

**Minutes
State Board of Education Meeting
Friday, October 12, 2018**

The Arkansas State Board of Education (State Board) met Friday, October 12, 2018, in the Arkansas Department of Education (Department) Auditorium. Chair Dr. Jay Barth called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Present: Dr. Jay Barth, Chair; Dr. Fitz Hill; Diane Zook; Ouida Newton; Brett Williamson; Susan Chambers; Dr. Sarah Moore; Kathy McFetridge; and Johnny Key, Commissioner; Randi House, 2018 Arkansas Teacher of the Year

Absent: Charisse Dean, Vice-Chair

Reports

Report 1 – Arkansas Teacher Corps Update

Arkansas Teacher Corps Executive Director Mr. Brandon Lucius provided a five year report to the State Board. Mr. Lucius provided an overview of the Arkansas Teacher Corps program. Mr. Lucius said that they focus on recruiting recent college grads, those changing careers, and hometown applicants. This program provides seven weeks residential training (pre-service), 40 + hours professional development (each year), 40+ classroom coaching (each year), collaboration with partner districts and education co-ops (ongoing). Mr. Lucius said that there is a November 1 deadline to apply for the program. There is a link for districts to request teachers from the program.

Report 2 – 2018 Arkansas Teacher of the Year Report

Ms. House said that she was invited to go to Batesville School District to welcome their teachers into the new school year. She invited the district superintendent to come speak to the State Board about the project they are working on in Batesville.

Superintendent Dr. Michael Hester said that they were excited to have her come for their kick-off. He said that they are in the process of consolidating into eight campuses. They had looked into their energy audit and based on the data, created the state's largest energy waste efficiency program (\$5.4 million) and the state's first solar panel project (750 kilowatts). The solar panels provide shelter from sun/rain as well as providing energy. Through this project they plan to have more money to put toward the recruitment and retention of teachers.

Report 3 – Chair's Report

Dr. Barth said he and Ms. Windle are going to meet about the student discipline report and possible site visits.

Ms. McFetridge said that she was invited to visit Exalt Academy and childhood trauma and continuing stress was one of the topics discussed. Ms. McFetridge said that she once heard a

presentation by Dr. Allen Neece on childhood trauma that provided good information. She suggested that Dr. Neece speak to the State Board. Dr. Barth and Ms. Windle will discuss the possibility of inviting him to present.

Ms. Newton encourage the State Board members to attend the State Coalition on Family & Community Engagement regional meetings during the month of October.

Ms. Zook said there is a group in Little Rock that works with children whose parent comes from a homeless or abusive situation. She said that this past year, eighty-four percent of the child either improved or maintained their math and literacy scores, and ninety-one percent of those in pre-Kindergarten improved or mastered their literacy benchmark.

Report 4 – Commissioner’s Report

Commissioner Key said Governor Asa Hutchinson announced the transformation plan last week. Legislation is still pending. The Higher Education Coordinating Board will remain intact. He will keep everyone updated on the progress and decisions made.

Commissioner Key said that this fall the ADE will be joining the Arkansas School Boards Association during their regional school board meetings.

Commissioner Key said that a team of ADE staff members and some members of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education participated in a Professional Learning Institute in Salt Lake City, Utah. Dr. Barth asked Commissioner Key to coordinate a report to the State Board about Professional Learning Communities. Ms. Newton suggested adding a school representative to the presentation, someone from a PLC school. Ms. Zook suggested a school visit to a PLC school.

Commissioner Key said the ESSA School Index will be available on My School Info at 12 p.m. October 12, 2018.

Commissioner Key invited the State Board to join the Student-Focused Study Tours. The Commissioner’s Memo is available for more information.

Public School Program Advisor Mr. Jeff Dyer showed Teacher Arkansas Campaign video featuring Mr. Anthony Alexander, an Alternative Learning Environment educator at J.A. Fair High School in Little Rock.

Assistant Commissioner for Learning Services Ms. Stacy Smith said that Public School Program Coordinator Ms. Joan Luneau has done some great work working on the competencies for higher education programs, which include science of reading. The competencies will be implemented in teacher prep programs during the next school year.

Report 5 – State Board Standing Committees, Special Committees, Liaisons, and Appointments Report

Ms. Zook said that Assistant Commissioner for Public School Accountability Ms. Deborah Coffman would be providing the presentation. Ms. Coffman highlighted changes to the location

on ESSA and My School Info links and information on the ADE website. Ms. Coffman said that 275 of Arkansas schools saw an improvement in their overall ESSA Index score. She also said that there were weighted achievement score increases in 10 schools with 10 or more points. Ms. Coffman said that 19 Arkansas schools met or exceeded 2.0 standard deviations above the mean. Also, 158 schools improved their school rating (letter grade).

Ms. Newton said that there will be a Vision for Excellence in Education and Arkansas Accountability System meeting at 9:30 a.m. October 24, 2018.

Dr. Barth said, regarding, ForwARd, that there was a Data Policy Symposium on September 27, 2018; however, he was unable to attend but Ms. Chambers attended. Dr. Barth also said Ms. Zook will be transitioning to his role with ForwARd in the future.

Ms. Zook asked State Director of Family and Community Engagement Ms. Kim Wright to discuss the October regional meetings. Ms. Wright said that there have been two regional meetings so far. She said that they had not seen the attendance they wanted, but they had a lot of diversity and good input was received. Ms. Wright encourage everyone to attend and to send personal invitations to those in the community areas. Ms. Wright said that the "six essentials" or standards framework should hopefully be ready by the end of December. She said that the Coalition would like to have a work session with the State Board regarding the framework.

State Superintendent Dr. Mike Hernandez - introduced Assistant State Superintendent Ms. Lenett Thrasher.

Adjournment

Mr. Williamson moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.. The meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m..

Minutes recorded by Tiffany Donovan



Dr. Jay Barth, Chair



Johnny Key, Commissioner