

MINUTES

State Board of Education Meeting

Date

Tuesday, October 11, 2022

Time

1:00 p.m.

Location

Rutledge Conference Center
1429 Senate Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Alan Walters., Chair
Crissy Stapleton, Chair-Elect
Molly M. Spearman, State Superintendent of Education,
Secretary and Administrative Officer to the Board

If you require Section 504 or ADA accommodations to attend or participate in this public meeting, please contact Tracy Moore.

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.

The following State Board of Education (SBE) members physically attended: Chair Alan Walters, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; Chair-Elect Crystal Stapleton, Second Judicial Circuit; Maya Slaughter, First Judicial Circuit; Delaney K. Frierson, Third Judicial Circuit; Cathy D. Chapman, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Joyce Crimminger, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Carl Hinze, Seventh Judicial Circuit; David O'Shields, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Sallie R. Lee, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Cheryl Collier, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; Kristi Woodall, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit; and Michael Brenan, Governor's Appointee. Larry Kobrovsky, Ninth Judicial Circuit attended virtually. Mary Cordray, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit was absent.

The following South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff were physically attending: Cathy Hazelwood, Deputy Superintendent, General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Division of Legal Affairs; Barbara A. Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Division of Legal Affairs; Betsy Carpentier, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Data, Technology and Agency Operations; Katie Nilges, Director, Office of Governmental Affairs, Division of Legal Affairs; Tracy Moore, SBE Minutes Taker/Administrative Coordinator, Office of General Counsel,

Division of Legal Affairs; Kenzie Riddle, Program Manager, Office of Governmental Affairs, Division of Legal Affairs; Frances “Cricket” Katsos, Administrative Coordinator, Office of Governmental Affairs, Division of Legal Affairs; David Mathis, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent, Division of College and Career Readiness; Sarah Longshore, Director, Federal and State Accountability, Division of College and Career Services; Caitlyn Widener, Education Associate, Office of Assessment and Standards, Division of College and Career Readiness; Kimberly E. Mack, Director, Office of School Transformation, Division of Federal Programs, Accountability and School Improvement; Katrina Goggins, Chief Communications Officer, Office of Communications; Derek Phillips, Public Information Director, Office of Communications; Adam Compton, Law Clerk, Office of General Counsel, Division of Legal Affairs; Whitney Barnes, Law Clerk, Office of General Counsel, Division of Legal Affairs; Travis Huggins, Information Technology Manager I, Chief Information Office, Division of Data, Technology and Agency Operations; Quinn Murphy, IT Specialist III, Chief Information Office, Division of Data, Technology and Agency Operations; Rashard Huntley, IT Specialist II, Chief Information Office, Division of Data, Technology and Agency Operations; Raymond Dues, IT Specialist II, Chief Information Office, Division of Data, Technology and Agency Operations; and Courtney Ardis, IT Technician III, Chief Information Office, Division of Data, Technology and Agency Operations.

I. WELCOME/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SBE meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. Chair Walters called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone who attended either physically or virtually.

Chair-Elect Stapleton led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

Chair Walters asked if there were any objections to approving the minutes as presented for the SBE meeting on September 13, 2022, and the Special Called Meeting minutes for September 7, 2022. Mr. Kobrovsky noted he attended the September 13th meeting virtually and attempted to participate. Hearing no other objections, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 11, 2022

Chair Walters asked if there were any objections to approving the agenda as presented for the October 11, 2022, SBE meeting. Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND NEWS MEDIA

Chair Walters welcomed any media and asked if any visitors had signed in. Mr. Walters welcomed Matthew Ferguson, Executive Director, and Dana Yow, with the Education Oversight Committee.

STATE BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Chair Walters reported on the events of the last week have been terribly concerning with these so-called swatting incidents (making calls in to the local 911 centers or schools indicating that there's an active shooter on campus.) This is a very elaborate hoax because they have specific information about the schools and communities and what it serves to do is to not only disrupts the school day, it traumatizes the students and staff, traumatizes parents as far as how they all feel a strong need to go to the school to ensure their children's safety. Mr. Walters reported that as a safety director in a school district, when we do active shooter drills, it is prescribed by law and many districts do more than what's prescribed by law, and this is part of the reason we do it. You never know when it's going to be the real thing.

Mr. Walters commended all districts and school administrators who train to make sure our students and staff are prepared, and heaven forbid, that we don't have a real one. He also commended local law enforcement agencies that have to respond to those reports. It ties up their resources, their time, and it is a great expense. However, they treat every one of these as if it was the real thing, they're trained to do this, and they did it exceptionally well. And then finally, in addition to the local law enforcement who's investigating, the state law enforcement division, the FBI are also involved in this investigation. Mr. Walters added it is his hope and prayer that they find these people and bring them to swift and severe justice. This concluded the Chair's report.

V. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT

Chair Walters recognized Superintendent Spearman.

The Superintendent reported, "Thank you Mr. Chair. I could not agree with you more. Thank you for making this comment. Hats off to our well-trained educators who handled (as far to my knowledge), everything went just as it should have, had it been an actual circumstance. I send a special thanks to law enforcement personnel for working with us so swiftly and accurately, and to the families, to the students and educators, what a traumatic event. It was for the whole state of South Carolina. I know the FBI and our SLED agents all are working together to find who's responsible for this. We are really proud of the way they handled it and I too hope that they be caught, and the issue handled with severe consequences. The disruption that it brought to learning and the trauma that it brought to everyone is just ridiculous. Thank you again, Mr. Chair, for those comments.

While you are working hard, I had the benefit of going over and having lunch with our State Principals of the Year and Assistant Principals of the Year. They are not able to attend today.

- Miss Renee Harris from Beech Hill Elementary School, Dorchester Two, is our State Elementary Principal of the Year. She just got back from a beautiful recognition trip sponsored by the National Association of Elementary School Principals to Washington DC where they were entertained graciously as they deserve.
- Megan Carrero from Fulmer Middle School over in Lexington Two is our Middle School Principal of the Year.
- Andrew McMillan from Chapman High School in Spartanburg One.

These are named principles of the year through the South Carolina Association of School Administrators (SCASA) and their national affiliates, the Secondary Principal's Association and the Middle and Elementary Principal's Association. The middle and high school winners will be competing next year for the national award. The elementary does not do a national elementary principal, but they do honor them very royally.

Our assistant principals of the year were outstanding.

1. Catawba Trail Elementary School in Richland Two, Tia Jones.
2. Hannah-Pamplico Elementary Middle School in Florence Two, Amy McAllister.
3. Batesburg Leesville High School, Lexington Three, Era Roberts.

They are all very outstanding. We spent about an hour together talking about the issues. School safety was one of those. Teacher recruitment another huge issue, how do they balance the need to educate our children in somewhat difficult political weather that we're in, where folks differ on many different issues including what needs to be taught in the public school. We are in good hands with the leadership of these folks. I thank SCASA for sponsoring the event and congratulations to these outstanding leaders.

This past week, the Department of Education, along with partners, were very proud to present the 2023 South Carolina African American history calendar. This is our 34th year of this event where we honor at least 12, sometimes they're multiple people, maybe a family, one a month. We honor these wonderful citizens who have had a tremendous impact on South Carolina, and they have some connection with South Carolina. Most were born here; others have lived here. They have had an extraordinary impact, not just on our state, but in our nation and around the world. We had a wonderful event over at the Koger Center. Hats off to our staff who put that together with our partners from USC, Dominion Energy, with WIS-TV and ETV all working together. It is a remarkable event and I believe you have at your seat this year's calendar, which is a pretty hot item. We do have a few more. If you have friends or family that you would like to give copies to, please see Derek, we will get those to you. We want to get

them out of the building. We do get requests from around the world. The calendar, as it's known, is highly regarded. As state board members, please help distribute them to your community and enjoy using the calendar.

Finally, I had a unique opportunity over the last few weeks. It started Monday two weeks ago with the South Carolina Computer Science Summit that we sponsored in Greenville. Governor McMaster attended that, as did Governor Asa Hutchinson from Arkansas, and the reason he was invited is because we sort of battle it out with Arkansas. Our two states are the two top states in the nation for the implementation of computer science. In fact, South Carolina was the first state in the nation to require computer science for graduation credit. There are now five states that require that. It happened way back 1984, but it was, pretty much just keyboarding then. It has grown to a much deeper substantive computer science offerings and 93 percent of our high schools, which is the highest in the nation, offer computer science. We need to work on making sure everybody takes it and studies hard and goes more in depth. The other factor that we lead the nation in is that we have closed the gender gap between female and males. We have, as you can see, 46.9 percent, right at a 50/50 percentage there, for our young women taking computer science, enrolled in computer science courses. We were honored to receive this beautiful plaque that I share with all of you and the citizens of South Carolina. If you want to take it home for a week or two and hang it on your wall, we could work something out. The computer science report was released to the nation while we were there, and we copied the pages for each state. You can see the areas where South Carolina leads. There are a few things that we still can do, in our policies, to serve even better. Evolving our state plan is one of those that's well underway and we will have that completed shortly. I am just very, very proud of the work that we have done. This has been a collaboration of the department, the governor's office, the General Assembly Oversight Committee, all have participated in pushing us in this area that is such a high needs area and a tremendous career opportunity. Not just computer science but now cybersecurity as South Carolina is one of the target areas of the nation since we are near Fort Gordon. Fort Gordon is the one place in the nation where our military cybersecurity emphasis is focused and that has bled over into our state and the opportunities are boundless there. This is an area that we have to stay focused on and improving always and making sure that our students are taught and that we facilitate learning from them in this area. It is very exciting.

That completes my report. If you have any questions, I'll be happy to answer. And we have other topics that will be coming on that I'll speak about later."

VI. PARLEMENTARIAN COMMENT

Chair Walters recognized Cathy Hazelwood, Parliamentarian. Ms. Hazelwood had no report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Thank you for being with us this afternoon. We do not have any public comment.

VII. STATE BOARD ITEMS

PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Walters reported that the sub-committee met and heard three action items and one item for information. Though originally listed in the For Approval Column in the Policy and Legislative subcommittee, Agenda Item 1 was a For Information item and is noted as such below.

FOR APPROVAL

1. Request for Approval of Property Disposal-Spartanburg County School District 3-Cathy Hazelwood, Deputy Superintendent Division of Legal Affairs
2. Request for Approval of Property Disposal-Cherokee County School District Property Disposal-Cathy Hazelwood, Deputy Superintendent Division of Legal Affairs
3. Request for Approval of Property Disposal-Florence 1 County School District-Cathy Hazelwood, Deputy Superintendent Division of Legal Affairs

FOR INFORMATION

4. Request for Approval-Accreditation of School Districts in South Carolina 2021-22 Report

SLA STANDARDS, LEARNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Walters reported that the sub-committee did not meet.

EP EDUCATOR PROFESSIONS—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Walters recognized Ms. Lee, who reported that the subcommittee met and heard four action items, 3 of which were placed on the consent agenda and two item(s) for information.

FOR APPROVAL

5. Amended Guidelines for South Carolina Certification Fields and Specialized Endorsements- *This item was tabled to allow additional input from stakeholders. The*

subcommittee chair anticipates this item being presented again to the subcommittee and the State Board in the near future.

6. New Educator Preparation Program Approval Recommendation: Francis Marion University Accelerated Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) in Early Childhood Education
7. New Educator Preparation Program Approval Recommendation: Francis Marion University Accelerated Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) in Elementary Education
8. Approval of Out-of-State Clinical Experience Placement: Clemson University

FOR INFORMATION

9. Professional Review Committee (PRC): Educator Preparation Provider and Program Updates
10. Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Professional Teaching (ADEPT) Results for 2021–22 and District ADEPT Plans

ELC EDUCATOR LICENSURE—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Walters recognized Ms. Chapman who reported the sub-committee met and took action upon the following 19 cases; 2 approvals for initial certification, 15 suspensions, and 2 public reprimands.

FB-ELC FULL BOARD EDUCATOR LICENSURE—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Walters reported that the Full Board ELC met and took action upon one case, resulting in a suspension. Chair Walters also confirmed that the FB ELC ratified the work of the ELC.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

All Committee Items presented to the State Board for approval by motion make up the Consent Agenda. As noted above in subcommittee reports, the original PL Item 1 was moved to the For Information column and is not included in the approval process for the Consent Agenda. EP Item 5 of the Consent Agenda was tabled in subcommittee and is not included in the approval process for the Consent Agenda.

Dr. Woodall made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as noted. Ms. Crimminger seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

X. SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

FOR APPROVAL

1. **Adoption of Rule of Governance EDF, Procedures for Disciplinary Action of Transportation Certifications** – Holly Hadden, Assistant General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Division of Legal Affairs

“This presentation is for the adoption of rule of governments EDF Procedures for Disciplinary Action of Transportation Certificates. It's very similar. And based on the rule of governance, we also use that you guys are familiar with. For our teacher cases, which is BCAF. EDF will be for transportation certificates. That includes of course, bus drivers, but it also includes our mechanics, our trainers, our testers. It is designed so that we can take action on those certifications when necessary. Chair Walters asked if there is an appeal at the state board level. Ms. Hadden responded that the Rule provides the hearing officer's decision is the final decision of the agency and that it may be appealed to an administrative law court.

Chair Walters asked if there were any other questions. There were none. Chair Walters then asked for a motion. Mr. Brennan made the motion. Dr. Woodall seconded the motion. The motion passed and the policy was adopted.

FOR INFORMATION

01. **Literacy Update** - David Mathis, EdD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of College and Career Readiness

During the State Board Meeting last month, you had the opportunity to review the SC READY results in ELA and Math for grades 3-8. The End of Course Evaluation Program (referred to by most as EOC exams) are also the required state summative assessments.

I am providing copies of the EOCEP results for your review. You will notice we maintained or improved somewhat in each of the subject areas. Please note the mean score indicates the percent passing the exam which becomes 20 percent of the students' final grade. A couple of notes to consider in your review are that Algebra and English skills build through the content standards introduced to students in grades K-8. While students are taught science and social studies standards through elementary and middle school, the content of Biology and US History is often new content and a significant amount of content.

Additionally, the Office of Assessment and Standards is developing course content for Biology by identifying the Biology Content Performance Expectations for Biology 1, Biology 2, and Anatomy and Physiology. Identifying the Performance Expectations for these courses will provide clarity for teachers to facilitate student learning and ultimately remove the guesswork of what content is to be assessed.

This concluded Dr. Mathis' report.

02. Allendale County School District (ASCD) Update—Kimberly E. Mack, Director, Office of School Transformation, Division of Federal Programs, Accountability and School Improvement

On September the 17th, Saturday school began in Allendale County School District and it's to provide support to students in reading, math, and end of course subject areas. Allendale Fairfax High School hosted a college application day in September and the seniors had an opportunity to apply for South Carolina colleges and universities at no cost. On September 26th, Allendale County School District hosted a school board community meeting and had over 150 people in attendance.

03. Williamsburg County School District (WCSD) Update—Kimberly E. Mack, Director, Office of School Transformation, Division of Federal Programs, Accountability and School Improvement

In Williamsburg County, they hosted college application day on September 15th at Kingstree and Hemingway High Schools. The Kingstree High School Homecoming alumni tailgate raised \$30,000 that was donated to Kingstree High School. The district is partnering with Freedom Readers, out of the Horry-Georgetown area, to provide one-on-one tutor support, building reading fluency at Greeleyville Primary, CE Murray Elementary, WM Anderson Primary, Kenneth Gardner Primary, and Hemingway Elementary.

This concluded Ms. Mack's report.

Chair Walters recognized Superintendent Spearman for remarks.

I have just a couple comments. Thank you, Ms. Mack, great report. I did want you to know I went down to Williamsburg. I guess that's now week before last, right when the hurricane was about to land in South Carolina. We had a very lovely ceremony honoring Dr. Rose Wilder. The Williamsburg School District, along with the Department of Education, presented a beautiful plaque honoring her work, her impact on public education in South Carolina, and the Williamsburg County School District as they named their multipurpose room at the district office in her honor, the Rose H. Wilder multipurpose room. It was a beautiful event. Her entire family was there. They did a lovely, lovely job and we were just so thankful to have had Dr. Wilder as our friend who helped us down in Williamsburg.

Both of our districts are moving forward. We are working with their boards. The ideal situation is that before our administration closes that we will transition full authority back to the local boards, that has not been fully decided. We are still observing and there are elections that will be held in just a few weeks for school board members. We may even give another chance for

that board to meet and just see how things are going. We are very, very impressed with how the Allendale board is working and supporting the superintendent. The community response there has been tremendous. They're having several hundred people show up for their monthly community meetings and tremendous amount of community support there. Dr. Gilmore feels very good and very favorable response in working with the board.

In Williamsburg, Dr. Kelvin Wymbs is in place and we are moving forward. We still have a few big issues ahead of us there with the community, no final decision has been made. We are going to try to do the right thing and if it's time to transfer that authority back to their board, we will do that. If not, it will continue over to the next administration.

I am pleased to see tremendous improvement in both with the operations of their district. We've done a lot of professional development. The scores from Allendale are beginning to show some improvement. I think 10 points on their reading scores this past year. We've started the Science of Reading. Their teachers have been trained. We're beginning to see some results. Unfortunately, the student achievement going up is the hardest to accomplish. I do think we have laid the groundwork and have the professional development, the resources in place for that to begin happening now. I'm excited and I think as board members, you will be able to witness that hopefully over this next year.

Report cards, David, Dr. Mathis mentioned report cards will be released on Monday. That will be a big day for all of us. We're working closely with the Education Oversight Committee for that announcement. While the scores are not where we all want them to be, we celebrate the things that are showing progress and we will be honest about the places that are not. There's still a lot of work to be done.

May I go ahead with one more thing?

Chair Walters: Yes ma'am.

This way I don't have to interrupt you again. It just dawned on me that this meeting will be our Director of Governmental Relations, Katie Nilges', last meeting, Katie has a wonderful opportunity with another state agency that I won't announce yet until they get a chance to make the announcement. Superintendent Spearman asked Katie to stand for recognition. She's done a tremendous job representing us, started out with us as an intern while she was in law school and has been in this role and has established wonderful relationships with the General Assembly and other state agencies and certainly here in the Department. We appreciate her. We love her. We're going to miss her tremendously. But we wish her the best of luck because it's a great opportunity. Please join me in thanking Katie.

Chair Walters: Thank you for your service. You've certainly been a great help to us. The board

and all the work you've done at the State House, so it's very much appreciated.

Chair Walters then recognized Mr. Brennan.

I do have an acknowledgement relative to the Superintendent. I've had the benefit of lots of years of serving on the State Chamber of Commerce Board and we're having our annual meeting this year in Kiawah at the Sanctuary. I'm pleased to announce that we will be honoring our Superintendent as the public servant of the year.

Superintendent Spearman thanked Mr. Brennan for the nomination.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Walters reminded all members to turn in their travel forms prior to their departure. He advised the board members that the November meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 8, 2022, which is also election day. He urged the board members to vote before coming to the November meeting.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 1:34 p.m.