

MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

1:00 p.m.

849 Learning Lane

West Columbia, SC 29172

In Attendance: Dr. David Mathis, Chair-Elect; Maya Slaughter, First Judicial Circuit; Dr. Rosa Dingle, Third Judicial Circuit; Jacqueline “Jackee” 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; Tammie Shore, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Richard Harrington, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; Cheryl Collier, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; Cliff Warren, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; Ellen E. Weaver, State Superintendent of Education

Absent: Rita Allison, Chair; Dr. David O’Shields, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Anthony Vincent, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Ken Richardson, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; Joey Haney, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit.

The State Board of Education meeting was **called to order** at 1:03 p.m. by Chair-Elect Mathis.

Chair-Elect Mathis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The **minutes** of the regular meeting for May 6, 2025, were approved by unanimous consent.

The **agenda** was approved as presented by unanimous consent.

Chair-Elect Mathis welcomed members of the media and visitors.

Chair-Elect Mathis presented the State Board Chair Report, recognizing the end of the school year and expressed appreciation for students, teachers and staff. Dr. Mathis also recognized Dr. Matthew Ferguson for his leadership as he transitioned into a new role as a District Superintendent.

During the **Superintendent’s Report**, Superintendent Weaver recognized Dr. Ferguson’s service and welcomed Dr. Abby Dugans as the successor. Superintendent Weaver provided a presentation with an overview of the legislative session and budget, and celebrated success in SC Ready scores.

During the **Parliamentarian Report**, John Tyler provided a Roberts Rules reference on orderly discussions.

Chair-Elect Mathis requested a motion to waive the time requirement for public participation (5 minutes to 4 minutes). Ms. Crimminger made the motion; Dr. Dingle seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

Seven members of the public provided comment: Scarlet Brainard; Holly “Max” Whitner; Lisa Ellis; Taylor Huss; Patrick Kelly; Tinley Middleton; Lacy Lane.

During the **Policy & Legislative Committee Report**, the Chair stated there were no action items, but the committee did hear from Meka Childs, Director, Office of Education Choice & Family Engagement regarding Charter Schools in South Carolina.

During the **Educator Professions Committee Report**, the following items were unanimously approved to be placed on the Consent Agenda:

1. South Carolina Certification Assessment Program: 2025-26 Changes
2. South Carolina Program Approval Standards for Special Education Pre-kindergarten to Grade 2
3. Lowcountry Educator Alternative Pathway (LEAP) Additional Certification Fields
4. Teach Florence 1 Revised Admission Criteria for World Languages

During the **Standards, Learning, & Accountability Committee Report**, the following items were unanimously approved to be placed on the Consent Agenda:

1. Report of Recommendations from the 2024 Instructional Materials Review Panels for Computer Education Courses
2. Selection of State Textbook Depository

The **Instructional Materials Review Committee** did not meet in June.

During the **Educator Licensure Committee Report**, Ms. Crimminger (Committee Chair) reported that the Committee took action on 7 cases, resulting in 1 initial certification, 1 denial of initial certification, 1 public reprimand, and 4 suspensions.

During the **Full Board Education Licensure Committee Report**, Chair-Elect Mathis reported that the Committee took action on 2 cases, resulting in 1 permanent voluntary surrender and 1 revocation. The Committee ratified the work of the Educator Licensure Committee.

Under the **Consent Agenda**, Dr. Johnson made a motion to approve all items presented to the State Board for approval by Committees. Dr. Hanley seconded; Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

During the South Carolina Board of Education Report, Dr. Vann Holden, Chief Research Officer, provided an update on the Free to Focus Implementation. Phillip Cease, Director of Government Affairs, provided a recap of the 2025 General Assembly Legislative Session;

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Robert Cathcart, Esq., Policy & Legal Advisor, provided a report on upcoming SBE Regulatory Review; and Dr. Ferguson provided academic updates.

In other business, the SBE wished the best of luck to Dr. Abby Dugans as she begins her new role with the SCDE.

Dr. Dingle moved to **adjourn**; Ms. Crimminger seconded. Motion was unanimously approved; meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.