

**Minutes
State Board of Education Meeting
Friday, June 10, 2016**

The State Board of Education met Friday, June 10, 2016, in the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) Auditorium. Chair Toyce Newton called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

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

Absent: none.

Reports

Report-1 Chair's Report

Ms. Reith provided an update on the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) stipend. She said a planning session would be scheduled for Thursday, June 23, 2016, in Little Rock. She said Mr. Francis Eberle has agreed to facilitate the project.

Dr. Barth said the regional NASBE meeting is scheduled for June 24-25, 2016, at the Little Rock Central High Visitors Center in Little Rock.

Report-2 Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Johnny Key recognized Ms. Kendra Clay, ADE Counsel. Ms. Clay is leaving the agency to go to work for a school district.

Commissioner Key announced the launch of the ADE webpage for the **Vision for Excellence in Education**, available at <http://www.arkansased.gov/about-ade/vision-for-excellence-in-education>. He said the ADE team has worked on the mission, vision, values, and goals. He said stakeholders provided and continued to provide feedback at all stages of the process. He said the strategic plan would become the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). He said students from two EAST Initiative Programs are working on a student voice component.

Report-3 2015 ATOY Report

2015 Arkansas Teacher of the Year Ms. Ouida Newton presented a component of her professional development project, a blog on the Arkansas Social Studies Standards. The blog is available at <http://arkansased.edublogs.org>.

Ms. Newton presented the Board a copy of the Teacher of the Year book. The book is available at

http://www.arkansased.gov/public/userfiles/Communications/2016_Teacher_of_the_Year/2016_ATOY_Recognition_Publication_Compressed.pdf.

Ms. Newton introduced the next video in the Teacher Leadership Video Series available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZUEU1fFyGYs>. The video highlighted mentorship as explained by Ms. Candace Wilson and Ms. Tasha Penn from Sheridan Junior High School in the Sheridan School District. She said Ms. Wilson and Ms. Penn co-teach one period a day.

Report-4 2014-2015 Grade Inflation Report

Coordinator of School Improvement and Standards Assurance Mr. Elbert Harvey submitted the 2014-2015 Grade Inflation Report. He said the report, includes for each high school, the number of students receiving a grade of "B" or above in the corresponding course who scored less than "19" on the ACT math or reading exams. He said the highlighted section identifies any high school in which twenty percent (20%) or more of the students received a letter grade of "B" or above and scored less than "19" on the ACT math or reading exams.

Report-5 ForwARd Arkansas Report

Co-Chair of the Forward Implementation Committee Dr. David Raney introduced Executive Director of ForwARd Ms. Susan Harriman.

ForwARd Executive Director Ms. Susan Harriman said the ForwARD listening tours in Crossett, Marianna, Pea Ridge, and Batesville provided excellent feedback. She said future tour stops are planned in Dollarway and El Dorado.

Ms. Harriman shared two new communication tools. She said the link to the new website is <http://forwardarkansas.poweredbyrev.com/>. She said the link to the new video (to be added to the new website before release) is <https://www.dropbox.com/s/153u92ab23lnidr/ForwARd%20Preview5.mp4?dl=0>.

Ms. Harriman said ForwARd hosted a legislative breakfast briefing in April. She said the ForwARD partners would be developing and promoting the ForwARD policy agenda. She said Dr. Denise Airola was developing a crosswalk of strategic goals with ESSA, ADE and ForwARd.

Ms. Harriman requested the State Board adopt a Memorandum of Understanding. She outlined the responsibilities of each partner. Board Members requested a work session in Fall 2016.

Mr. Williamson moved, seconded by Dr. Barth, to add an action item to the agenda. Ms. Zook voted no. The final vote was 7-1. The motion carried.

Action Item-1 Consideration of Memorandum of Understanding with ForwARd

Ms. Reith moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding with ForwARd. Ms. Zook voted no. The final vote was 7-1. The motion carried.

Report-6 Learning Services Report

Assistant Commissioner of Learning Services Ms. Stacy Smith reported in regards to the Department's work activities associated with college and career readiness.

Student Assessment Director Ms. Hope Allen said the testing times would be adjusted for the 2017 administration of ACT Aspire. She said the multiple-choice items would increase for English Grades 3, 4, and 5. She said the multiple-choice would increase the Mathematics Grades 3, 4, and 5 and constructive response will decrease by a single item in 2017. Ms. Allen outlined the next steps in the validity process. She said the 2017 assessment would provide additional accommodations. She said there is no "opt-out" in Arkansas. Ms. Allen said a study in 2011-2012 was conducted on the ACT regarding bias. She said the full report would be provided to the Board.

General Counsel Ms. Kendra Clay said districts are responsible for implementing the dyslexia law. She said each district signs a statement of assurance that the district is implementing all requirements.

Report-7 Computer Science Report

Computer Science Coordinator Mr. Anthony Owen reported in regards to the Department's work activities associated with Computer Science. He provided additional information by handout. He said Arkansas was gaining national attention. He said the initiative supported Arkansas projects such as the EAST Initiative.

Adjournment

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:48am.

Minutes recorded by Deborah Coffman.


Mireya Reith, Chair


Johnny Key, Commissioner of Education