MINUTES

State Board of Education Meeting

Date
Wednesday, January 13, 2015

Time
1:00 p.m.

Location
Rutledge Conference Center
1429 Senate Street
Columbia, South Carolina

Traci Young Cooper, EdD, Chair
Michael Brenan, Chair-elect
Molly M. Spearman
State Superintendent of Education
Secretary and Administrative Officer to the Board

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 Cooper called the meeting to order.

The following SBE members were in attendance: Traci Young Cooper, EdD, Chair, Fifth Judicial Circuit; Samuel Alston, EdD, First Judicial Circuit; Jim Griffith, Second Judicial Circuit; Gerald Reeves, Fourth Judicial Circuit; James Stroman, Sixth Judicial Circuit; Jane P. Harmon, Seventh Judicial Circuit; Ivan Randolph, PhD, Eighth Judicial Circuit; Richard Kizer, Ninth Judicial Circuit; Dr. Sharon Wall, Eleventh Judicial Circuit; Thomas Ewart, Twelfth Judicial Circuit; David Whittemore, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; Renee R. Hembree, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; Sharon Bynum, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit; and Mike Brenan, Chair-elect, Governor's Appointee.

SBE members absent with apologies were Jeffrey Kubu, Tenth Judicial Circuit, and Rhonda Edwards, EdD, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit.

The following South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) staff were in attendance: Betsy Carpentier, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Superintendent; Karla Hawkins, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Federal, State, & Community Resources; Cathy Hazelwood, Deputy

Superintendent and Parliamentarian, Division for Legal Affairs; Sheila Quinn, EdD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness; Julie Fowler, PhD, Deputy Superintendent, Division of College and Career Readiness; Mellanie Jinnette, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Finance; Dino Tepparo, Director, Office of Public Information; Liz Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness; Robert Benn, Information Resource Consultant, Service and Support Center, Chief Information Office; Lori Smith, Information Resource Consultant, Service and Support Center, Chief Information Office; Charlie Garrett, Information Resource Consultant, Service and Support Center, Chief Information Office; Don Cantrell, Chief Information Officer, Chief Information Office; Barbara Drayton, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Division for Legal Affairs; and LaTonia Holloway, Administrative Assistant, Office of General Counsel, Division for Legal Affairs.

II. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 9, 2015

Chair Cooper asked if there were any objections to approving the minutes as presented for the SBE meeting on December 9, 2015. Hearing none, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

III. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA FOR JANUARY 13, 2016

Chair Cooper asked if there were any objections to approving the agenda for the SBE meeting on January 13, 2016. Mr. Kizer moved that the agenda for the January 13, 2016, be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Griffith. The agenda was approved.

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, INCLUDING NEWS MEDIA

Chair Cooper welcomed visitors to the SBE meeting.

V. STATE BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Chair Cooper stated that she has placed a draft of the 2015 End of Year Report (EOY) asking all members to review the document for feedback to either herself or Chair-elect Brenan by January 15, 2016.

Chair Cooper asked for Mr. Mike Brenan and Dr. Ivan Randolph to meet her at the podium to be sworn into their elected positions.

Mr. Brenan presented Chair Cooper with a gavel set in recognition of her service as Chair in 2015. He thanked her for all of her hard work, leadership, and service given to the Board.

Chair Brenan recognized Merita A. “Rita” Allison, Chairwoman, House Education and Public Works Committee, to address the Board, stating that it is his intent to invite a member of the House or Senate to

the Board meeting just for them to briefly address the Board at each meeting. Mr. Brenan recognized Pierce McNair, Chief of Staff.

This ended his report.

VI. STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION REPORT

Chair Brenan recognized Superintendent Molly Spearman to present her report. Mrs. Spearman thanked Representative Allison for her guidance. She stated to Chair Brenan and Chair-elect Randolph that she was looking forward to working with them this year and thanked Dr. Cooper for her leadership and friendship during her first year in office. Mrs. Spearman stated that she wanted to recognize two special groups that were present at the meeting—the South Carolina Association of School Administrators and members of the Palmetto Pulse group. This group of administrators from across the state participates in a yearlong course that studies how government works.

Mrs. Spearman also recognized the following finalists in the Presidential Award of Excellence for Math and Science Teaching as well as all of the district support:

- Sherri Abel is a mathematics and master teacher at Legacy Early College High School in Greenville County School District.
- Alison Espinosa is an AP and IB math teacher at A.C. Flora High School in Richland School District One.
- Melanie Longtin teaches seventh-grade math and science at Wren Middle School in Anderson School District One.
- Kenyetta Mitchell is a mathematics teacher at Sullivan Middle School in Rock Hill School District Three of York County.
- Kourtney Shumate is the Coordinating Teacher at Carolina Elementary School in Darlington County School District.
- Benjamin Sinnett is a STEM and eighth-grade science teacher at Cowpens Middle School in Spartanburg School District Three.
- Gail Vawter is a seventh-grade science teacher at Springfield Middle School in Fort Mill School District (York 4).
- Jennifer Wise is a mathematics teacher at Hand Middle School in Richland School District One.

Mrs. Spearman stated that the state winner has not been selected yet, but she congratulated all of the teachers for their great work. Mr. Brenan extended congratulations to the finalists again and thanked Dr. Cooper again for her service to the Board and to the state.

Mr. Brenan stated that he believes it's a new day in education as stated earlier by Chairwoman Allison. It is his hope that we take advantage of this in 2016. Mr. Brenan stated that after reading a book entitled *One Word*, given to him by Rick Noble, Executive Director of SC First Steps, the word he has chosen for 2016 is "gratitude." He expressed to the members and audience that he is grateful for all present.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Only two persons spoke during the public comment period: Bernadette R. Hampton, President, South Carolina Education Association (SCEA), and Kathy Maness, Executive Director, Palmetto State Teachers Association. Mr. Brenan also acknowledged Roger Smith, Executive Director, SCEA, who was present with Ms. Hampton.

VIII. STATE BOARD ITEMS

PH PUBLIC HEARING

01. **Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-100 (R.43-100), Test Security (Second Reading)—**Cathy L. Hazelwood, Esquire, Deputy Superintendent, Division for Legal Affairs

Chair Brenan reported that no one had signed up to speak on the Public Hearing items. Mr. Brenan recognized Deputy Superintendent Cathy Hazelwood to present item PH-01. Ms. Hazelwood stated that no written comments or feedback were provided until last Thursday when she and Ms. Heatwole met with General Assembly staff who suggested the language "opted out of the assessment," which has been voted upon, not be used. Instead they requested it say "who refuse to sit for the assessment." Mr. Brenan asked if there was any explanation as to why they wanted the language to read this way. Ms. Hazelwood stated that they thought the language was weighted, and she expressed that she wasn't sure there was a great difference in the language. Chair Brenan acknowledged Dr. Cooper, Chair-elect of P& L, who moved that item PH-01(R. 43-100) (Second Reading) be approved with the proposed "opt out of assessment" language. Since this is coming out of committee, it doesn't require a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

02. **Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43- 261 (R.43-261), District and School Planning (Second Reading)—** Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

Chair Brenan recognized Roy Stehle, Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources, who presented information regarding PH-02 (R.43-261) (Second Reading). Dr. Cooper moved that item PH-02 (R.43-261) be approved with the proposed amendments. Since this is coming out of committee, it doesn't require a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

03. **Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-262 (R.43-262), Assessment Program (Second Reading)—**Elizabeth Jones, Education Associate, Office of Assessment, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness

Chair Brenan recognized Elizabeth "Liz" Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness, who presented information regarding PH-03 (43-262) (Second Reading). Dr. Randolph moved that item PH-03 (R.43-262) be approved with the proposed amendments. Since this is coming out of committee, it doesn't require a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

04. **Proposed Amendments to State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-307 (R.43-307), Alignment of Assessment and Accountability Elements with the No Child Left Behind Act (Second Reading)—**Cathy L. Hazelwood, Esquire, Deputy Superintendent, Division for Legal Affairs

Chair Brenan recognized Cathy L. Hazelwood, Deputy Superintendent, Division for Legal Affairs, who presented information regarding PH-04 (R.43-307) (Second Reading). Dr. Cooper moved for approval of PH-04 (R.43-307). Since this is coming out of committee, it doesn't require a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS—COMMITTEE REPORT

FOR APPROVAL

01. **Identification of Critical Need Subject Areas for 2016–17 Relative to the South Carolina Teacher Loan Cancellation Programs**—Laura Covington, Education Associate, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

02. **Identification of Geographic Critical Need Schools for the 2016–17 South Carolina Teacher Loan Program**—Laura Covington, Education Associate, Office of Educator Services, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

03. **Expanded South Carolina Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Professional Teaching (ADEPT) and Program for Assisting and Evaluating Principal Performance (PADEPP) Educator Evaluation System Request for Implementation Timeline Extension—**Kris Joannes, Director, Office of Teacher Evaluation, Division of Innovation & Effectiveness

Chair Brenan recognized Mr. Reeves who reported that the committee met and heard three action items. Items EP-01 and EP-02 were placed on the consent agenda; item EP-03 would require action by the SBE. Mr. Reeves recognized Sheila Quinn, Deputy Superintendent, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness, who highlighted points of the

specific change request with regards to ADEPT. She recognized Kris Joannes, Director, Office of Teacher Effectiveness, who provided a detailed PowerPoint presentation giving four specific changes/goals as it relates to the teacher evaluation development and implementation in which they're seeking approval:

(1) an extension of implementation in 2018–19;
(2) remove the use of ESEA-required test scores as part of student growth;
(3) embed student learning objectives (SLOs) as an artifact instead of a stand-alone measure; and
(4) authorize implementation of focus groups to gain feedback.

After much discussion concerning the process of how the focus groups members will be selected as well as the diversity of the groups across the board (e.g., size of groups, teachers with different grade-level experience, random selection) to ensure that the teacher voices and input across the state are considered, it was moved by Mr. Reeves that the recommendation of the committee was to approve EP-03 with the four specific changes to the teacher evaluation system and fully implement by 2018–19. Since this is coming out of committee, it doesn't require a second. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brenan recognized Mellanie Jinnette who provided information and a detailed explanation regarding EP-02.

SLA STANDARDS AND LEARNING—COMMITTEE REPORT

FOR INFORMATION

01. **Update on Statewide Assessment Programs**—Elizabeth Jones, Director, Office of Assessment, Division of Innovation and Effectiveness

Mr. Brenan recognized Elizabeth "Liz" Jones to provide an update on statewide assessments. Ms. Jones provided a detailed PowerPoint presentation on all the specific assessments to include the 4K and 5K readiness assessments and the newly awarded SC Ready assessment, which is for grades 3–8. This assessment is scheduled to be administered in spring 2016–17 online and by paper and pencil; by 2017, it will be administered online only.

PL POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE—COMMITTEE REPORT

FOR APPROVAL

01. **Spartanburg County School District Six's Waiver Request of State Board of Education (SBE) Regulation 2 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-62(I)(C) [R.43-62(I)(C)], Requirements for Additional Areas of Certification**—Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader,

State Accountability, Office of Federal and State Accountability, Division of Federal, State, and Community Resources

Mr. Brenan recognized Chair Cooper who reported that the P&L Committee met and heard one action item, which addressed a waiver request from Spartanburg School District Six. Dr. Cooper provided a full, detailed report regarding this item and stated the Committee responded favorably to this request and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Brenan reported that the IF and SLA subcommittees did not meet today. He also stated that the ELC approved and ratified the actions of the ELC committee at the 11:30 a.m. Full Board meeting.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

EP EDUCATION PROFESSIONS—COMMITTEE REPORT

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Mr. Brenan called for the vote for approval of the consent agenda. Mr. Griffith moved that the consent agenda be approved as presented; the motion was seconded by Dr. Alston. The motion passed unanimously.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Brenan stated that he received a call from Coach Muschamp who had concerns regarding the grading scale here in South Carolina. He recognized Dr. Fowler to provide an update regarding the Uniform Grading Policy (UGP). She stated that a meeting was held on December 4, 2015, with 44 persons in attendance. She stated that a member person was from the Marcus Lattimore Foundation. Dr. Fowler stated that they have had a lot of positive feedback. Dr. Fowler stated that four committees are looking at all aspects of the UGP. The first committee will address the grading scale with Betty Bagley serving as the facilitator; the second committee will address the honors and dual credit group with Dr. Fowler serving as the facilitator; the third group will address carnegie units and credit recovery with Shelia Quinn serving as the facilitator; and the fourth group will address multiple pathways to obtain a diploma with John Payne serving as the facilitator. Dr. Fowler stated that districts do not have different grading scales and that South Carolina is one of a handful of states that do not have a ten-point grading scale.

Mr. Brenan acknowledged the new members Ms. Hembree and Mr. Whittemore and welcomed them. He also stated that he and Superintendent Spearman had a conversation regarding changing the Board meetings from the second Wednesday of every month to the second Tuesday of every month. He asked that the members consider this change and contact him should they have concerns. He thanked everyone for being present and moved to adjourn the meeting.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the SBE adjourned at 3:15 p.m.