

Minutes
State Board of Education Meeting
September 9, 2016

The State Board of Education met Friday, September 9, 2016, in the Arkansas Department of Education Auditorium. Chair Mireya Reith called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

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

Absent: Susan Chambers.

Reports

Report-1 Chair's Report

Chair Reith thanked the Board members and stakeholders for participating in the Deeper Learning work session last night. She shared a recent opportunity to work with the University of Arkansas pre-service teachers on multi-cultural opportunities for students. She encouraged all Board members to attend the Community Listening Forums. The complete list of locations, dates and times for the Community Listening Forums are available on the ADE website at <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/public-school-accountability/every-student-succeeds-act-essa>.

Ms. Newton said she was very excited about the opportunity of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). She encouraged all Arkansans to attend a Community Listening Forum and let their voice be heard. She said the committee needed to hear from everyone.

Dr. Barth encouraged everyone to review the science courses and community feedback survey opportunity on the ADE website at <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/curriculum-and-instruction/arkansas-k-12-science-standards/arkansas-k-12-science-standards-public-comment-survey>. He said the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) would host the annual conference in Kansas City, MO on October 19-22, 2016.

Ms. Zook has been visiting area schools about how the new school year is progressing. She said the North Central Education Service Cooperative was very excited to host a Community Listening Forum. She said the U.S. Secretary of Education Mr. John King would be in North Little Rock on Thursday, September 15 to visit a preschool.

Report-2 Commissioner's Report

No report

Report-3 Vision for Excellence in Education and Arkansas Accountability System Steering Committee Report

Special Projects Director Ms. Tina Smith said the first steering committee was held on August 31, 2016. She said the meeting was an opportunity to meet the steering committee members and to gain a general overview of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). She said the steering committee wanted to hear from all Arkansans. She said steering committee members plan to attend the community listening forums. She said some steering committee members also plan to serve as ambassadors and conduct additional listening forums. She said the first surveys have closed and the data are posted on the ADE website at <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/public-school-accountability/every-student-succeeds-act-essa/stay-informed-archive>. She said a new survey is posted at <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/public-school-accountability/every-student-succeeds-act-essa>.

Report-4 Little Rock Area Public Education Stakeholder Group Report

Little Rock Area Public Education Stakeholder Group Vice Chair Mr. Jim McKenzie said the first quarter report was submitted. He said the first meeting of the stakeholder group was held on June 6, 2016. He said superintendents and charter directors for schools in the identified area were invited to present to the group. He said Ms. Dana Dossett, Director of Community Programs for the City of Little Rock, presented the City's Master Plan for Youth. He said the stakeholder group reviewed maps of the area including current and historical demographics. He said Deputy Policy Director for the Center on Reinventing Public Education (CRPE) Dr. Jordan Posamentier was preparing a proposal for review. He said the group might need additional research firms in order to provide recommendations to the State Board. He said the next meeting was scheduled for September 26, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. in the ADE auditorium.

Report-5 2016 Arkansas Teacher of the Year Report

2016 Arkansas Teacher of the Year Ms. Meghan Ables shared pictures from her recent visits to Arkansas schools. She said she was writing a blog after each school visit. She said the innovative schools are flexible and are utilizing flexible scheduling to provide choice to students. She highlighted that some schools are also using flexible seating to

meet the needs of students. She said professional learning through Twitter was beneficial to educators.

Ms. Ables said she would be participating in the Arkansas Leadership Academy. She will be visiting more schools during September. She said the Regional Teacher of the Year celebration would be held at the Capitol on Wednesday, September 28, 2016.

Report-6 2016-2017 Arkansas Leadership Quest Report

Assistant Commissioner of Educator Effectiveness and Licensure Ms. Ivy Pfeffer said the Arkansas Leadership Quest was an opportunity to support school leaders. She said to build the knowledge and skills of building-level instructional leaders across Arkansas, the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) was awarded a grant through the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB). She said grant funds were being used to develop a multi-tiered system of support focused on specific principal needs, customized to five regions of the state, and aligned to Arkansas's Teacher Excellence and Support System (TESS) and Leader Excellence and Development System (LEADS) and other School Improvement work. In Tier 1 support, professional learning communities of building level leaders focus on a pathway of learning, customized for each co-op region. In Tier 2 support, individual and small group coaching would be provided within a region. In Tier 3 support, intensive, individualized support is provided.

Ms. Pfeffer said this opportunity has culminated in Arkansas's Leadership Quest, a unique opportunity for principal leadership, growth and development. She said a quest was divided into journeys. She said currently four (4) quests, with three (3) journeys in each quest, have been developed.

Leadership Development Coach Ms. Rocci Malone said six support coaches are working to provide the multi-tiered support to principals. She said 26 lead principals from 15 education cooperatives are leading the regional work. She said these leaders are discussing how to put best practices in place in Arkansas schools. She said the Quest team was collaborating with Team Digital and BloomBoard. Ms. Malone invited State Board Members to the co-op meetings.

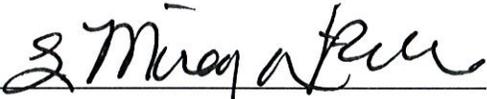
Report-7 My School Info

Assistant Commissioner of Research and Technology Dr. Eric Saunders provided an overview of the new My School Info tool. He said the tool was in beta version at this time with plans to release in November. He asked the Board members to consider a work session on Wednesday, November 9, 2016. The Board agreed to the work session.

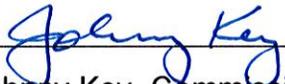
Adjournment

Ms. Dean moved, seconded by Dr. Barth, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:48 am.

Minutes recorded by Deborah Coffman.



Mireya Reith, Chair



Johnny Key, Commissioner