

Minutes
State Board of Education Meeting
Thursday, May 11, 2017

The State Board of Education met Thursday, May 11, 2017, in the Arkansas Department of Education Auditorium. Chair Mireya Reith called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

Present: Mireya Reith, Chair; Dr. Jay Barth, Vice-Chair; Dr. Fitz Hill; Joe Black; Diane Zook; Ouida Newton; Susan Chambers; Brett Williamson; Charisse Dean; Meghan Ables, 2016 Teacher of the Year; and Johnny Key, Commissioner.

Absent: None

Recognition

Ms. Cynthia Murphy

Chief of Staff Ms. Deborah Coffman provided background about how Ms. Murphy was selected to be the focus of the Teach Again campaign.

Communications Manager Ms. Gayle Morris said the role of a classroom teacher is vital in shaping the future of Arkansas. The value of teachers' expertise, commitment and dedication cannot be overstated. They give their students the skills and knowledge they will need to reach their academic potential; however, teachers also give students the care, compassion and guidance they need as they navigate personal challenges and obstacles in their lives.

Ms. Morris said as a classroom teacher with more than 40 years of experience, Ms. Murphy embodies the definition of a professional educator. She said Ms. Murphy is an outstanding example of how teachers impact students and their lives well after the end of a school year, and serve as a role model for teacher interns and experienced teachers.

Ms. Morris thanked Ms. Murphy for allowing ADE to use her teaching experiences as the basis of this year's Teach Again campaign. This teacher recruitment campaign sought to motivate and encourage formerly licensed teachers to renew or obtain their licenses, return to Arkansas classrooms, and pursue their love of teaching and learning.

Assistant Commissioner for Educator Effectiveness and Licensure Dr. Ivy Pfeffer said over 500 educators contacted the ADE about Teach Again. She said 372 educators licensed or renewed their teaching license. This is great news for our schools and students. The video series was instrumental in the campaign's success.

Ms. Murphy thanked everyone for the recognition. Commissioner Key and Ms. Reith presented Ms. Murphy with a certificate of appreciation.

Friends, family, and colleagues spoke of the impact Ms. Murphy has had on them. Ms. Necie Randolph, Ms. Kristi Johnson, Ms. Joyce White, Mr. Wayne Stewart, and Mr. Kenneth Stewart reflected on the support they received from Ms. Murphy. Superintendent Mr. Bobby Hart and Clinton Primary Principal Ms. Ashlea Stewart also shared their appreciation for Ms. Murphy.

Arkansas Biliteracy Award

AR Department of Education ESOL Director and ARKTESOL President Ms. Tricia Kerr said the Arkansas Biliteracy Award recognizes Arkansas high school students who have studied and attained proficiency in two or more languages. The award is the product of a collaboration between AFLTA (Arkansas Foreign Language Teachers Association), ARKTESOL (Arkansas Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages), K-12 teachers, university faculty, and members of the community. Ms. Kerr said 95 high school students were recognized with the biliteracy award. She said the students are biliterate in three languages.

Har-Ber High School educator Ms. Ellen Rainey presented certificates to two (2) students of the 45 students from Har-Ber High.

Springdale High School educator Ms. Kristen Novotny presented certificates to two (2) students of the 42 students from Springdale High School.

AFLTA President Ms. Kristen Novotny said the collaborative is also working toward an Arkansas Biliteracy Seal on high school diplomas for future graduates.

Announcement: Commissioner Key recognized Ms. Annette Barnes. Ms. Barnes is retiring after 34 years in education. She thanked the Board for their support and provided information that guided her decision to retire. She asked the Board to continue to serve students first.

Commissioner Key thanked Ms. Barnes for her leadership and service to ADE. Each Board member expressed their thanks to Ms. Barnes for her contributions to the state.

Public Comment: Representative Clarke Tucker said nine area legislators issued a statement regarding Little Rock School District (LRSD). He read the prepared statement regarding the millage vote in Little Rock. He said his message was that although the community did not vote in favor of the millage extension, the community is united in support of the district.

Public Comment: Senator Linda Chesterfield asked the Board to return LRSD to local

control.

Consent Agenda

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Items included in the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes – April 13, 2017
- Newly Employed, Promotions and Separations
- Review of Loan and Bond Applications
- My Child/My Student Report
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #17-015 – Rebecca Gramling
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #17-080 – Alicia Everhart
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #17-097 – Roy Lamb
- LRSD Community Advisory Board Quarterly Report

Action Agenda A

A-1 Consideration of Arkansas Better Chance 2016-2017 Funding Increase for Classrooms

Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education Director Ms. Tonya Williams thanked the Board for their support of all children, birth to age 5. She said a report will be coming soon regarding the impact of ABC and Pre-K. She said Arkansas was awarded a \$3.8 million grant to serve high priority need communities.

Ms. Williams said the funding request for the programs is needed to assist in one-time start-up costs to purchase classroom/playground materials and supplies to prepare for serving additional children in the upcoming school year. She said this one-time funding will increase each programs' approved 2016-2017 budget.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to approve the Arkansas Better Chance 2016-2017 funding increase for classrooms for a total of \$53,500.00. The motion carried unanimously.

A-2 Consideration of Additional Funding for Paris School District

Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education Director Ms. Tonya Williams said the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education has been working closely with the Division of Children and Family Services to ensure that services are made available to children who have been placed into Foster Care. ABC Programs have been asked to prioritize services to these children due to the trauma that they suffer when removed from their homes and to allow for temporary arrangements when possible. This has resulted in the Paris School District incurring costs beyond their budget approved for 2016-2017 in the amount of \$6,318.00 to serve three additional children. For the 2016-2017 school year, the Paris School District was initially approved for \$315,900.00 and the new budget request is for a total of \$322,218.00 for the 2016-2017 school year.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve additional funding for Paris School District in the total amount of \$322,218.00. The motion carried unanimously.

A-3 Consideration of Arkansas Better Chance 2017-2018 Professional Service Contracts

Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education Director Ms. Tonya Williams requested approval of the Arkansas Better Chance Professional Service Contracts for the 2017-2018 school year.

Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve Arkansas Better Chance 2017-2018 professional service contracts for a total of \$ 7,275,823.95. The motion carried unanimously.

A-4 Considerations of Enhancement Grants

Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education Director Ms. Tonya Williams said a recommendation for use of the AR Better Chance funding remaining at the end of the 2016-2017 school year is requested to assist ABC Programs with the following: ability to purchase ABC classroom materials /supplies, outdoor equipment; provide summer services beyond the school year of 178 days and the continuation of AmeriCorps for schools through the Southeast AR Education Cooperative. ABC funding is being proposed to support the participation of ABC programs with the Arkansas R.I.S.E. and Imagination Library Initiatives.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Dr. Hill, to approve 2016-2017 enhancement grants for a total of \$1,245,028. The motion carried unanimously.

A-5 PLSB Case No. 16-149 Clinton Irving Clay, Educator's Proposal to Settle Case Prior to State Board Review

PLSB Attorney Ms. Bilenda Harris-Ritter said the educator has submitted a proposal to settle the case prior to State Board consideration of hearing.

Attorney Mr. Tom Donaldson said educator Mr. Clinton Clay has appealed the PLSB recommendation. Mr. Donaldson requested Mr. Clay receive two (2) years of probation, \$75 fine, require completion of training on the AETN/ArkansasIDEAS online portal consisting of course IAD 14491: Classroom Management; Managing Challenging Behavior (2 hours); course IAD 14492: Classroom Management: Building Effective Relationships, 2nd Edition (11 hours); and course LAB 1501; Closing the Attitude Gap (2 hours); with written reflections on how each respective training will impact his future conduct with students. Mr. Donaldson said the incident occurred in 2016. He said the Marion school board held a hearing and did not uphold any sanctions against Mr. Clay.

Ms. Harris-Ritter said the settlement was not made to the PLSB. She said the review by the school district was in regard to employment. The State Board review is regarding ethics for educators.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to deny the settlement offer for Mr. Clinton Clay. The motion carried unanimously.

A-6 State Board Review of PLSB Evidentiary Hearing Findings and Recommendations – PLSB Case No. 16-149; Clinton Irving Clay

PLSB Attorney Ms. Bilenda Harris-Ritter said educator Mr. Clinton Irving Clay requested a hearing in regard to PLSB Case No. 16-149.

Attorney Mr. Tom Donaldson said that many people spoke at the Marion School District hearing in support of Coach Clay. He shared some of the remarks from the testimonies. He said the Marion school board voted 6-0 to reject the superintendent's recommendation of termination. Mr. Donaldson said school board members testified at the PLSB hearing in support of Coach Clay. He cited previous PLSB cases where a reduced recommendation was approved. He requested probation instead of suspension.

Ms. Harris-Ritter said that on March 1, 2016, a confrontation occurred between Mr. Clay and a student. She said statements from students, a police report, and other documents, including a video, were reviewed. She said Mr. Clay was found by the PLSB to be in Violation of Standard 1: An Educator maintains a professional relationship with each student, both in and outside the classroom. She said the Professional Licensure Standards Board Ethics Subcommittee hearing panel recommended that the State Board suspend Mr. Clay's license for six (6) months, assess a \$100 fine and require completion of training on the AETN/ArkansasIDEAS online portal consisting of course IAD 14491: Classroom Management; Managing Challenging Behavior (2 hours); course IAD 14492: Classroom Management: Building Effective Relationships, 2nd Edition (11 hours); and course LAB 1501; Closing the

Attitude Gap (2 hours); with written reflections on how each respective training will impact his future conduct with students.

General Counsel Ms. Lori Freno requested the Board review the video privately. The Board considered the evidence provided.

Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to impose a 2-year probation, \$75 fine, recommended coursework, and impose addressing the student body for Mr. Clinton Irving Clay.

Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson to amend the motion to recommend Mr. Clay address the student body.

Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Dr. Hill to amend the motion by including written reflections following completion of the recommended coursework.

The final motion is to impose a 2-year probation, \$75 fine, recommended coursework with written reflections submitted to the PLSB office following completion of the recommended coursework, and recommend to the school district that they have Mr. Clinton Irving Clay address the student body regarding his ethics violation. The final motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers to adopt the findings from the PLSB Ethics Subcommittee and Evidentiary Hearing Committee. Ms. Zook voted no. The final vote was 7-1. The motion carried.

A-7 Consideration of Waiver Request for Teaching License – Carol McCollum (Isenhower)

PLSB Attorney Ms. Bilenda Harris-Ritter said the Department recommended that the waiver be granted.

Attorney Clayton Blackstock said in 1999 Ms. McCollum left her child in the car as she entered the pharmacy because the child had chicken pox. He said she did not know that her name was on the child maltreatment registry.

Mr. Williamson moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to grant the waiver for licensure for Ms. Carol McCollum. The motion carried unanimously.

A-8 Consideration of Revocation of Teaching License – William Hardiman

PLSB Attorney Ms. Bilenda Harris-Ritter said Mr. Hardiman had ethics violations, entered a plea of guilty, is required to register as a sex offender, and was sentenced to probation for five (5) years.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to revoke the teaching license for Mr. William Hardiman. The motion carried unanimously.

A-9 Consideration of Revocation of Teaching License – Lester Dwayne Curry

PLSB Attorney Ms. Bilenda Harris-Ritter said Mr. Curry had ethics violations, is required to register as a sex offender, and was sentenced to five (5) years incarceration.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to revoke the teaching license for Mr. Lester Dwayne Curry. The motion carried unanimously.

A-10 Consideration of Revocation of Teaching License – James C. Arender

PLSB Attorney Ms. Bilenda Harris-Ritter said Mr. Arender had ethics violations, pleaded guilty to Felony Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and was sentenced to 60-months probation.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Mr. Black, to revoke the teaching license for Mr. James C. Arender. The motion carried unanimously.

A-11 Consideration of the Recommendation of the Office of Educator Effectiveness, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Advisory Subcommittee, for Suspension of License – Melissa Adamson (Rice)

Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Educator Effectiveness and Licensure Dr. Ivy Pfeffer said the candidate received funding, did not complete the certification, and did not repay the funds.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to suspend teaching license until payment is made in full for Ms. Melissa Adamson (Rice). The motion carried unanimously.

A-12 Consideration of the Recommendation of the Office of Educator Effectiveness, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Advisory Subcommittee, for Suspension of License – Evelyn E. James

Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Educator Effectiveness and Licensure Dr. Ivy Pfeffer said the candidate received funding, did not complete the certification, and did not repay the funds.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Dr. Hill, to suspend teaching license until payment is made in full for Ms. Evelyn E. James. The motion carried unanimously.

A-13 Consideration of the Recommendation of the Office of Educator Effectiveness, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Advisory Subcommittee, for Suspension of License – Yvette Green

Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Educator Effectiveness and Licensure Dr. Ivy Pfeffer said the candidate received funding, did not complete the certification, and did not repay the funds.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to suspend teaching license until payment is made in full for Ms. Yvette Green. The motion carried unanimously.

A-14 Consideration of Report on Waivers to School Districts for Teachers Teaching Out of Area for Longer than Thirty (30) Days, Ark. Code Ann.§ 6- 17-309

Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Educator Effectiveness and Licensure Dr. Ivy Pfeffer said some issues stood out in the report. She said some school districts had paperwork issues that were cleared up on the long-term substitutes list. She said Jacksonville North Pulaski School District realized an error that has also been corrected. Dr. Pfeffer said she would provide a comprehensive report at the July Board meeting.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to approve the Report on Waivers to School Districts for Teachers Teaching Out of Area for Longer than Thirty (30) Days, Ark. Code Ann.§ 6- 17-309. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Agenda B

B-1 District Request for Waivers Granted to Open-Enrollment Charters: Cedar Ridge School District

Public School Program Advisor Ms. Kelly McLaughlin said Act 1240 of 2015 allows a school district to petition the State Board of Education for all or some of the waivers granted to Open-Enrollment public charter schools that serve students who reside in the school district.

Cedar Ridge School Superintendent Mr. Andy Ashley said the district is redefining college and career ready. He requested waivers for teacher licensure, class size and teaching load, flexible schedule, and library media.

Principal Mr. Greg Thetford said a flex-mod schedule would provide additional opportunities for students.

Representative James Sturch said he is an advocate for career pathways that support communities. He shared success stories of students in the area.

Dr. Ivy Pfeffer recommended flexibility for teaching licenses for adjacent grade levels.

Mr. Ashley said Cedar Ridge would work with ADE to develop rules for licensure. He said the teachers and parents have discussed the waivers and the school board approved the waivers.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to approve waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for teacher licensure for Cedar Ridge School District for five years. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for class size and teaching load for Cedar Ridge School District for five years. Dr. Barth voted no. The final vote was 7-1. The motion carried.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Dr. Barth, to approve waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for flexible schedule for Cedar Ridge School District for five years. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for library media for Cedar Ridge School District for five years. The motion carried unanimously.

**B-2 District Request for Waivers Granted to Open-Enrollment Charters:
Greenwood School District**

Public School Program Advisor Ms. Kelly McLaughlin said Greenwood School District was requesting one waiver for five (5) years.

Greenwood School District Assistant Superintendent Mr. Kevin Hesslen said the two buildings are under one roof.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to approve waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for media specialist requirements for Greenwood School District for five (5) years. The motion carried unanimously.

B-3 District Request for Waivers Granted to Open-Enrollment Charters: Marvell-Elaine School District

Public School Program Advisor Ms. Kelly McLaughlin said Marvell-Elaine School District requested waivers for five years.

Marvell-Elaine School District Superintendent Dr. Joyce Cottoms said the students deserve the same opportunities as other students across the state. She requested waivers from flexible schedule, board meetings, teacher licensure, and local task force on Closing the Achievement Gap. She said the waivers would provide additional opportunities for the students and would provide stability to the community. She said the faculty discussed the waivers and the school board approved the waivers. She requested the waivers for five years.

Dr. Cottoms said the school board would continue to meet monthly but the waiver would allow meetings to be cancelled or a phone meeting would be held.

Staff Attorney Ms. Jennifer Davis explained the school board waiver options.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for flexible schedule for Marvell-Elaine School District for five years. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to deny waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for board meetings for Marvell-Elaine School District for five years. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to approve waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for teacher licensure for Marvell-Elaine School District for five years. Dr. Barth voted no. The final vote was 7-1. The motion carried.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to approve waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for local task force on Closing the Achievement Gap for Marvell-Elaine School District for five years. Dr. Barth and Ms. Chambers voted no. The final vote was 6-2. The motion carried.

B-4 District Request for Waivers Granted to Open-Enrollment Charters: Mountain Home School District

Public School Program Advisor Ms. Kelly McLaughlin said the Mountain Home School District requested waivers of flexible scheduling, class size and teaching load, teacher licensure, and grading scale for three years.

Mountain Home School District Assistant Superintendent Dr. LeAnn Gigliotti said the district received previously approved waivers that allowed for flexibility and progress.

Director of Student Services Dr. Dana Brown said the high school has been a district conversion charter school since 2012. She said the district will provide Grades K-8 students flexible learning environments through Summit Learning and local online venues.

Director of Research and Development Ms. Janet Wood shared data from interviews of students that left the district. She said the waivers are used by the virtual charter schools that are serving some of the students that left the district.

Junior High Principal Mr. Ron Czanstkowski said the State Board requested a report on the flexible pathway waiver previously granted. He said after traditional, IEP and/or 504 accommodations did not meet the student needs, flexible pathways are successful for the identified students.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to approve waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for flexible schedule for Mountain Home School District for three years. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Dr. Barth, to deny waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for class size and teaching load for Mountain Home School District for three years. Ms. Zook, Mr. Williamson, Ms. Chambers voted no. The final vote was 5-3. The motion carried.

Ms. Chambers moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to approve waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for teacher licensure for Mountain Home School District for three years. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to approve waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for grading scale for Mountain Home School District for three years. The motion carried unanimously.

B-5 District Request for Waivers Granted to Open-Enrollment Charters: North Little Rock School District

Public School Program Advisor Ms. Kelly McLaughlin said the North Little Rock School District is requesting waivers from teacher licensure, flexible scheduling, and class size/teaching load.

North Little Rock Middle School Principal Ms. Lee Tackett said the school will implement Opportunity Culture. She outlined the five principles of Opportunity Culture. She said the school would utilize Summit Learning for personalized learning.

North Little Rock School District Executive Director Ms. Karli Saracini said this is an opportunity to support teachers to become teacher leaders. She said an aspiring teacher, student intern, novice teacher, and experienced teacher would be grouped and supported by a lead teacher. She said partners such as Harding University, University of Central Arkansas, Arkansas Department of Education, and the Arkansas Leadership Academy are supporting the Opportunity Culture. She said the school would utilize Summit Learning for personalized learning.

Grade 6 Counselor Ms. Pearce Peacock said the class size flexibility permits the school to adjust classes to provide interventions for students. She said the school hoped to become a School of Innovation in the future.

Grade 6 Building Administrator Mr. Michael Clark said the waivers coordinate with the high school waivers.

Ms. Chambers moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to approve waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for teacher licensure for North Little Rock School District for five years. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for flexible scheduling for North Little Rock School District for five years. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Chambers moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to approve waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for class size/teaching load for North Little Rock School District for five years. The motion carried unanimously.

B-6 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Amendment Request: Cross County High School, Cherry Valley

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Amendment Request for Cross County High School, Cherry Valley. The motion carried unanimously.

B-7 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Amendment Request: Farmington Career Academies, Farmington

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Amendment Request for Farmington Career Academies, Farmington. The motion carried unanimously.

B-8 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment Request: Arkansas Arts Academy, Rogers

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment Request for Arkansas Arts Academy, Rogers. The motion carried unanimously.

B-9 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Review Hearing: Covenant Keepers Charter School, Little Rock

Charter School Director Ms. Alexandra Boyd said by a vote of 6-to-1, the Panel voted for the revocation of the charter.

Attorney Mr. Jess Askew III said Covenant Keepers Charter School requested a review by the State Board. He said school serves a high need area and has made progress in the last couple of years. He said the decision of the Panel was made on erroneous information.

Public Comment: Little Rock City Director Ms. Joan Adcock asked the Board to review the decision.

Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to review the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Review Hearing for Covenant Keepers Charter School, Little Rock. Dr. Barth voted no. The final vote was 7-1. The motion carried.

The Board requested a copy of the charter, a copy of the original charter, names of board members and business or financial contact with the school – and was proper notice provided, staff for next year, present and projected enrollment, Covenant Keepers Charter School response to suggestions from ADE regarding governance, copy of audit, how the overpayment was spent, any corrections or inconsistency in data submissions and reporting, academic performance across years, salary of

superintendent in comparison to similar schools (size, charter, location), application of expected growth, concordance scores, minutes from school board meetings (last five years), response from school attorney regarding inaccuracies, and how has the charter reached out for or responded to advice from ADE.

The Board requested that an email received by Board members be provided to Covenant Keepers Charter School.

The Board agreed to hold a special meeting on Tuesday, May 30, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. All documents must be submitted to ADE by May 22, 2017. Public comments will be limited to three minutes at the end of the presentation for each person that signs in to speak.

B-10 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Review Hearing: Rockbridge Montessori Charter School, Little Rock

Charter School Director Ms. Alexandra Boyd said by a vote of 5-1, the Panel decided to place the charter on Probation for 1 year with reports due every 90 days to the Charter Unit in the areas of special education, governance, finance, and required reporting.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Review Hearing for Rockbridge Montessori Charter School, Little Rock. The motion carried unanimously.

B-11 Consideration for Final Approval: ADE Rules Governing Education Service Cooperatives

Attorney Specialist Ms. Jennifer Davis said changes to these rules are necessary to better comport with the laws regarding education service cooperative evaluations and review. A public comment hearing was held on April 12, 2017. The public comment period ended on April 24, 2017. Public comments were received, but no substantive changes were made. Governor's approval was received on April 11, 2017.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to approve the ADE Rules Governing Education Service Cooperatives. The motion carried unanimously.

B-12 Nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair

Dr. Jay Barth, Mr. Joe Black and Ms. Diane Zook presented nominations for the 2017-2018 State Board Chair and Vice-Chair roles. Ms. Zook nominated Dr. Barth for chair and Mr. Black for vice-chair.

Ms. Chambers moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to accept the nominations of Dr. Barth as chair and Mr. Black as vice-chair for 2017-2018. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Report-1 2016 Arkansas Teacher of the Year Report

Teacher of the Year Ms. Meghan Ables said she collaborated with ADE teams regarding Educator Effectiveness and Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) application. She said she would be facilitating a Facebook Live Series and each advisory team would be discussing their part of the ESSA application.

Ms. Ables visited El Dorado Elementary and she said the educators are implementing the Observe Me Movement. She said this is great professional growth for teachers.

Report-2 Computer Science Report

Director of Computer Science Mr. Anthony Owen said Governor Hutchinson is on a Coding Tour of the State. He shared a video about Coding in Arkansas.

Mr. Owen said the Governor's All-State Coding Competition was successful. He said Verizon sponsored the event and has already committed to sponsoring the event next year.

Mr. Owen said the April Praxis exam had the largest number of participants. He said the Computer Science Endorsement Stipend Program will be announced through Commissioner's Memo. He said Virtual Arkansas has developed a placement survey for students that will assist guidance counselors in placing students in coding courses. He said Computer Science Specialists are providing professional development at every cooperative this summer.

Report-3 Educator Recruitment and Retention: Educators Rising Initiative Announcement and Brief Presentation

Report moved to Friday, May 12, 2017.

Report-4 Team Up for School Nutrition Success

Assistant Director of Child Nutrition Ms. Stephanie Alsbrook said the Institute of Child Nutrition (ICN) along with its Applied Research Division (ARD) collaborated with USDA to develop, pilot, and manage the Team Up for School Nutrition Success workshops across the country in 2015. Team Up is a face-to-face peer mentoring program that brings school nutrition professionals together to share solutions using a research-based model that encourages participants to identify their strengths, barriers, and best practices. The Arkansas Child Nutrition Unit has hosted two Team Up events since the introduction of this model.

Ms. Alsbrook said the teams are expanding and feedback has been excellent. Volunteers have already signed up for 2018 Team Up.

Public Comment

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Dr. Barth, to hear public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: Dr. Anika Whitfield asked the Board to return the Little Rock School District to local control.

Public Comment: Ms. Samantha Toro asked the Board to return the Little Rock School District to local control.

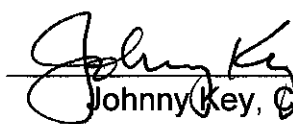
Public Comment: Reverend Maxine Allen asked the Board to return the Little Rock School District to local control.

Public Comment: Ms. Vicki Hatter asked the Board to return the Little Rock School District to local control.

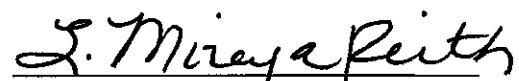
Adjournment

Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Mr. Black, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Deborah Coffman



Johnny Key, Commissioner



Mireya Reith, Chair

