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.

I. WELCOME

The State Board of Education (SBE) meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. Chair Randolph called the meeting to order.

The following SBE members were in attendance: Ivan Randolph, PhD, Chair, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Del-Gratia Jones, Second Judicial Circuit; Janice Murray Gamble, EdD, Third Judicial Circuit; Gerald Reeves, Fourth Judicial Circuit; James Stroman, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Jane P. Harmon, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Richard Kizer, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Sharon Wall, EdD, Chair-elect, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Thomas Ewart, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; David Whittemore, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; Rhonda Edwards, EdD, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; Renee R. Hembree, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; and Sharon Bynum, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit. Members absent with apologies were: Samuel Alston, EdD, First Judicial Circuit; Mara Horton Jones, Fifth Judicial Circuit; and Mike Brenan, Governor’s Appointee.

The following South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff were in attendance: Betsy Carpentier, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Superintendent; Cathy Hazelwood, Deputy Superintendent and Parliamentarian, Division for Legal Affairs; Julie Fowler, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of College and Career Readiness; Nancy Williams, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance; Sheila Quinn, EdD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness; Ryan Brown, Chief Communications Officer, Division of Governmental Affairs; Robert Benn, Information Resource Consultant, Service and Support Center, Chief Information Office; Barbara Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Division for Legal Affairs; LaTonia Holloway, Paralegal, Division for Legal Affairs.
II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR APRIL 11, 2017 and APRIL 17, 2017.

Chair Randolph advised the Board that there would be a minor amendment to the agenda asking if there were any objections to approving the minutes as presented for the SBE meeting on April 11, 2017 and the special meeting called on April 17, 2017. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR MAY 9, 2017

Chair Randolph asked if there were any objections to approving the agenda as presented for the May 9, 2017, SBE meeting. Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA

Chair Randolph welcomed all visitors and news media who were present.

V. STATE BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Chair Randolph stated he was very fortunate to have the opportunity to attend the South Carolina Teacher of the Year Gala, stating that it was a wonderful program. Chair Randolph expressed that it made him proud to be an educator seeing all the teachers being recognized and hearing about all the differences they are making, as well as all the positive things they are doing for the boys and girls of South Carolina.

Chair Randolph recognized Chair-elect Sharon Wall, EdD, to provide an update regarding the SBE retreat. Dr. Wall stated that the fall retreat is tentatively planned for October 9–10, 2017, in Charleston, SC. She stated that the board is planning to tour the Boeing plant on October 9, 2017, followed by the SBE meeting on October 10, 2017. Dr. Wall indicated that additional updates will be forthcoming during next month’s meeting. This concluded Chair Randolph’s report.

VI. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT

Superintendent Spearman stated that last week’s event was very special; wherein, we recognized our district teachers of the year and our state Teacher of the Year. Erin Fox, an English teacher at Gaffney High School (Cherokee County), was named the 2018 South Carolina Teacher of the Year.

Superintendent Spearman noted that last year’s teacher of the year was a Gaffney High School graduate, but was a teacher with Richland School District One when she won the award.

Superintendent Spearman stated that this month was Teacher Appreciation Month, stating that Governor McMaster made a proclamation last Thursday morning with all the district teachers of the year surrounding him at the Statehouse. Superintendent Spearman stated that we try to thank our teacher’s everyday but especially this month, we need to make sure we take the time to say “thank you” to our
teachers. Superintendent Spearman stated that she had an opportunity to attend the University of South Carolina’s College of Education commencement services and recognized Ms. Amanda Bishop, a recent graduate of the program, who is set to teach in Florence County School District One in the fall.

Superintendent Spearman reported that next year, schools across South Carolina will have access to Aerospace engineering classes through a partnership with the SCDE, the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), and SC Aerospace. Each school will receive a $50,000 implementation grant from the SCDE to help cover the startup cost. She stated that the curriculum was designed by the SREB, and has been adopted in schools in five other states. Superintendent Spearman stated that the Department is really excited about this as well as the staff at Boeing.

Superintendent Spearman reported that the Read to Succeed Report has been posted online, and invited persons to review the results of the independent study that was conducted by Research Corporation (RMC), stating that it gives us an in-depth analysis of our stakeholders and the teacher’s experiences with Read to Succeed. Superintendent Spearman pointed out that a particular item of importance was the levels of perceived support and assistance from the SCDE by teachers in the district, as well as community and parent engagement. Superintendent Spearman stated that there were 359 kindergarten through third grade teachers that represent a diverse group of districts who were interviewed. She stated that the SCDE found that teachers feel like they can look at the data more effectively and are working more collaboratively to find solutions to ensure that students know how to read. In addition to these findings, Superintendent Spearman stated that 85 percent of the teachers reported that the Read to Succeed initiatives improved K–3 student outcomes; 81 percent of teachers reported an increased effort to engage parents and guardians of struggling readers; and 86 percent reported increase time of instruction for students with reading deficiencies. Superintendent Spearman reminded everyone that the legislation will be fully implemented next year when reading scores will be part of the deciding factor of whether or not third grade student will be retained.

Superintendent Spearman stated that in January of this year, the 36th Annual School Nurse Conference recognized these outstanding individuals for their service to the students of South Carolina. She stated that the award was sponsored jointly by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control and the SCDE. The recipients were as follows:

- Dee Dee Chewing Nurse Administrator Award– Dawn McAdams, Richland School District Two
- School Health Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) of the Year– Rachel Peterson, Berkley County School District
- School Health Registered Nurse (RN) of the Year– Sally Dominick, Newberry County School District.

Superintendent Spearman congratulated and thanked each of the winners for their service.

Superintendent Spearman also recognized Caleb Boatwright, a senior at Greenwood High School, who will soon graduate from both Greenwood High and Piedmont Technical College with both his high school diploma and a diploma in Machine Tool Technology in May. This summer, he plans to continue to pursue his associate’s degree and plans to major in mechatronics or mechanical engineering technology.

Superintendent Spearman stated that she had to leave the meeting to attend a press conference at the statehouse but wanted to provide a few final thoughts prior to her departure. She thanked Dr. Zona Jefferson in her absence for the extraordinary work she has done in Florence School District Four and encouraged others to perhaps write her a note or give her a call to commend her on the remarkable job
she has done in making progress in Florence Four. Additionally, Superintendent Spearman reported that the SCDE did meet with the Interim Superintendent and School Board of Allendale County School District a couple of weeks ago to notify them that the SCDE was very concerned about the historically low performance of the students within the district. She advised the district that she would be using her authoritative powers, as provided in statute, which would allow her to declare a state of emergency in the district. Superintendent Spearman stated that she would not take action at this time and advised that the SCDE and the district are presently negotiating the level of interventions that will be used in the Allendale School District. Superintendent Spearman further stated that there will be monthly reports regarding the progress in this matter and that the SCDE does plan to be in the Allendale school district with more intense management and technical support during the upcoming school year.

This concluded Superintendent Spearman’s report. Chair Randolph stated that we are very fortunate to have Superintendent Spearman as a leader in our state.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Randolph recognized and welcomed Micayla Hayden, who presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding Teenage Dating Violence in South Carolina.

VIII. STATE BOARD ITEMS

P&L POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Randolph reported that the P&L subcommittee met to address three action items and two information items. All three items for approval were placed on the consent agenda. This concluded his report.

FOR APPROVAL


02. Spartanburg County School District Seven (District) Cleveland Academy of Leadership’s (CAL) Waiver Request of S. C. Code Ann. §59-1-425(A) (§59-1-425(A)), School Start Date—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

FOR INFORMATION

04. Annual Report of the Accreditation of Schools and Districts in South Carolina for the 2016–17 School Year (Report)—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

05. Update to the Policy and Legislative Committee on Monthly Waiver Requests Approved by the Office of Federal and State Accountability—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

EP EDUCATOR PROFESSIONS—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Randolph recognized Gerald Reeves who reported that the sub-committee met and heard one action item which was placed on the consent agenda. Mr. Reeves stated that the subcommittee voted to adopt the educational service test for computer science. Mr. Reeves noted for clarification that this test is also referred to as test 56-51, indicating that the cut score for this test particular test would be 159. Mr. Reeves stated this concluded his report.

01. Adoption of Praxis Subject Area Assessment for Computer Science—Mary Hipp, Director, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

IF INNOVATION AND FINANCE—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Randolph recognized Mr. Ewart who reported that the sub-committee met and heard one action item and one information item. Mr. Ewart explained that the action item dealt with the approval to dispose of property within Anderson County School District Five, stating that the subcommittee voted to place this item on the consent agenda. Mr. Ewart stated that the information item was relative to the financial update of the Board, reporting that the Board was in good standing. Mr. Ewart stated this concluded his report.

FOR APPROVAL

01. Request for Approval of Property Disposal—Anderson School District Five—Delisa Clark, Director, Office of School Facilities, Division of Operations and Support

FOR INFORMATION

02. Financial Update for Fiscal Year 2016–17—Nancy Williams, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance

SLA STANDARDS, LEARNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Chair Randolph recognized Dr. Wall who reported on behalf of Mr. Kizer that the sub-committee met and heard one action item explaining that this item was the first reading of the South Carolina College- and Career Ready Standards for Visual and Performing Arts Proficiency. Dr. Wall advised that it was approved by the sub-committee to present this item to the Board for approval. Chair Randolph called for the motion. Dr. Wall made the motion to approve the first reading of the South Carolina College- and
Career-Ready Standards for Visual and Performing Arts Proficiency as presented. Dr. Randolph stated that since recommendation was coming out of the committee it did not require a second. He called for the vote. The vote carried unanimously.

FOR APPROVAL

01. South Carolina College- and Career- Ready Standards for Visual and Performing Arts Proficiency (First Reading)—Carrie Ann Power, Education Associate, Office of Standards and Learning, Division of College and Career Readiness

ELC EDUCATOR LICENSURE COMMITTEE—COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair Randolph reported that the Full Board Education Licensure Committee met, approved and ratified the actions during that meeting therefore, there would not be a need for a report at this time.

SBE SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR INFORMATION

Chair Randolph called for the vote to approve the second reading of the South Carolina Computer Science and Digital Literacy Standards. Dr. Wall moved that the second reading of the South Carolina Computer Science and Digital Literacy Standards as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whittemore. Dr. Randolph called for the question, hearing none the motion passed by unanimous consent.

Chair Randolph recognized Dr. Dixon who introduced Dr. Fannie Mason, who was recently selected to become the new superintendent in Florence School District Four. Dr. Mason stated that she was grateful to be present and was very excited about the new opportunity in Florence Four.

Dr. Dixon reported that the Florence School District Four had their Title I, Title II, and Career and Technology Education (CATE) audits conducted by SCDE staff and received favorable reviews on all three program audits. Dr. Dixon also shared that five high school students and one middle school student at Johnson Middle School participated in the 2017 Rain Barrel Art Review as a team, which is sponsored by the Clemson Cooperative Extension office and the Florence-Darlington Storm Water Consortium. She stated that Timmonsville High School was awarded first place in the school division.

Dr. Dixon further reported that Brockington Elementary students in grades one through five participated in spring measures of academic progress testing. She stated that teachers held conferences with students based on their fall scores to set goals for the spring scores in reading, language usage, and mathematics. The students that met their goals were able to participate in a celebration on April 28, 2017. Sixty-seven
students participated and enjoyed a period with snacks and received a certificate for their hard work. Dr. Dixon also reported that SC Ready testing for Brockington Elementary and Johnson Middle Schools was completed May 9–12 2017. Timmonsville High School students will sit for SC Pass and EOC testing May 17–26, 2017. Additionally, Dr. Dixon reported that fifteen fourth and fifth grade students were inducted into the Junior Beta Club. The students attend the candlelight ceremony and each student received a Junior Beta Club pin and certificate. She commended Teresa Gamble, principal at Brockington Elementary, for implementing extracurricular programs such as Safety Patrol, Girl Scouts, Junior Beta Club, Honors Chorus, and Art Club to improve student opportunities and promote academic success within the school.

Lastly, Dr. Dixon reported that that the District held its second Annual Parent and Family Community Engagement Day on April 29, 2017, at the District office. She stated that the event included learning activities, games, and great food. She expressed her gratitude to the principals Tonya Addison, Teresa Gamble, and Dr. Zona Jefferson for all of their hard work given over the course of this past year to help things move in the right direction in Florence Four. This concluded her report.

Chair Randolph thanked Dr. Dixon and her staff for all of their hard work.

SBE SOUTH CAROLINA BOARD OF EDUCATION

FOR APPROVAL

01. South Carolina Computer Science and Digital Literacy Standards (Second Reading)—Dr. Julie Fowler, Deputy Superintendent, Division of College and Career Readiness.

FOR INFORMATION

01. Florence County School District Four Update—Latoya Dixon, PhD, Director, Office of School Transformation, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Randolph called for the vote for approval of the consent agenda. Dr. Wall moved that the consent agenda be approved as presented; the motion was seconded by Dr. Gamble. The motion passed unanimously.

PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE—COMMITTEE REPORT

FOR APPROVAL


02. Spartanburg County School District Seven (District) Cleveland Academy of Leadership’s (CAL) Waiver Request of S. C. Code Ann. §59-1-425(A) (§59-1-425(A)), School Start Date—Darlene
Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources


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IF INNOVATION AND FINANCE

FOR APPROVAL

01. Request for Approval of Property Disposal—Anderson School District Five—Delisa Clark, Director, Office of School Facilities, Division of Operations and Support

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Randolph reminded all members to turn in their travel forms prior to their departure.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 1:37 p.m.