

Minutes

State Board of Education
Monday, April 26, 2004

The State Board of Education met on Monday, April 26, 2004, in the Auditorium of the State Education Building. JoNell Caldwell, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

The following Board members were present: JoNell Caldwell; Chairman; Shelby Hillman; Vice-Chairman; Sherry Burrow; Luke Gordy; Dr. Calvin King; Randy Lawson; MaryJane Rebick; Diane Tatum; and Dr. Jeanna Westmoreland.

No Board members were absent.

Consideration of Personal Finance Course: Course Description, Textbook List and Other Instructional Materials

Tom Courtway reminded the Board that this item was first considered at the April 12, 2004, meeting at which time action was deferred pending completion of committee work to develop a course description. He reported that the work was completed and mailed to the Board. Mr. Courtway also reported that he had talked with the sponsor of the legislation to further determine the intent for selection of a course of study. Mr. Courtway concluded that the work under consideration was consistent with the author's intent.

Mr. Lawson stated that he considered this course description much improved over that previously submitted. He suggested that one additional Internet link, www.sife.org be added to the list of resources.

Mr. Lawson moved adoption of the course description with accompanying resources as amended. Ms. Hillman seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Consideration of Administrative Annexations or Consolidations

Mr. Courtway reported that the issue of the administrative annexation of McNeil School District to the Stephens School District should be continued until the May 10, 2004 meeting due to a motion filed in Federal Court in El Dorado.

Ms. Hillman moved the McNeil/Stephens hearing be continued until May 10, 2004. Dr. Westmoreland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

The minutes reflect only actions taken by the Board. A full transcript of the deliberations as transcribed by a court reporter is available.

Administrative Annexation of the Humphrey School District to the DeWitt School District

Mr. Gordy moved that the petition be approved. Dr. King seconded the motion. The motion was adopted on a vote of 5 – 2 – 1 (Tatum and Westmoreland voted no and Lawson abstained).

Administrative Annexation of the Gillette School District to the DeWitt School District

Ms. Hillman moved that the petition be approved. Ms. Tatum seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Administrative Annexation Bright Star School District to the Fouke School District

Mr. Gordy moved that this petition be tabled until May 10, 2004, pending receipt of additional information regarding desegregation. Ms. Tatum seconded the motion. The motion was adopted on a vote of 7 – 1 (Rebick voted no).

Administrative Annexation of the Fountain Hill School District to the Hamburg School District

Ms. Hillman moved that this petition be tabled until May 10, 2004, to allow time for the districts to secure an opinion concerning pending desegregation court action. Ms. Rebick seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Administrative Annexation of the Winslow School District to the Greenland School District

Dr. Westmoreland moved this petition be tabled until May 10, 2004, to allow time for the districts to consider possible appeal of fiscal distress notification. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was adopted on a vote of 6 – 2 (King and Rebick voted no).

Administrative Annexation of the Swifton School District to the Jackson County School District

Ms. Hillman moved that this petition be approved. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Administrative Annexation of the Pleasant View School District to the Mulberry School District

Mr. Gordy moved that this petition be approved. Dr. Westmoreland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Administrative Annexation of the Leslie School District to the Marshall School District

Ms. Rebick moved that this petition be approved. Mr. Lawson seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Administrative Annexation of the Evening Shade School District to the Cave City School District

Mr. Lawson moved that this petition be approved. Mr. Gordy seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Administrative Annexation of the Saratoga School District to the Mineral Springs School District

Ms. Tatum moved that this petition be approved. Dr. Westmoreland seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Administrative Annexation of the Oark School District and the Kingston School District to the Jasper School District

Dr. Westmoreland moved that this petition be tabled until May 10, 2004, to allow the Jasper School District to consider an appeal of fiscal distress notification. Mr. Gordy seconded the motion. The motion was adopted on a vote of 6 – 2 (King and Lawson voted no).

Administrative Consolidation of the Newark School District and the Cord-Charlotte School District to form the new Cedar Ridge School District

Mr. Lawson moved this petition be adopted. Dr. King seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Adjournment

Mr. Gordy moved adjournment. Ms. Hillman seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

The minutes were recorded and reported by Dr. Charles D. Watson.

Tom Courtway, Interim Director

JoNell Caldwell, Chair