

**Minutes  
State Board of Education Meeting  
Thursday, December 10, 2015**

The State Board of Education met Thursday, December 10, 2015, in the Arkansas Department of Education Auditorium. Chair Toyce Newton called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

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

Absent: none

**Consent Agenda**

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

Items included in the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes - November 12, 2015
- Review of Loan and Bond Applications
- Newly Employed, Promotions and Separations
- Report on Waivers to School Districts for Teachers Teaching Out of Area for Longer than Thirty (30) Days, Ark. Code Ann. §6-17-309
- Annual Report on Programs for Gifted and Talented Students
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #15-153 – Lee Jameson Black
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #15-184 – David Paul Smith

**Action Agenda**

**A-1 Consideration of Resolution for Arkansas School Board Member Recognition**

Commissioner Key said the Arkansas School Boards Association requested approval of a resolution recognizing January as Arkansas School Board Member Recognition Month.

Ms. Reith moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to approve the Resolution for Arkansas School Board Member Recognition. The motion carried unanimously.

## **A-2 Consideration of the Arkansas Better Chance Enhancement Grant**

Ms. Mary Kaye McKinney, representing the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, said in June 2015, the State Board approved one-time funding to enhance the services for 21 ABC programs serving infants and toddlers in their community. When processing the payments for the final payment in June, two programs were inadvertently left off the list for payment. The two programs were Cedar Ridge School District for \$61,656 and Earle School District for \$26,424. She requested approval to allow funding out of the current fiscal year budget.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Reith, to approve the Arkansas Better Chance Enhancement Grants for Cedar Ridge School District for \$61,656 and Earle School District for \$26,424. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. McKinney provided longitudinal outcomes for Arkansas Better Chance Children (2008 Cohort) as previously requested by Ms. Zook.

Ms. Sarah Ague, Arkansas Research Center, said students who participate in the ABC program are more likely to be proficient on state assessments than students who do not participate in the ABC program. The Board requested additional information regarding the demographics of students participating and not participating in ABC programs.

## **A-3 Consideration of Arkansas Better Chance Funding Request for the Paris School District**

Ms. Mary Kaye McKinney, representing the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, said the Paris School District was approved in August 2015 to provide services for 63 children with \$306,180.00 annual budget. She recommended the Board increase the Paris School District's number of ABC children to 65 and provide one retroactive payment of \$972.00 for these two slots back to October 1. She said these services would accommodate two children in extenuating circumstances that are now in the custody of a family within the Paris community and in need of quality child care services. She requested the Board approve the increase to the Paris School District by \$972.00 per month and make their total budget for the remaining part of the year \$312,012.00.

Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to approve the Arkansas Better Chance Funding Request for the Paris School District. The motion carried unanimously.

## **A-4 Adoption of State Board of Education Meeting Dates for Calendar Year**

## **2016**

General Counsel Ms. Kendra Clay said Arkansas statute requires that each constitutional board and commission set proposed dates for the next calendar year. The State Board of Education has previously set the second Thursday and Friday of each month as its regular meeting dates. On October 8, 2015, the State Board approved the 2016 meeting dates so that other meetings at ADE may be planned. She said Arkansas statute required that dates be approved in December; therefore, the ADE requested that the 2016 meeting dates be approved. She said the 2016 State Board calendar would reflect the second Thursday and Friday of each month. The State Board would only meet one day in November because of a holiday.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Reith, to approve the adoption of State Board of Education Meeting Dates for calendar year 2016. The motion carried unanimously.

### **A-5 Little Rock School District Report of Progress**

Little Rock School District Civic Advisory Committee Co-Chairs Dr. Dionne Jackson and Mr. Greg Adams said the LRSD Civic Advisory Committee received updates from four subcommittees regarding plans each subcommittee would achieve by February. The subcommittees reported the following actions: requesting feedback on a community survey, will conduct community surveys by February, are planning community forums, are in the process of creating a CAC Facebook page, all members are visiting all six schools in academic distress and considering the need for the current number of schools and potential school closures.

Little Rock School District Superintendent Mr. Baker Kurrus said the schools are doing a much better job in meeting the academic needs of students. He said the procedures of pre-test, teach, intervene, and post-test are working.

Mr. Kurrus said he has preliminary drawings for the new west school for sixth graders. He said he has met with groups regarding the new southwest school. He said the budget for the two projects would be approximately \$75 million.

Mr. Kurrus said he has not announced any changes in block scheduling at Central High School at this time. He said hard decisions would be needed to bring the district within a balanced budget.

Mr. Kurrus said all policy changes are made in collaboration with LRSD staff and the Commissioner's office. He said ongoing communication regarding changes needed to be collaborative and respectful. He said he has invited the public to visit the schools and be part of the solution.

Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to approve the Little Rock School District Progress Report. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-6 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment Requests: Quest Middle School of Pine Bluff**

Charter School Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on November 18, 2015, representatives from Quest Middle School of Pine Bluff appeared before the Panel requesting amendments to the charter. She said by a unanimous vote, the Panel denied the request. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Dr. Barth, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel action on Open-Enrollment Public Charter School amendment requests for the Quest Middle School of Pine Bluff. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-7 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on District Conversion Public Charter School Amendment Request: Washington Academy (Texarkana)**

Charter School Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on November 17, 2015, representatives from Washington Academy appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel requesting an amendment to the charter. She said by a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the request. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Ms. Chambers moved, seconded by Dr. Barth, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel action on District Conversion Public Charter School amendment request for the Washington Academy (Texarkana). The motion carried unanimously.

**A-8 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment Request: Academics Plus Charter School, Inc.**

Charter School Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on November 17, 2015, representatives from Academics Plus Charter School, Inc. appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel requesting an amendment to the charter. She said by a four-to-two vote, with one abstention, the Panel approved the request. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel action on Open-Enrollment Public Charter School amendment request for

the Academics Plus Charter School, Inc. Dr. Barth, Ms. Reith, and Ms. Chambers voted no. The final vote was 5-3. The motion carried.

**A-9 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on District Conversion Public Charter School Application: Cave City High School Career and Collegiate Preparatory School**

Charter School Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on November 18, 2015, the Charter Authorizing Panel held a hearing on the district conversion charter application for Cave City High School Career and Collegiate Preparatory School. She said by a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the application. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Ms. Chambers moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel action on District Conversion Public Charter School application for the Cave City High School Career and Collegiate Preparatory School. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-10 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on Public Charter School Application: Arkansas Connections Academy, Bentonville, Arkansas**

Charter School Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on November 17, 2015, the Charter Authorizing Panel continued the hearing from October 14, 2015, for the open-enrollment charter application for Arkansas Connections Academy. She said by a five-to-two vote, the Panel approved the application. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Mr. Williamson moved, seconded by Mr. Black, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel action on Public Charter School application for the Arkansas Connections Academy, Bentonville, Arkansas. Ms. Reith, Dr. Barth, Ms. Saviers, Ms. Zook, Ms. Chambers, and Ms. Dean voted no. The vote was 2-6. The motion failed.

Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Dr. Barth, to review the Charter Authorizing Panel action on Public Charter School application for the Arkansas Connections Academy, Bentonville, Arkansas. The motion carried unanimously.

**Work Session**

**W-1 Arkansas School Boards Association Luncheon**

The Arkansas School Boards Association invited the State Board to attend the ASBA luncheon. The Board attended the luncheon from 11:45-1:30 at the Marriott. There were no topics for discussion.

### **Action Agenda Continued**

#### **A-11 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on District Conversion Public Charter School Application: Fayetteville Virtual Academy**

Charter School Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on November 18, 2015, the Charter Authorizing Panel held a hearing on the district conversion charter application for Fayetteville Virtual Academy. She said by a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the application. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Fayetteville School District Assistant Superintendent Mr. John L. Colbert said the waiver from teacher fair dismissal would only include the staff involved in the Fayetteville Virtual Academy.

Fayetteville School District Superintendent Dr. Paul Hewitt said the waiver was needed to ensure that only the best teachers work in the virtual academy. He said no teachers would be transferred into the academy involuntarily.

Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Ms. Reith, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel action on District Conversion Public Charter School application for the Fayetteville Virtual Academy. Ms. Zook voted no. The final vote was 7-1. The motion carried.

#### **A-12 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on District Conversion Public Charter School Application: Gentry High School Conversion Charter**

Charter School Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on November 19, 2015, the Charter Authorizing Panel held a hearing on the district conversion charter application for Gentry High School Conversion Charter. She said by a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the application. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Ms. Chambers moved, seconded by Mr. Black, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel action on District Conversion Public Charter School application for the Gentry High School Conversion Charter. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **A-13 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on District Conversion Public**

### **Charter School Application: Hot Springs World Class High School**

Charter School Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on November 19, 2015, the Charter Authorizing Panel held a hearing on the district conversion charter application for Hot Springs World Class High School. She said by a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the application. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel action on District Conversion Public Charter School Application for the Hot Springs World Class High School. The motion carried unanimously.

### **A-14 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on District Conversion Public Charter School Application: Springdale School of Innovation**

Charter School Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on November 19, 2015, the Charter Authorizing Panel held a hearing on the district conversion charter application for Springdale School of Innovation. She said by a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the application. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel action on District Conversion Public Charter School application for the Springdale School of Innovation. Ms. Zook voted no. The final vote was 7-1. The motion carried.

Items A-15 and A-16 were considered together.

### **A-15 Consideration of Dermott School District Academic Distress Progress Report**

### **A-16 Consideration of Possible Action Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-430- Dermott School District**

School Improvement Director Dr. Richard Wilde said given concerns identified by the State Board Subcommittee for Academic Distress, Dermott School District was asked to provide quarterly reports to the State Board of Education. Dr. Wilde said the turnaround process is change and support. He said he would expect the district to identify a plan for change and persons responsible for the actions. He said during a site visit, the school improvement team interviewed teachers, support staff, principals and superintendent to explain how they are attempting to make the needed changes and the level of support provided. He said there was improvement in the Dermott School District.

Dermott School District Superintendent Ms. Kristi Ridgell said roles and responsibilities were developed and/or clarified in order to ensure leadership

teams are functioning appropriately. Leaders are using tools and data to make better decisions. She said interim assessment data were showing improvement in comparison to last year's data at this time.

Dermott High School Principal Mr. Mike Duncan said recruitment and retention of teachers was a challenge for the Dermott School District.

Ms. Ridgell said the district was partnering with the University of Arkansas at Monticello.

Dermott School Board President Mr. Tommie Robinson said the district would waive a hearing (referring to Action Item A-16) and support the ADE recommendation to hear progress reports quarterly from the Dermott School District.

Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to approve the Dermott School District Academic Distress Progress Report and accept the ADE recommendation to hear progress reports quarterly from the Dermott School District. The motion carried unanimously.

Items A-17 and A-18 were considered together.

**A-17 Consideration of Dollarway School District Academic Distress Progress Report**

**A-18 Consideration of Possible Action Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-430- Dollarway School District**

General Counsel Ms. Kendra Clay said on February 12, 2015, the State Board of Education classified the Dollarway High School in academic distress. She said Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-430(b) authorized the State Board to take action if a school is classified in academic distress.

School Improvement Director Dr. Richard Wilde said given concerns identified by the State Board Subcommittee for Academic Distress, the Dollarway School District was asked to provide quarterly reports to the State Board of Education. Dr. Wilde said the School Improvement Unit was tasked with monitoring the plan and actions. He said teachers, support staff, principals and the superintendent indicated that they do not feel supported.

Dollarway School District Superintendent Ms. Tammi Dockett-Wilson said the district was working to change culture. She said an organizational system was needed. She said the students must be the focus. She has requested mentors to assist her in this work. She said there was a high teacher absenteeism issue because of the low morale among employees. Ms. Dockett-Wilson said protocols were not in place for finance, maintenance, and leadership. She said she was putting the protocols into place and said there was now a sense of



order. She said the screening assessment implemented in the high school indicated 70% of students were basic or below basic (three or more years below grade level). She said the district has a high graduation rate but the data show the students are not prepared for college and career.

Ms. Dockett-Wilson said she attended the school board training with the Arkansas School Boards Association in August. She said she saw the friction with the board and the previous superintendent. She said the board has been supportive of her. She has been interim superintendent since November 3, 2015.

Dr. Wilde said it is important to understand who is distracting the superintendent from the important work.

Dollarway School District Assistant Superintendent Dr. Melvin Bryant said the key issue affecting the staff was the micromanagement from the school board. He said the district was in crisis. He said he spends most of his time dealing with adult issues that take time away from student issues.

Dollarway School Board President Ms. Billie Sanders Langford said the past two superintendents did not stabilize the district. She said the board has been asking many questions. She said some staff was not ready for change. She said decisions have been made in haste. She said there were hidden agendas. She said there were many outside distractions that have affected the progress of the district.

Parent Ms. Annie Bryant said she is very passionate about the Dollarway School District. She said the district needed a systemic change.

Dollarway School District employee Mr. Martin D. Golden said he was in support of the Dollarway School District and the leadership of Ms. Dockett-Wilson.

Dollarway School District employee Mr. Michael Coates said he has been an employee of the Dollarway School District for 16 years. He said he was in support of Ms. Dockett-Wilson.

Dollarway School District Former Superintendent Ms. Patsy Hughey said the district has been struggling with these same issues for years. She said the district has had many superintendents. She said the school board would not permit her to speak to the public about a millage increase.

Assistant Commissioner for Fiscal and Administrative Services Mr. Greg Rogers said the district was back on track with nutrition. He said an audit was conducted but results are not finalized.

Dr. Wilde said the school board, not the district or building leadership, reassigned

a teacher. He said this speaks to the micromanagement of the school board.

Dollarway School District Administrative Assistant for Transportation Ms. Renda Johnson-Fennell said she has been with the district for 18 years. She said Ms. Dockett- Wilson has been fair.

Parent Mr. Isadore Daniels said the Dollarway School Board is a problem and he recommended they be removed.

Commissioner Key said given the considerations it is my recommendation that the State Board remove all of the current members of the Dollarway School District Board of Directors and allow me, as the Commissioner, to assume all authority of the board of directors as may be necessary for the day-to-day governance of the school district. I recommend that Ms. Tammi Dockett-Wilson, who is currently acting as interim superintendent, be returned to her previous position as School Improvement Specialist for the Dollarway School District, and that Ms. Barbara Warren is appointed as superintendent of the Dollarway School District.

Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to approve the Commissioner's recommendation to assume state authority over the Dollarway School District by removing the school board; reassignment of the interim superintendent, Ms. Tammi Dockett-Wilson to School Improvement Specialist; and appointment of Ms. Barbara Warren as superintendent, effective immediately, with bi-monthly reporting to the State Board. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **A-19 Consideration of Waiver Request for Teaching License – Ann K. Morocco**

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Attorney Ms. Jennifer Liwo said Ms. Ann K. Morocco was seeking the renewal of her teaching license and has applied for a lifetime license. She said the Department received notification that Ms. Morocco's name appeared on the Child Maltreatment Central Registry. She said on September 30, 2015, the Department notified Ms. Morocco that she was disqualified from holding a teaching license under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-410. Ms. Morocco requested a waiver of the disqualification from the State Board. Ms. Liwo recommended the waiver be granted.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to approve the waiver of disqualification for Ms. Ann K. Morocco. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **A-20 Consideration of Waiver Request for Teaching License – Clarence D. Mumford**

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Attorney Ms. Cheryl Reinhart said Mr. Clarence Donald Mumford was a licensed educator and received his license by reciprocity. She said the Department received information that Tennessee and Mississippi revoked his teaching licenses in those states. Further, Mr. Mumford has been convicted of an offense that under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-410 disqualified him for licensure. She said on September 16, 2015, and on September 29, 2015, the Department notified Mr. Mumford that he was disqualified from holding a teaching license. Mr. Mumford requested a waiver of the disqualification from the State Board. Ms. Reinhart recommended revocation of license.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to approve the revocation of license for Mr. Clarence D. Mumford. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **A-21 State Board Review of PLSB Evidentiary Hearing Findings and Recommendations – PLSB Case No. 15-088; Angela Lynn Phifer (Melton)**

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Attorney Ms. Jennifer Liwo said Ms. Angela Lynn Phifer Melton was in violation of Standard 3: An educator honestly fulfills reporting obligations associated with professional practices. She said following an evidentiary hearing on July 10, 2015, the Professional Licensure Standards Board Ethics Subcommittee recommended that the State Board suspend Ms. Melton's license for one (1) year, assess a \$100.00 fine, and require Ms. Melton to complete Tier 2 financial training prior to the reinstatement of her license. Ms. Melton made a timely request for State Board review. Ms. Melton filed her written objection and brief. The PLSB has filed its response.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to approve the suspension of Ms. Melton's license for one (1) year, assess a \$100.00 fine, and require Ms. Melton to complete Tier 2 financial training prior to the reinstatement of her license and permit her to return to teaching in the summer of 2016. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **A-22 Consideration of Revocation of Teaching License – Kristi Dawn Brinkman-Lee**

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Attorney Ms. Cheryl Reinhart said Ms. Kristi Dawn Brinkman-Lee was a licensed educator. She said the Department received information that Ms. Brinkman-Lee pleaded guilty to an offense that under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-410 disqualified her for licensure. She said on September 9, 2015, the Department notified Ms. Brinkman-Lee that she was disqualified from holding a teaching license. Ms. Brinkman-Lee did not respond or request a waiver of the disqualification from the State Board.

Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Ms. Reith, to approve the revocation of license for Ms. Kristi Dawn Brinkman-Lee. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-23 Consideration of Revocation of Teaching License – Deborah K. Freeman**

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Attorney Ms. Cheryl Reinhart said Ms. Deborah K. Freeman is a licensed educator. The Department received notification that Ms. Freeman's name appears on the Child Maltreatment Central Registry. On September 10, 2015, the Department notified Ms. Freeman that she is disqualified from holding a teaching license under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-410. Ms. Freeman did not respond or request a waiver of the disqualification from the State Board.

Ms. Chambers moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to approve the revocation of license for Ms. Deborah K. Freeman. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-24 Consideration for Final Approval: Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Schools of Innovation**

Staff Attorney Mr. Cory Biggs said the State Board, on October 8, 2015, approved for public comment the proposed Rules Governing Schools of Innovation. He said a public hearing was held on October 20, 2015. The public comment period expired on November 10, 2015. Public comments were received; no substantive changes were made. The proposed rules have been approved by the Governor's Office. Mr. Biggs requested that the State Board give final approval to these rules pending Legislative Council review.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Mr. Black, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Schools of Innovation. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-25 Consideration for Final Approval: Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Succeed Scholarship Program**

Staff Attorney Mr. Cory Biggs said the State Board, on October 8, 2015, approved for public comment the proposed Rules Governing the Succeed Scholarship Program. A public hearing was held on October 20, 2015. The public comment period expired on November 10, 2015. Public comments were received; no substantive changes were made. The proposed rules have been approved by the Governor's Office. Mr. Biggs requested that the State Board give final approval to these rules pending Legislative Council review.

Special Education Attorney Ms. Courtney Salas-Ford said the parent maintains the rights under IDEA.

Mr. Williamson moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Succeed Scholarship Program. Ms. Zook and Ms. Saviers voted no. Ms. Reith abstained and Dr. Barth voted present. The final vote was 4-2. The motion carried.

**A-26 Consideration for Final Approval: Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Local Education Agency Numbers**

Staff Attorney Ms. Jennifer Davis said Ark. Code Ann. § 25-6-107 addressed local education numbers and allowed the State Board of Education to adopt rules necessary to fully implement the issuance of LEA numbers. She said on October 8, 2015, the Board approved these rules for public comment. A public comment hearing was held on October 20, 2015. Public comments were received, but no substantive changes were made. The Governor's approval was received on November 10, 2015.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Local Education Agency Numbers. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-27 Consideration for Public Comment: Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Distribution of Student Special Needs Funding and the Determination of Allowable Expenditures of Those Funds**

Staff Attorney Mr. Cory Biggs said Acts 841, 846, 994, and 1115 of 2015 revised Arkansas laws pertaining to Student Special Needs Funding. Mr. Biggs requested that the State Board approve the proposed rules for public comment.

Assistant Commissioner of Learning Services Dr. Debbie Jones said the 3% cap has been the Department's practice. She said this puts practice into the rules.

Ms. Reith moved, seconded by Mr. Black, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Distribution of Student Special Needs Funding and the Determination of Allowable Expenditures of Those Funds for public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-28 Consideration for Public Comment: ADE Rules Governing School District Requirements For Personnel Policies, Salary Schedules, Minimum Salaries, And Documents Posted To District Websites**

Deputy Counsel Ms. Lori Freno said the ADE proposed revisions to these rules to bring them in compliance with Acts 44, 1087, and 1177 of 2015 (i.e., revised number of days of professional development to be included in a basic contract from 10 days to no less than 6 days; added to definition of "basic contract" language addressing teachers employed in a C-Step Program or the Arkansas National Guard Youth Challenge; clarified that minimum teacher compensation schedule at Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-2403 does not apply to part-time teachers or paraprofessionals employed by a school district to work in an adult education program). Ms. Freno requested the State Board release these rules for public comment.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Reith, to approve the ADE Rules Governing School District Requirements for Personnel Policies, Salary Schedules, Minimum Salaries, and Documents Posted to District Websites for public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-29 Consideration for Public Comment: Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards and Body Mass Index for Age Assessment Protocols in Arkansas Public Schools**

Staff Attorney Mr. Cory Biggs said Acts 846 and 1079 of 2015 revised Arkansas laws pertaining to Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards. Mr. Biggs requested the State Board approve the proposed rules for public comment.

Ms. Chambers moved, seconded by Ms. Reith, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards and Body Mass Index for Age Assessment Protocols in Arkansas Public Schools for public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-30 Consideration for Public Comment: Proposed Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Ethical Guidelines**

Staff Attorney Ms. Jennifer Davis said Act 846 of 2015 revised Arkansas laws pertaining to the ethical guidelines and prohibitions for educational administrators, employers, and board members, changing the requirements for contracting with an interested party of board members and employers from \$5,000 to \$10,000. Ms. Davis requested the State Board approve the proposed rules for public comment.

Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Ethical Guidelines for public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-31 Consideration for Public Comment: Proposed Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Education Service Cooperatives**

Staff Attorney Ms. Jennifer Davis said Act 846 of 2015 revised Arkansas laws pertaining to education service cooperative distribution of assets of a dissolved education service cooperative. Ms. Davis requested the State Board approve the proposed rules for public comment.

Ms. Reith moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Education Service Cooperatives for public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Williamson moved, seconded by Mr. Black, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.


The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

*Minutes recorded by Deborah Coffman.*

**Work Session**

**W-2 Professional Licensure Standards Board**

On November 12, 2015, State Board Members requested a work session with the Professional Licensure Standards Board to better understand the PLSB Ethics Complaint Process. Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Attorney Ms. Cheryl Reinhart and members of the PLSB presented information to the State Board Members.

  
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~~Toyce Newton, Chair~~  
m.ueya Reith, Acting  
Chair

  
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Johnny Key, Commissioner of Education