MINUTES

State Board of Education Meeting

Date

January 7, 20205

Time

1:00 p.m.

Location

849 Learning Lane
West Columbia, SC 29172

Ms. Rita Allison, Chair
Dr. David Mathis, 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 Rita Allison, Governor's Appointee; David Mathis, Second Judicial Circuit; Maya Slaughter, First Judicial Circuit; Delaney Frierson, Third Judicial Circuit; Jacqueline "Jackie" Lynn, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Beverly Frierson, Fifth Judicial Circuit (1:00 – 1:45); Joyce Crimminger, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Dr. Joette Johnson, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Dr. David O'Shields, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Dr. Christian T. Hanley, Jr., Ninth Judicial Circuit; Sallie Lee, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Tammie Shore, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Richard Harrington, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; Cheryl Collier, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit and Ken Richardson, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit.

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; Tracy Moore, SBE Executive Liaison, Office of General Counsel, Division of Legal Affairs; Tara Lang, Administrative Coordinator, Office of General Counsel, Division of Legal Affairs; Kendra Hunt,

Deputy Superintendent, Chief Financial Officer, Division of Financial Services; Mary Hipp, Director, Office of Educator Services, Division of College, Career and Military Readiness; Kristi Austin, Director, Office of Assessment and Standards, Division of College, Career and Military Readiness; Lisa Widener, Assistant Director, Office of Government Relations and Policy, Division of Legal Affairs; Rebecca Blackburn Hines, Policy and Board Liaison, Office of Government Relations and Policy, Division of Legal Affairs; Lee D'Andrea, Program Coordinator, Office of Instructional Materials, Division of College, Career and Military Readiness; Theresa Penney, Associate Engineer III, Office of School Facilities, Division of District Operations and Support; 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 1:03 p.m. Chair Allison called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone who attended.

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

II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 3, 2024

Chair Allison asked if there were any objections to approving the minutes as amended for the SBE meeting on December 3, 2024. Hearing no objections, the motion passed.

III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR JANUARY 7, 2025

Chair Allison asked if there were any objections to approving the agenda as presented for the January 7, 20025, SBE meeting.

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND NEWS MEDIA

Chair Allison welcomed any media and recognized those visitors who had signed in. Visitors included: Jennifer Rainsville (SC Appleseed Justice Center), Joe Trapp (Richland School District Two), and Mary and Elizabeth Foster (Families Against Book Bans- Beaufort). Media included: Ian Grenier (Post & Courier). (Note: Visitors and Media were announced during the Welcome)

V. STATE BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Chair Allison report included recognition of the Presidential inauguration, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

She then reported, “Ronald Reagan left us with words of hope when he said, quote, “I know in my heart that man is good, that what is right will eventually triumph, that there is purpose and worth to each and every life. And along with that, Booker T Washington left us with these words, quote, there are two ways to exert one's strength, one is pushing down, the other is pulling up. And you know, sometimes when things seem to be the worst, there's a ray of sunshine that will appear and brighten a path of direction with courage, civility, and wisdom. The world needs those kind of leaders today, which will mirror what our future will be as one instills, as we all are here today in our young people. The world needs leaders. We need leaders who influence at the right times for the right reasons, who take a greater share of the blame and a little smaller share of the credit. Who lead themselves successfully before attempting to lead others. We need leaders who continue to search for the best answer and not just the familiar one, who add value to the people and the organization that they lead. We work for the benefit of others and not for personal gain. Who handle themselves with their heads and handle others with their hearts. Who know the way and go the way and show the way. Who inspire and motivate rather than intimidate and manipulate. Who live with people to know their problems and live with God in order to solve them. Who realize that their dispositions are more important than their positions, and who mold opinions instead of following opinion polls. We need leaders who understand that an institution is a reflection of their character, who never place themselves above others except in caring responsibilities, who will be honest in small things as well as large things. And who discipline themselves so that they'll not be disciplined by others. We need leaders who encounter setbacks and then turn them into comebacks, who follow a moral compass that points in the right direction, regardless of trends. To be a leader, we must first be a servant. And in this new year of 2025, what will our choice be in raising the next generation?”

Our 39th President of the United States, Jimmy Carter, who passed away at the wonderful age of 100 last week. I leave you with a quote from him. “In our democracy, the only little higher and more powerful than that of President is the title of citizen. It is every citizen's right and duty to help shape the future legacy of our nation.” He said that in a statement on December 8, 2016.

Superintendent, we wish you a wonderful new year.”

This concluded Chair Allison’s report.

VI. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT

Chair Allison recognized Superintendent Weaver. Superintendent Weaver reported updates on the agency’s strategic plan, highlighting the two of the strategic pillars through the lens of the state budget, career aligned pathways and work-based learning opportunities. She provided a high-level overview of her other budget requests for the new fiscal year. The Superintendent reported that she has completed Volume 11 of LETRS training. She continued reporting on the response to the Free to Focus campaign in schools, Project Raise Your Hand and the African

American History Calendar. The Superintendent concluded her report inviting the Board to both the unveiling of the African American History Calendar on January 15, 2025, taking place at the Koger Center, and the 80th Commemoration of the Liberation of Auschwitz event taking place on January 27, 2025, at the Pastides Alumni Center of the University of South Carolina.

This concluded the Superintendent's report.

VII. PARLIAMENTARIAN COMMENT

Parliamentarian, John Tyler, reminded the board members of their requirements to file statements of economic interest to the Ethics Commission, noting the deadline of March 30th.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Allison welcomed those signed up for public comment. Those signed up for public comment included Elizabeth Foster, Steve Nuzum (Pro Truth SC), Melinda Hendrickson (Families Against Book Bans), Taylor Simon (Liberation is Lit), Annie Mahaffey and Christina Rucker.

X. STATE BOARD ITEMS

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE (PL) — COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Allison reported that the committee met and heard one item for approval and no items for information. The approved item was placed on the Consent Agenda.

FOR APPROVAL

1. Request for Approval of Property Disposal -Hampton County School District

FOR INFORMATION
No items.

EDUCATOR PROFESSIONS (EP) — COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Allison recognized Dr. Johnson, Chair, who reported that the committee heard one item for approval and no items for information. The approved items were placed on the Consent Agenda.

FOR APPROVAL

2. South Carolina Educator Preparation Guidelines: Standards, Policies, and Procedures South Carolina Provider Requirements

FOR INFORMATION
No items.

STANDARDS, LEARNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY (SLA) — COMMITTEE REPORT

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

Dr. O'Shields asked for the rationale behind the waiver of the day public review. Dr. Ferguson responded that the waiver was requested to meet the deadlines while allowing for those publishers to provide updates in time.

This concluded Ms. Lynn's report.

FOR APPROVAL

3. Recommendations from the 2024 Instructional Materials Review Panels

4. Report of Recommendations from the Instructional Materials Advisory Committee for the 2025 Adoption Cycle

5. Request for Approval to Waive the 30-Day Public Review Requirements

FOR INFORMATION
No items.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS REVIEW (IMRC) — COMMITTEE REPORT

Did not meet in December.

EDUCATOR LICENSURE (ELC) — COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Allison recognized Ms. Crimminger who reported the sub-committee met and took action upon the following nine cases: one denial of initial certification, one approval for initial certification and seven suspensions. Ms. Crimminger welcomed Dr. O'Shields to the ELC Committee and thanked the committee members and the Office of General Counsel for their work.

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

Chair Allison reported that the FB ELC reported the sub-committee met and took action upon the following two cases: one denial for initial certification, and one permanent revocation. Chair Allison reported that the FB ELC ratified the work of the ELC.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

All Committee Items presented to the State Board for approval make up the Consent Agenda.

Chair Allison called for a vote. Dr. Mathis made the motion. Ms. Richardson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

XII. PUBLIC HEARING

01. Proposed Amendments to Regulation 43-262, Assessment Program (Second Reading) – – Kristi Austin, Director, Office of Standards and Assessment, Division of College, Career and Military Readiness

Abby Duggins, Executive Director for Teaching and Learning presented the item on behalf of Ms. Austin, noting the changes to the regulation for second reading. Chair Allison, hearing no questions or discussion, called for a motion. Dr. O'Shields made the motion to approve the item for second reading. Ms. Shore seconded the motion. The motion passed.

XII. SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

01. Request for Approval of Property Disposal -Hampton County School District — Theresa Penney, Associate Engineer III, Office of School Facilities, Division of District Operations and Support

This item was approved and placed on the Consent Agenda and approved. As such, this item was not presented during the full board meeting.

FOR INFORMATION

Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025, Quarter 2 State Board of Education (SBE) Financial Statements– – Kendra Hunt, Deputy Superintendent, Chief Financial Officer, Division of Financial Services

Ms. Hunt presented the second quarter financial updates to the board. This concluded Ms. Hunt's report.

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Allison asked if there was any other business. Mr. Richardson congratulated Chair Allison on chairing her first meeting.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

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