

MINUTES

State Board of Education Meeting

Date

Tuesday, February 9, 2010

Time

11:45 a.m. Educator Certification Cases Meeting
(or immediately following the Policy and Legislative Committee)
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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

To review personnel issues

The State Board of Education (SBE) convened at 11:10 a.m. to review the Educator Certification cases presented at the 9:00 a.m. meeting.

The following SBE members were in attendance: Tim Moore, Chair, Second Judicial Circuit; Gerrita Postlewait, Chair-Elect, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; David Longshore, First Judicial Circuit; Bonnie Disney, Third 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, 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, O.D., Sixteenth Judicial Circuit; and Mike Brenan, Governor's Appointee.

Absent with apologies was Hampton Hubbard, Fourth Judicial Circuit.

South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff in attendance were Shelly Bezanson Kelly, General Counsel and Parliamentarian, Office of General Counsel; Wendy Cartledge, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Janice Poda, PhD, Deputy Superintendent for Administration; John Cooley, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Finance and Operations; Jack Singletary, Education Associate, Office of Educator Certification, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership; Paul Bozard, Investigator, Office of General Counsel; and Cindy Clark, Recording Secretary.

Louis A. Hrebar and Geraldine Urbanic, SBE-Appointed Hearing Officer, were also present.

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

Phillip Bowers moved that the State Board revoke the certificate of Louis A. Hrebar, certificate 181401, and adopt an Order of Revocation on the grounds of unprofessional conduct. Cindy Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chair Moore asked for a motion to approve the ratification agenda for the Educator Certification cases that were reviewed at the 9:00 a.m. meeting. Dennis Thompson moved to approve the agenda, and Phillip Bowers seconded the motion. The motion carried.

II. WELCOME / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The State Board of Education (SBE) convened at 1:30 p.m. Chair Moore called the meeting to order and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SC Youth Challenge Academy, South Carolina National Guard, led by Command Sergeant Major Michael Parker, 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; David Longshore, First Judicial Circuit; Bonnie Disney, Third 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, 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.

Absent with apologies was Hampton Hubbard, Fourth Judicial Circuit.

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

III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR JANUARY 13, 2010

Chair Moore asked for a motion to approve the SBE minutes for January 13, 2010. Amelia Herlong moved to approve the minutes and Cindy Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 9, 2010

Chair Moore asked for a motion to approve the SBE agenda for February 9, 2010. Marilyn (Lyn) Norton moved to approve the agenda and Amelia Herlong seconded the motion. The motion carried.

V. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA

Chair Moore welcomed all visitors to the SBE meeting. Visiting from Carolina Elementary School, Darlington County School District, were Donna Barrett, Dee Pennington, and Mary Thomas. Visiting from Ninety Six High School, Greenwood County School District 52, was Rex S. Ward. Guests from Greenwood 52's district office were Rhonda McDowell, Superintendent Mark Petersen, and former Superintendent Dan W. Powell. Guests from Chapin High School, School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties, were Louise Burkholder, Mike Satterfield, and Brenda F. Shealy. Visiting from Lexington/Richland Five's district office was Helen Anderson. Visiting from Horry County School District was Superintendent Cindy Elsberry. Also visiting was Erin Howie, University of South Carolina.

There was no news media present.

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

VI. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT AND RECOGNITIONS

State Superintendent of Education Rex recognized the Blue Ribbon Award recipients. The Elementary and Secondary Education Act National Blue Ribbon Schools program is coordinated by the U.S. Department of Education. The program recognizes public and private K-12 schools that are academically superior or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement. The schools chosen as National Blue Ribbon recipients are models of excellence that other schools can emulate.

Selection criteria for the program are consistent with the goals of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Nominees must meet one of two criteria: (1) schools that have at least 40 percent of their students from disadvantaged backgrounds and that dramatically improve student performance to high levels on state tests, or (2) schools, regardless of their demographics, that achieve in the top 10 percent of schools in the state. All nominees had to have made adequate yearly progress (AYP) under ESEA for the 2006–07 and 2007–08 school years and also had to make AYP for the 2008–09 school year to be eligible for recognition.

Across the nation, only 314 schools earned the prestigious award this year. Five of this year's winners are from South Carolina. These five not only met the basic criteria but also scored higher against those criteria than other South Carolina schools. The five award winners each received a plaque and a flag.

The following schools are this year's winners:

- Carolina Elementary School, Darlington County School District, represented by State Board of Education member Hampton Hubbard
- Chapin High School, District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties, represented by State Board of Education member Amelia Herlong
- Chukker Creek Elementary School, Aiken County Public Schools, represented by State Board of Education Chair Tim Moore
- Middle Valley Elementary School, Horry County Schools, represented by State Board of Education Chair-elect Gerrita Postlewait
- Ninety-Six High School, Greenwood County School District 52, represented by State Board of Education member Dru James

Dr. Rex also informed everyone about an audit that is under way across the nation by the Office of the Inspector General. The audit is currently being conducted in our state at the state level. The auditors are looking at Title 1, Part B of IDEA, and the fiscal stabilization funds received by all states through the ARRA. The audit team has been in SC a total of three weeks and has met with key SCDE personnel, representatives of the Budget and Control Board, Comptroller General's Office, State Treasurer's Office, State Auditor's Office, the state's Technical College System, and the Commission on Higher Education. The last part of the audit process involves the audit team visiting three of our school districts, which include Spartanburg County School District Two, Greenville County School District, and Charleston County School District. The audits should be finished by mid-April, and we should hear back formally from the auditors by mid to late summer. Dr. Rex said the audits are going well and the informal feedback he's received reflects positively on all SCDE personnel who have been involved. He expects the final report to be very good.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Janet Frazier, parent, spoke during the public comment period.

VIII. STATE BOARD ITEMS

FOR APPROVAL

EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS

Committee Report— Amelia Herlong, Chair

Committee Chair Herlong reported that the Education Professions Committee met Tuesday, February 9, 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 was one item for approval and one item for information as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

- 01. Committee Goals for the State Board of Education**—Mark Bounds, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

Committee Chair Herlong reported that the SCDE recommends that the SBE approve 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.

Chair Moore called for approval concerning the proposed committee goal. It was unanimously approved.

FOR INFORMATION

- 02. Report for Proviso 1.14 (SCDE: Teachers/Temporary or Emergency Certificates)**—Jim Turner, Director, Office of Educator Certification, Division of Educator Quality and Leadership

Mrs. Herlong reported that there were no temporary certificates this past year. This year, fourteen out-of-field certificates were renewed.

Mrs. Herlong also recognized Mark Bounds and Allison Jacques who have been invited to attend and make presentations at the National TAP Conference and at the United States Department of Education.

IF INNOVATION AND FINANCE

Committee Report—Britt Blackwell, Chair

Committee Chair Blackwell reported that the Innovation and Finance Committee met Tuesday, February 9, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. in the Rutledge Conference Center. Dr. Blackwell provided the Board with an overview of the committee meeting and stated there were two items for approval as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

- 01. Request for Approval of Property Disposal—Greenville County School District**—Alex James, Director, Office of School Facilities, Division of Innovation and Support

Committee Chair Blackwell reported on the request for approval of property disposal in the Greenville County School District. This proposal involved three properties.

Chair Moore called for approval concerning the property disposal request. It was unanimously approved.

- 02. Committee Goals for the State Board of Education**—John Cooley, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Finance and Operations

Dr. Blackwell reported that the SCDE recommends that the SBE approve a process for SCDE staff to 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.

Chair Moore called for approval concerning the proposed committee goal. It was unanimously approved.

PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE

Committee Report—Tim Moore, Chair

Committee Chair Moore reported that the Policy and Legislative Committee met Tuesday, February 9, 2010, at 10:30 a.m. in the Rutledge Conference Center. Chair Moore provided the Board with an overview of the committee meeting and stated there were three items for approval as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

01. **Request from Florence County School District 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

Chair Moore explained the requirement for a local board member to attend the SCSBA new board orientation and asked that the Board approve the waiver requested by Florence County School District Two. It was unanimously approved.

02. **Committee Goals for the State Board of Education**—Janice Poda, PhD, Deputy Superintendent for Administration

Chair Moore reported on the Policy and Legislative Committee's recommendation that the Board devise effective means to broadly share information about the progress being made to transform the education system in the state.

Chair Moore called for the Board's approval concerning the proposed committee goal. It was unanimously approved. He added that the Board needs to do a better job of publicizing their triumphs.

03. **State Board of Education Goals**—Janice Poda, PhD, Deputy Superintendent for Administration

Chair Moore stated 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.

Chair Moore asked that the Board approve the SBE goals. It was unanimously approved.

SLA STANDARDS, LEARNING, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Committee Report—Cindy Clark, Chair

Committee Chair Clark reported that the Standards, Learning, and Accountability (SLA) Committee met Tuesday, February 9, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. in Rutledge Room 806.

Ms. Clark provided the Board with an overview of the committee meeting and reviewed the SLA Committee goals. She said the SCDE recommends that the SBE 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. Also, the SCDE recommends that the SBE 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.

Chair Moore called for approval concerning the proposed committee goals. It was unanimously approved.

Ms. Clark stated there was an additional item for approval as well as two items for information as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

01. **Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education Regulation 43-243, Special Education, Education of Students with Disabilities (First Reading)**—Marlene Metts, Director, Office of Exceptional Children, Division of Standards and Learning

Committee Chair Clark reported on the proposed amendments to SBE Regulation 43-243, and asked for the Board's approval for first reading. Board Chair Moore called for a vote and it was approved unanimously.

FOR INFORMATION

02. **Updates on Assessment and Accountability**—Elizabeth Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Accountability; Steve Abbott, Education Associate, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability; and Gary West, Director and Chief Information Officer, Office of Data Management and Analysis, Division of Accountability

Committee Chair Clark reported on the updates on assessment and accountability.

Other positive news was shared by Ms. Clark. She said a proviso was adopted by a House Ways and Means subcommittee today with slight modifications that will require background checks for substitute teachers.

Dr. Gerrita Postlewait asked about the Common Core Standards Initiative Review Panel Response Form and Dr. Harrison explained logistics concerning the form.

Also, Dr. Postlewait advised that Governor Riley had recently been inducted into the South Carolina Hall of Fame and suggested a letter of congratulations be sent to him on behalf of the Board. Chair Moore called for approval concerning the proposed letter. It was unanimously approved.

- 03. Update on Social Studies**—Lewis Huffman, Education Associate, Office of Standards and Support, Division of Standards and Learning

Ms. Clark reported on the Social Studies standards.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Phillip Bowers reported on the new charter school bill, House Bill 4243. Mr. Bowers stated that he will send a copy of the complete bill to Board members.

Chair Moore stated that a suggestion had been made to change the full Board starting time from 1:30 to 1:00 p.m. and called for approval on the time change. It was unanimously approved.

Due to inclement weather, it was decided that the Study Session on Assessment and Analysis of Data be postponed until the next SBE meeting scheduled for March 10, 2010.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 2:40 p.m.