

**MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
JULY 12, 2016  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA**

The Alabama State Board of Education met on Tuesday, July 12, 2016, at 10:10 a.m. for the Annual 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**

Father Augusty Puthanpura, St. Peter's Catholic Church, Montgomery, Alabama, did the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was done in unison.

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

Dr. Philip C. Cleveland, Interim State Superintendent of Education, was also present.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETINGS OF MAY 12, 2016, AND JUNE 9, 2016**

On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the May 12, 2016, meeting and the minutes for the meeting of June 9, 2016.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mrs. Ella B. Bell requested that Agenda Item G.2.i., Discussion and Adoption of Process for Selection of State Superintendent of Education to Include Selection of Candidates for Interviews, under New Business, be listed as Item G.2.c. On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Mr. Matthew Brown, Board members voted unanimously in favor of the amended agenda

**ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT**

Mrs. Stephanie Bell nominated Mrs. Betty Peters as Vice President of the Board and Dr. Yvette Richardson as President Pro Tempore. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter. Dr. Yvette Richardson declined. Mrs. Stephanie Bell made a substitute motion and nominated Mrs. Betty Peters as Vice President. Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter seconded the motion. Due to a lack of a majority vote, the motion did not pass. There were four votes in support of the motion: Mrs. Stephanie Bell, Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, Mr. Jeff Newman, and Mrs. Betty Peters; two non-voting members, Dr. Cynthia McCarty and Mr. Matthew Brown; one no vote, Dr. Yvette Richardson, and one abstention, Mrs. Ella B. Bell.

Mrs. Ella B. Bell nominated Dr. Yvette Richardson as Vice President and Mrs. Betty Peters as President Pro Tempore. Dr. Cynthia McCarty seconded the motion. Mrs. Betty Peters declined. Mrs. Ella B. Bell motioned for Dr. Yvette Richardson as Vice President. Dr. Cynthia McCarty seconded.

Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter requested permission to read a letter for Board records. Below are excerpts from her communication.

State Board Members have little to no administrative support. Aside from some basic support with filing a monthly travel voucher, we have no administrative support to draft and send a letter, answer a telephone and take a message, coordinate events, calendar events, and the like.

State Board Members are not provided an in-district post office box, a telephone number, or an e-mail to receive constituency concerns. State Board Members have no in-district physical office location in order to meet with constituents and carry out the duties of our office that require a chair, a desk, a computer, and a telephone.

The Pro Tempore position should have some real responsibility such as gaveling the work sessions, chairing a sub-committee, and/or acting as an alternate to the Vice Chairman to attend legislative committee meetings on matters of importance. The Alabama State Board of Education should have sub-committees in order to promote crisper work flow that is more strategically organized and carried out.

Dr. Yvette Richardson agreed to work with Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter to address her concerns and see how many of the requests may be accomplished. There was considerable discussion among Board members regarding bringing letters of this type to a Board meeting rather than a State Board Work Session and whether this would be the standard procedure.

Mr. Jeff Newman called for the question and on a 6-2-0 vote, the motion passed electing Dr. Yvette Richardson as Vice President of the Board. Mrs. Ella B. Bell, Mr. Matthew Brown, Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, Dr. Cynthia McCarty, Mr. Jeff Newman and Dr. Yvette Richardson voted in favor of the motion. Mrs. Stephanie Bell and Mrs. Betty Peters voted no.

Dr. Yvette Richardson chaired the remaining portion of the meeting. She thanked the Board members for the confidence placed in her as Vice President and referenced the important decisions that would have to be made with one being the selection of a State Superintendent of Education.

### **ELECTION OF PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE**

Mrs. Ella B. Bell nominated Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter as President Pro Tempore. Dr. Cynthia McCarty seconded the motion. The motion passed on a 6-2-0 vote. Mrs. Ella B. Bell, Mr. Matthew Brown, Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, Dr. Cynthia McCarty, Mr. Jeff Newman, and Dr. Yvette Richardson voted in favor of the motion. Mrs. Stephanie Bell and Mrs. Betty Peters voted no. Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter thanked Board members for their vote and stated it was a great honor to serve.

Mrs. Ella B. Bell introduced Mrs. Doris Crenshaw, Executive Officer, Southern Leadership Youth Development, and the student visitors who were preparing to travel to Washington, D.C.

On motion by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, the Board voted unanimously for LaToya Edwards as the "Barbara Fannin Memorial Employee of the Quarter" for July – September 2016.

### **RESOLUTION COMMENDING LATOYA EDWARDS ON BEING SELECTED AS THE "BARBARA FANNIN MEMORIAL EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER" JULY – SEPTEMBER 2016**

**WHEREAS**, LaToya Edwards, Administrative Support Assistant III in the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE), Division of Technology and Data, Educational Technology, exhibits a positive attitude and is always cooperative; and

**WHEREAS**, LaToya Edwards has been an Administrative Support Assistant in the ALSDE for almost four years and, during this time, she has not only excelled at her assigned duties, but also goes above the minimum requirements to ensure that tasks are completed in a thorough manner; and

**WHEREAS**, LaToya Edwards is friendly, dependable, possesses a positive attitude, and is professional and courteous when interacting with her peers and ALSDE personnel; and

**WHEREAS**, LaToya Edwards is very resourceful and is willing to go to extraordinary lengths to assist others to get the job done; and

**WHEREAS**, LaToya Edwards maintains a positive image, communicates extremely well with the public, and represents the department in a positive manner:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend LaToya Edwards for her selection as the recipient of the "Barbara Fannin Memorial Employee of the Quarter Award" for July - September 2016 and expresses its appreciation for her exemplary service to the department, to this Board, and, ultimately, to Alabama's public elementary and secondary schools.

Done this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July 2016.

### **DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION OF PROCESS FOR SELECTION FOR STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION TO INCLUDE SELECTION OF CANDIDATES FOR INTERVIEWS**

It was the consensus of the Board members that time was of the essence in selecting the next State Superintendent of Education, and they were in agreement staying on schedule. On motion by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted unanimously for the candidates' interviews on Thursday, August 4, beginning at noon with an evening reception and the selection of State

Superintendent during the next scheduled Alabama State Board of Education meeting on Thursday, August 11, 2016.

There was an in-depth discussion regarding the number of candidates to select for the interview process. There were five designated places on the voting form. Motion was made by Mrs. Stephanie Bell and seconded by Mrs. Betty Peters that the Board vote for five candidates and if there was a tie, the process would not be limited to five. The Board voted 6-2-0 in favor of the motion. Mrs. Ella B. Bell, Mrs. Stephanie Bell, Mr. Matthew Brown, Mr. Jeff Newman, Mrs. Betty Peters, and Dr. Yvette Richardson voted in favor of the motion. Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter and Dr. Cynthia McCarty voted no. Listed below are the candidates who were selected. A copy of this information is filed in the Board Folder dated July 12, 2016.

- Dr. Williamson Evers, Research Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University
- Dr. Dee Fowler, Superintendent, Madison City School System
- Dr. Craig Pouncey, Superintendent, Jefferson County School System
- Ms. Jeana Ross, Secretary, Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education
- Mr. Michael Sentance, Consultant, Education Policy and Improvement
- Dr. Janet Womack, Superintendent, Florence City School System

Listed below is the individual Board member's preference. Governor Robert Bentley, President, was out of the country but sent his preferences (below) in letter form.

Governor Robert Bentley, President, Alabama State Board of Education

Dr. Williamson Evers  
Ms. Jeana Ross  
Dr. Janet Womack

State Board District 1, Mr. Matthew Brown, J.D.

Dr. Mark Kirkemier  
Dr. Craig Pouncey  
Ms. Jeana Ross  
Dr. Williamson Evers

State Board District II, Mrs. Betty Peters

Dr. Williamson Evers  
Mr. Michael Sentance  
Dr. Craig Pouncey

State Board District III, Mrs. Stephanie Bell

Mr. Michael Sentance  
Dr. Williamson Evers  
Dr. Craig Pouncey

State Board District IV, Dr. Yvette Richardson

Dr. Craig Pouncey  
Dr. Janet Womack  
Dr. Dee Fowler  
Dr. Mark Kirkemier

State Board District V, Mrs. Ella B. Bell

Dr. Craig Pouncey

State Board District VI, Dr. Cynthia McCarty

Dr. Janet Womack  
Dr. Dee Fowler  
Dr. Craig Pouncey  
Ms. Jeana Ross  
Dr. Williamson Evers

State Board District VII, Mr. Jeff Newman

Dr. Craig Pouncey  
Dr. Dee Fowler  
Dr. Janet Womack

State Board District VIII, Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, J.D.

Dr. Williamson Evers  
Dr. Dee Fowler  
Mr. Michael Sentance  
Ms. Jeana Ross

Dr. Janet Womack

State Board Member Ella B. Bell had to leave the meeting for a scheduled commitment.

General Counsel Juliana Dean read the results of the candidates receiving recommendations for the interview (see below).

Dr. Williamson Evers – 5  
Dr. Dee Fowler – 4  
Dr. Mark Kirkemier – 2  
Dr. Craig Pouncey – 7  
Ms. Jeana Ross – 3  
Dr. Michael Sentance – 3  
Dr. Janet Womack – 5

Based on rank order, Dr. Craig Pouncey, Dr. Williamson Evers, Dr. Janet Womack, Dr. Dee Fowler, Ms. Jeana Ross, and Mr. Michael Sentance were selected from the list above. On motion by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted unanimously for the six candidates who will be interviewed on Thursday, August 4, 2016.

On motion by Mr. Jeff Newman and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted 6-0-1 for the resolution below. Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter abstained.

**APPROVAL OF EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS  
ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Montgomery, Alabama**

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Board of Education approves educator preparation programs, including the time frame for approved program status; and

**WHEREAS**, during summer 2014 the Alabama State University College of Education submitted documentation of compliance with Alabama State Board of Education standards pertaining to initial and advanced programs; and

**WHEREAS**, materials were reviewed on July 9-19, 2014; January 31, 2015; March 13, 2015; June 12-15, 2015; August 18, 2015; and October 30, 2015, until documentation of compliance with all Alabama standards was verified; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State University College of Education hosted a successful National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) legacy visit on November 1-3, 2015:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby approves the following educator preparation programs at Alabama State University until May 31, 2023.

Class B Biology (6-12)  
Class B Business/Marketing (6-12)  
Class B Chemistry (6-12)  
Class B Collaborative Special Education Teacher (K-6)  
Class B Collaborative Special Education Teacher (6-12)  
Class B Early Childhood Education (P-3)  
Class B Elementary Education (K-6)  
Class B English Language Arts (6-12)  
Class B General Science (6-12)  
Class B Health Education (6-12)  
Class B History (6-12)  
Class B Mathematics (6-12)  
Class B Music, Choral (P-12)  
Class B Music, Instrumental (P-12)  
Class B Physical Education (P-12)

Alternative Class A Biology  
Alternative Class A Collaborative Special Education Teacher (K-6)  
Alternative Class A Collaborative Special Education Teacher (6-12)  
Alternative Class A Early Childhood Education (P-3)  
Alternative Class A Elementary Education (K-6)  
Alternative Class A English Language Arts (6-12)  
Alternative Class A General Social Studies (6-12)

Alternative Class A Health Education (6-12)  
Alternative Class A History (6-12)  
Alternative Class A Mathematics (6-12)  
Alternative Class A Music, Choral (P-12)  
Alternative Class A Music, Instrumental (P-12)  
Alternative Class A Physical Education (P-12)

Class A Biology (6-12)  
Class A Collaborative Special Education Teacher (K-6)  
Class A Collaborative Special Education Teacher (6-12)  
Class A Early Childhood Special Education (P-3)  
Class A Elementary Education (K-6)  
Class A English Language Arts (6-12)  
Class A General Social Studies (6-12)  
Class A Health Education (6-12)  
Class A History (6-12)  
Class A Instructional Leadership (P-12)  
Class A Library Media (P-12)  
Class A Mathematics (6-12)  
Class A Music, Choral (P-12)  
Class A Music, Instrumental, (P-12)  
Class A Physical Education (P-12)  
Class A Reading Specialist (P-12)  
Class A School Counseling (P-12)

Class AA Biology (6-12)  
Class AA Early Childhood Education (P-3)  
Class AA Elementary Education (K-6)  
Class AA General Social Studies (6-12)  
Class AA History (6-12)  
Class AA Instructional Leadership (P-12)  
Class AA Library Media (P-12)  
Class AA Mathematics (6-12)  
Class AA School Counseling (P-12)  
Class AA Teacher Leader (P-12)

Done this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July 2016

On motion by Dr. Cynthia McCarty and seconded by Mr. Jeff Newman, the Board voted 6-0-1 for the resolution below. Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter abstained.

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REVIEW  
OF AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM  
University of South Alabama  
Mobile, 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 a new program is reviewed by the Office of Teaching and Leading of the Alabama State Department of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Interim State Superintendent of Education has received from the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of South Alabama a written request to develop a combined Class B Health (6-12) and Physical Education (P-12) program; and

**WHEREAS**, the request lists the specific proposed program 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 program; and

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

**WHEREAS**, the Interim State Superintendent of Education recommends that the program 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 program:

Class B Health (6-12) and Physical Education (P-12)

Done this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July 2016

On motion by Mr. Matthew Brown and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted 6-0-1 for the resolution below. Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter abstained.

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REVIEW  
OF AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM  
Athens State University  
Athens, 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 a new program is reviewed by the Office of Teaching and Leading of the Alabama State Department of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Interim State Superintendent of Education has received from the Interim Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs at Athens State University a written request to develop a combined Class B Health (6-12) and Physical Education (P-12) program; and

**WHEREAS**, the request lists the specific proposed program 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 program; and

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

**WHEREAS**, the Interim State Superintendent of Education recommends that the program 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 program:

Class B Health (6-12) and Physical Education (P-12)

Done this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July 2016

On motion by Dr. Cynthia McCarty and seconded by Mr. Jeff Newman, the Board voted unanimously for the following.

**RESOLUTION TO  
APPOINT A SUBSTITUTE CHAIRMAN TO THE ARTS EDUCATION AND LANGUAGES OTHER  
THAN ENGLISH-FOREIGN LANGUAGES  
STATE COURSES OF STUDY COMMITTEE**

**WHEREAS**, *Code of Alabama* (1975), §16-35-1 through 5, provides that the Alabama State Board of Education shall constitute Courses of Study Committees for the purposes and functions as provided within the statute; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Board of Education appointed 21 members to the Arts Education and Languages Other Than English-Foreign Languages State Course of Study Committee at its January 14, 2016, meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, the chairman of the Arts Education and Languages Other Than English-Foreign Languages State Course of Study Committee, Dr. Edwin C. Nichols, Jr., Superintendent of Decatur City Board of Education, resigned his position; and

**WHEREAS**, the Arts Education and Languages Other Than English-Foreign Languages State Course of Study Committee needs a chairman who is a superintendent; and

**WHEREAS**, the Interim State Superintendent of Education recommends approval:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That Dr. Joe David Walters, Superintendent of Satsuma City Board of Education, be appointed as chairman to replace Dr. Edwin C. Nichols, Jr., Superintendent of Decatur City Board of Education, on the Arts Education and the Languages Other Than English-Foreign Languages State Courses of Study Committee for a period of one year or until his successor is appointed.

Done this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July 2016.

On motion by Mr. Jeff Newman and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted 5-2-0 for the following. Mrs. Stephanie Bell and Mrs. Betty Peters voted no.

**APPROVAL OF THE UNTRADITIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA**

**Additional information pertaining to the Untraditional High School Diploma is filed in the Board folder dated July 12, 2016.**

Interim State Superintendent's Report

Dr. Philip C. Cleveland, Interim State Superintendent of Education, updated Board members on the Mega Conference that was held in Mobile, Alabama, on July 11-15, 2016. He stated there were approximately 1800 in attendance and described the event as rigorous and centered around PLAN 2020. Board members were also updated on the Birmingham Metro Area Schools Workforce Development Partnership. He stated that he had an opportunity to visit with principals of the respective schools. Dr. Cleveland advised that Mr. Randall Swann, Career and Technical Education, will have oversight of this project. Board members were also advised of former Alabama National Guard buildings that have been refurbished and will be used by schools in State School Board Districts I and II.

Dr. Cleveland informed Board members that he will have a packet of information for the August 11, 2016, meeting pertaining to the four priorities he had been asked to provide the Board regarding AMSTI, ARI, Regional In-Service Centers, and the Alabama State Department of Education budgeting process. Dr. Cleveland stated that the August 11 meeting would be his last meeting in the role of Interim State Superintendent of Education. Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter expressed appreciation for the work he has done in the Department.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

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Vice President

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Interim Secretary and Executive Officer