

**MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE STATE OF ALABAMA
AUGUST 13, 2015
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA**

The Alabama State Board of Education met on Thursday , August 13, 2015, at 10:30 a.m. for a regular meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters. The meeting was called to order by the Vice President of the Board, in accordance with *Alabama Code* (1975), §16-3-7, as amended.

PRESIDING: MR. JEFF NEWMAN, VICE PRESIDENT

Pastor Robert Wagstaff, New Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, did the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was held in unison.

RECOGNITION OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

Mr. Jeff Newman introduced Mr. Matthew Brown, the newly appointed State Board Member for State School Board District One. Mr. Brown expressed his appreciation to Governor Robert Bentley who appointed him to serve in the role formerly held by State School Board Member Al Thompson, who is now serving on the Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees. He informed Board members and the audience of his recent visit to the Butler County School System's Back-to-School Celebration and stated that the system's theme was Super Heroes. Mr. Brown stated that Superintendent Amy H. Bryant was doing a great job, and he was pleased with the system on the work being done to educate the students. He paid gratitude to family members: his grandfather who was a science teacher for over 20 years and who is a great mentor to him and his mother who was one of his grandfather's students as well as a science teacher. He stated that his father, a bus driver, has made a major impact on his life in the public school sector. Additionally, he stated that he looked forward to his role as a Board member. In closing remarks Mr. Brown expressed appreciation to the State Board, the legislators, and the Governor for working to ensure the state is competing to have one of the best school systems in the country.

The following members were present:

Present

Mrs. Ella B. Bell
Mrs. Stephanie Bell
Mr. Matthew Brown
Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter
Dr. Cynthia McCarty
Mr. Jeff Newman
Mrs. Betty Peters
Dr. Yvette Richardson

Absent

Governor Robert Bentley

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF JULY 14, 2015

On motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted 7-0-1 to adopt the minutes for the meeting of July 14, 2015. Mr. Matthew Brown abstained.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Thomas R. Bice requested that the agenda be amended to hear public comments from individuals who wished to speak before the Board regarding the Science Course of Study. On motion by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted in unison to adopt the agenda as amended.

The public comments may be viewed on the archived video of the Alabama State Department of Education's Ustream Channel at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/alabama-department-of-education>.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

On motion by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**ADOPT CHAPTER NUMBER 290-3-3, ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, PERTAINING TO
EDUCATOR PREPARATION AS A NEW CHAPTER**

On motion by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted 7-1-0 to adopt the following. Mrs. Ella B. Bell abstained.

ADOPT CHAPTER NUMBER 290-3-6, ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, PERTAINING TO CHARTER SCHOOLS AS A NEW CHAPTER

On motion by Mr. Jeff Newman and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE RUSSELLVILLE CITY SCHOOLS ENGINEERING TEAM FOR WINNING FIRST PLACE AT THE INTERNATIONAL ROCKETRY CHALLENGE AT THE 2015 PARIS AIR SHOW

WHEREAS, the International Rocketry Challenge at the Paris Air Show in France is the culmination of three separate competitions held annually in the United States, United Kingdom, and France; and

WHEREAS, each competition brings together teams of middle and high school students to design, build, and launch model rockets with the goal of inspiring young minds to become engaged in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); and

WHEREAS, the seven-member Russellville City Schools Engineering Team earned the honor of representing the United States at the international level after going up against more than 100 teams and winning top honors at the National Rocketry Challenge, which was the team's first time competing at the national level; and

WHEREAS, the Russellville City Schools Engineering Team, which was sponsored by Raytheon through the company's MathMovesU Initiative, won First Place in both the flight competition and the presentation of its rocket design and was declared the overall winner of the International Rocketry Challenge; and

WHEREAS, this year's contest required rockets to separate into at least two sections during flight and the main section containing a payload of one raw egg and an altimeter had to return to the ground safely with a single parachute as its sole recovery device; and

WHEREAS, team members Katie Burns, Niles Butts, Andrew Heath, Cristian Ruiz, Cady Studdard, Chelsea Suddith, and Evan Swinney, led by coaches Mark Keeton and Joseph Cole, designed, built, and launched a rocket with the goal of reaching an altitude of exactly 800 feet within a 46- to 48-second flight window; and

WHEREAS, the Russellville City Schools Engineering Team's rocket achieved a winning flight score of 49.53, logged an altitude of 824 feet, reached a maximum velocity of 200 mph, and returned to earth at 14 mph with cargo intact:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Department of Education does hereby commend the Russellville City Schools Engineering Team for winning First Place in the International Rocketry Challenge at the 2015 Paris Air Show; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education recognizes that rocketry requires a strong command of math, a solid foundation of physics, and a tremendous amount of patience and determination, and therefore commends the Russellville City Schools Engineering Team for showing other students around the world that hard work and a love for science can lead them to great things.

Done this 13th day of August 2015

A video of the Russellville City Schools Engineering Team's recognition was shown to Board members and the audience.

On motion by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted 7-0-1 for the following Administrative Code Items. Mrs. Ella B. Bell abstained.

ANNOUNCE INTENT TO AMEND ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, RULE NUMBER 290-2-1-.01, PERTAINING TO ANNUAL APPORTIONMENT OF THE FOUNDATION PROGRAM

ANNOUNCEMENT INTENT TO AMEND ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, RULE NUMBER 290-2-1-.05, PERTAINING TO ANNUAL APPORTIONMENT OF AT-RISK FUNDS

ANNOUNCE INTENT TO AMEND ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, RULE NUMBER 290-2-1-.05, PERTAINING TO ANNUAL APPORTIONMENT OF AT-RISK FUNDS

On motion by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REVIEW OF EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA**

WHEREAS, *Alabama Administrative Code*, Rule No. 290-3-3-.55(2)(b)2.(ii), requires that approval by the Alabama State Board of Education shall be secured before a proposal for new programs is reviewed by the Office of Teaching and Leading of the Alabama State Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education has received from the Chief Administrative Officer of the University of North Alabama a written request to develop Alternative Class A and Class A Early Childhood Education and Alternative Class A and Class A Family and Consumer Sciences programs; and

WHEREAS, the request lists the specific proposed programs for which the Alabama State Board of Education approval is being sought, together with information concerning the factors to be taken into account in determining the need for the programs; and

WHEREAS, University of North Alabama personnel have been advised that the proposed programs may not be implemented prior to Alabama State Board of Education approval based on documentation of compliance with all applicable standards; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends that the programs be reviewed by the Office of Teaching and Leading of the Alabama State Department of Education:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby authorizes a review of the following programs:

Alternative Class A Early Childhood Education
Class A Early Childhood Education
Alternative Class A Family and Consumer Sciences
Class A Family and Consumer Sciences

Done this 13th day of August 2015

Superintendent's Report

During the Superintendent's report, Dr. Bice thanked the Board members and others during the last two weeks who called the legislators during the Special Session pertaining to the Education Trust Fund, stating that it made a difference. He stressed the importance of keeping voices alive for what is most important, our students, and doing what is right for them. Dr. Bice stated that the education budget was a target; however, the mobilized voices were heard. In closing, Dr. Bice directed the Board's attention to a video by the Freedom Writers that depicts a young teacher who inspires her class of at-risk students to learning tolerance by applying themselves and pursuing education beyond high school. He stated that on the Board members' behalf, this is what he shared with school systems he had an opportunity to visit during the opening of school.

On motion by Dr. Yvette Richardson and seconded by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, the meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

Vice President

Secretary and Executive Officer