

**Minutes**  
**State Board of Education Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 10, 2016**

The State Board of Education met Thursday, November 10, 2016, in the Arkansas Department of Education Auditorium. Chair Mireya Reith called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Present: Mireya Reith, Chair; Dr. Jay Barth, Vice-Chair; Dr. Fitz Hill; Joe Black; Diane Zook; Ouida Newton; Susan Chambers; Brett Williamson; Charisse Dean; Meghan Ables, 2016 Teacher of the Year, and Johnny Key, Commissioner.

Absent: None

**Consent Agenda**

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Items included in the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes – October 13, 2016
- Minutes – October 14, 2016
- Newly Employed, Promotions and Separations
- Consideration of Report on Waivers to School Districts for Teachers Teaching Out of Area for Longer than Thirty (30) Days, Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-309
- My Child/My Student Report
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #17-008 – Ashley Rene Burns
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #17-030 – Morgan Kelsey Coble
- Progress Report on the Status of Districts Classified in Fiscal Distress
- Consideration of Legislative Reports

**Recognition**

**Recognition of EAST Program**

Mr. Jerry Prince said the EAST Initiative was one of four organizations recognized by Silicon Valley Education Foundation for doing exceptional work to advance STEM education.

**Recognition of Veterans Working at the Department**

Commissioner Key recognized the following ADE employees:

<b>Employee Name</b>	<b>Branch of Service</b>
Brad Montgomery	U.S. Air Force
Chris Abbott	U.S. Army
C.W. Gardenhire	U.S. Army 82nd Airborne- D
David Baca	U.S. Air Force
Derrick Black	U.S. Air Force - retired
Dianna Sheppard	U.S. Air Force
Ed Eason	U.S. Army Reserves
Elbert Harvey	Navy & Arkansas Air National Guard
John Kaminar	U.S. Army
Robert Caringola	U.S. Marine Corps
Terry Granderson	U.S. Army Reserve and the Arkansas Army National Guard
Timothy Barnes	U.S. Army Reserves
William "Bill" Nielsen	U.S. Air Force

**Public Comment:** Mr. Phillip Bryant recommended more reading teachers in elementary to ensure students are reading on grade level. He also recommended letters regarding sexual orientation.

### **Action Agenda**

#### **A-1 Consideration of Resolution for Arkansas School Board Member Recognition Month**

Arkansas School Boards Association Executive Director Dr. Tony Protho requested the State Board recognize January 2017 as Arkansas School Board Member Recognition Month.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to approve the resolution for the Arkansas School Board Member Recognition Month of January 2017. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **A-2 Consideration of Resolution for American Education Week, November 14-18, 2016**

Arkansas Education Association President Ms. Brenda Robinson requested the State Board recognize November 14-18, 2016, as American Education Week.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to approve the resolution to recognize November 14-18, 2016, as American Education Week. The motion carried unanimously.

### **A-3 Consideration of Resolution for Computer Science Education Week, December 5-11, 2016**

Commissioner Key requested the State Board recognize the week of December 5-11, 2016, as Arkansas Computer Science Education Week.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Mr. Black, to approve the resolution to recognize December 5-11, 2016, as Computer Science Education Week.

### **A-4 Consideration of the Annual Student Discipline Report**

Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-516 requires the ADE to evaluate the impact of school discipline on student achievement and report findings to the State Board of Education and school districts. Office for Education Policy (OEP) Research Assistant Dr. Kaitlin Anderson presented new findings regarding discipline. She addressed disproportionalities, difference across types of schools, and time trends.

Assistant Commissioner Dr. Eric Saunders said additional data collection and differentiation of the “other” category is being implemented in the 2016-2017 school year. He said the data definitions are included in the data manual.

Office for Education Policy Faculty Director Dr. Gary Ritter said future research could identify districts that have positive trend lines and then follow up in the schools with qualitative data.

Dr. Anderson said the OEP has a list of schools implementing Positive Behavioral Intervention Systems (PBIS) and is considering additional qualitative research.

Dr. Ritter said the OEP is interested in working with schools that want try new ideas and conduct research in partnership with OEP. He said the data needed to be considered at the district and school levels. He said OEP could include surveys in their data collection for future reporting.

Commissioner Key said through the State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) ADE SPDG Director Ms. Jennifer Gonzales is working with Arkansas State University (ASU) to develop Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) modules. He recommended highlighting the best practices being implemented in Arkansas schools.

Public School Accountability Coordinator Mr. Elbert Harvey said schools in academic distress are examining student discipline in the 45-day reports.

Chair Reith requested Dr. Hill serve as liaison on Student Discipline.

The Board discussed communication to schools that included the Annual Student Discipline Report, data from My School Info, and videos that highlight best practices. Additional conversation centered on collaboration with ForwARd Arkansas regarding student discipline and future reporting.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Mr. Black, to approve the Annual Student Discipline Report, recommend ADE communication to schools, consider a future innovate video on best practices, and recognize Dr. Fitz Hill as liaison on Student Discipline. The motion carried unanimously.

### **A-5 Arkansas Teacher Corps**

Office for Education Policy Faculty Director Dr. Gary Ritter said the Arkansas Teacher Corps (ATC) program recruits, trains, and supports exceptional, social justice-oriented individuals to serve as teachers for Arkansas students who need them most. He said currently 55 fellows are teaching across the state serving 20 districts, 28 schools, and 5,100 students. He recommended additional licensure routes. He said ATC is planning to increase the number of teachers, increase the number of schools, and expand recruitment of STEM teachers. Dr. Ritter requested the Board help get the word out about Arkansas Teacher Corps.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Dr. Hill, to approve the report on Arkansas Teacher Corps. The motion carried unanimously.

### **A-6 District Request for Waivers Granted to Open-Enrollment Charters: Watson Chapel School District**

Division of Learning Services Coordinator Ms. Mary Perry said Act 1240 of 2015 allows a school district to petition the State Board of Education for all or some of the waivers granted to open-enrollment public charter schools that serve students who reside in the school district. The request for waivers is for five (5) years.

Watson Chapel School District Superintendent Dr. Connie Hathorn said he requested a waiver from licensure because of the teacher shortage. He said he had degreed applicants but they were not licensed.

Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve the district request for waivers granted to Open-Enrollment Charters for the Watson Chapel School District for five (5) years. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-7 Consideration of the Recommendation of the Office of Educator Effectiveness, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Advisory Subcommittee, for Suspension of License – Evelyn James**

Ms. Evelyn James made reimbursement in full and therefore the action item was pulled from the agenda.

**A-8 Consideration of the Recommendation of the Office of Educator Effectiveness, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Advisory Subcommittee, for Suspension of License – Robin Hosier-Whitenton**

Assistant Commissioner for Educator Effectiveness and Licensure Ms. Ivy Pfeffer said Ms. Robin Hosier-Whitenton holds an Arkansas Standard Teaching License. The Office of Educator Effectiveness and the National Board Advisory Committee have recommended suspension of Ms. Hosier-Whitenton's teaching license for nonpayment of funds expended by the Arkansas Department of Education for National Board Candidacy. Ms. Pfeffer said efforts have been made to contact Ms. Hosier-Whitenton concerning her nonpayment of funds.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to suspend Ms. Robin Hosier-Whitenton's teaching license until payment is made in full. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-9 Consideration of the Recommendation of the Office of Educator Effectiveness, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Advisory Subcommittee, for Suspension of License – Shara Wade**

Ms. Shara Wade made reimbursement in full and therefore the action item was pulled from the agenda.

**A-10 Consideration of the Recommendation of the Office of Educator Effectiveness, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Advisory Subcommittee, for Suspension of License – Sita Montgomery**

Ms. Sita Montgomery made reimbursement in full and therefore the action item was pulled from the agenda.

**A-11 Consideration of the Department of Education Recommendation for the Waiver from Repayment of NBPTS Program Funding is made by the NBPTS Advisory Subcommittee regarding – Brittney Breedlove**

Assistant Commissioner for Educator Effectiveness and Licensure Ms. Ivy Pfeffer said Ms. Brittney Breedlove's Arkansas teaching license has been revoked. Ms. Breedlove received funding under the Rules Governing Eligibility and Financial Incentives for National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Candidacy and Certification Program. Because of circumstances explained in accompanying documents, Ms. Breedlove was unable to fulfill the requirement of teaching in an Arkansas Public School for three consecutive years following certification. Therefore, Ms. Breedlove has requested a waiver from her obligation to repay NBPTS Program funding in the amount of \$2,652.25. Based on extenuating circumstances as determined by the NBPTS Advisory Subcommittee, Ms. Pfeffer recommended that the State Board waive the requirement for repayment of NBPTS Program funding.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to waive the requirement for repayment of NBPTS Program funding for Ms. Brittney Breedlove. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-12 Consideration of the Department of Education Recommendation for the Waiver from Repayment of NBPTS Program Funding is made by the NBPTS Advisory Subcommittee regarding – Linda Hughey**

Assistant Commissioner for Educator Effectiveness and Licensure Ms. Ivy Pfeffer said Ms. Linda Hughey is a licensed educator who received funding under the Rules Governing Eligibility and Financial Incentives for National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Candidacy and Certification Program, but did not complete certification. Ms. Hughey requested a waiver from her obligation to repay NBPTS Program funding in the amount of \$1,445.00. Based on extenuating circumstances as determined by the NBPTS Advisory Subcommittee, Ms. Pfeffer recommended that the State Board waive the requirement for repayment of NBPTS Program funding.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to waive the requirement for repayment of NBPTS Program funding for Ms. Linda Hughey. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-13 Progress Report related to Arkansas Department of Education provided recommendations for schools classified in Academic Distress: Dollarway School District**

Public School Program Manager Dr. Richard Wilde said Dollarway School District has two schools classified in Academic Distress. The Arkansas Department appointed review teams to conduct onsite reviews and to provide recommendation. Recommendations were provided to the district in June 2016. Dr. Wilde interviewed the school leadership regarding the current status of progress towards Recommendation 1.

Dollarway High School Principal Ms. Yolanda Prim said the leadership team has been reviewing data weekly. She said the schedule has been restructured to meet the needs of students. She said an assessment calendar for the year was developed. She said teams were meeting to discuss the needs of teachers and students.

Robert F. Morehead Middle School Principal Ms. Diane Boyd said the school has updated the vision and mission statements. She said the school has implemented an anti-bullying program. She said the team is working on a teacher retention survey. She said the instructional team was engaged in ongoing professional learning. She said the assessment calendar was developed to monitor student progress.

Dr. Wilde said both principals are new to their assignments. He said the high school was moved to the previous middle school facility. He said the district purchased a K-12 curriculum and professional learning support for implementation of the curriculum. He said the 45-day reports were done as compliance instead of ongoing reporting. He said work was being done on processes and procedures. Dr. Wilde said the school improvement unit would continue to support the use of data for decision making purposes, assist the leadership in development of SMART goals and deeper understanding of the data, and will conduct more frequent monitoring.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to approve the report of current status of progress towards Recommendation 1 for the Dollarway High School and Robert F. Morehead Middle School in the Dollarway School District. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **A-14 Progress Report related to Arkansas Department of Education provided recommendations for schools classified in Academic Distress: Little Rock School District**

Public School Program Manager Dr. Richard Wilde said Little Rock School District has five schools classified in Academic Distress. The Arkansas Department appointed review teams to conduct onsite reviews and to provide recommendation. Recommendations were provided to the district in June 2016. School and district leadership presented current status of progress towards Recommendation 1.

Cloverdale Middle School Principal Ms. Wanda Ruffins said the school has analyzed data and established goals. She said staff were using "Wise Ways" to determine next steps. A survey indicated that teachers needed additional professional learning to meet the needs of English Language students. She said she recently attended a workshop on working with students in poverty. She said the team was working to address a positive behavioral plan. She said parental engagement has increased. She said the student leadership team identified incentives that students wanted and provided insight on issues within the school.

Henderson Middle School Principal Mr. Frank Williams said the team was working to strengthen the instructional program by examining pre- and post-assessments. He said the team was working on a school culture that improved safety and celebration of success. He said a bilingual facilitator had been hired to work with students.

J.A. Fair High School Principal Mr. Michael Anthony said the leadership team examined the data and depth of knowledge. He said students were not performing at the level of the standards. He said individualized on-line learning was made available to students. He said teachers were working on utilizing higher level questioning techniques with students. He said City Year was providing interventions. He said the multiple opportunities to succeed (MOTS) provided additional opportunities for students to complete the learning successfully.

Hall High School Principal Mr. Larry Schleicher said the leadership team was working on rigorous long-term goals that would be accomplished through completion of multiple short-term goals. He said City Year was working with 40-50 students in literacy and math interventions. He said the ninth grade academy has been redesigned. He said educators serve on a vertical alignment team with Cloverdale Middle School for English Language alignment of instruction and intervention services. He said he was in year 2 of the Master Principal's program and five teachers were engaged in the Teacher Academy with the Arkansas Leadership Academy.

McClellan High School Interim Principal Mr. Gabriel Jackson said with 20 new educators, the focus on meeting the needs of students has included analyzing data. He said the leadership team was working to improve culture and climate in the building. He said collaboration, commitment, and consistency were important to success. He said a student team and a community council were established to meet the goals.

All principals said teacher and student attendance was an ongoing issue. The principals reported the district Achieve Team has been supportive of the progress.

Dr. Wilde said that the Achieve Team process was implemented without an integration plan for previous school improvement work. He reported that this was a continuation of a practice that ADE and the State Board of Education had voiced regarding each change in district superintendents. He did note that the Achieve Team was in alignment with practices that school improvement had requested the district to adopt. He also noted that the focus of the Achieve Teams has been on improving learning. He said the school leadership team was asked to work with all staff. He said the ADE requested each school have more voice in the improvement process and that the Achieve Team process helped to accomplish this request. He said the school improvement unit will continue to help the schools develop a deep understanding of the three goals, integrate the plans into the overall school improvement process, and improve SMART goals. He said the district will need to work with the Achieve Team regarding the feeder patterns and that it is highly unlikely that the high schools can exit Academic Distress status without addressing the feeder pattern. He said a district plan should address methods to prevent students from falling below grade level.

Little Rock School District Superintendent Mr. Michael Poore said the Achieve Team was focused on hearing the voices of students, teachers, leaders, and the community to improve continuity of the work. He said the ADE team and the Office of Intensive Support have been vital to the progress.

Assistant Commissioner for Public School Accountability Ms. Annette Barnes said post appeals data was published on November 4 and the agency has 30 days to identify schools that may be removed from academic distress designation.

Ms. Chambers moved, seconded by Dr. Barth, to approve the report of current status of progress towards Recommendation 1 for Cloverdale Middle School, Henderson Middle School, J.A. Fair High School, Hall High School, and McClellan High School in the Little Rock School District. The motion carried unanimously.

### **A-15 Arkansas Department of Education Site Review Team Recommendations for Mineral Springs High School**

Public School Program Manager Dr. Richard Wilde said Mineral Springs High School was classified in Academic Distress on August 11, 2016. The ADE assigned a team of educators to conduct an onsite review and make recommendations to the State Board of Education, the Superintendent of the school district, and principal of the school. Once reviewed by the State Board of Education, the recommendations become binding on the district for implementation.

Mineral Springs School District Superintendent Mr. Curtis Turner Jr. said an external provider would be supporting the current school improvement specialist that is employed half-time. He said the district leadership team meets at least twice a month and information is provided to the local school board. He concurred with the school improvement recommendations. He anticipated seeing gains and acknowledged that this will be accelerated through support from ADE. Mr. Turner selected March 10, 2017, to report to the Standing Committee on Academic Distress.

Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Mr. Black, to approve the recommendations for Mineral Springs High School and the reporting date of March 10, 2017, to the Standing Committee on Academic Distress. The motion carried unanimously.

### **A-16 Haas Hall Academy Quarterly Report on Partnership and Diversity**

Public School Program Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on July 14, 2016, the State Board met and approved Haas Hall Academy's request to license a new campus in Springdale with the requirement of a quarterly report on efforts toward diversity and on collaboration efforts with the surrounding school districts. The report was composed by Haas Hall Academy to fulfill that requirement.

Haas Hall Attorney Mr. Mark Henry asked if the report was adequate to the needs of the Board and the timeline for future reports.

Haas Hall Academy Executive Director of Marketing Ms. Heather Holaway said student enrollment data would be available October 2017.

Haas Hall Academy Founder and Superintendent Dr. Martin Schoppmeyer Jr. said he was working on food services for students.

Ms. Chambers moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Partnership and Diversity Report by Haas Hall Academy and to require the next report in November 2017. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-17 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the Open-Enrollment Charter School Amendment Request: Haas Hall Academy, Fayetteville, Arkansas**

Public School Program Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on October 19, 2016, representatives of Haas Hall Academy appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel requesting an amendment to their charter. By a vote of seven-to-one, the Panel approved the request. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Haas Hall Attorney Mr. Mark Henry said the Mayor and Chamber of Commerce submitted letters of support. He said the school would work through any issues with parking.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel's decision on the Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment for Haas Hall Academy, Fayetteville, Arkansas. Dr. Barth voted no. The final vote was 7-1. The motion carried.

**A-18 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the Open-Enrollment Charter School Amendment Request: KIPP Delta Public Schools, Helena-West Helena, Arkansas**

Ms. Zook recused.

Public School Program Advisor Ms. Kelly McLaughlin said on October 19, 2016, representatives of KIPP Delta Public Schools appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel requesting an amendment to their charter. By a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the request. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Dr. Barth, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel's decision on the Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment for KIPP Delta Public Schools, Helena-West Helena, Arkansas. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-19 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the Open-Enrollment Charter School Amendment Request: Arkansas Arts Academy, Rogers, Arkansas**

Public School Program Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on October 19, 2016, representatives of Arkansas Arts Academy appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel requesting an amendment to their charter. By a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the request. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel's decision on the Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment for the Arkansas Arts Academy, Rogers, Arkansas. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-20 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the District Conversion Charter School Amendment Request: Cross County High School**

Public School Program Advisor Ms. Kelly McLaughlin said on October 19, 2016, representatives of Cross County High School appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel requesting an amendment to their charter. By a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the request. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel's decision on the Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment for Cross County High School. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-21 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the Open-Enrollment Adult Education Public Charter School Application: The Excel Center, Little Rock, Arkansas**

Public School Program Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on October 19, 2016, representatives of The Excel Center appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel requesting a charter. By a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the request. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel's decision on the Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Application for The Excel Center, Little Rock, Arkansas. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-22 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Application: River Valley Virtual Academy, Van Buren, Arkansas**

Public School Program Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on October 20, 2016, representatives of River Valley Virtual Academy appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel requesting a charter. By a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the request. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel's decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Application for the River Valley Virtual Academy, Van Buren, Arkansas. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-23 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Application: Harrisburg College and Career Preparatory School, Harrisburg, Arkansas**

Public School Program Advisor Ms. Kelly McLaughlin said on October 20, 2016, representatives of Harrisburg College and Career Preparatory School appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel requesting a charter. By a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the request. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel's decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Application for the Harrisburg College and Career Preparatory School, Harrisburg, Arkansas. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-24 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Application: Harrison High School, Harrison, Arkansas**

Public School Program Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on October 20, 2016, representatives of Harrison High School appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel requesting a charter. By a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the request. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Ms. Chambers moved, seconded by Mr. Black, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel's decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Application for the Harrison High School, Harrison, Arkansas. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-25 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Application: Hot Springs Junior Academy, Hot Springs, Arkansas**

Public School Program Advisor Ms. Kelly McLaughlin said on October 21, 2016, representatives of Hot Springs Junior Academy appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel requesting a charter. By a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the request. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Chambers, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel's decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Application for the Hot Springs Junior Academy, Hot Springs, Arkansas. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-26 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Application: North Little Rock Center of Excellence, North Little Rock, Arkansas**

Public School Program Coordinator Ms. Alexandra Boyd said on October 21, 2016, representatives of North Little Rock Center of Excellence appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel requesting a charter. By a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the request. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Ms. Zook moved, seconded by Ms. Dean, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel's decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Application for the North Little Rock Center of Excellence, North Little Rock, Arkansas. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-27 Consideration of the Charter Authorizing Panel Decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Application: Prairie Grove High School, Prairie Grove, Arkansas**

Public School Program Advisor Ms. Kelly McLaughlin said on October 21, 2016, representatives of Prairie Grove High School appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel requesting a charter. By a unanimous vote, the Panel approved the request. No request for the State Board of Education to review the decision made by the Panel was submitted.

Ms. Chambers moved, seconded by Dr. Barth, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel's decision on the District Conversion Public Charter School Application for the Prairie Grove High School, Prairie Grove, Arkansas. The motion carried unanimously.

**A-28 Consideration for Final Approval: Proposed ADE Rules Governing the Arkansas Financial Accounting and Reporting System and Annual Training Requirements (AFARS)**

Staff Attorney Ms. Jennifer Davis said Act 345 of 2015 amended Ark. Code Ann. § 6-20-2204 regarding the Educational Financial Accounting and Reporting Act required training. A public comment hearing was held on September 1, 2016, and the public comment period ended on September 19, 2016. She said public comments were received, but no substantive changes were made. Governor's approval was received on September 21, 2016. She requested that the State Board give approval for these rules.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Mr. Williamson, to approve the ADE Rules Governing the Arkansas Financial Accounting and Reporting System and Annual Training Requirements (AFARS). The motion carried unanimously.

**Reports**

**Report-1 Chair's Report**

Chair Mireya Reith said she had the opportunity to give a keynote address at the Arkansas Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages meeting.

**Report-2 State Board Standing Committees, Special Committees, Liaisons, and Appointments Report**

Science Grant Manager and Appointment Dr. Barth said the Science Courses would be on the December State Board agenda.

ForwARd Arkansas Liaison Dr. Barth said the ADE team was working on the quick wins in the report. The five ForwARd Communities had kick-off events. The implementation working group has identified Pre-K as the legislative topic.

Deeper Learning Grant Manager and Appointment Ms. Reith said the work session today kicked off the follow-up to the NASBE grant. She said the funds would support future work sessions and off-site meetings.

ESSA Steering Committee Liaison Ms. Newton and Special Projects Ms. Tina Smith provided a summary of the October Steering Committee meeting. Ms. Smith said approximately 900 people attended the Community Listening Forums. She identified the top responses to the three questions posed during the forums. She said the Steering Committee was formulating questions and the ADE is working to answer those questions. She encouraged the Board to submit questions. Ms. Newton said the questions are critical to addressing a student focused learning system.

Standing Committee on Academic Distress Ms. Zook said the December meeting would begin at noon.

Little Rock Area Public Education Stakeholder Group Liaison Dr. Barth said the next meeting is scheduled for December 5.

National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Liaison Ms. Reith said during the conference the NASBE Board met. She said Dr. Barth will be Chair of NASBE and she will be the Senior Southern Area Representative. She highlighted topics from the NASBE Conference. She said NASBE is offering support for ESSA. She said Ms. Newton would be attending a meeting next week sponsored by NASBE. She said NASBE will be holding regional meetings regarding sustaining stakeholder engagement. She said the NASBE legislative conference is scheduled for March 19-21, 2017, in Washington, DC. She said the annual conference will be in Atlanta, Georgia on October 31-November 4, 2017.

### **Report-3 Commissioner's Report**

Commissioner Key said Governor Hutchinson submitted his budget that included \$100 million dollars for facilities partnership, \$5 million dollars for computer science, full funding for adequacy and \$3 million dollars ongoing for Pre-K for improved quality and performance.

Commissioner Key said there was a legislative recommendation to increase professional development over the next two years to increase professional learning communities (PLC) and new NLSA dollars, in the form of grants to be distributed by ADE, to match school funding to close the achievement gap.

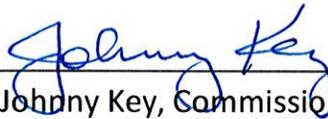
### **Report-4 2016 Arkansas Teacher of the Year Report**

The 2016 Arkansas Teacher of the Year Ms. Meghan Ables shared the Dare to be Different video about the integration of coding and literacy. The video is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zbXxyUfv8Fc>. Ms. Ables' blog is posted on the ADE website at <http://arkansased.edublogs.org>.

## Adjournment

Mr. Black moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

*Minutes recorded by Deborah Coffman*

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Johnny Key". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Johnny Key, Commissioner

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mireya Reith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Mireya Reith, Chair