted for information:

- **State Board of Education Financial Statements**

52. Educational Policy Committee—Mrs. Davis reported for Chair-Elect Spratt White that the Educational Policy Committee met on Monday, October 8, 2001.

01. Approval of Agenda for October 8, 2001—Mrs. Davis reported that the agenda for the October 8, 2001, meeting was approved as presented.

02. Approval of Educational Policy Committee Minutes of September 11, 2001—Mrs. Davis reported that the minutes for the September 11, 2001, Educational Policy Committee meeting were approved.

Mrs. Davis reported that items 52-03 and 52-04 were placed on the consent agenda.

REPORT OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TEACHER LICENSURE ISSUES

Chair Killian gave a report of the actions taken by the State Board of Education concerning teacher certification issues in the State of South Carolina on Monday, October 8, 2001.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 8, 2001

Mr. Lee moved for the approval of the minutes of the October 8, 2001, meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Davis and approved by the Board.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Maguire distributed copies of information she received at the Education Leaders Council Conference.

Chair Killian announced that the National Association of State Boards of Education had asked for the Board's opinion of the top three categories that need to be studied. The Board decided on literacy, equity in funding, and Tech Prep/College Prep.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Mattos moved that the Board adjourn. Mrs. Maguire seconded the motion. There being no further business the Board adjourned at 12:06 a.m.

Chair

Secretary