

MINUTES
State Board of Education Meeting

Date
Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Time
1:00 p.m.

Location
Rutledge Conference Center
1429 Senate Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Sharon Wall, EdD, Chair
Del-Gratia Jones, Chair-elect
Molly M. Spearman
State Superintendent of Education
Secretary and Administrative Officer to the Board

Notice: Due to allergies of staff and visitors, we ask that visitors refrain from wearing scented products when attending the State Board of Education meetings in SCDE facilities.

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

The State Board of Education (SBE) meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. Chair-elect Del-Gratia Jones, Second Judicial Circuit, called the meeting to order.

The following SBE members were in attendance: Del-Gratia Jones, Chair-elect, Second Judicial Circuit; Janice Murray Gamble, Ed.D., Third Judicial Circuit; Gerald Reeves, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Mara Horton Jones, Fifth Judicial Circuit; J.R. Green, Ph.D., Sixth Judicial Circuit; Jane P. Harmon, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Cynthia A. Downs, Ed.D., Eighth Judicial Circuit; Richard Kizer, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Debby Howard, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Rhonda Edwards, DSL, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; Renee R. Hembree, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; Sharon Bynum, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit; and Mike Brennan, Governor's Appointee. Sharon Wall, Ed.D., Chair, Eleventh Judicial Circuit and David Whittemore, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, were absent with apologies.

The following South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff were in attendance: Betsy Carpentier, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Superintendent; Cathy Hazelwood, Deputy Superintendent and Parliamentarian, Division for Legal Affairs; David Mathis, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent, Division of College and Career Readiness; Karla McLawhorn Hawkins, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources; Nancy Williams, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance; Sheila Quinn, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness; Robert Benn, Information Resource Consultant, Service and Support Center, Chief

Information Office; Travis Huggins, Information Resource Consultant, Service and Support Center, Chief Information Office; Ryan Brown, Chief Communications Officer, Office of Communications and Governmental Affairs; Barbara Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Division for Legal Affairs; and LaTonia Holloway, Paralegal, Division for Legal Affairs.

II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 13, 2018.

Chair-elect Jones asked if there were any objections to approving the minutes as presented for the SBE meeting on February 13, 2018. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR MARCH 13, 2018

Chair-elect Jones asked if there were any objections to approving the agenda as presented for the March 13, 2018, SBE meeting. Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA

Chair-elect Jones welcomed all the visitors who were present.

V. STATE BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Chair-elect Jones stated that she would like to recognize and welcome the newest appointed Board member, Sylvia Holmes representing the Twelfth Judicial Circuit from Marion, SC, who will be replacing Mr. Thomas Ewart.

Chair-elect Jones recognized Mrs. Hembree who provided the Board with an update from Mr. David Whittemore. Mrs. Hembree reported that Mr. Whittemore misses everyone and stated he is doing well. She stated further that Mr. Whittemore indicated that he anticipates that he will be present at the April 10, 2018, meeting.

This concluded her report.

VI. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT

No report.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair-elect Jones recognized Heather Harmon, Saluda County Teacher of the Year and member of the Tri-County School District Teacher Forum, who briefly addressed the SBE and thanked them for all that they do for this state. Chair-elect Jones recognized all the members of the teacher forum that were present.

VIII. STATE BOARD ITEMS

PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair-elect Jones reported that the sub-committee met and heard four action items all dealing with various District Wavier requests. Chair-elect Jones stated that all of the action items would be placed on the consent agenda. This concluded Chair-elect Jones' report.

FOR APPROVAL

01. **Charleston County School District Waiver Request of S. C. Code Ann. § 59-1-425**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
02. **Dorchester School District Two Waiver Request of S. C. Code Ann. § 59-1-425**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
03. **Spartanburg County School District Seven Cleveland Academy of Leadership's Waiver Request of S. C. Code Ann. §59-1-425(A), School Start Date**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
04. **Spartanburg School District Seven's Request for Exemption Pursuant to S. C. Code Ann. § 59-19-350, Schools of Choice Exempt from State Laws and Regulations**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

FOR INFORMATION

05. **School District Waiver Requests**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

EP EDUCATOR PROFESSIONS—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair-elect Jones recognized Gerald Reeves who reported that the committee met and addressed two action items and two information items. Mr. Reeves provided explanations on each item advising that the first action item dealt with moving information from regulation into the guidelines pertaining to alternative certification processes relative to adjunct certification, Fine Arts, and Montessori education. Mr. Reeves explained that there were some modifications from the regulation to the guidelines that addressed everything but the Fine Arts, stating that Fine Arts were for the most part straight forward. Mr. Reeves stated that the second action item was a request from Charleston County School District proposing to implement an alternate route certification program of their own to recruit teachers for their District. Mr. Reeves advised that the SBE has already approved another program like this in Greenville County School District, advising that Charleston County School District use Greenville County School District as a model. He stated that the difference between the two districts was that Charleston is looking to see how they can get more teachers in the high schools, more specifically in math. Mr.

Reeves stated that Charleston County School District has collaborated closely with the SCDE with the development of this document to get it where it needs to be so that this program can proceed. Mr. Reeves stated that it was the recommendation of the committee to place both items on the consent agenda.

Additionally, Mr. Reeves provided a thorough report regarding the information items shared, explaining that one item dealt with the termination of an educator preparation course at Coker College and the other item dealt with the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE) report. He explained that this report provides information to the committee about all teachers who have passed through this alternative educator certification process in the state. This concluded Mr. Reeves' report.

FOR APPROVAL

- 01. Specialized Alternative Certification Guidelines Pursuant to State Board of Education Regulation 43-62 Areas of Certification**—Mary Hipp, Director, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
- 02. Charleston County School District Proposal to Pilot a District-Based Alternate Route Certification Program, Teach Charleston**—Laura Covington, Education Associate, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

FOR INFORMATION

- 03. Voluntary Educator Preparation Program Termination at Coker College**—Mary Hipp, Director, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
- 04. Annual Report on Individuals Who Have Applied for Certification in South Carolina Based on Qualifying for the Passport to Teaching Certificate Through the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence**—Laura Covington, Education Associate, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

SLA STANDARDS, LEARNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Chair-elect Jones recognized Mrs. Harmon who reported that the committee met and heard one information item. She stated that Dr. Pressley presented updated information regarding the South Carolina College and Career Ready Social Studies Standards. Mrs. Harmon stated that Dr. Pressley has received over 4,000 pieces of data that have been collected from educators throughout the state. She stated that Dr. Pressley stated that the trends have been identified and that work on the draft standards has begun. Ms. Harmon reported further that the group of writers working on the standards will continue to work throughout the summer in an effort to prepare a copy of the standards to be presented to the board in either late summer or early fall. She stated further that the implementation of the Social Studies Standards is tentatively scheduled for the spring of 2019.

This concluded Mrs. Harmon's report.

FOR INFORMATION

01. **South Carolina College and Career Ready Social Studies Standards**—Dr. Anne Pressley, Director, Office of Standards and Learning, Division of College and Career Readiness

ELC EDUCATOR LICENSURE—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair-elect Jones recognized Mrs. Bynum who reported that the Educator Licensure Committee (ELC) met and had already approved and ratified the actions during the Full Board ELC committee meeting. She stated that the committee issued the following: 2 Public Reprimands, 3 Revocations, and 6 Suspensions. This concluded Ms. Bynum's report.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair -elect Jones called for the vote for approval of the consent agenda. It was moved by Mr. Brennan to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Gamble. The motion passed unanimously.

PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE —COMMITTEE REPORT

FOR APPROVAL

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02. **Dorchester School District Two Waiver Request of S. C. Code Ann. § 59-1-425**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
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04. **Spartanburg School District Seven's Request for Exemption Pursuant to S. C. Code Ann. § 59-19-350, Schools of Choice Exempt from State Laws and Regulations**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

EP EDUCATOR PROFESSIONS—COMMITTEE REPORT

FOR APPROVAL

01. **Specialized Alternative Certification Guidelines Pursuant to State Board of Education Regulation 43-62 Areas of Certification**—Mary Hipp, Director, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources
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FB FULL BOARD

Chair-elect Jones recognized Mr. Scott Winburn, Deputy General Counsel, who presented an Option 1 home school appeal filed by the Menendez family against the Pickens County School District. Mr. Winburn stated that nothing of this nature has ever been presented to the SBE before and explained what the purpose of this matter is and provided background information regarding the different options available to parents who choose to home school their children.

Mr. Winburn provided a brief summary regarding all of the relevant background information provided both by the family as well as the District that showed where the District attempted to work through this process with the Menendez family prior to its denial. He advised the Board that their decision, based upon the information provided in the record, is to determine whether Pickens County School District was within their rights to deny the Menendez family's request to home school their children under Option 1. Mr. Winburn stated to the Board that the Board's decision may be appealed to the state family court.

Mrs. Bynum asked for clarification on whether or not the question at hand is that the family should not be provided permission to home school their children given that the chosen curriculum does not meet standards. Mr. Winburn stated, yes, and provided the legal requirements for parents who chose to utilize Option 1, advising the Board that prior to this request to Pickens County School District, the family's request was approved and accepted by the Greenville County School District. Cathy Hazelwood, General Counsel, explained that when parents choose to home school under Option 1 and it's approved by the District, those students are tested as if they were a Pickens County student. Mrs. Hazelwood further explained that based upon this fact, the standardized testing scores of these children would be included in the District's Accountability numbers. She stated based upon the evidence provided by the Menendez family of the children's work product in both math and reading; it reflected that the children had some deficits based upon the curriculum chosen by the parents. Mrs. Hazelwood indicated further that the fact that the review of all the information provided to the District for review didn't place the students in a good position to perform well on a high stakes test specifically in the area which was probably the driving force and reason for the denial of their request.

Mrs. Bynum asked if the family planned to enroll the children into public school when they get to third grade. Mr. Winburn stated that based upon the record that has been done in the past. Dr. Green stated that this matter was a bit perplexing that the parents chose Option 1 where the District is heavily involved rather than Option 3 where the District has no jurisdiction over the curriculum selected. Mr. Winburn stated that he didn't have an answer; however, he did check into what the associated fees were if they were to join a home school association.

Dr. Gamble asked if the children were at home or in a public school at this time, and whether or not the SBE's decision will determine their educational placement. Mr. Winburn advised the Board that the children are currently at home awaiting the outcome of the appeal. Dr. Edwards asked if the Board denies the approval of the Option 1 appeal, would the parents have an opportunity to choose Option 3. Mr. Winburn stated that that would be a decision that was determined by the District, but he would assume that this would be possible.

After much discussion among the Board regarding the facts presented in the record and whether or not the chosen curriculum utilized met both State and District standards, Chair-elect Jones reminded the

Board members that the decision before them today was to determine whether or not to uphold the decision made by the Pickens County School District to deny the Menendez's Option 1 Home School request. That being said, Mrs. Mara Jones made the motion for the Board to uphold the decision of Pickens County School District to deny the Option 1 Home School request of the Menendez family. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kizer. The motion was approved unanimously.

FOR APPROVAL

- 01. HOME SCHOOL APPEAL**—Scott Winburn, Deputy General Counsel, Division for Legal Affairs, Office of General Counsel

SBE SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

Dr. Latoya Dixon reported that the SCDE and Dr. Rechel Anderson decided to utilize Ms. Tonya Addison, the Principal at Johnson Middle and Timmonsville High School to replace Teresa Gamble, the former Principal for Brockington Elementary School. Dr. Dixon explained that the school's campus is very small and contained and the campus is in one building with a small group of students. She stated that Ms. Addison would have the support of the transformation coaches as well as other District personnel. Dr. Dixon stated that they feel confident that this is a good decision to maintain continuity for the remainder of the school year.

Dr. Dixon reported that Brockington Elementary School has planned their Read to Succeed Camp, which will be held from June 4, 2018, to July 20, 2018. She stated that in addition to this camp the District will have a STEM Math/Science Camp for rising fourth and fifth grade students; Robotics Camp for rising sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students; and a Computer Coding Camp for rising high school freshman, sophomores, and juniors. Dr. Dixon stated that the idea is that students will spend their time continuing to work on their achievement during the summer.

Dr. Dixon reported that Brockington Elementary School has been engaged in an initiative called Girls University, explaining that this initiative identifies third, fourth, and fifth grade students who are interested in learning more about life and social skills that are defined in the Profile of the SC Graduate. The students participated in a pinning ceremony and had opportunities to practice etiquette techniques while enjoying dinner at Victor's in downtown Florence. Dr. Dixon stated additionally, that students would be taking a college tour on April 5, 2018, and discussing various college options as well as career choices.

Dr. Dixon reported that teachers at all three schools will be participating in continued professional development, advising that the primary focus at this time is on computer adaptive Literacy Achieve 3000. She stated that several districts throughout our state utilize this program. Additionally, Dr. Dixon stated that students have just completed their Spring Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Testing, advising that transformation coaches are working with teachers to utilize the data from those assessments to provide continued intervention and instruction to students around the areas of language arts and mathematics. Dr. Dixon stated that Johnson Middle has a really great intervention period which is called Panther Power. Dr. Dixon explained that during this time students receive additional support outside of their core academic instruction in English language arts and math. She stated that these specific times are spent targeting particular opportunities for improvement that have been identified from the assessments.

Dr. Dixon stated that at the February 27, 2018, District Board meeting all seniors from Timmonsville High School who provided documentation of acceptance to a college were honored at the meeting. She stated that they have students who've been accepted to the following institutions: Allen University, South Carolina State University, Alabama University, Newberry College, Clemson University, and Wofford College. Dr. Dixon stated further that the senior class has already earned 1.2 million dollars in scholarships and over two hundred college credits earned by the senior class. Dr. Dixon commended Ms. Tonya Addison who she stated has done a phenomenal job. She stated further that Timmonsville High School will have another college signing day in the spring however a date and time has not been set.

This concluded her updates for Florence Four.

Dr. Dixon reported that Allendale County School District has conducted its third series of Learning Walks which were developed under the leadership of District Transformation Coach, Dr. Margaret Gilmore and Dr. Tobin, to make sure that the thing they are focused on in professional development are being placed in practice. She indicated that principals participated and they discussed what they observed and what next steps can be taken. Dr. Dixon reported that Allendale will be partnering with the South Carolina Arts Commission in Engaging Creative Minds this summer. Students will have an opportunity to participate in a six week Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) camp. This camp will be held for the Allendale-Fairfax Middle School students concurrently with the Read to Succeed camp.

Dr. Dixon reported that teachers have been participating in professional development with focus primarily in these areas; Achieve 3000, the adaptive computer literacy program; Guided Map, with focus on inquiry based mathematics that builds conceptual understanding, moving students from the abstract to the concrete, small group instruction and early learning standards. The professional development has been focused on providing 3K through 5K teachers with early learning literacy and math enrichment to better meet the needs of students. Dr. Dixon also reported that the District office participated in the teacher recruitment fair on February 19, 2018, at the University of South Carolina, stating that the District is already putting in efforts to ensure they are putting qualified teachers in the classroom. She stated that she believes they will also participate at the recruitment fair held at the University of North Carolina Charlotte.

Dr. Dixon stated that students from Allendale Middle and High School participated in a College and Career Readiness Expo during the month of February. She stated students were provided the opportunity to explore various college and career paths.

FOR INFORMATION

01. **Florence County School District Four Update**—Latoya Dixon, Ph.D., Director, Office of School Transformation, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness
02. **Allendale County School District Update**—Latoya Dixon, Ph.D., Director, Office of School Transformation, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair-elect Jones recognized Cathy Hazelwood, who advised the Board that there will be a Special Called Meeting held on Thursday, March 15, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. She stated that a memorandum had been handed out with all the information specific to the dial in number for the call, as well as the matter of discussion regarding the withdrawal and resubmission of Regulation 43-234 with all the necessary corrections.

Mr. Brennan stated that he and Mr. Reeves had a conversation with the members of the Tri-County Teacher Forum who asked why teachers were not involved when standards and assessments are being reviewed. He stated that he assured them that the SCDE and SBE has a pretty thorough process for these type matters and that they could access the information on the SCDE website. Mr. Brennan stated that he was bringing this to everyone's attention because obviously some teachers aren't aware of where they need to go to obtain this information in the event this matter needs to be addressed.

Chair-elect Jones recognized Betsy Carpentier, Chief Operating Officer, who announced that Superintendent Spearman has appointed Mr. John Payne, Director, Office of Special Education Services, as the new Deputy Superintendent to replace Dr. Sheila Quinn.

Chair-elect Jones extended condolences on behalf of the Board to Dr. Wall and family in wake of the passing of her mother. She encouraged members to reach out to her, if possible, during this most difficult time just for the additional support. Chair-elect Jones reminded all members to turn in their travel forms prior to their departure.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 2:05 p.m.