**MINUTES OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Tuesday, September 2nd, 2025 – 1:42 p.m.
849 Learning Lane
West Columbia, SC 29172

In Attendance: Chair Rita Allison, Governor's Appointee; Dr. David Mathis, Chair-Elect; Joyce Crimminger, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Dr. Joette Johnson, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Dr. Christian T. Hanley, Jr., Ninth Judicial Circuit; Anthony Vincent, Tenth Judicial Circuit; Richard Harrington, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; Cliff Warren, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; Ken Richardson, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; Ellen E. Weaver, State Superintendent of Education

Absent: Jacqueline "Jackee" Lynn, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Tammie Shore, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Joey Haney, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit

The State Board of Education meeting was called to order at 1:42 p.m. by Chair Allison.

Chair-Elect Mathis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The **minutes** of the regular meeting for August 5, 2025, were approved by unanimous consent.

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

Chair Allison welcomed members of the media and visitors.

Chair Allison presented the State Board Chair Report, speaking of new school year and fall football, the end of summer, and the history of Labor Day. Senator Greg Hebree, Chairman of Education Committee, was welcomed and spoke about SCSB implementing a policy on appropriate books in our schools as well as cell phones in schools policy.

During the **Superintendent's Report**, Superintendent Weaver provided an update on scores on SC Ready Test. Visited Florence 3, J.C. Lynch Elementary School in Coward, SC, a Title 1 school, they've made huge gains. Applauded funding on LETRS training program rolled out to all schools also, adoption of high-quality instructional materials for ELA. Updates on SC Standards, Palmetto Math Project, Beating the Odds Investigative Study

During the **Parliamentarian Report**, recognition of Todd Atwater, our new General Counsel and Parliamentarian.

Public Comment: Lacy Lane

During the **Policy & Legislative Committee Report**, Item 1 was unanimously approved to be placed on the Consent Agenda:

1. *Lexington School District One: River Bluff High School - Waiver Request of S.C. Code Ann. §59-39-160(C)(1)(c), related to a student Participating in Interscholastic Activities —Todd Atwater, General Counsel (placed on Consent Agenda)*
2. Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 59-40-180, Charter School Restructuring **(First Reading)** – Meka Childs, Director, Office of Choice & Family Engagement For Approval

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

1. Approval of Certification Endorsements in Dual Language Immersion (DLI) – Sherry Scheider, Assistant Director, Office of Educator Services; Rocio Zalba, Education Associate, Office of Assessments and Standards (placed on Consent Agenda)

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

1. Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-100, Test Security (First Reading) – Dr. Kristi Austin, Director, Office of Assessments & Standards
2. South Carolina College-and Career-Ready Visual and Performing Arts Proficiency Standards (First Reading) – Roger Simpson, Education Associate, Office of Assessment & Standards (Placed on Consent Agenda)

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

During the **Educator Licensure Committee Report**, Ms. Crimminger (Committee Chair) reported that the Committee took action on 6 cases, resulting in 1 initial certification, and 5 suspensions.

During the **Full Board Education Licensure Committee Report**, Chair Allison reported that the Committee took action on 3 cases, resulting in 1 initial certification and 2 revocations. The Committee ratified the work of the Educator Licensure Committee.

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

During the South Carolina Board of Education Report, two items were presented for approval.

Meka Childs, Director, Office of Choice & Family Engagement presented Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 59-40-180, Charter School Restructuring. Motion was made to approve this first reading by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Dr. Dingle, and passed unanimously.

Dr. Kristi Austin, Director, Office of Assessments & Standards presented Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-100, Test Security (First Reading). Motion was made to approve this first reading by Dr. Mathis, seconded by Dr. Dingle, and passed unanimously.

Dr. Abbey Duggins, Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer, provided academic updates. Laura Hickson provided an overview of activities in the Jasper County School District (safety, quality exceptional education, and restoring trust).

The Chair asked Roger Simpson to present South Carolina College-and Career-Ready Visual and Performing Arts Proficiency Standards (First Reading). Mathis moved, Crimminger seconded, approved the first reading unanimously.

In other business, the Chair reminded Board members to remember travel forms.

Mr. Richardson moved to adjourn; Ms. Johnson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved; meeting adjourned at 2:44 p.m.