

**Minutes**  
**State Board of Education Meeting**  
**Thursday, August 13, 2015**

The State Board of Education met Thursday, August 13, 2015, in the Arkansas Department of Education Auditorium. Chair Toyce Newton called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

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

Absent: none

**Consent Agenda**

Dr. Barth pulled C-3 Review of Loan and Bond Applications, and Ms. Zook pulled C-8 Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-151 – Randalyn Hope (Harrison) Sutterfield and C-10 Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #15-071 – Haley L. Terhune-Hedden from the consent agenda.

Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve the consent agenda less items C-3 Review of Loan and Bond Applications, C-8 Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-151 – Randalyn Hope (Harrison) Sutterfield and C-10 Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #15-071 – Haley L. Terhune-Hedden. The motion carried unanimously.

- Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Reith, to approve C-3 Review of Loan and Bond Applications less the commercial bond for Dollarway and to table the Dollarway item. The motion carried unanimously.

At a later time in the meeting, Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to remove C-3 Review of Loan and Bond Applications, as it relates to the commercial bond for Dollarway, from the table. The motion carried unanimously.

After discussion, Mr. Williamson moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to table C-3 Review of Loan and Bond Applications, as it relates to the commercial bond for Dollarway, until later in the afternoon. The motion carried unanimously.

- Mr. Williamson moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to pull C-3 Review of Loan and Bond Applications, as it relates to the commercial bond for Dollarway, from the table. The motion carried unanimously.

Dollarway School District Superintendent Ms. Patsy Hughey and Mr. Scott Beardsley, Senior Vice President of First Security Beardsley, said the commercial bond was for academic and sports facilities. Mr. Beardsley explained that the school board followed a process to reach the decision to present the millage to the voters. He said part of the millage would include operations.

- Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Mr. Black, to approve C-3 Review of Loan and Bond Applications, as it relates to the commercial bond for Dollarway. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to send C-8 Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-151 – Randalyn Hope (Harrison) Sutterfield to PLSB for an evidentiary hearing. Dr. Barth voted no. The final vote was 7-1. The motion carried.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to approve C-10 Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #15-071 – Haley L. Terhune-Hedden. The motion carried unanimously.

Items included in the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes - July 9, 2015
- Minutes - July 10, 2015
- Review of Loan and Bond Applications
- Newly Employed, Promotions and Separations
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #15-091 – Dawn Michelle O’Neal
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-175 – James Anthony Pennington
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #15-071 – Haley L. Terhune-Hedden
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #15-083 – Kara Ashley Caldwell
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #15-084 – Jill Ann Rogers
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #15-100 – Timothy Dan Dailey
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #15-098 – Stan E. Karber

- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #15-113 – Sarah Ashton Woods
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #15-086 - Michele Yvette Casteel
- Consideration of Approval of Education Service Cooperatives' Annual Report

## **Action Agenda**

### **A-1 Consideration of Additional Arkansas Better Chance 2015-2016 Grants**

Ms. Mary Kaye McKinney, representing the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, said pursuant to the authority granted to the State Board of Education, the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education requested approval of the Arkansas Better Chance grants for the 2015-2016 school year totaling \$1,701,500.00.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Reith, to approve the additional Arkansas Better Chance 2015-2016 Grants totaling \$1,701,500.00. The motion carried unanimously.

### **A-2 Consideration of the Annual Student Discipline Report**

Office for Education Policy Faculty Director Dr. Gary Ritter and Research Assistant Ms. Kaitlin Anderson said Act 1329 of 2013 required the ADE to evaluate the impact of school discipline on student achievement and report findings to the State Board of Education and school districts. Dr. Ritter and Ms. Anderson said students are cited more often in disadvantaged districts. Ms. Anderson said for these infractions, the state data indicated schools with high minority enrollments employed more strict discipline and certain types of students received more days of punishment.

Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Ms. Reith, to approve the Annual Student Discipline Report. The motion carried unanimously.

### **A-3 Consideration of the Little Rock School District Monthly Report**

Little Rock School District Superintendent Mr. Baker Kurrus said the district was ready to begin school on Monday. He said enrollment was projected to increase. He said the district had identified school improvement specialists for the academic distress schools. He said he needed the Civic Advisory Committee to respond to the questions that he posed previously. He said the district was working with the Little Rock Education Association to negotiate a contract.

Mr. Greg Adams, co-chair of the LRSD Civic Advisory Committee, said the committee had set a retreat date for September 19, 2015. He said the committee would address the questions presented previously by Mr. Kurrus. He said student and teacher representatives would be reassigned if they were no longer in an identified academic distress school.

Commissioner Key said he was recently invited to speak at the LRSD Principals' Institute and was pleased by the positive responses from the LRSD administrators. He said many organizations are now seeking to partner with LRSD because of the exciting outlook and positive energy in the district. He and the Board expressed their appreciation for Mr. Kurrus' leadership.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Reith, to approve the Little Rock School District Monthly Report. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **A-4 Consideration of Agreement between PCSSD and JNPSD concerning the Detachment of JNPSD from PCSSD**

Commissioner Key said the two parties have been working for several months on this agreement. He said the agreement permits the two districts to move forward with clarity and efficiency. He expressed his appreciation to Mr. Tony Wood, Dr. Jerry Guess and their teams for this work.

Pulaski County Special School District Superintendent Dr. Jerry Guess said pursuant to the State Board of Education's November 14, 2014, Order of Creation, the Jacksonville/North Pulaski School District and the Pulaski County Special School District have entered an agreement concerning the detachment of JNPSD from PCSSD. Jacksonville North Pulaski School District Superintendent Mr. Tony Wood acknowledged approval.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to approve the agreement between PCSSD and JNPSD concerning the detachment of JNPSD from PCSSD. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **A-5 Consideration for Detachment from Harrisburg School District - Weiner Academy of Agriculture and Technology**

A-5 was pulled from the agenda.

#### **A-6 Dermott School District—Year Two Probationary Status Dermott High School was found to be in Accredited-Probationary status for two consecutive years: (2013-14 and 2014-15 school years)**

Public School Accountability Coordinator Mr. Elbert Harvey said during the 2013 - 2014 school year, Dermott High School was in violation of Standards Rules 15.03.2 (Teacher teaching out of area with no ALP or Waiver – Career Orientation). The district did not appeal this finding and was assigned a status of Accredited-Probationary at the June 2014 State Board meeting. During the 2014 - 2015 school year, Dermott High School did not teach the Required 38 Units and did not appeal this finding. The Dermott High School was in violation of Standards Rules 9.03.3 (Math) and 9.03.4.7 (Social Studies) and was assigned a status of Accredited-Probationary at the June 2015 State Board meeting. In accordance with A.C.A. § 6-15-207 and Standards for Accreditation rule 25.02, a district/school that has been placed in Accredited-Probationary status for two consecutive years shall be required to appear before the State Board of Education. Mr. Harvey said the district had a plan to correct the issues. He recommended two items for consideration:

1. ADE provides a quarterly comprehensive report to the State Board.
2. Dermott School District provides a quarterly report to the State Board as an action item.

Dermott School District Superintendent Ms. Krista Ridgell said the district was in compliance with Arkansas standards.

Commissioner Key said he has confidence that Ms. Ridgell and the Dermott School District can continue these improvements. He said Ms. Karen Eoff, Director of the Southeast Education Service Cooperative, also committed to support the district.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to approve the recommendations for Dermott School District. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **A-7 Consideration of Appeal from Denial of School Choice Application – Coppedge**

Staff Attorney Ms. Jennifer Davis said pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-1901 et seq. (as amended by Act 560 of 2015) and the Arkansas Department of Education Emergency Rules Governing the Public School Choice Act of 2015, the Coppedge family appealed the decision of the Amorel School District to deny a school choice application for the 2015- 2016 school year. She said the family resided in the Blytheville School District.

Armored School District Superintendent Ms. Sally Bennett said she denied the application because the Blytheville School District submitted an exemption for school choice. She said the Blytheville School District would welcome the Coppedge family.

Attorney Mr. Jess Askew, representing the Coppedge family, said the recent attorney general's opinion did not address the role of the State Board. He presented a transcript as evidence for consideration.

Ms. Zook moved to grant the appeal. The motion died for a lack of a second.

Mr. Williamson moved, seconded by Dr. Barth, to deny the appeal of School Choice Application for Coppedge. Ms. Reith, Ms. Saviers, Ms. Zook, and Ms. Dean voted no. The final vote was 5-4. The motion carried.

#### **A-8 Consideration of Appeal from Denial of School Choice Application – Criss**

Staff Attorney Ms. Jennifer Davis said pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-1901 et seq. (as amended by Act 560 of 2015) and the Arkansas Department of Education Emergency Rules Governing the Public School Choice Act of 2015, the Criss family appealed the decision of the Palestine-Wheatley School District to deny a school choice application for the 2015-2016 school year. She said the family resided in the Forrest City School District.

The parent was not in attendance. Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to table the item. The motion carried unanimously.

At a later time in the day, Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to pull the item from the table. The motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Mr. Sam Jones asked the Board to consider the item.

Mr. Williamson moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to deny the appeal of School Choice Application for the Criss family. Ms. Zook voted no. The final vote was 7-1. The motion carried.

#### **A-9 Consideration of Appeal from Denial of School Choice Application – Goodall**

Staff Attorney Ms. Jennifer Davis said pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-1901 et seq. (as amended by Act 560 of 2015) and the Arkansas Department of Education Emergency Rules Governing the Public School Choice Act of 2015, the Goodall family appealed the decision of the Palestine-Wheatley School District to deny a school choice application for the 2015-2016 school year. She said the family resided in the Forrest City School District.

Palestine-Wheatley School District Superintendent Mr. John Estes said he denied the application because the Forrest City School District submitted an

exemption for school choice. He said the Goodall family has other children in the Palestine-Wheatley School District. He said at this time, the district had met the 95% guideline. He said if seats became available he would welcome the Goodall student(s).

Attorney Mr. George Rozzell, representing the Goodall family, said the children should be able to attend Palestine-Wheatley School District because siblings attend. He said the deadline for denial was not met. He also contended that the desegregation order did not apply in this situation.

Attorney Mr. Sam Jones, representing the Forrest City School District, said the district has an active decree of desegregation.

Forrest City School District Superintendent Dr. Tiffany Hardrick said she had been advised that a legal transfer was not an option.

Attorney Mr. Brad Beavers, representing the Forrest City School District, said he would recommend the school board consider a legal transfer.

Mr. Rozzell interviewed the parent, Ms. Erica Goodall. Ms. Goodall said she is a resident of Forrest City. She explained that the process of getting her children to and from two different districts was a challenge.

Ms. Zook moved to approve the appeal for the School Choice Application for the Goodall family. The motion died for lack of a second.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Reith, to deny the appeal for the School Choice Application for the Goodall family for public school choice and opportunity school choice. Ms. Zook voted no. The final vote was 7-1. The motion carried.

#### **A-10 Consideration of Appeal from Denial of School Choice Application – Wilkison**

Staff Attorney Ms. Jennifer Davis said A-10 was pulled from the agenda.

#### **A-11 Consideration of Appeal from Denial of Opportunity School Choice Application – Mimms**

Staff Attorney Ms. Jennifer Davis said A-11 was pulled from the agenda.

#### **A-12 Consideration of Appeal from Denial of Opportunity School Choice Application – Noble**

Staff Attorney Ms. Jennifer Davis said A-12 was pulled from the agenda.

**A-13 Consideration of Appeal from Denial of Opportunity School Choice Application – Wilson**

Staff Attorney Ms. Jennifer Davis said A-13 was pulled from the agenda.

**A-14 Consideration of Waiver Request for Teaching License – Lynn D. Lang**

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Attorney Ms. Jennifer Liwo requested the item be postponed.

Ms. Reith moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to postpone the Waiver Request for Teaching License for Lynn D. Lang. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-15 Consideration of Recommended Training for Professional Licensure Standards Board Case # T13-015B – Simone S. Vaughn**

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Attorney Ms. Jennifer Liwo said Simone S. Vaughn was in violation of Standard 3: An educator honestly fulfills reporting obligations associated with professional practices. Following a review hearing on June 11, 2015, the State Board amended the Ethics Subcommittee's recommended sanction to placement of Ms. Vaughn's license on probation for two (2) years, payment of a \$75.00 fine, and for each year of probation, completion of no less than six hours of professional development in the area of portfolio and assessment training with a report to the Department. The State Board directed counsel to identify portfolio and assessment training options available to Ms. Vaughn.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to approve the recommended training for Professional Licensure Standards Board Case # T13-015B – Simone S. Vaughn. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-16 Charter Application Timelines**

Division of Learning Services Coordinator Ms. Mary Perry said on July 15, 2015, the Charter Authorizing Panel approved timelines for annual open enrollment, district conversion, and the renewal application cycles. Section 4.02.1 and 4.02.2 of the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Public Charter Schools require the State Board of Education to approve public charter school and renewal application schedules.



Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to approve the Charter Application Timelines. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-17 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment: Ozark Montessori Academy**

Division of Learning Services Coordinator Ms. Mary Perry said Ozark Montessori Academy was authorized on October 16, 2014. The charter is approved to serve students in grades K-6 with a maximum enrollment of 120 for its first year of operation in 2015-2016, growing to K-8 with a maximum enrollment of 280 in 2019-2020. On July 15, 2015, representatives of the Ozark Montessori Academy appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel and requested an amendment to the current charter. The Panel unanimously approved the amendment. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel Action on Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment: Ozark Montessori Academy. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-18 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on District Conversion Public Charter School Amendment: Lincoln High School New Tech**

Division of Learning Services Coordinator Ms. Mary Perry said Lincoln High School New Tech was authorized on January 9, 2011. The charter is approved to serve students in grades 8-12 with a maximum enrollment of 850. On July 15, 2015, representatives of the Lincoln School District appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel and requested an amendment to the current charter. The Panel unanimously approved the amendment. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel Action on District Conversion Public Charter School Amendment: Lincoln High School New Tech. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-19 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on District Conversion Public Charter School Amendment: Pea Ridge Manufacturing and Business Academy**

Division of Learning Services Coordinator Ms. Mary Perry said Pea Ridge Manufacturing and Business Academy was authorized on January 16, 2014. The charter is approved to serve students in grades 11-12 with a maximum enrollment of 250. On July 15, 2015, representatives of the Rea Ridge School

District appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel and requested an amendment to the current charter. The Panel unanimously approved the amendment. 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 District Conversion Public Charter School Amendment: Pea Ridge Manufacturing and Business Academy. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-20 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on District Conversion Public Charter School Amendment: Warren Middle School a Conversion Charter**

Division of Learning Services Coordinator Ms. Mary Perry said Warren Middle School was authorized on January 16, 2014. The charter is approved to serve students in grades 6-8 with a maximum enrollment of 450. On July 15, 2015, representatives of the Warren School District appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel and requested an amendment to the current charter. The Panel unanimously approved the amendment, with a provision. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Warren School District Assistant Superintendent Ms. Carla Wardlaw said students are scheduled in pre-AP classes.

Mr. Williamson moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel Action on District Conversion Public Charter School Amendment: Warren Middle School a Conversion Charter. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-21 District Request for Waivers Granted to Open-Enrollment Charter: Armorel School District**

Division of Learning Services Coordinator Ms. Mary Perry 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 an open-enrollment public charter school that draws students from the school district.

Armorel School District Superintendent Dr. Sally Bennett gave a brief history of the district and explained the reasons for requesting the waivers. She requested four waivers:

1. Alternative Learning Environments (ALE)
2. Closing the Achievement Gap Task Force
3. Duty-free lunch
4. Planning time

Assistant Commissioner of Public School Accountability Ms. Annette Barnes said the ALE was included in categorical funding.

Arkansas Public School Resource Center Attorney Mr. Tripp Walter said the Armored School District was requesting the package of waivers, as they applied to alternative learning environments.

#### State Board Actions

1. Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to approve the waiver for ALE for the Armored School District. Ms. Reith, Dr. Barth, Ms. Saviers, Ms. Chambers, and Ms. Dean voted no. The final vote was 3-5. The motion failed.
2. Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Reith, to deny the waiver for closing the achievement gap task force for the Armored School District. Ms. Zook and Mr. Williamson voted no. The final vote was 6-2. The motion passed.
3. Ms. Reith moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to deny the waiver for duty-free lunch for the Armored School District. Mr. Williamson voted no. The final vote was 7-1. The motion passed.
4. Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to deny the waiver for planning time for the Armored School District. Ms. Zook and Mr. Williamson voted no. The motion passed.

No open-enrollment charter waivers were granted to the Armored School District.

#### **A-22 District Request for Waivers Granted to Open-Enrollment Charter: Batesville School District**

Division of Learning Services Coordinator Ms. Mary Perry 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 an open-enrollment public charter school that draws students from the school district.

Batesville School District Deputy Superintendent Mr. Harvey Howard explained the reasons for requesting three waivers:

1. planned instruction day
2. class size – Grades 7-12
3. licensure
4. pulled from consideration

Batesville School District Secondary Curriculum Coordinator Ms. Lisa Huff said the school was on an A-B block schedule.

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Attorney Ms. Cheryl Reinhart said non-licensed employees are not subject to educator ethics.

Commissioner Key said commitments made in the hearing would be part of the official record.

Assistant Commissioner for Educator Effectiveness and Licensure Ms. Ivy Pfeffer said the Board reviews waivers for long-term substitutes and educators working on alternative licensure plans. She said there are opportunities for career professionals to become licensed.

Arkansas Public School Resource Center Attorney Mr. Tripp Walter said the waivers are intended to permit the students to become college and career ready.

Ms. Perry said it is a federal law that core teachers working in public schools be licensed.

Ms. Reinhart asked the Board to be very specific in approval of a waiver.

#### State Board Actions

1. Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to approve the waiver for planned instructional day for the Batesville School District. Ms. Reith and Dr. Barth voted no. The final vote was 6-2. The motion passed.
  2. Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to deny the waiver for class size for the Batesville School District. Ms. Zook and Mr. Williamson voted no. The final vote was 6-2. The motion passed.
  3. Ms. Reith moved, seconded by Dr. Barth, to deny the waiver for licensure for the Batesville School District. Ms. Saviers, Ms. Zook, Ms. Dean, and Mr. Williamson voted no. The final vote was 5-4. The motion passed.
  4. The waiver was pulled from consideration.
- One open-enrollment charter waiver was granted to the Batesville School District.

#### **A-23 District Request for Waivers Granted to Open-Enrollment Charters: Bentonville School District**

Division of Learning Services Coordinator Ms. Mary Perry 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 an open-enrollment public charter school that draws students from the school district.

Bentonville School District Superintendent Dr. Mike Poore said the district would be receptive to a conditional approval of waivers. He said the district was approved as a School of Innovation.

Bentonville School District Staff Development Director Ms. Judy Marquess explained the reasons for requesting five waivers:

1. licensure

2. uniform grading scale
3. concurrent college credit
4. leased academic facilities
5. clock hours for units of credit

Assistant Commissioner for Educator Effectiveness and Licensure Ms. Ivy Pfeffer said Arkansas History was a requirement for Arkansas licensure.

Staff Attorney Ms. Jennifer Davis said the law did not provide for timelines. She said the district could ask for a timeline.

Dr. Poore requested a five-year approval of the five waivers.

#### State Board Actions

1. Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to approve the waiver for licensure of non-core educators in the *Ignite* program for the Bentonville School District for five years. The final vote was 8-0. The motion carried unanimously.
2. Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve the waiver for uniform grading scale for the Bentonville School District for five years. The final vote was 8-0. The motion carried unanimously.
3. Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to approve the waiver for concurrent college credit for the Bentonville School District for five years. Dr. Barth, Ms. Reith, and Ms. Zook voted no. The final vote was 5-3. The motion passed.
4. Ms. Reith moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to approve the waiver for leased academic facilities for the Bentonville School District for five years. The final vote was 8-0. The motion carried unanimously.
5. Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve the waiver for clock hours for units of credit for the Bentonville School District for five years. The final vote was 8-0. The motion carried unanimously.

Five open-enrollment charter waivers were granted to the Bentonville School District for a period of five years.

#### **A-24 District Request for Waivers Granted to Open-Enrollment Charter: Forrest City School District**

The district requested A-24 be pulled from the agenda.

#### **A-25 District Request for Waivers Granted to Open-Enrollment Charter: Osceola School District**

Division of Learning Services Coordinator Ms. Mary Perry said A-25 was pulled from the agenda.

### **A-26 District Request for Waivers Granted to Open-Enrollment Charter: Rogers School District**

Division of Learning Services Coordinator Ms. Mary Perry 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 an open-enrollment public charter school that draws students from the school district.

Rogers School District Assistant Superintendent Mr. Robert Moore explained the reason for requesting one waiver:

1. clock hours for units of credit

Mr. Moore requested the waiver for a period of five years.

#### **State Board Action**

1. Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve the waiver for clock hours for units of credit for the Rogers School District for five years. The final vote was 8-0. The motion carried unanimously.

One open-enrollment charter waiver was granted to the Rogers School District for a period of five years.

### **A-27 Consideration of Embedded Courses**

Assistant Commissioner for Learning Services Dr. Debbie Jones said Act 421 of 2013 allows curriculum frameworks from two (2) separate courses to be taught in a single course, known as a combined or embedded course. She said several school districts made application to the Curriculum and Instruction Unit for approval of the combined or embedded course and assured, in writing, that the curriculum frameworks for both courses will be fully taught in the combined or embedded course. She said that when the curriculum frameworks for one of the courses are revised, a new course approval request must be submitted to the State Board and approval must be granted before a school would be allowed to offer the embedded courses.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to approve the embedded courses. The motion carried unanimously.

### **A-28 SREB Focus Groups**

A-28 was moved to the Friday agenda.

### **A-29 Consideration for Public Comment – Proposed Arkansas Department**

**of Education Rules Governing Background Checks and License Revocation**

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Attorney Ms. Cheryl Reinhart said the Department has proposed revised Rules Governing Background Checks and License Revocation that contain changes to the rules based on recent legislation and for other updates.

Dr. Williamson moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Background Checks and License Revocation for public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-30 Consideration for Public Comment – Proposed Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Teacher Excellence and Support System**

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Attorney Ms. Cheryl Reinhart said the Department has proposed revised Rules Governing the Teacher Excellence and Support System that contain changes to the rules based on recent legislation and for other updates.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Reith, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Teacher Excellence and Support System for public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-31 Consideration for Public Comment – Proposed Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Leader Excellence and Development System**

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Attorney Ms. Cheryl Reinhart said the Department has proposed revised Rules Governing the Leader Excellence and Development System that contain changes to the rules based on recent legislation and for other updates.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Reith, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Leader Excellence and Development System for public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-32 Consideration for Approval of Emergency Rules - Proposed 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 the Department submits these emergency

rules that are substantially the same as the rules adopted by the Board in 2012. New provisions have been added to incorporate the Community Eligibility Provision of the U.S.D.A.'s National School Lunch Program—a special assistance certification and reimbursement alternative implemented under 42 U.S.C. § 1759(a). The Department has submitted these Emergency Rules to the Governor for approval under Executive Order EO 15-02.

Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Dr. Barth, to approve the Emergency Rules - Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Distribution of Student Special Needs Funding and the Determination of Allowable Expenditures of Those Funds. The motion carried unanimously.

### **A-33 Consideration for Public Comment - Proposed Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing College and Career Readiness Planning Programs**

Staff Attorney Mr. Cory Biggs said Act 989 and 1216 of 2015 revised Arkansas laws pertaining to College and Career Readiness Planning Programs.

Mr. Black moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing College and Career Readiness Planning Programs for public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

### **A-34 Consideration for Public Comment: Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Professional Development**

Staff Attorney Ms. Jennifer Davis said Act 44 of 2015 revised Arkansas laws pertaining to the professional development requirements for licensure.

Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Professional Development for public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Davis Hendrix read a letter from Ms. Marilyn Larson, former chair of the Governor's Advisory Council for Gifted and Talented Education. The letter recommended the ADE Gifted and Talented Unit monitor the services provided for gifted students as described in the Open Enrollment Charter School agreements for charter schools approved by the Board and/or Charter Authorizing Panel and to continue to monitor the services in districts with charter waivers (Act 1240 of 2015).



### Adjournment

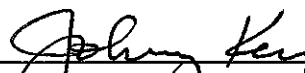
All members moved to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

*Minutes recorded by Deborah Coffman*



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Toyce Newton, Chair



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Johnny Key, Commissioner of Education