

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

October 23, 2008

The members of the Mississippi Board of Education met in a work session at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 23, 2008 in the 4th Floor Boardroom of the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present were: Ms. Sondra Parker Caillavet, Mr. Hal Gage, Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Mr. William H. Jones, Mr. Charles McClelland, Ms. Martha Murphy, Ms. Rosetta Richard, and Dr. David Sistrunk. Board member absent: Mr. Claude Hartley.

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

Mr. Jones introduced Senator Videt Carmichael, Senate Education Committee Chairman, and welcomed him to the meeting.

Dr. Hank Bounds gave the following report from the State Superintendent of Education:

- Reported on state takeover of Hazlehurst City School District and discussed a resolution to be presented for the Board's approval on Friday to officially abolish the school district;
- Discussed current state budget situation as outlined by the Governor through a notice issued from his office to all state agencies due to a shortage in projected revenues for the first quarter of this year;
- Welcomed Representative Alyce Clark, Senator Alice Harden and Senator David Blount to the meeting;
- Referred to handouts outlining Strategy 2 and Options 1, 2, and 3 for revising Strategy 1 of the current Five-Year Strategic Plan. Dr. Bounds asked the Board to review the information in the documents and provide feedback at the November Board meeting regarding revisions to the strategies.
- Discussed information in the document, "Counting on Graduation, An Agenda for State Leadership," produced by Education Trust; and
- Reported on feedback from the task force charged with designing a new state accreditation rating system; noted that Ms. Sondra Parker Caillavet is a member of the task force.

Mr. Martez Hill introduced financial advisors Mr. Ronnie Watson, Ms. Diane Day, and Ms. Suzanne Smith who presented status reports on Tate County, Jefferson Davis County, and Hazlehurst City school districts, respectively.

Ms. Jean Massey presented a report on action of the Commission on School Accreditation concerning the assignment of district accreditation statuses, and Dr. Steve Hebbler reported on AYP results under NCLB.

Minutes of Mississippi Board of Education Meeting

October 24, 2008

The regular meeting of the Mississippi Board of Education was held at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, October 24, 2008, in the 4th Floor Boardroom of the Central High School Building, 359 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Board members present were: Ms. Sondra Parker Caillavet, Dr. O. Wayne Gann, Mr. William H. Jones, Mr. Charles McClelland, Ms. Martha Murphy, Ms. Rosetta Richard, and Dr. David Sistrunk. Board members absent: Mr. Hal Gage and Mr. Claude Hartley.

- I. The meeting was called to order by Mr. William H. Jones, Chair.
- II. Dr. David Sistrunk led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Ms. Rosetta Richard gave the invocation.
- III. On a motion by Dr. David Sistrunk, seconded by Ms. Rosetta Richard, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting of September 18-19, 2008.
- IV. On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Dr. David Sistrunk, the Board voted unanimously to add item 1 to the agenda.

On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Dr. David Sistrunk, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

- V. Mr. Jones indicated he would present the Chair's Report at the end of the meeting.
- VI. Approval of Action Items
(Items below are numbered to correspond to the items as discussed on Thursday, October 23, 2008.)
01. Dr. Hank Bounds presented for approval the resolution of the Mississippi Board of Education to abolish the Hazlehurst City School District, based upon the extreme emergency situation brought on by the existence of continuing and serious leadership and management concerns, pursuant to Section 37-17-13 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended.

On a motion by Mr. David Sistrunk, seconded by Ms. Sondra Parker Caillavet, the Board unanimously approved the resolution to abolish the Hazlehurst City School District as presented (copy attached).

(Office of the State Superintendent of Education)

03. On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved the assignment of district accreditation statuses and report on AYP results under NCLB and 2008 AYP results under NCLB (copy attached).
(Office of Student Performance)
04. On a motion by Ms. Rosetta Richard, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board voted unanimously to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process to revise State Board Policy 4904 – Withholding of Mississippi Adequate Education Program Funds (copy attached).
(Office of Policy and Operations)
05. On a motion by Ms. Sondra Parker Caillavet, seconded by Ms. Rosetta Richard, the Board unanimously approved the change to the Licensure Guidelines for Supplemental Endorsements added by Middle Grade Institutes as Recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development. The guidelines cleared the Administrative Procedures Act process with no public comments (copy attached).
(Office of Quality Professionals and Special Schools)
06. On a motion by Ms. Sondra Parker Caillavet, seconded by Ms. Rosetta Richard, the Board unanimously approved the appointments of Ms. Cathy Lutz and Dr. Anthony Morris to serve on the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development (copy attached).
(Office of Quality Professionals and Special Schools)
07. On a motion by Ms. Sondra Parker Caillavet, seconded by Ms. Rosetta Richard, the Board unanimously approved the contract with Hupp Information Technologies, Inc., to design, develop, and customize software and services for a Web based licensure management system (copy attached).
(Office of Quality Professionals and Special Schools)
08. On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board unanimously approved to award the 2nd 2009 Dyslexia competitive grants for the Dyslexia Program in support of districts' implementation of scientifically research-based programs (copy attached).
(Office of Instructional Programs and Services)
09. On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board unanimously approved the rejection of bids for the Subject Area Testing Program, Second Edition (SATP2) (copy attached).
(Office of Instructional Programs and Services)

10. On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board unanimously approved to award a discretionary grant to The University of Mississippi, Institute for Education and Workforce Development, for the purpose of providing training to administrators utilizing the National Institute for School Leadership, Inc. (NISL) training model entitled *Leadership for Students with Disabilities Institute* (copy attached).
(Office of Instructional Programs and Services)
11. On a motion by Dr. David Sistrunk, seconded by Ms. Rosetta Richard, the Board unanimously approved the rejection of bids for a contract to provide technical services and products for the Mississippi Statewide K-3 Assessments (copy attached).
(Office of Instructional Programs and Services)
12. On a motion by Ms. Rosetta Richard, seconded by Ms. Sondra Parker Caillavet, the Board unanimously approved to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process for the Mississippi Alternate Assessment of Extended Curriculum Frameworks (MAAECF) Student Performance Level (Cut) Scores and General Student Performance Level Descriptors (copy attached).
(Office of the Instructional Programs and Services)
13. On a motion by Ms. Rosetta Richard, seconded by Ms. Sondra Parker Caillavet, the Board unanimously approved to modify the contract with NCS Pearson, Inc., for the Mississippi Writing Assessment in grades four, seven, and ten (copy attached).
(Office of Instructional Programs and Services)
14. On a motion by Ms. Rosetta Richard, seconded by Ms. Sondra Parker Caillavet, the Board unanimously approved the methodology for selecting sites for Redesigning Education for the 21st Century Workforce in Mississippi (copy attached).
(Office of Instructional Programs and Services)
15. On a motion by Ms. Rosetta Richard, seconded by Ms. Sondra Parker Caillavet, the Board unanimously approved the methodology and approval to award non-competitive grants to school districts in Mississippi Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) distressed counties to purchase equipment that will upgrade specific occupational skills programs (copy attached).
(Office of Instructional Programs and Services)
16. On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Ms. Rosetta Richard, the Board unanimously approved the methodology to award Migrant Education Program grant dollars in support of local efforts for providing supplemental services to migrant students in accordance with Title I, Part C of the

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as reauthorized by the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (copy attached).

(Office of Student Performance)

17. On a motion by Dr. O. Wayne Gann, seconded by Ms. Rosetta Richard, the Board unanimously approved to award a continuation grant for the Migrant Education Program (copy attached).
(Office of Student Performance)

18. On a motion by Dr. David Sistrunk, seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, the Board unanimously approved to modify grant awards for the Hurricane Katrina Recovery Act through the Immediate Aid to Restart School Operations for non-public schools (copy attached).
(Office of Policy and Operations)

19. On a motion by Ms. Rosetta Richard, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Commander Michael S. Curry to serve as the Director (Education Bureau Director II) of the Office of Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) at an annual salary of \$73,460.00 to become effective November 1, 2008 (copy attached).
(Office of the State Superintendent of Education)

20. On a motion by Ms. Rosetta Richard, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. Pallascene Bright Cole to serve as the Director (Education Bureau Director II) of the Office of Student Achievement and Growth at an annual salary of \$95,000.00 to become effective November 1, 2008 (copy attached).
(Office of the State Superintendent of Education)

21. On a motion by Ms. Rosetta Richard, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Ms. Kimberly McCurley to serve as School Finance Officer for the Office of Internal Accountability at an annual salary of \$69,670.57 to become effective November 1, 2008 (copy attached).
(Office of the State Superintendent of Education)

22. On a motion by Ms. Rosetta Richard, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board unanimously approved to adopt a process to address the plans of school districts making up days missed due to Hurricanes Gustav and Ike (copy attached).
(Office of the State Superintendent of Education)

- VII. On a motion by Mr. Charles McClelland, seconded by Dr. David Sistrunk, the Board unanimously approved the following consent items (copies attached):
- A. Approval to award the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds to Jobs for Mississippi Graduates, Inc. (JMG)
(Office of Student Performance)
 - B. Approval of reassignment of Financial Advisor for Greenville Public School District
(Office of Policy and Operations)
 - C. Approval of reassignment of Financial Advisor for Shaw School District
(Office of Policy and Operations)
 - D. Approval of a new school site for the Columbus School District
(Office of Policy and Operations)
 - E. Approval of a new school site for the Corinth School District
(Office of Policy and Operations)

- VIII. Recognition Ceremony was held as follows:

**Mississippi Excellence in Recycling Award
School Winners 2007-08**

- Career Development Center, Jackson
- Cook Elementary (K-4) Fine Arts, Columbus
- Pontotoc Junior High School, Pontotoc
- Grenada Elementary (K-3), Grenada
- McLaurin High School, Florence
- Puckett Attendance Center, Puckett
- Oxford High School, Oxford
- Booneville High School, Booneville
- Petal High School, Petal
- Highland Elementary, Ridgeland

- IX. State Board of Education

01. Ms. Rosetta Richard reported that she attended the 2008 Annual NASBE Conference and Gala held October 15-18, 2008, in Arlington, VA. Conference activities included a meeting with the Governmental Affairs Committee and breakout sessions: the Evolution of Teaching; Transformation of SEA's over the last 50 years; and Three Cases That

Changed the Face of Public Education. Ms. Richard will serve as Southern representative on the Nominations Committee for the upcoming year.

Mr. Charles McClelland reported that he recently visited the Mississippi School for the Blind and commended the school superintendent and staff for their work with these students. He urged the Board to schedule a group tour of the facility in the near future.

Mr. Bill Jones reported that he attended the Legislative Budget Committee hearing on September 24, 2008, in Jackson. Both Mr. Jones and Dr. Bounds made presentations regarding the Department's 2010 budget request.

Mr. Jones also reported that on October 8, 2008, he attended a public hearing of the Governor's Task Force for Underperforming Schools, along with Dr. Bounds and Mr. McClelland.

Mr. Jones noted that on October 22, 2008, he and Ms. Richard attended a charter school presentation held in the MDE offices in Jackson led by school choice expert Ron Zimmer of Michigan State University.

Mr. Jones discussed the need for the Board to consider scheduling regular visits to school districts. He suggested that the Board consider holding three-day meetings on a quarterly basis in a local school in order for the Board to tour the facility.

Dr. Bounds introduced new Department staff: Commander Michael Curry, Director, JROTC, and Ms. Kimberly McCurley, School Finance Officer, Office of Internal Accountability.

- X. On a motion by Dr. David Sistrunk, seconded by Ms. Martha Murphy, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

Approved:

William H. Jones, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education

Hank M. Bounds
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education

Mr. Martez Hill and Ms. Wanda Cummins reported on the revisions to State Board Policy 4904 – Withholding of Mississippi Adequate Education Program Funds which are necessary to make State Board policy conform to statute and to change the code section reference of the policy. Mr. Hill recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Daphne Buckley discussed the change to the Licensure Guidelines for Supplemental Endorsements added by Middle Grades Institutes as recommended by the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development. The revision cleared the Administrative Procedures Act Process with no public comments. Dr. Buckley recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Buckley discussed the appointment of Ms. Cathy Lutz, Teacher at Madison Station Elementary School, to fill the vacancy in District 3, and Dr. Anthony Morris, Superintendent of Natchez-Adams School District, to fill the vacancy in District 4 on the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development. Dr. Buckley recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Buckley, Mr. Derrick Lindsay, and Ms. Cindy Coon discussed the award of a contract with Hupp Information Technologies, Inc., to design, develop and customize software and services for a Web based licensure management system. Dr. Buckley recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Kris Kaase discussed awarding the second 2009 Dyslexia competitive grants for the Dyslexia Program in support of districts' implementation of scientifically research-based programs. Dr. Kaase recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Kaase discussed rejecting bids for the Subject Area Testing Program, Second Edition (SATP2). Dr. Kaase recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Kaase discussed awarding a discretionary grant to The University of Mississippi, Institute for Education and Workforce Development for the purpose of providing training to administrators utilizing the National Institute for School Leadership, Inc. (NISL), training model entitled *Leadership for Students with Disabilities Institute*. Dr. Kaase recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Kaase discussed the contract with Wireless Generation to provide technical services and products for the Mississippi Statewide K-3 Assessments in Literacy and Mathematics in support of Mississippi Code 37-23-16. Dr. Kaase recommended approval on Friday.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:05 p.m. and reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

Dr. Bounds discussed the request to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process to approve the development of the Mississippi Alternate Assessment of Extended Curriculum Frameworks (MAAECF) Student Performance Level (Cut) Scores and General Student Performance Level Descriptors. Dr. Bounds recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Bounds recommended that the Board skip to item 14 and return to item 13 later in the meeting. The Board agreed by consensus.

Dr. Bounds discussed the methodology for selecting sites for Redesigning Education for the 21st Century Workforce in Mississippi. Dr. Bounds recommended approval on Friday.

Dr. Bounds discussed the methodology and approval to award non-competitive grants to school districts in Mississippi Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) distressed counties to purchase equipment that will upgrade specific occupational skills programs. Dr. Bounds recommended approval on Friday.

Mr. Quentin Ransburg discussed the methodology to award Migrant Education Program grant dollars in support of local efforts for providing supplemental services to migrant students in accordance with Title I, Part C of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as reauthorized by the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*. Mr. Ransburg recommended approval on Friday.

Mr. Ransburg discussed the continuation grant for the Migrant Education Program authorized by Title I, Part C of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), and reauthorized by the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*, for the purpose of establishing and improving programs and projects designed to meet the special educational needs of children of migratory agricultural workers or fishers. Mr. Ransburg recommended approval on Friday.

Mr. James Hart discussed modifying grant awards for the Hurricane Katrina Education Recovery Act through the Immediate Aid to Restart School Operations for non-public schools. Mr. Hart recommended approval on Friday.

The Board returned to consideration of item 13, and Ms. Cindy Simmons discussed modifying the contract with NCS Pearson, Inc., for the Mississippi Writing Assessment in grades four, seven, and ten. Ms. Simmons recommended approval on Friday.

Mr. Jones recommended that the Board skip to item 22, and return to items 19, 20, and 21 later in the meeting. The Board agreed by consensus.

Dr. Bounds discussed adopting a process to address the plans of school districts making up days missed due to Hurricanes Gustav and Ike. Dr. Bounds recommended approval on Friday.

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

- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families grant to Jobs for Mississippi Graduates, Inc. (Sheril Smith)
- Reassignment of Financial Advisor for Greenville Public School District (Martez Hill)
- Reassignment of Financial Advisor for Shaw School District (Martez Hill)
- New school site for the Columbus School District (Shane McNeill)
- New school site for the Corinth School District (Shane McNeill)
- Report of Personnel Actions (Ethel Cain Carson)

The Board asked staff to ensure that a thorough background check of skills and credentials is performed prior to contracting with financial advisors to provide services to local school districts.

At 1:30 p.m., Dr. O. Wayne Gann moved to consider the need for going into Executive Session to discuss items 19, 20 and 21. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charles McClelland, and the motion passed on a vote of 7 to 0.

Dr. O. Wayne Gann then moved that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hal Gage and the motion passed on a vote of 7 to 0.

Minutes of Executive Session

During the Executive Session, the Board discussed discrete personnel matters relating to the job performance of persons holding specific positions in the Department, in accordance with Mississippi Code Section 25-41-7(4)(a).

Ms. Sondra Parker Caillavet made a motion that the Board come out of the Executive Session. Dr. David Sistrunk seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a vote of 7 to 0. The Board took no action during the Executive Session.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Approved:

William H. Jones, Chair
Mississippi Board of Education

Hank M. Bounds
Executive Secretary
Mississippi Board of Education