

**MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE STATE OF ALABAMA
SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING
SEPTEMBER 27, 2017
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA**

The Alabama State Board of Education met for a Special-Called Meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters on Wednesday, September 27, 2017, at 10:07 a.m. in the auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building, Montgomery, Alabama. 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: MRS. STEPHANIE BELL, VICE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Ella B. Bell did the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

The following members were present:

Mrs. Ella B. Bell
Mrs. Stephanie Bell
Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter
Dr. Cynthia McCarty
Mr. Jeff Newman
Mrs. Betty Peters
Dr. Yvette M. Richardson
Mrs. Jackie Zeigler

Absent
Governor Kay Ivey

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Mrs. Stephanie Bell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF OCTOBER 9-13, 2017, AS NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH
WEEK IN ALABAMA SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama State Department of Education have recognized for nearly 50 years the School Lunch Program has contributed to the health and educational development of Alabama's children by making nutritious meals available in K-12 public schools; and

WHEREAS, in October of each year the School Nutrition Association and the U.S. Department of Agriculture join together to celebrate the National School Lunch Week; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 Theme of National School Lunch Week, "School Lunch: Recipes for Success," reminds parents, students, and school officials that a healthy school lunch helps students power through the day; and

WHEREAS, research has indicated that students who eat lunch have better attention and memory, and the quality of foods children eat impacts cognition, and poor nutrition is linked with absenteeism, health problems, hunger symptoms, and psychosocial problems, and

WHEREAS, scientifically based food and nutrition information contributes powerful educational benefits to all elementary and secondary students; and

WHEREAS, the School Lunch Program served over 84 million lunch meals for the 2016-2017 school year to Alabama students:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby express its appreciation to school nutrition professionals who make the local School Lunch Program work in 1,495 school sites statewide; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education encourages Alabama schools to participate in promoting National School Lunch Week; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education designates October 9-13, 2017, as “School Lunch Week” in Alabama’s public schools.

Done this 27th day of September 2017

On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Mrs. Mary Scott Hunter, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**RESOLUTION TO GRANT CONDITIONAL APPROVAL OF AN
EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM
TROY UNIVERSITY
TROY, ALABAMA**

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

WHEREAS, Troy University placed Class B, Alternative Class A, and Class A Early Childhood Education programs on inactive status effective April 15, 2015; and

WHEREAS, prior to June 1, 2016, Troy University submitted a Class B Early Childhood Education program for review, voluntarily choosing to do so via Alabama’s Continuous Improvement in Educator Preparation (CIEP) review process; and

WHEREAS, in August 2016, Troy University was notified that approval of its proposed Class B Early Childhood Education Program was denied; and

WHEREAS, Troy University re-submitted a Class B Early Childhood Education program for review in March 2017; and

WHEREAS, compliance with Alabama State Board of Education rules has been verified with conditions; and

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2017, Troy University submitted documentation of compliance with applicable faculty standards; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Superintendent of Education recommends approval of the program:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby approves, with conditions, the following program reviewed under the Continuous Improvement in Educator Preparation (CIEP) program review process with approval to expire June 30, 2020:

Class B Early Childhood Education (P-3)

Done this 27th day of September 2017

On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the following:

**ANNOUNCE INTENT TO ADOPT AMENDED ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, RULE
NUMBER 290-4-1-.04, PERTAINING TO FLEXIBILITY FOR STUDENTS IN FAILING SCHOOLS**

INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT’S CONTRACT

During the September 14, 2017, meeting Governor Kay Ivey appointed Mrs. Stephanie Bell, Chair, Dr. Yvette Richardson, and Mr. Jeff Newman as subcommittee members for the Interim State Superintendent’s Contract. Committee members concurred in their appreciation to Dr. Ed Richardson for agreeing to serve as Interim State Superintendent of Education. As a state retiree, Dr. Richardson’s annual salary is capped at \$30,000. He will receive \$24,000 through December 31, 2017. Dr. Richardson may serve a maximum of two six-month terms. Board Attorney Tyrone Means also addressed the Board pertaining to the Contract.

On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Mr. Jeff Newman, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Interim State Superintendent’s Contract (included in minutes).

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT

This Contract of Employment (the "Agreement") made as of the 27th day of September 2017, between the Board of Education of the State of Alabama, hereinafter referred to as "Board," and Ed Richardson, as Interim State Superintendent of Education, hereinafter referred to as "Interim Superintendent."

WHEREAS, Code of Alabama, § 16-4-1.1 (1975) authorizes the Board to enter into a contract with the Interim Superintendent for his services, not to exceed two six-month periods; and

WHEREAS, the Interim Superintendent serves at the pleasure of the Board, subject to the terms of this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered and approved this action in a public meeting:

AGREEMENT:

NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION of the mutual conditions and covenants contained herein, it is agreed by the Board and the Interim Superintendent as follows:

SECTION 1. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Agreement shall be effective on and as of **September 14, 2017**, and the Interim Superintendent shall be entitled to all benefits contained herein as of that date.

SECTION 2. TERM OF EMPLOYMENT: The Board hereby employs the Interim Superintendent and the Interim Superintendent hereby accepts employment with the Board for a period beginning on **September 15, 2017**, and ending **December 31, 2017**, subject to the provisions of this Agreement.

SECTION 3. SALARY: During the term of this Agreement, the Interim Superintendent shall be paid **\$24,000**.

SECTION 4. OTHER BENEFITS: The Interim Superintendent shall be entitled to such other employment benefits as allowed by law, rule, or regulation, including but not limited to, per diem travel expenses as provided for State employees, the use of a car, a \$1,750 per month housing allowance, reimbursement for reasonable business expenses, including but not limited to the reasonable cost to obtain and maintain a smart phone. The Interim Superintendent shall not be entitled to receive cost of living or annual salary increases passed by the Alabama Legislature for State employees, which may be effective on or after this date.

SECTION 5. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: The Interim Superintendent shall assume and discharge all duties and responsibilities as provided by law and such other duties as the Board shall require of him from time to time in accordance with applicable law.

SECTION 6. RENEWAL OF CONTRACT: If conditions demonstrate a need to extend the terms of this contract, the Board and the Interim Superintendent will negotiate the terms of a new contract.

SECTION 7. GOVERNING LAW: This Agreement shall be governed by and be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Alabama.

Done this 27th day of September 2017.

Ed Richardson
Interim State Superintendent of Education

State Board of Education
By: _____
Stephanie Bell, Vice President

State of Alabama Governor
By: _____
Honorable Kay Ivey

INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Ed Richardson outlined four key priorities during his tenure as Interim State Superintendent of Education. The submission of the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) will be the first item. He stated that the law is critical and includes money for the schools. The Plan needs to be approved during the October 12, 2017, meeting and submitted to the United States Department of Education on October 13. The state has 120 days for any refinement needed.

The second priority was the Montgomery County School System Intervention. Dr. Richardson stated that he will meet with the Montgomery County Board of Education on Thursday, September 28, 2017, at Park Crossing High School. He indicated that the model of intervention needed to be looked at closely. In doing so, personnel will be assessed. Dr. Richardson stated there are problems the Department created and some were already there.

Budgetary matters is the third priority. Dr. Richardson apprised Board members that selected State Department of Education staff will be working on the Department budget and the K-12 budget. Board members were assured the Department would not have a deficit budget. He said the budget could be approved by the Board during the November meeting in order to be able to communicate with legislators. Board members were asked to consider K-12 priorities.

Dr. Richardson stated that, although not as time sensitive and something he would not want to rush, an in-depth study needed to be looked at pertaining to assessment, the fourth priority. What the Department has at the present time is not acceptable. Selected staff will begin work and look at what other states are doing. Board members were advised if an assessment is not selected before fall of 2018, it cannot be implemented until the fall of 2019.

Dr. Richardson informed Board members that his major objective in accepting the position of Interim State Superintendent of Education is to make sure the next superintendent has an excellent opportunity for success. As part of that he intends to complete priorities established. Due to limited time, he will not be attending any meetings out of state or other places. Speaking engagements will also be limited. He will do all possible to consolidate media requests. Dr. Richardson assured the Board that real progress will be made. Although some prior commitments, professionally and personal, have been cancelled, there are some that could not be cancelled and will have to be fulfilled.

Dr. Richardson encouraged the Board to give serious thought to the search for the next State Superintendent of Education stating that this was the most important decision the Board will make. He recommended three to five qualifications needed in a superintendent. Board members were advised to limit controversial policy matters that would prevent prospective candidates from applying for the position.

Dr. Richardson informed Board members that Dr. Jeff Langham, Deputy State Superintendent of Education, would serve as contact for Board members for any information needed.

On motion by Mrs. Ella B. Bell and seconded by Dr. Yvette Richardson, the meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Vice President

Secretary and Executive Officer