

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

On May 13, 2021, during a regular meeting of the Arkansas State Board of Education, pursuant to the legal authority and jurisdiction vested in the Board by the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-2901 *et seq.*, and the Arkansas Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act, the Board considered whether to classify the Lee County School District as in need of Level 5 – Intensive support.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Lee County School District, in consultation with the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, requested that the Division provide Level 5 – Intensive support to the District pursuant to the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountability Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-2901 *et seq.* and rules governing the Act.

2. On April 5, 2021, the Division provided written notification to the District that the Division would make the recommendation to the State Board during the Board’s May 13, 2021, meeting.

3. During the State Board’s May 13, 2021, meeting, the Division, accompanied by District Superintendent Willie Murdock, recommended that it provide Level 5 – Intensive support to the District. Both the Division and District provided evidence to the State Board supporting the recommendation.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER

4. Upon consideration of the evidence presented, the State Board determined that the Lee County School District should be classified as in need of Level 5 – Intensive

support.

5. Pursuant to its authority under the AESAA and rules governing the Act, the State Board Ordered that effective May 14, 2021:

- a) The Lee County School District be classified as in need of Level 5 – Intensive support;
- b) The State Board of Education assume authority over the District;
- c) The State Board direct the Secretary of Education to assume the authority of the Lee County School District’s Board of Directors as may be necessary to operate the District.

Signed this 14th day of May, 2021.



Ouida Newton, Acting Chair
Arkansas State Board of Education