

MINUTES

State Board of Education Meeting

Date

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Time

11:30 a.m. Educator Certification Cases Meeting

1:30 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

I. EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION CASES

The State Board of Education (SBE) convened at 11:30 a.m. to review the Educator Certification cases. The following SBE members were in attendance for the meeting: Chair Tim Moore, Second Judicial Circuit; Gerrita Postlewait, Chair-Elect, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; Patsy Pye, First Judicial Circuit; Hampton Hubbard, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Rose Sheheen, Fifth Judicial Circuit; Libby Swad, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Charles McKinney, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Cindy Clark, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Marilyn (Lyn) Norton, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Amelia Herlong, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Fred "Trip" DuBard III, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; Phillip Bowers, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; Dennis Thompson, Jr., Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; and Britt Blackwell, O.D., Sixteenth Judicial Circuit.

Absent with apologies were Al Simpson, Sixth Judicial Circuit, and Bonnie Disney, Third Judicial Circuit.

South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff in attendance were Jim Rex, PhD, State Superintendent of Education; Janice Poda, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Administration; John Cooley, Deputy Superintendent, Finance and Operations; Shelly Bezanson Kelly, General Counsel and Parliamentarian, Office of General Counsel; Wendy Cartledge, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Barbara Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Jack Singletary, Education Associate, Office of Educator Certification, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership; Mark Bounds, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership; Allison Jacques, PhD, Director, Office of Educator Preparation, Support, and Assessment; Dr. David Longshore, new SBE appointee for the First Judicial Circuit, beginning January 2010; Josie Gaston,

new SBE appointee for the Sixth Judicial Circuit, beginning January 2010; and Cindy Clark, Minutes Taker.

SBE Chair Moore declared the SBE in Executive Session.
Open Session

Rose Sheheen moved that the SBE accept the initial certification of Tawanda Patrice Harrison. Britt Blackwell seconded the motion. The motion carried with two no votes by Cindy Clark and Libby Swad.

SBE Chair Moore declared the SBE in Executive Session.
Open Session

Hampton Hubbard moved that the SBE permanently revoke the certificate of Richard C. Priode, certificate 147433, and adopt an Order of Permanent Revocation on the grounds of unprofessional conduct. The motion was seconded. The motion carried.

Chair Moore asked for a motion to ratify the agenda for the Educator Certification cases that were reviewed at the 9:00 a.m. meeting. Charles McKinney moved to approve the ratification agenda as presented. Dennis Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

There being no further teacher cases, the SBE recessed at 12:00 p.m. for lunch.

II. WELCOME/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SBE reconvened at 1:30 p.m. Chair Moore called the meeting to order and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Navy JROTC Color Guard, South Florence High School, Florence School District One, led by Command Sergeant Major Andrew Hart, presented the colors.

The following SBE members were in attendance for the meeting: Tim Moore, Chair, Second Judicial Circuit; Gerrita Postlewait, Chair-Elect, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; Patsy Pye, First Judicial Circuit; Hampton Hubbard, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Libby Swad, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Charles McKinney, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Cindy Clark, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Marilyn (Lyn) Norton, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Amelia Herlong, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Fred "Trip" DuBard III, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; Phillip Bowers, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; Dennis Thompson, Jr., Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; and Britt Blackwell, O.D., Sixteenth Judicial Circuit.

Absent with apologies were Bonnie Disney, Third Judicial Circuit, and Al Simpson, Sixth Judicial Circuit.

South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff in attendance were Jim Rex, PhD, State Superintendent of Education; Janice Poda, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Administration; Shelly Bezanson Kelly, General Counsel and Parliamentarian, Office of General Counsel; Mark Bounds, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership; Betsy Carpentier, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Support; John Cooley, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Finance and Operations; Barbara Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Karla Hawkins, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Teri Siskind, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Accountability; and Cindy Clark, Minutes Taker.

III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 10, 2009

Charles McKinney moved to approve the SBE minutes for November 10, 2009. Phillip Bowers seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR DECEMBER 9, 2009

Chair Moore asked for a motion to approve the SBE agenda for December 9, 2009. Phillip Bowers moved to approve the agenda and Marilyn "Lyn" Norton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

V. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA

Chair Moore welcomed new Board members who will be joining the Board in January 2010. The new members attending the Board meeting were Dr. David Longshore, First Judicial Circuit; Ms. Josie Gaston, Sixth Judicial Circuit; and Bishop Michael Blue, Twelfth Judicial Circuit. Guests present were Mark Mitchell, Winthrop University, and Joanne Lawson, SCEA. News media present was Gina Smith, *The State*.

Chair Moore turned the meeting over to Superintendent Jim Rex to present recognitions and his report.

VI. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT AND RECOGNITIONS

State Superintendent of Education Rex acknowledged and welcomed the new Board members. He also stated that we will miss the Board members who are rotating off and thanked them for their service.

Dr. Rex reported that South Carolina's Chamber of Commerce is now actively promoting the good news in our public school system. He stated he had

recently attended a meeting of the South Carolina School Boards Association and the members asked that he update the member of the South Carolina School Boards Association on the positive news occurring within South Carolina's public school system. Until recently, critics of our school system have gone unchallenged. Now, the Chamber's business leaders are acknowledging that we have made tremendous strides with the State Board of Education's assistance. Dr. Rex said he has always been disturbed by the silence of the business leaders who disagreed with the attacks on our school system but never publicly stated their opposition to the negativity. Dr. Rex mentioned that these "silent" leaders are now stepping up and defending the progress that is being made.

Dr. Rex reminded the group that with budget cuts, it is important for teachers' morale to point out that we are making progress and we are not always at the bottom or the middle but that we are at the top in many of our accomplishments. He stated that he appreciates the teachers and the progress they are making.

Dr. Rex said he is concerned about whether we are going to hit a point of diminishing returns. He said if money, personnel, and programs keep being taken away from our schools and things don't change, there will be consequences. He feels it is important to recognize and reward people who are making progress, and thanked the State Chamber for making great strides in that direction.

VII. RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING STATE BOARD MEMBERS
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Chair Moore recognized and thanked outgoing State Board members. Plaques for their service on the Board were awarded to Patsy Pye, First Judicial Circuit; Charles McKinney, Eighth Judicial Circuit; and Trip DuBard, Twelfth Judicial Circuit. Chair Moore also recognized outgoing Board member Al Simpson, Sixth Judicial Circuit, who was not able to attend the Board meeting.

Board member Cindy Clark and Dr. Janice Poda presented the "Excellence in Encouragement" award to Dr. Mark W. Mitchell, Professor at Winthrop University. Dr. Mitchell served as a training facilitator for the "Darkness to Light" Program. Ms. Clark stated that he volunteered his service and declined the stipend offered him. He said his participation was his service for South Carolina's children.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Present for public comment were Janet Frazier, parent advocate; Virginia Hernandez, parent advocate; and Joe Hufferman, parent advocate.

IX. SECOND READING

Establishment of a Fee for the Reinstatement of an Educator's Certificate after Suspension (Second Reading)

Shelly Kelly reported that this item will allow the State Board to charge a fee of \$95.00 to teachers who are seeking reinstatement of their educator's certificate after it has been suspended by the State Board. If the fee is approved on second reading, it will take effect in February 2010. Last year, 20 teachers were reinstated. The fiscal impact is \$1,900 per year, and this fee is the same as the application fee.

A motion was made by Charles McKinney that the Board approve for second reading the establishment of a fee for the reinstatement of an educator's certificate after suspension. Phillip Bowers seconded the motion. The motion carried.

X. STATE BOARD COMMITTEE ITEMS

EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS

Committee Report—Patsy Pye, Chair

Committee Chair Pye reported that the Education Professions Committee met Wednesday, December 9, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. in the Rutledge Conference Center. Mrs. Pye provided the Board with an overview of the committee meeting and stated there was one item for information as follows:

FOR INFORMATION

01. Overview of the Task Force Report on 21st Century Teaching and Learning)—Allison Jacques, Director, Office of Educator Preparation, Support, and Assessment, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

Dr. Jacques had laryngitis, so Committee Chair Pye gave the overview of the Task Force Report on 21st Century Teaching and Learning. The Task Force addressed four areas of add-on certification, which includes reinventing teacher compensation,

recasting the teaching profession, improving teacher working conditions, and improving community infrastructure and support for teachers.

Dr. Rex added that we are hoping we can meet with the appropriate committee early in the legislative session to talk about the four areas above. He stated that the nation will lose one-third to one-half of the most experienced and highly trained teaching force in the next seven to ten years. Dr. Rex said we need to rethink how we recruit and prepare teachers in South Carolina. He also mentioned the SC Teacher Cadet Program. Since the program began, thirty-three states have adopted its curriculum, and over 190 high schools in South Carolina now offer the Teacher Cadet Program.

IF INNOVATION AND FINANCE

Committee Report—Phillip Bowers, Chair

Committee Chair Bowers reported that the Innovation and Finance Committee met Wednesday, December 9, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. in Rutledge Building Room 1105. Mr. Bowers provided the Board with an overview of the committee meeting and stated there was one item for information as follows:

FOR INFORMATION

01. Innovative Education Projects in South Carolina—Looping Advances Teacher Teaming and Innovation in Schools or “LATTIS”—Mary Ruzga, Education Associate, Office of Public School Choice and Innovation, Division of Innovation and Support

Committee Chair Bowers reported on Dr. Ruzga’s presentation of the LATTIS pilot program. This program offers teachers a team concept and the opportunity to teach their students for two years instead of the usual one year. Mr. Bowers said he feels there is a great deal of potential in this program and urged the Board members to go to their counties to encourage the LATTIS program.

PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE

Committee Report—Tim Moore, Chair

Chair Moore reported that the Policy and Legislative Committee met Wednesday, December 9, 2009, at 10:30 a.m. in the Rutledge

Conference Center. He stated there were two items for approval and one item for information as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

01. Amendment to the State Board of Education Rules of Governance, Rules BBCC and BBC, and Repeal of Rule BBCE (First Reading)—Shelly Bezanson Kelly, General Counsel, Office of General Counsel

Chair Moore moved, on behalf of the Policy and Legislative Committee, to amend State Board of Education Rules of Governance, Rules BBCC and BBC, to Repeal Rule BBCE, and to waive second reading. This action will merge the Innovation Committee with the Finance Committee for next year. For the merge to take effect immediately, the Board would need to waive second reading and approve today. Chair Moore called for the vote and it was approved unanimously.

02. Request for the Suspension of State Board of Education Rules of Governance Rule BCBD—Janice Poda, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Administration

Chair Moore moved, on behalf of the Policy and Legislative Committee, for the suspension of State Board of Education Rules of Governance Rule BCBD as it relates to committee actions for January 2010, due to time constraints involving the Board retreat and orientation. Mr. Moore called for a vote and the item was approved unanimously.

FOR INFORMATION

03. Framework for Race to the Top Grant Application—Betsy Carpentier, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Support

Chair Moore reported that the four-billion dollar grant made available from the U.S. Department of Education is on a short timeline. He said Betsy Carpentier has done an outstanding job meeting the timeline on this project, which includes working on the dropout rate, highly effective teachers, turnaround schools, and a longitudinal data system. The Gates Foundation turned down the application for a \$250,000 assistance grant, which would have been used to hire consultants. There was a dispute as to whether the state granted tenure. Mark Bounds and Mrs. Carpentier are working with the Foundation to clear up the miscommunication and ask for reconsideration.

SLA STANDARDS, LEARNING, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Committee Report—Cindy Clark, Chair

Committee Chair Clark reported that the Standards, Learning, and Accountability Committee met Wednesday, December 9, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. in Rutledge Room 806. She stated there was one item for approval and two items for information as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

01. Instructional Materials Report from the 2009 Instructional Materials Review Panels and Prioritization Recommendations—Kriss Stewart, Instructional Materials Coordinator, Office of Standards and Support, Division of Standards and Learning

Committee Chair Clark moved, on behalf of the Standards, Learning, and Accountability Committee, that the Board approve the recommendations for instructional materials. Mr. Moore called for a vote and it was approved unanimously.

FOR INFORMATION

02. 2009 Health and Safety Education Academic Standards Implementation—Christine Beyer, PhD, Health Consultant, Office of Standards and Support, Division of Standards and Learning

Committee Chair Clark said she is encouraged by the implementation, and the staff is putting together an informational DVD and training. She said the Board will be given a copy of this information.

03. Virtual School Regulation Update—Dee Appleby, Director of eLearning, Division of Standards and Learning

Committee Chair Clark stated that last month's questions about virtual schools have been answered, which has been very helpful to the committee. The virtual school program was recently awarded as being second in the country. Also, other states have taken a look at our health education standards document and want to copy what we have done. Ms. Clark said she is pleased with the progress and thanked SCDE staff and Board members for all their hard work this year.

Other positive news was shared by Ms. Clark. She reported that she has a copy of legislation prefiled in the Senate by Senator Paul Campbell that will require background checks for substitute teachers, and she passed out a hard copy to the Board members. She expressed appreciation to Dr. Rex

and all SCDE staff who have supported this bill. The bill was prefiled in the House by Representative Jenny Horne and Representative Rita Allison, and there are other people waiting to sign on. Ms. Clark said she is proud of the unity the Board has shown on this issue.

Chair Moore followed up on Ms. Clark's comments and reminded the Board members that the legislature will begin again in January and that all Board members are appointed by legislators from their respective judicial circuits. Chair Moore urged everyone to establish contact with the legislators who appointed them. It's very important that Board members have these contacts and members should not limit themselves to talking only to legislators in their areas but to reach out to other areas. We need to establish ourselves as public education advocates. The real work gets done in the legislature, so the contacts are very important. Chair Moore added that we can make a bigger difference if we express support for public education.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Moore reminded everyone there are certificates of achievement available from the Department of Education for individual Board members to award to people or groups that support education. Chair Moore stated that recognition is very important and will encourage support for education.

Chair Moore also reminded everyone that the Board Retreat is scheduled for January 12 and 13, 2010. He urged old and new members to attend the orientation session on January 12 and went over the schedule for both days. He expressed appreciation to Dr. Janice Poda for preparing the agenda.

Trip DuBard expressed support of Chair Moore's suggestion that Board members interact more with the legislature and reported on the South Carolina Teacher of the Year event. The ceremony is expanding this year to include a celebration of all public educators and schools. Mr. DuBard encouraged the building of a legislative host community and named several legislators who have signed on. There will be top education and business leaders to help celebrate the Teacher of the Year (TOY). Mr. DuBard reviewed the agenda for the TOY events, which will be held April 28, 2010, at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. This event will bring together corporate leaders, educators, and state officials for an evening honoring public education and invited all Board members to attend.

Chair Moore thanked Mr. DuBard for his efforts in getting legislators behind public education recognitions.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Rose Sheheen moved to adjourn. Phillip Bowers seconded. There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 2:45 p.m.