

## Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

March 25, 2010

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a work session at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 25, 2010 in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom of the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present were: Ms. Kami Bumgarner, Mr. Hal Gage, Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Mr. Claude Hartley, Mr. William H. Jones, Dr. Sue Matheson, Mr. Charles McClelland, and Ms. Rosetta Richard. Board member absent was: Ms. Martha Murphy.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. William H. Jones, Chair. Mr. Jones noted the statement on the agenda that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during Board meeting.

Dr. Tom Burnham gave the following Report from the State Superintendent:

- Updated the Board on the latest House and Senate Education Bills;
- Reported on cost saving measures being implemented by the Department in response to cuts issued by the Governor due to the Department's budget for the current fiscal year and to prepare for Fiscal Year 2011;
- Updated the Board on the Department's Budget for FY10-11;
- Reported that a Consultant Group will be completing a comprehensive review of the Office of Management Information Systems and the Office of Research and Statistics;
- Requested and obtained a consensus from the Board that school districts would need to makeup days lost due to inclement weather;
- Updated the Board on the Barksdale Reading Institute Principal Program; and,
- Recognized Dr. Lynn House who gave an update on the School Improvement Grant (copy attached).

Dr. Burnham introduced and welcomed Dr. Larry Drawdy to the Board meeting.

Dr. Larry Drawdy welcomed Mr. James Reeves, Conservator, Hazlehurst City School District and Ms. Suzanne Smith. Mr. Reeves and Ms. Smith gave an update on the Hazlehurst City School District (copy attached).

Dr. Drawdy welcomed Dr. George Gilreath, Interim Conservator, Indianola School District and Ms. Dianne Day. Dr. Gilreath and Ms. Day gave an update on the Indianola School District (copy attached).

Dr. Burnham discussed modifying the contract with Dr. Larry Drawdy to perform the administrative duties for the position of Deputy Superintendent in the Office of

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School Improvement, Oversight and Recovery. Dr. Burnham recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Larry Drawdy discussed the appointment of an Interim Conservator for North Panola School District. Dr. Drawdy recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Drawdy discussed the contract for the appointed Interim Conservator for North Panola School District. Dr. Drawdy recommended approval on Friday.

Mr. John Gilbert discussed reassignment of the Financial Advisor for the Water Valley School District. Mr. Gilbert recommended approval on Friday.

Mr. Gilbert and Ms. Paula Vanderford discussed a corrective action plan for the Cleveland School District assigned an accreditation status of ADVISED. Mr. Gilbert recommended approval on Friday.

Mr. Gilbert and Ms Vanderford discussed a corrective action plan for the Tunica School District assigned an accreditation status of PROBATION. Mr. Gilbert recommended approval on Friday.

Mr. Gilbert and Ms. Vanderford discussed a corrective action plan for the Holmes County School District assigned an accreditation status of PROBATION. Mr. Gilbert recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Lynn House and Ms. Jan Kirkland discussed removing State Board Policies 6501 "Remediation for Students who fail the Functional Literacy Exam (FLE)"; 7602 "retaking the FLE"; 7603 "FLE Test Disclosure"; 7609 "Qualifying Score on FLE"; and 7606 "Norm-Referenced Testing". Dr. House recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. House and Ms. Kirkland discussed modifying the contract with NCS Pearson, Inc., to reduce the scope of technical services and products for the Mississippi Curriculum Test, Second Edition (MCT2) as outlined in the MCT2 Program 2009-2010 Scope Modification. Dr. House recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. House and Ms. Kirkland discussed modifying the contract NCS Pearson, Inc., to reduce the scope of technical services and products for the Mississippi Writing Assessment Program (MWAP) as outlined in the MWAP 2009-2010 Scope Reduction. Dr. House recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. House and Ms. Kirkland discussed modifying the contract with NCS Pearson, Inc., to reduce the scope of technical services and products for the Mississippi Subject Area Testing Program, Second Edition (SATP2) as outlined in the SATP2 2009-2010 Scope Reduction. Dr. House recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. House and Ms. Kirkland discussed modifying the contract with Billy Ray Spiers, Consultant, to provide additional services to facilitate planning and implementation of activities, including development of products for the Office of Student Assessment. Dr. House recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. House and Mr. Shane McNeill discussed the revision of State Board Policy 4011 – Nutrition regulations for the Child Nutrition School Breakfast and Lunch Programs. This item cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with public comments that were presented to the Board. Dr. House recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. House and Mr. McNeill discussed the contract with Mississippi State Department of Health to perform Health Inspections of selected Summer Food Service Program Sites for Program Year 2010. Dr. House recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. House and Ms. Trecina Green discussed the recommendations on exceptions to pupil-teacher ratio requirements for grades 1-4. The Board discussed the exceptions to pupil-teacher ratio including school districts that requested exemption last year. Dr. House recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. House and Mr. Quentin Ransburg discussed the contract with Research Foundation of State University of New York - ESCORT to provide technical assistance and professional development for the Migrant Education Program as regulated by Title I, Part C of the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*. Dr. House recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. House and Ms. Jean Massey discussed the revision of the *Mississippi Secondary Curriculum Frameworks*. Dr. House recommended approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process on Friday.

Dr. House and Dr. Kris Kaase discussed issuing a Request for Proposals for the operation of the Mississippi Virtual Public School Program. Dr. House recommended approval on Friday.

Ms. Cindy Coon and Ms. Cecily McNair discussed approving a change to the Licensure Guidelines for the Three-Year Interim Certificate to extend the license for Speech/Language Clinicians (215 license) and Emotional Disability (206) for one additional year. Ms. Coon recommended approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process on Friday.

Ms. Coon and Ms. McNair discussed awarding a grant to the University of Mississippi for the purpose of the Mississippi Teacher Corps to recruit, train, and support recent college graduates who commit to teach in hard to staff schools. Ms. Coon recommended approval on Friday.

Mr. Jones gave the Board an opportunity to discuss the following consent items:

- Monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits (Lynn House)
- Report of Fiscal Year 2010 contracts approved in February 2010 (Lynn House)
- Report of Personnel Actions (Cassandra Moore)

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Dr. O. Wayne Gann made a motion in open session that the Board consider making a closed determination of the need to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and litigation in accordance with Sections 25-41-7(4)(a) and (b) of the Mississippi Code.

On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Dr. Sue Matheson, the Board voted 6 to 0 to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters concerning the operation of the Department of Education, including the employment, reassignment and/or reorganization of staff in specific offices and positions within the Department of Education and transacting business related thereto in accordance with Sections 25-41-7(4)(a) of the Mississippi Code and for the purpose of strategy sessions or negotiations with respect to litigation involving the Department of Education in accordance with Section 25-41-7(4)(b) of the Mississippi Code.

Ms. Rosetta Richard joined Executive Session.

Mr. Jones stated the following to remain in the Executive Session: Dr. Tom Burnham, Dr. Lynn House, Mr. John Gilbert, Ms. Kathy Boteler, and Ms. Cassandra Moore.

Mr. Claude Hartley informed the public of the Board's decision to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters concerning the operation of the Department of Education, including the employment, reassignment and/or reorganization of staff in specific offices and positions within the Department of Education and transacting business related thereto in accordance with Section 25-41-7(4)(a) of the Mississippi Code and for the purpose of strategy sessions or negotiations with respect to litigation involving the Department of Education in accordance with Section 25-41-7(4)(b) of the Mississippi Code.

#### Minutes of the Executive Session

During the Executive Session, the Board discussed personnel matters concerning the operation of the Department of Education, including the employment, reassignment and/or reorganization of staff in specific offices and

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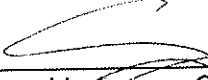
positions within the Department of Education and transacting business related thereto in accordance with Section 25-41-7(4)(a) of the Mississippi Code and for the purpose of strategy sessions or negotiations with respect to litigation involving the Department of Education in accordance with Section 25-41-7(4)(b) of the Mississippi Code.


On a motion by Dr. Sue Matheson, seconded by Mr. Hal Gage, the Board voted 7 to 0 to adjourn from Executive Session.

Upon returning to the regular session, Mr. William H. Jones announced that no official action was taken.

On a motion by Dr. Sue Matheson, seconded by Mr. Hal Gage, the Board voted 7 to 0 to adjourn the work session at 3:55 p.m.

Approved:

  
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William H. Jones, Chair  
Mississippi Board of Education

  
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Tom Burnham, Ed.D.  
Executive Secretary  
Mississippi Board of Education

## Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

March 26, 2010

The regular meeting of the Mississippi Board of Education was held at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, March 26, 2010, in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom of the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present were: Ms. Kami Bumgarner, Mr. Hal Gage, Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Mr. Claude Hartley, Mr. William H. Jones, Dr. Sue Matheson, Mr. Charles McClelland, and Ms. Rosetta Richard. Board member absent was: Ms. Martha Murphy.

- I. The meeting was called to order by Mr. William H. Jones, Chair. Mr. Jones noted the statement on the agenda that cellular telephones and pagers are not permitted during the Board meeting.
- II. Mr. Claude Hartley led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Dr. O. Wayne Gann gave the invocation.
- III. On a motion by Mr. Claude Hartley, seconded by Dr. Sue Matheson, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting of February 18-19, 2010.
- IV. On a motion by Mr. Hale Gage, seconded by Ms. Rosetta Richard, the Board voted unanimously to approve the amended agenda to include item 24 (Approval of the Reorganization/Restructuring Plan) and item 25 (Approval to grant the State Superintendent contractual authority up to \$50,000.00 for an external review of departmental ITS functions).

On a motion by Mr. Hale Gage, seconded by Ms. Rosetta Richard, the Board unanimously approved the amended agenda as presented.

- V. In the Chair's Report, Mr. William H. Jones stated:
  - Reminded the Board members to complete the form sent from the Ethics Commission that must be completed online; and,
  - Stated a date for their Board Retreat will be selected by the April meeting.
- VI. Other Action Items
  04. On a motion by Dr. Sue Matheson, seconded by Ms. Rosetta Richard, the Board unanimously approved to modify the contract with Dr. Larry Drawdy to perform the administrative duties for the position of Deputy Superintendent in the Office of School Improvement, Oversight and Recovery (copy attached).  
**(Office of State Superintendent)**

05. On a motion by Mr. Claude Hartley, seconded by Mr. Hal Gage, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of an Interim Conservator for the North Panola School District (copy attached).  
**(Office of School Improvement, Oversight and Recovery)**
06. On a motion by Mr. Claude Hartley, seconded by Mr. Hal Gage, the Board unanimously approved the contract for the appointed Interim Conservator for the North Panola School District (copy attached).  
**(Office of School Improvement, Oversight and Recovery)**
07. On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved the reassignment of a Financial Advisor for the Water Valley School District (copy attached).  
**(Office of Educational Accountability)**
08. On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved the corrective action plan for Cleveland School District assigned an accreditation status of ADVISED (copy attached).  
**(Office of Educational Accountability)**
09. On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved the corrective action plan for Tunica School District assigned an accreditation status of PROBATION (copy attached).  
**(Office of Educational Accountability)**
10. On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved the corrective action plan for Holmes County School District assigned an accreditation status of PROBATION (copy attached).  
**(Office of Educational Accountability)**
11. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Dr. Sue Matheson, the Board unanimously approved to remove State Board Policies 6501 “Remediation for Students who Fail the Functional Literacy Exam (FLE)”; 7602 “Retaking the FLE”; 7603 “FLE Test Disclosure”; 7609 “Qualifying Score on FLE”; and 7606 “Norm-Referenced Testing” (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
12. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Dr. Sue Matheson, the Board unanimously approved to modify the contract with NCS Pearson, Inc., to reduce the scope of technical services and products for the Mississippi Curriculum Test, Second Edition (MCT2) as outlined in the MCT2 Program 2009-2010 Scope Modification (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**

13. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Dr. Sue Matheson, the Board unanimously approved to modify the contract with NCS Pearson, Inc., to reduce the scope of technical services and products for the Mississippi Writing Assessment Program (MWAP) as outlined in the MWAP 2009-2010 Scope Reduction (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
14. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Dr. Sue Matheson, the Board unanimously approved to modify the contract with NCS Pearson, Inc., to reduce the scope of technical services and products for the Mississippi Subject Area Testing Program, Second Edition (SATP2) as outlined in the SATP2 2009-2010 Scope Reduction (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
15. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Dr. Sue Matheson, the Board unanimously approved to modify the contract with Billy Ray Spiers, Consultant, to provide additional services to facilitate planning and implementation of activities, including development of products for the Office of Student Assessment (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
16. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Dr. Sue Matheson, the Board unanimously approved to revise State Board Policy 4011 – Nutrition regulations for the Child Nutrition School Breakfast and Lunch Programs (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
17. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Dr. Sue Matheson, the Board unanimously approved to contract with the Mississippi State Department of Health to perform Health Inspections of selected Summer Food Service Program Sites for Program Year 2010 (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
18. On a motion by Ms. Rosetta Richard, seconded by Dr. Sue Matheson the Board unanimously approved amending this item to include that a letter would be sent to the districts stating that the Board is sympathetic to the situations of the school districts but expects them to do everything in their power to be in compliance with the pupil-teacher ratios next year.  
  
On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Ms. Rosetta Richard, the Board unanimously approved the recommendations on exceptions to pupil-teacher ratio requirements for grades 1-4 with the amendment that letters would be mailed to the districts (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**

19. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Dr. Sue Matheson, the Board unanimously approved to contract with the Research Foundation of State University of New York - ESCORT to provide technical assistance and professional development for the Migrant Education Program as regulated by Title I, Part C of the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
20. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Dr. Sue Matheson, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process to revise the *Mississippi Secondary Curriculum Frameworks* (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
21. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Dr. Sue Matheson, the Board unanimously approved to issue a Request for Proposals for the operation of the Mississippi Virtual Public School Program (copy attached).  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**
22. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process to approve a change to the Licensure Guidelines for the Three-Year Interim Certificate to extend the license for Speech/Language Clinicians (215 license) and Emotional Disability (206) for one additional year (copy attached).  
**(Office of Quality Professionals and Special Schools)**
23. On a motion by Mr. Hal Gage, seconded by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, the Board unanimously approved to award a grant to the University of Mississippi for the purpose of the Mississippi Teacher Corps to recruit, train, and support recent college graduates who commit to teach in hard to staff schools (copy attached).  
**(Office of Quality Professionals and Special Schools)**
24. On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Mr. Claude Hartley, the Board unanimously approved the plan for the reassignment and reorganization of staff in specific offices and positions within the Mississippi Department of Education as presented in the Core Structure Organization Chart, Phase II (copy attached.)  
**(Office of State Superintendent)**
25. On a motion by Mr. Claude Hartley, seconded by Mr. Hal Gage, the Board unanimously approved to grant the State Superintendent contractual authority up to \$50,000.00 for an external review of departmental ITS functions (copy attached).  
**(Office of State Superintendent)**

26. On a motion by Ms. Rosetta Richard, Seconded by Dr. Sue Matheson the Board unanimously approved the following consent item (copy attached).

- A. Approved of monthly contracts with former State Employees receiving retirement benefits  
**(Office of Instructional Enhancement & Internal Operations)**

VII. The Recognition Ceremony was held as follows:

**JROTC Legion of Valor Bronze Cross Achievement Award**

Cadet Ashley Hoffer, McLaurin High School

Cadet Justin Pelot, Richland High School

Cadet Sierra Williams, Lanier High School

**Mississippi 2009-2010 Star Districts**

Booneville School District

Ricky Neaves, Superintendent

Pass Christian Public School District

Dr. Sue Matheson, Superintendent

**March 2010 MDE Employee of the Month**

William "Bill" Montgomery, Branch Director II

Office of Vocational Education and Workforce Development

Dr. Sue Matheson left the Board meeting.

VIII. State Board of Education

Mr. Claude Hartley and Ms. Rosetta Richard reported that they had recently attended the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) meeting held in Washington, DC.

Ms. Richard also reported that she had recently attended an Open House for Long Beach School.

Mr. William H. Jones reported that he spoke at his local Rotary Club.

IX. There was no other business discussed.

X. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Claude Hartley, seconded by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 a.m.

Approved:



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William H. Jones, Chair  
Mississippi Board of Education



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Tom Burnham, Ed.D.  
Executive Secretary  
Mississippi Board of Education