

MINUTES

State Board of Education Meeting

Date

Wednesday, June 9, 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***

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 Irmo High School Air Force JROTC Color Guard, School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties, presented the colors.

The following SBE members were in attendance for the meeting: 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; Dru James, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Cindy Clark, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Marilyn (Lyn) Norton, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Michael Blue, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; Phillip Bowers, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; Dennis Thompson, Jr., Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; and Britt Blackwell, OD, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit.

Absent with apologies were Libby Swad, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Amelia Herlong, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; and Mike Brenan, Governor's Appointee.

South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff in attendance were 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; Teri Siskind, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Accountability; 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; Sandy Smith, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Policy and Legislation; and Cindy Clark, Recording Secretary.

II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR MAY 12, 2010

Chair Moore asked for a motion to approve the SBE minutes for May 12, 2010. Cindy Clark moved to approve the minutes and Marilyn (Lyn) Norton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR JUNE 9, 2010

Chair Moore asked for a motion to approve or amend the SBE agenda for June 9, 2010. Britt Blackwell moved to approve the agenda and Marilyn (Lyn) Norton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA

Chair Moore welcomed all visitors including those from Lake Carolina Elementary School, Richland School District Two; Indian Land Middle School, Lancaster County School District; Lugoff-Elgin Middle School, Kershaw County School District; Southwood Middle School, Anderson School District Five; East Cooper Montessori Charter School, Charleston County School District; Laurens County School District 55; Spring Valley High School, Richland School District Two; South Carolina School Improvement Council (SCSIC); Educational Testing Service (ETS); Pearson; and South Carolina Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (SCASCD). There was no news media present.

V. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT AND RECOGNITIONS

In the absence of State Superintendent of Education Rex, Chair Moore recognized schools selected for the Schools to Watch program. This program was created by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform to honor high-performing middle schools. South Carolina joined the initiative in 2006 and is one of 18 states participating. Schools to Watch considers progress on the campus toward academic excellence; how well the school's programs meet the needs of middle school-age children; whether the school provides all children access to valued knowledge and experiences; and

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whether organizational structures are in place at the school to allow it to be successful.

The two South Carolina schools selected were Southwood Middle School (Anderson Five) and Indian Land Middle School (Lancaster). Also, Lugoff-Elgin Middle School (Kershaw), the first middle school in South Carolina to be designated a School to Watch, was certified to maintain its award status.

Southwood Middle School is represented by State Board of Education member Dr. Marilyn (Lyn) Norton. Indian Land Middle School is represented by State Board of Education member Josie Gaston. Lugoff-Elgin Middle School is represented by State Board of Education member Rose Sheheen.

Chair Moore also acknowledged South Carolina's recipient of the National School of Character award, Lake Carolina Elementary in Richland School District Two. Lake Carolina is the second South Carolina school to earn this award. National winners were chosen on the strength of their work in encouraging the ethical, social, and academic growth of their students through character education. Winners become ambassadors of effective character education and provide professional development sessions back at their home sites. Each winner receives a \$3,000 grant to support outreach efforts. Lake Carolina Elementary School is represented by State Board of Education member Rose Sheheen.

Chair Moore recognized the winners of the 2009 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science Teaching. This program is the nation's highest honor for teachers of science. The awards recognize outstanding K–12 teachers for their contributions in the classroom and to their profession. Honorees are recognized for their mastery of mathematics or science content knowledge appropriate for the grade level taught; use of instructional methods and strategies that are appropriate for the students in the classroom and that support student learning; effective use of assessment strategies to evaluate, monitor, and improve student learning; reflective practice and life-long learning to improve teaching and student learning; and leadership in education outside the classroom.

The state finalists are Anna Chandler, seventh- and eighth-grade science teacher, East Cooper Montessori Charter School, Charleston County School District, and Leann Iacuone, biology/physical science teacher, Laurens District 55 High School, Laurens County School District 55. Our national winner is Michelle Sutton Spigner, a biology, AP biology, and research teacher at Spring Valley High School in Richland School District Two. She is among 103 mathematics and science teacher recipients of this prestigious award. As a national winner, Michelle will receive a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation. She will also receive an expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., for an awards ceremony and several days of educational and celebratory events, including visits with members of Congress and

science agency leaders. Mrs. Chandler is represented by State Board of Education member Cindy Clark. Mrs. Iacuone is represented by State Board of Education member Dru James. Mrs. Spigner is represented by State Board of Education member Rose Sheheen.

After the awards presentation, Chair Moore called for a five-minute recess.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Present for public comment was Edward Manley, parent advocate for special education.

VII. STATE BOARD ITEMS

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—Rose Sheheen gave the report for the Innovation and Finance Committee since Chair Amelia Herlong was absent.

Mrs. Sheheen reported that the Education Professions Committee met Wednesday, June 9, 2010, at 10:01 a.m. in the Rutledge Conference Center. Mrs. Sheheen provided the Board with an overview of the Committee meeting. There were no approval nor information items. Mrs. Sheheen said that Mark Bounds briefed the Committee on the restructuring of the Division of Educator Quality and Leadership (DEQL). He explained how various duties will be changed and/or reassigned. Mr. Bounds also explained how the DEQL was integrated into the Race to the Top application.

IF INNOVATION AND FINANCE

Committee Goal: *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.*

Committee Report—Britt Blackwell, OD, Chair

Dr. Blackwell reported that the Innovation and Finance Committee met Wednesday, June 9, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. in Rutledge Room 1105. He provided the Board with an overview of the Committee meeting and stated there were two items for approval and two items for information as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

01. **Request for Approval of Property Disposal—McCormick County School District**—Betsy Carpentier, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Support

A motion was made by Dr. Blackwell and recognized by Chair Moore that the Board approve the request for Approval of Property Disposal—McCormick County School District. The motion was approved unanimously.

02. **Waiver of Requirement to Reduce Millage—Florence County School District Three**—Betsy Carpentier, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Support

A motion was made by Dr. Blackwell and recognized by Chair Moore that the Board approve the Waiver of Requirement to Reduce Millage—Florence County School District Three. The motion was approved unanimously.

FOR INFORMATION

03. **South Carolina Public Charter School District Fringe Allocation**—John Cooley, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Finance and Operations

Dr. Blackwell reported that John Cooley had explained the South Carolina Public Charter School District fringe allocation in the Committee meeting. Dr. Blackwell also urged the Board members to contact Mr. Cooley if they have any questions.

- 04. Public Montessori Programs**—Ginny Riga, Education Associate, Office of Public School Choice and Innovation, Division of Innovation and Support

Dr. Blackwell said Ginny Riga made a presentation on public Montessori programs, and he has asked her to come back to present to the full Board at a future meeting.

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

Chair Clark reported that the Standards and Learning Committee met Wednesday, June 9, 2010, at 9:04 a.m. in Rutledge Room 806. Ms. Clark provided the Board with an overview of the Committee meeting and stated there was one item for approval and three items for information as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

- 01. Update on Assessment**—Elizabeth Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Accountability

Chair Clark said the Committee requests that the Board allow Chair Moore to sign the Memorandum of Understanding so that the SBE and the SCDE can join both consortia. This will help ensure that we will have a voice concerning what will happen in the future to establish a framework of collaboration and partnership working toward jointly developing and adopting a common set of K–12 standards that are supported by evidence that they are internationally benchmarked and build toward college and career readiness by the time of high school graduation.

A motion was made by Ms. Clark and recognized by Chair Moore that the Board allow Chair Moore to sign the Memorandum of Understanding so that the SBE and the SCDE can join both consortia. The motion was approved unanimously.

FOR INFORMATION

- 02. Update on Common Core State Standards**—Valerie E. Harrison, EdD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Standards and Learning

Ms. Clark reported that the Committee received the update on Common Core Standards. Hard copy packages of the update were given to each of the Board members. Most people want 100 percent adoption of the standards.

- 03. Update on LiteracySC**—Pamela Wills, Unit Leader, Early Childhood and Literacy, Division of Standards and Learning

Ms. Clark reported that the Committee received the update on LiteracySC.

- 04. Technical Report on Closing the Achievement Gap Awards as Part of the Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards Program, 2009–10**—Ling Gao, PhD, Education Associate, Office of Standards and Learning, Division of Standards and Learning

Ms. Clark reported that the Committee received the technical report on Closing the Achievement Gap Awards.

Connect the Dot Award

This month's Connect the Dot Award goes to Dr. Janice Poda. The Board members nominated her for the William B. Harley Lifetime Achievement Award, and she won.

Each year three education administrators receive the prestigious William B. Harley Award, which recognizes the lifetime achievement of veteran administrators. Winners of the 2010 Harley Award will receive a \$1,500 prize presented by the R. L. Bryan Company, in honor of William B. Harley, a strong supporter of education. They are publicly recognized during the Summer Leadership Institute.

PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE

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

Committee Report—Tim Moore, Chair

Chair Moore reported that the Policy and Legislative Committee met Wednesday, June 9, 2010, at 11:00 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 and one item for information as follows:

FOR APPROVAL

01. **Recommendations to Fill Vacancies on the State Board of Education (SBE) Awards Nominating Committee for the 2010 SBE Volunteer Awards Program**—Peggy Hogan, Education Associate, Office of Youth Services, Division of Innovation and Support

Chair Moore reported whom he, Dennis Thompson, and Hampton Hubbard nominated. Mr. Moore made a motion that the Board approve the recommendations to fill vacancies on the SBE Awards Nominating Committee for the 2010 SBE Volunteer Awards Program. The motion was approved unanimously.

02. **Annual Report of the Accreditation of Schools and Districts in South Carolina for the 2009–10 School Year**—Nancy W. Busbee, PhD, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

Dr. Busbee gave an overview of the report. Chair Moore made a motion that the Board approve the Annual Report of the Accreditation of Schools and Districts in South Carolina for the 2009–10 School Year.

FOR INFORMATION

03. **Schools Meeting the Criteria of Eligibility Status for Flexibility through Deregulation**—Nancy W. Busbee, PhD, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Accountability

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) Presentation—Elaine Midkiff, JAG-South Carolina State Coordinator, Workforce Development Division, SC Department of Commerce

Ms. Midkiff gave a PowerPoint presentation on the JAG program. This South Carolina program is an affiliate of Jobs for America's Graduates, Inc. (JAG), a non-profit program that helps at-risk young people graduate from high school and transition to postsecondary education or meaningful employment. The national JAG Model provides performance standards and best practices for JAG-SC. JAG-SC was implemented in 2005 as a dropout prevention and workforce preparation program delivered in the classroom through the support of school and business partnerships. JAG-SC teaches young adults academic and work place competencies and has been recognized as a "Top Performing State Operation" with a graduation rate exceeding the national JAG standard.

Ms. Midkiff shared several positive comments from JAG-SC students about how the program has helped them keep from dropping out of school. Also, Ms. Midkiff explained that JAG-SC provides career planning and identifying and overcoming personal barriers. She said JAG-SC helps students set high goals regardless of challenges stemming from their past. Additionally, SC-JAG provides assessment tools to help students establish work goals, development a career path to confront their negative issues, and to take ownership of their future. SC-JAG also conducts post high-school follow-ups for their students.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 2:15 p.m.