

MINUTES

State Board of Education Meeting

Date

October 8, 2024

Time

1:00 p.m.

Location

849 Learning Lane
West Columbia, SC 29172

Dr. David O'Shields, Chair

Ms. Rita Allison, Chair-Elect

Ellen E. Weaver, State Superintendent of Education,
Secretary and Administrative Officer to the Board

Visitor Information

If you require Section 504 or Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodations to attend or participate in this public meeting, please contact Tracy Moore.

Due to allergies of staff and visitors, we ask that visitors refrain from wearing scented products when attending the State Board of Education (SBE) meetings in South Carolina Department of Education facilities.

State Board of Education 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 David O'Shields, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Chair-Elect Rita Allison, Governor's Appointee; Maya Slaughter, First Judicial Circuit; David Mathis, Second Judicial Circuit; Delaney Frierson, Third Judicial Circuit; Jacqueline "Jackie" Lynn, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Beverly Frierson, Fifth Judicial Circuit; Joyce Crimminger, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Dr. Joette Johnson, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Dr. Christian T. Hanley, Jr., Ninth Judicial Circuit; Sallie Lee, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Richard Harrington, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; and Ken Richardson, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit. Tammie Shore, Eleventh Judicial Circuit and Cheryl Collier, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, were absent.

The following South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff attended: John Tyler, Deputy Superintendent, Parliamentarian, General Counsel, Division of Legal Affairs; Barbara Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Division of Legal Affairs; Henry Gunter, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Division of Legal Affairs; Matthew Ferguson, Deputy Superintendent, Division of College, Career and Military Readiness; Kendra Hunt, Deputy Superintendent, Chief Financial Office; Tracy Moore, SBE Executive Liaison, Office of General Counsel, Division of Legal Affairs; Cricket Katsos, Administrative Coordinator, Office

of General Counsel, Division of Legal Affairs; Travis Huggins, Information Technology Manager I, 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; Brando Butler, IT Specialist III, Chief Information Office, Division of Data, Technology and Agency Operations; Jonathan Glover, IT Specialist III, Chief Information Office, Division of Data, Technology and Agency Operations; Alex Vora, IT Specialist III, Chief Information Office, Division of Data, Technology and Agency Operations; and Mark Jones, IT Specialist III, Chief Information Office, Division of Data, Technology and Agency Operations.

I. WELCOME/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SBE meeting convened at 1:05 p.m. Chair O'Shields called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone who attended.

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

II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AMENDED MINUTES FOR THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 3, 2024

Chair O'Shields asked if there were any objections to approving the minutes as amended for the SBE meeting on August 13, 2024. Hearing no objections, the motion passed.

III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 8, 2024

Chair O'Shields asked if there were any objections to approving the agenda as presented for the October 8, 2024, SBE meeting.

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND NEWS MEDIA

Chair O'Shields welcomed any media and recognized those visitors who had signed in.

V. STATE BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Chair O'Shields reported:

October is the month in which the 5-day work week was established.

October is breast cancer awareness month.

Dr. O'Shields then spoke on the damage from the Laurens 55 School District, relating the actions of community members in aiding their neighbors. He profiled a short slideshow to accompany the report, ending with "Patience with yourself is hope. Patience with others is love."

That concludes the state board chair report.

*Note: Due to technical issues with the video, the minutes reflect a summary of the reports provided by the Board Chair and Superintendent.

VI. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT

Chair O'Shields recognized Superintendent Weaver. Superintendent Weaver reported:

Superintendent Weaver echoed Dr. O'Shields sentiments about the damages from the hurricane and offered prayers for those in the path of a second hurricane headed towards the eastern coast. The Superintendent then highlighted the SCDE's Transportation Office's efforts in assisting communities.

The Superintendent recognized the Teacher of the Year, Braden Wilson, who spoke about her experiences and the wonderful opportunities the title has provided for her.

Superintendent Weaver reviewed the agency's strategic plan, highlighting the 3-year objectives, Maxwell leadership Foundation and ILead partnerships. She also highlighted the transformation tables and community engagement as part of the plan.

The Superintendent then reported on the release of the 23-24 report cards, highlighting the improvements of several districts and committing to continue to assist those districts who need extra support to better educate our students.

Superintendent Weaver then reported on the Transportation hosting a "Stuff the Bus" to aid communities hit especially hard in the hurricane. In considering this is also National School Bus Safety week, the Superintendent recognized Mike Bullman, Director, Office of Transportation, his office, and all of the employees under the umbrella of school transportation, for their efforts during the move to the new location, everyday bus issues, and during weather events. She highlighted their dedication to every task given to them until the task was complete. She commended them on the hours they spent, outside of regular office hours, ensuring that the students in this state had safe transportation every single school day. She also spoke of how the transportation office was integral to the agency's move and the efforts after the hurricane to assist districts and communities. The Superintendent then read a proclamation highlighting those efforts and presented it to Mr. Bullman.

This concluded the Superintendent's report.

VII. PARLIAMENTARIAN COMMENT

Mr. Tyler reported on the Board's Rule of Governance on Public comment.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair O'Shields welcomed those signed up for public comment. Because of the number of public comments, Dr. O'Shields asked for a motion to waive the rule of governance and allow each speaker 3 minutes. Ms. Crimminger made the motion. Mr. Richardson seconded the motion. The motion passed. Public comments were made by the following: Mona Fleming, Kathy Sprouse, Melanie Shull, Annie Mahaffey, Jennifer Rainville, Valerie Byrd-Fort, Josh

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Malkin, Dr. Janelle Rivers, Nicole Sanchez and Craig Logan. *NOTE: Public comment names were taken from a hand-printed sign in sheet, we are unable to verify spellings.

X. STATE BOARD ITEMS

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE (PL) — COMMITTEE REPORT

FOR APPROVAL

1. First Reading: Proposed Regulation S.C. Code Ann. 43.243.2, Educational Interpreters for Students Who are Deaf (approved to put forward in full board meeting)
2. Request for Approval of Property Disposal -Beaufort County School District
3. Proposed Rule of Governance: Uniform Instructional Materials Board Governance Policy pursuant to Regulation 43-170

FOR INFORMATION

No items.

EDUCATOR PROFESSIONS (EP) — COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair O'Shields recognized Dr. Johnson, Chair, who reported that the sub-committee met and heard two action item(s) and one item(s) for information. The action items were placed on the Consent Agenda.

This concluded Dr. Johnson's report.

FOR APPROVAL

1. Proposed Amendments to Regulation 43-64, Requirements for Certification at the Advanced Level
2. Adoption of Certification Assessments for Read to Succeed Literacy Teacher Endorsement

FOR INFORMATION

3. Professional Review Committee (PRC): Educator Preparation Provider and Program Updates

FOR INFORMATION

No items.

STANDARDS, LEARNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY (SLA) — COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair O'Shields recognized Jacqueline Lynn, Chair, who reported that the sub-committee met and heard one action item(s) and no item(s) for information. The action items were placed on the Consent Agenda.

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This concluded Ms. Lynn's report.

FOR APPROVAL

1. Instructional Materials Advisory Committee (IMAC) Recommendations to Fill Vacancies

FOR INFORMATION

No items.

EDUCATOR LICENSURE (ELC) — COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair O'Shields recognized Ms. Crimminger who reported the sub-committee met and took action upon the following eleven cases: two approvals and one denial for initial certification, four public reprimands, and four suspensions. Ms. Crimminger further reported that these matters were ratified during the Full Board ELC meeting.

FULL BOARD EDUCATOR LICENSURE (FB-ELC) — COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair O'Shields reported that the FB ELC met confirmed the ratification of the work of the Educator Licensure Committee. No cases were presented.

XI. CONSENT AGENDA

No items presented for Consent Agenda.

XII. SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

FOR APPROVAL

1. First Reading: Proposed Regulation S.C. Code Ann. 43.243.2, Educational Interpreters for Students Who are Deaf

Ms. McCliment presented the proposed regulation for first reading. There being no questions or discussion, Dr. O'Shields called for a motion. Ms. Johnson made the motion. Mr. Richardson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

2. Proposed Amendments to Regulation 43-64, Requirements for Certification at the Advanced Level

This item was presented in the Education Professions Committee and approved to move to the full board meeting. There being no questions or discussion, Dr. O'Shields called for a motion. Ms. Allison made the motion. Ms. Terrible seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. Waiver Request for Student Participating in Interscholastic Activities School District of Pickens County — John Tyler, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Division of Legal Affairs

Mr. Tyler explained that South Carolina Code of Laws, Section 59,39-160, gives the State Board of Education the authority to waive a student's ineligibility to participate in interscholastic activities under certain circumstances. Specifically, the code states that a waiver may be

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granted when a written statement from a school district superintendent athletic director has been received, stating a student's ineligibility to participate in interscholastic activities is due to misinformation concerning eligibility requirements being provided by district personnel, or any reasonable circumstance as determined by the State Board of Education.

Josh Oxendine, Principal, and Gill Payne, Athletic Director, of Easley High School presented the matter on behalf of the district. Dr. O'Shields called for questions. Ms. Allison asked who was responsible to notify the student? Mr. Oxendine responded that the notifications come from the SCHSL to the athletic directors, noting that there are times when the notices come in just prior to the start of a sport season. Dr. Mathis asked if this had been a hardship transfer, would the student be eligible if he stayed. Mr. Payne responded yes. Mr. Richardson asked if any of the athletic directors fought the decision. Mr. Oxendine responded that in their audience they did, however, the only forum in which to appeal it was the SCHSL or the Board of Education. Dr. O'Shields called for a motion. Ms. Johnson made the motion. Ms. Allison seconded the motion. The motion passed.

4. Waiver Request for Student Participating in Interscholastic Activities School of the York 2 School District (Clover School District) — John Tyler, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Division of Legal Affairs

Rod Ruth, Chief Student Services and Secondary Education Officer, Clover School District, and Bailey Jackson, Athletic Director, Clover High School, presented the matter on behalf of the district.

Because of the implications of FERPA and HIPPA violations, Chair O'Shields asked for a motion to go into executive session to discuss the matter. Ms. Slaughter made the motion. Dr. Mathis seconded the motion. Executive session began at 2:45 p.m. Dr. O'Shields called the meeting back into open session at 3:03p.m. Dr. O'Shields called for a motion. Mr. Harrington made the motion. Ms. Slaughter seconded the motion. The motion passed, with Beverly Frierson voting in opposition.

FOR INFORMATION

1. State Board of Education First Quarter Financial Statements — Kendra Hunt, Deputy Superintendent, Chief Financial Officer

Ms. Hunt presented the quarterly financials of the State Board of Education, discussing the expenditures and budget through the period of July 1 – September 30.

This concluded Ms. Hunt's report.

2. Academic Updates—Matthew Ferguson, Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer, Division of College, Career and Military Readiness

Superintendent Weaver spoke on behalf of Dr. Ferguson. She reiterated items highlighted in the Superintendent's Report earlier in the meeting concerning the state report cards.

This concluded Dr. Ferguson's report.

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair O'Shields reminded all members to turn in their travel forms prior to their departure.

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XIV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 3:09 p.m.