

Minutes
State Board of Education Meeting
Thursday, September 11, 2014

The State Board of Education met Thursday, September 11, 2014, in the Auditorium of the Department of Education Building. Chairman Sam Ledbetter called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Present: Sam Ledbetter, Chairman; Alice Mahony; Dr. Jay Barth; Diane Zook; Mireya Reith; Joe Black; Vicki Saviers; Kim Davis; Jonathan Crossley, Teacher of the Year; and Tony Wood, Commissioner

Absent: Toyce Newton, Vice-Chair

Mr. Ledbetter welcomed new Board member, Kim Davis.

Consent Agenda

The Board pulled C-7 from the consent agenda: C-7 Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-023 – Daniel Joseph Brewer.

Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Dr. Barth, to approve the consent agenda less C-7. The motion carried unanimously.

Items included in the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes - August 14, 2014
- Minutes - August 15, 2014
- Minutes - August 21, 2014
- 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
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #13-178A – Johnny Lester Fleming
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-058 –Mary Elizabeth Smith
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-074 –Penny Louise Oden
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-075 – Johnna Christine Creasey
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-082 – Alan Keith Geibe
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-095 – Ashley Sue Holder

- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-115 – Charlene Roseann Cooper
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-125 – Linda Kozo Self
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-129 – Earl Deer Young
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-150 – Jeremy David Allen
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-156 – Donna Jean Saul
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-158 – Jerilynn Jill Cravens

Action Agenda

Consideration for Approval of Embedded Courses

Curriculum and Instruction Specialist Mr. Thomas Coy said Act 421 of 2013 allowed curriculum frameworks from two (2) separate courses to be taught in a single course, known as a combined or embedded course. He 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 would be fully taught in the combined or embedded course. Mr. Coy said districts understand that when the curriculum frameworks for one of the courses are revised, a new course approval request must be submitted to the Board and approval must be granted before a school would be allowed to offer the embedded courses.

Earle School District - English 9 and Oral Communications
 Huntsville School District - Oral Communications and English 10
 Poyen School District - Oral Communications and English 9

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

Consideration for Public Comment: Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Kindergarten through 12th Grade Immunization Requirements in Arkansas Public Schools

Department Staff Attorney Ms. Kendra Clay said the Arkansas Department of Health recently updated its Rules and Regulations Pertaining to the Immunization Requirements. She said revisions to ADE's rules governing immunizations are necessary to align ADH and ADE's immunization requirements.

Ms. Saviers moved, seconded by Mr. Black, to approve the Arkansas Department of

Education Rules Governing Kindergarten through 12th Grade Immunization Requirements in Arkansas Public Schools for public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration for Final Approval: Proposed Revision of the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Special Education and Related Services, Section 18.00 Residential Placement

Ms. Courtney Salas-Ford, attorney for SPED said the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) recommended revision of these rules to reflect changes in licensure by the Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS), Office of Long Term Care, more appropriately define residential placement in-state, and clarify assignment of responsibility for education. She said the State Board of Education released these rules for public comment on July 14, 2014 and a public hearing was held on July 28, 2014. She said the public comment period expired on August 15, 2014. Ms. Salas-Ford said written comments were received during the public comment period and revisions were made to the rules as a result of the comments to more clearly reflect the language in the statute. She asked the Board to give final approval to these rules pending Legislative Council review.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to approve the proposed revision of the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Special Education and Related Services, Section 18.00 Residential Placement. The motion carried unanimously.

Consideration for Final Approval: Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the College and Career Readiness Planning Programs

Department Deputy General Counsel Lori Freno-Engman said Section 14 of Act 1073 of 2013 made a slight revision to the definition of "college readiness assessment" as that definition applies to the College and Career Readiness Program. She said Department staff revised the rules accordingly and the Board approved the revised rules for public comment on July 10, 2014. She said a public hearing was held on July 28, 2014 and the public comment period expired on August 22, 2014. Ms. Freno-Engman said staff received public comments on the proposed rules, but made no changes to the proposed rules based upon the public comments received.

Ms. Reith moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the College and Career Readiness Planning Programs. Ms. Mahony voted no. The final vote was 6-1. The motion carried.

Consideration for Final Approval: Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Calculation of Miscellaneous Funds

Department Staff Attorney Ms. Kendra Clay said Act 322 of 2013 significantly revised the method of calculation for miscellaneous funds and bonded debt assistance. She said previously, miscellaneous funds were calculated as an average of the amounts collected by a school district over the past five years. Under Act 322 of 2013, miscellaneous funds are now calculated based upon the aggregate amount collected during the preceding year. She said the Board approved the revised rules for public comment on July 10, 2014, and the Department conducted a public hearing on July 28, 2014. She said the public comment period expired on August 22, 2014, and staff received no public comments on the proposed rules. She asked the Board to grant final approval of these rules pending legislative subcommittee review.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Calculation of Miscellaneous Funds. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Connecting GIS with Education

Sonora Elementary EAST students, Kylie Miller and Rikki Vaughan, and facilitator Josh Worthy presented projects that students collaborated in Springdale School District to present at the 2014 Esri International Users Conference in San Diego. Kylie and Rikki demonstrated how they utilized GIS to map three different projects.

The Board praised the work of the Springdale School District's students and facilitator.

President and Chief Executive Officer for EAST Initiative Mr. Matt Dozier shared the story of an Arkansas East student that continued in the field:

<http://eastinitiative.wordpress.com/2014/08/05/how-east-equipped-me-to-take-on-anything/>

Mr. Dozier also shared that the East Initiative has partnered with AT&T and received a grant to support the work at the Arkansas Innovation Hub.

Chair's Report

Chairman Ledbetter said the 2015 Arkansas Teacher of the Year Ceremony to honor the 15 regional finalists would be held Tuesday, September 16, at the Capitol.

Dr. Barth said Dr. Francis Eberle will meet with the Board in November for a Thursday work session. He said Dr. Eberle is the Deputy Executive Director of the National Association of State Boards of Education and is responsible for directing the organization's Next Generation Science Standards project.

Dr. Barth said Dr. James Gates would speak at the Clinton School of Public Service at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, December 10, 2014. He encouraged all Board members to attend. The speaking engagement is part of the NASBE grant for Science that Dr. Barth submitted on behalf of the Board and the Department.

Ms. Saviers requested the special committee on academic distress meet to discuss the list of academic distress schools. Mr. Ledbetter encouraged other Board members to join the special committee.

Ms. Reith said the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics kicked off the 2014 Back-to-School Tour with a stop in Springdale, Arkansas. She said the Springdale School District has excelled at reaching out and meeting the needs of the ELL population.

Ms. Zook said it is National Literacy Month. She encouraged everyone to get into a school and read to a child. Ms. Zook said the Jobs Now Summit would be held September 23 at the Convention Center.

Mr. Davis thanked Commissioner Wood for participating in the Springdale celebration.

2014 Arkansas Teacher of the Year Jonathan Crossley said the Arkansas Exemplary Educator Network (AEEN) would meet September 16 at noon, following the ATOY celebration. He invited Board members to attend the meeting. Mr. Crossley recently visited the Mid South Community College in West Memphis and was very impressed with the career education. Mr. Crossley and the ADE Communication's Team will be highlighting positive stories from Arkansas classrooms.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Wood said the Mineral Springs School District and the Dollarway School District would be electing a local school board September 2014 and returning to local control October 1, 2014.

Commissioner Wood said the PCSSD would remain under state control due to the phase-out of the desegregation funding. He said the district is doing well but would still need oversight. He said the Lee County School District and the Helena-West Helena School District would remain under state authority, and he has directed resources to these two districts.

Update on Content Standards and Assessment

Assistant Commissioner for Learning Services Dr. Debbie Jones said the Board received a detailed report from Mr. Lyle Rupert from the Governor's School.

Dr. Jones said approximately 93% of the 2014 Arkansas Graduating Class took the ACT at least once with increases in English, Reading and Science while Math scores remained the same.

Dr. Jones said pursuant to Act 1294 of 2013, the Department has released a Commissioner's Memo for guidance on dyslexia implementation.

Dr. Jones said that Ms. Hope Allen, Student Assessment Director, was at a PARCC meeting. She said students would be able to use paper for math calculations. Dr. Jones encouraged schools to utilize the practice tests.

Mr. Bill Ballard, State Coordinator for Home School said 1,040 home school students were not tested last year. Mr. Ballard said local superintendents contacted parents about the testing requirements for home school students. Dr. Jones said she is working with Mr. Ballard to determine appropriate assessments for home school students. Dr. Jones said that 85 home school students participated in interscholastic activities last year.

Dr. Jones said the state is on track with the PARCC assessments. She said the state would not receive test results until Fall 2015 due to the standard setting process.

Ms. Zook said she met with Department staff and shared that some districts have expressed concerns that the dyslexia guidance may limit the programs that meet the guidelines. She said the team is working with Senator Joyce Elliott to review any possible revisions to the law. She commended the Flippin School District for their early commitment to providing services to students.

Special Board Committee: Parent Communication

Ms. Mahony, Chair of the Special Committee on Parent Communication said the committee met August 15, 2014. She said future meetings have been postponed until a later. Ms. Mahony introduced the My Child/My Student Communication Campaign by sharing the campaign video available on the ADE website at <http://www.arkansased.org/divisions/communications/my-childmy-student>

Chief of Staff Deborah Coffman explained the goal of the campaign is to support parent and teacher communication. Ms. Coffman and Ms. Mahony encouraged all stakeholders to follow the ADE Social Media – Facebook and Twitter.

Report from the Arkansas Task Force for the Prevention Through Education of Child Sexual Abuse

Chief of Staff Deborah Coffman said pursuant to Act 1298 of 2013, the Arkansas Task Force for the Prevention Through Education of Child Sexual Abuse gathered

information concerning the prevalence of child sexual abuse throughout Arkansas; received reports and testimony from individuals, state and local agencies, community-based organizations, and other public and private organizations; and made recommendations concerning evidence-based ways to prevent child sexual abuse through education. The task force recommended K-5 schools consider 21 critical elements of an effective child sexual abuse prevention program. The task force also made ten (10) additional recommendations for consideration by the General Assembly.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Minutes recorded by Deborah Coffman.

Sam Ledbetter ^{rw}
Mr. Sam Ledbetter, Chair

Tony Wood
Mr. Tony Wood, Commissioner of Education

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