

Minutes
State Board of Education Meeting
Thursday, April 10, 2014

The State Board of Education met Thursday, April 10, 2014, in the auditorium of the Department of Education building. Chair Brenda Gullett called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Present: Brenda Gullett, Chair; Sam Ledbetter, Vice-Chairman; Alice Mahony; Dr. Jay Barth; Vicki Saviers; Toyce Newton; Diane Zook; Alexia Weimer, Teacher of the Year; and Dr. Tom Kimbrell, Commissioner.

Present via conference call: Mireya Reith

Absent: Joe Black

Consent Agenda

Ms. Mahony asked to pull C-6 from the consent agenda.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Zook, to approve the consent agenda less C-6. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ledbetter moved, seconded by Ms. Newton to expunge the passage of the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ledbetter requested C-8 be pulled from the consent agenda.

Mr. Ledbetter moved, seconded by Ms. Mahony to approve the consent agenda less C-6 and C-8. The motion carried unanimously.

Items included in the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes -March 20, 2014
- Minutes -March 21, 2014
- Minutes -March 28, 2014
- Newly Employed, Promotions and Separations
- Review of Loan and Bond Applications
- Consideration for Awarding Waiver Days - Bergman School District
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case#13-029 – Michelle Williams Abernathy
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #13-158 – Louis Henry Wallman
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #13-173 – Douglas Otto Caldwell
- Consideration of the Voluntary Surrender of Arkansas Educator's License – Case

- #13-181 and Case #14-092 – Jacqueline Nichole Winberry
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #T14-001– James Eric Henry
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-032 – Christopher Bradley Thompson
- Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case #14-044 – Callie Marie Langley

Action Agenda

C-6 Report on Waivers to School Districts for Teachers Teaching Out of Area for Longer than Thirty (30) Days, Ark. Code Ann. §6-17-309.

Ms. Zook made a motion, seconded by Dr. Barth, to approve the report on waivers to school districts for teachers teaching out of area for longer than thirty (30) days, Ark. Code Ann. §6-17-309. The motion carried unanimously.

C-8 Consideration for Awarding Waiver Days - North Little Rock School District

Commissioner Kimbrell said the North Little Rock School District requested a waiver of the 178 days of instruction by allowing the district to make up 1.5 instructional days at an alternative time. Dr. Kimbrell said he is concerned that this waiver request does not fit into the guidelines provided to other districts.

Mr. Kelly Rodgers, Superintendent of North Little Rock School District, said the district requested to make up the 4 hours and 40 minutes of instructional time that was missed due to two late starts and one early dismissal due to inclement weather.

Ms. Mahony made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ledbetter, to deny the inclement weather waiver request from North Little Rock School District. Ms. Zook voted no. The motion carried.

A-1 Consider Removal of Western Yell County School District from Fiscal Distress Classification effective April 10, 2014

Assistant Commissioner Mike Hernandez said the Western Yell County School District was classified in Fiscal Distress for the 2012-2013 school year. The Department conducted on-site technical evaluations and assistance, off-site assistance, and analysis of the financial status of the Western Yell County School District. The Department reported that the Western Yell County School District has currently corrected all criteria for being removed from Fiscal Distress. The Department recommended removal of the Western Yell County School District from Fiscal Distress

effective April 10, 2014. The Board was requested to accept and approve this petition in compliance with Ark. Code. Ann. §6-20-1908(c), which requires a District in Fiscal Distress to petition the State Board of Education for removal from Fiscal Distress status after the Department has certified in writing that the school district has corrected all criteria for being classified in Fiscal Distress and has complied with all Department recommendations and requirements for removal from Fiscal Distress.

Mr. Ledbetter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Newton, to approve removal of Western Yell County School District from fiscal distress classification effective April 10, 2014. The motion carried unanimously.

A-2 Petition by the Augusta School District to Close the Cotton Plant Elementary School

Department General Counsel Jeremy Lasiter said on February 19, 2014, the Augusta School District petitioned the State Board of Education for an order to close the Cotton Plant Elementary campus. The State Board of Education considered this petition pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-20-602(b)(2) and the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Closure of Isolated Schools.

Dr. Ray Nassar, Superintendent of Augusta School District, spoke in favor of closing the Cotton Plant Elementary School. Mr. Jesse Jones, city councilman, spoke in opposition to closing the Cotton Plant Elementary School.

Ms. Newton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Reith, to approve the petition by the Augusta School District to close the Cotton Plant Elementary School. Ms. Mahony voted no. The motion carried.

A-3 Consideration of the Involuntary Administrative Consolidation of the Stephens School District into One (1) or More School Districts

Department General Counsel Jeremy Lasiter said pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-13-1601 et seq., the State Board of Education shall administratively consolidate the Stephens School District with or into one (1) or more school districts by May 1, 2014 to be effective July 1, 2014. The Stephens School District's average daily membership fell below three hundred fifty (350) students for the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years. The Stephens School District did not submit a voluntary petition for administrative consolidation or annexation. The Attorney General provided an advisory opinion. Mr. Lasiter outlined the options available to the Board.

Attorney Clay Fendley, representing Stephens School District, said the best interest of the students would be served by keeping the Stephens campus open by consolidating with the Nevada County School District.

Mrs. Terry Teutshe spoke in opposition to the consolidation with Nevada County. She said she supports the tri-county proposal.

Commissioner Kimbrell said the desegregation and any consolidation order would have to be reviewed by the presiding federal court.

Ms. Patsy Hughey, Superintendent of Stephens School District, spoke in favor of consolidation with Nevada County School District.

Mr. Harry Brown, mayor of Stephens, asked the Board to consider keeping the Stephens campus open.

Mr. Fendley said he continued to advance all arguments included in the proposal and he requested the Board consolidate Stephens with Nevada County School District.

Ms. Whitney Moore, attorney representing the Camden Fairview School District, Nevada County School District and Magnolia School District, asked the Board to consider that the Stephens School District be involuntarily consolidated with the three districts along county lines. She said Nevada County is not supportive of consolidation with Stephens School District and Nevada County only.

Mr. Henry Moore, Mayor of McNeil, asked the Board to do what is best long term for McNeil students.

Upon a request from the Board, Dr. Kimbrell made a recommendation to the Board to consolidate the Stephens School District along county lines with the Camden Fairview, Magnolia, and Nevada School Districts. Dr. Kimbrell provided a written recommendation to the State Board, which addressed the specifics of the proposed consolidation.

Mr. Ledbetter made a motion, seconded by Dr. Barth, for immediate consideration of the action agenda item. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Barth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to approve the involuntary administrative consolidation of the Stephens School District into three school districts, as itemized in the Department's recommendation. Mr. Ledbetter, Dr. Barth, Ms. Reith, Ms. Saviers, and Ms. Zook voted yes. Ms. Mahony and Ms. Newton voted no. The final vote was 5-2. The motion carried.

A-4 Consideration of Report and Recommendations from the Special Board Committee- Lee County School District

Ms. Vicki Saviers, Chair of Special Board Committee, said on March 28, 2014 at the Special Board Meeting, Chair Gullett appointed a special committee to study chronically underperforming school districts. Chair Gullett requested Ms. Saviers, Ms. Newton, and

Mr. Ledbetter serve on the special committee, with Ms. Saviers serving as chair of the committee. The Special Committee met Monday, April 7, in the ADE Auditorium.

Ms. Saviers said many people attended the meeting. She said the committee heard about the wonderful students in Lee County and how eager the students are to learn. She said the district has demonstrated limited progress. She said due to fiscal issues, the district will need to reduce staff to meet the budgetary restrictions. The committee was pleased to have an honest conversation about the data. She said the committee met Wednesday, April 9, to write the report that was submitted to the Board.

Ms. Newton said this approach was very helpful to have the time to talk with people about school progress. She said it is the responsibility of all to ensure students have the opportunity to learn and progress.

Superintendent Willie Murdock disagreed with an item in the report stating that transcripts and the master schedule were previous issues.

Ms. Saviers made a motion, seconded by Ms. Newton, to remove the school board and superintendent pursuant to Arkansas Code.

Mr. Ledbetter made a substitute motion, seconded by Dr. Barth, to remove the Lee County School District board of directors and to place the district under the direction of the Commissioner, but not remove the superintendent. Ms. Zook, Ms. Reith, Dr. Barth, Mr. Ledbetter, and Ms. Gullett voted yes. Ms. Saviers and Ms. Newton voted no. Ms. Mahony abstained. The motion passed.

A-5 Consideration to Decrease the School Board Membership for Ouachita School District

Department General Counsel Jeremy Lasiter said on March 21, 2014, the Ouachita School District petitioned the State Board of Education to reduce the size of its board of directors from seven (7) members to five (5) members pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-13-634. He said upon a showing that the decrease in the number of board members will be for the benefit of the Ouachita School District; the State Board of Education may enter an order to decrease the number of directors for the Ouachita School District to five (5) members.

Mr. Ron Kissire, Superintendent of Ouachita School District, said the district requests to reduce the board members from seven to five because of the small size of the district.

Mr. Ledbetter explained he is no relation to any of the Ouachita school board members with the same name.

Mr. Ledbetter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Newton, to approve the decrease of the school board membership for Ouachita School District from seven members to five

members. The motion carried unanimously.

A-6 Consideration of Adoption of the Next Generation Science Standards

Director of Curriculum and Instruction Dr. Tracy Tucker said a comprehensive timeline and a set of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) were submitted to the Arkansas State Board of Education (SBE). She said in 2011, the SBE voted to delay the state-required revision of the Arkansas Science Curriculum Frameworks for two years in lieu of the development of the NGSS and the commitment Arkansas made to engage in this work as a NGSS lead state. While working throughout the development of the NGSS, the ADE facilitated a broad-based committee to provide input, feedback, and suggestions on drafts of the work. The final version of the NGSS was released in April 2013. She said after this release, the Curriculum and Instruction Unit seated another committee of educators to review the final NGSS and complete tasks to inform the state-level work when moving forward with a request for adoption. A majority of this committee (88%) felt that these standards were better than the current Arkansas Science Curriculum Frameworks and all members of the committee noted that these standards were supportive of the work in Arkansas around STEM. Dr. Tucker said this same committee noted that Arkansas will need to see more science education in the earlier grades, more emphasis on engineering and technology, and more focus on developing scientifically literate students. Dr. Tucker, on behalf of the Curriculum and Instruction Unit in the Division of Learning Services, requested the Board consider the NGSS for adoption in Arkansas. She said if adopted the Department would begin additional work with the standards to create a new set of K-12 science curriculum frameworks that will replace the current Arkansas Science Curriculum Frameworks. She presented a timeline that referenced the work schedule to prepare for implementation of these new standards including creating professional development for educators to prepare for the new standards, constructing supporting tools and materials for schools to assist in implementation, developing high school courses aligned to the new standards, and updating assessments to measure the new standards.

Dr. Tucker introduced the leadership team, Science Specialist Michele Snyder, Science Program Manager Cathy Mackey, and Assessment Specialist Jimmy Blevins, who will collaborate to lead the science work. She said the team will report periodically to the Board on the stages of the work.

Ms. Saviers made a motion, seconded by Ms. Zook, to endorse the Next Generation Science Standards plan. The motion carried unanimously.

A-7 End-of-Semester Reviews of Open-Enrollment Public Charter Schools in the Initial Year of Operation: Northwest Arkansas Classical Academy, Premier High School of Little Rock, and Quest Middle School of Pine Bluff

Charter School Director Mary Perry said Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-406 required the

Department to conduct an end-of-semester review of each open enrollment public charter school in its initial school year of operation and report to the State Board on the charter school's overall financial condition and condition of student enrollment. She said at the March 20, 2014 State Board of Education meeting, the Board pulled the report from the consent agenda and requested a follow-up discussion.

Dr. Edwin Strickland, State Director for Responsive Education Solutions, said the attendance numbers included students who did not show up for school. The school decided not to recruit more students because the enrolled students required much intervention. Mr. James Taylor, CFO for Responsive Education Solutions, said the organization will recruit additional students for next school year. He said the organization is committed to these schools and will not close these schools.

Dr. Barth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Newton, to accept the report of the end-of-semester reviews of open-enrollment public charter schools in the initial year of operation for Northwest Arkansas Classical Academy, Premier High School of Little Rock, and Quest Middle School of Pine Bluff. The motion carried unanimously.

A-8, A-9, A-10, A-11, and A-13 were considered together.

A-8 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendments: Arkansas Virtual Academy (ARVA)

A-9 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendments: Benton County School of the Arts

A-10 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment: Northwest Arkansas Classical Academy

A-11 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment: Premier High School of Little Rock

A-13 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment: Quest Middle School of Pine Bluff

Ms. Newton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to not review the Charter Authorizing Panel Action on the Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendments for Arkansas Virtual Academy (ARVA), Benton County School of the Arts, Northwest Arkansas Classical Academy, and Quest Middle School of Pine Bluff. The motion carried unanimously.

A-12 Charter Authorizing Panel Action on Request for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendment: Quest Middle School of West Little Rock

Charter School Director Mary Perry said the Charter Authorizing Panel approved the

application for Quest Middle School of West Little Rock on November 14, 2013. The charter was approved to open in the 2014-2015 school year and to serve students in grades 6-12 with a maximum enrollment of 490. On March 21, 2014, Quest Middle School of West Little Rock appeared before the Charter Authorizing Panel and requested an amendment to the current charter. She said the panel unanimously approved the amendment requested by Quest Middle School of West Little Rock. Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-23-701 et seq., the Little Rock School District and the Pulaski County Special School District requested the Board conduct a hearing at a future meeting to review the decision made by the Charter Authorizing Panel.

Mr. Chris Heller, attorney for LRSD, requested the Board review the CAP action.

Mr. James Taylor, CFO for Responsive Education Solutions, asked the Board to not review the CAP action.

Dr. Barth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Mahony, to review the Charter Authorizing Panel Action on the Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Amendments for Quest Middle School of West Little Rock. Mr. Ledbetter, Dr. Barth, Ms. Mahony, Ms. Newton, Ms. Reith, and Ms. Saviers voted yes. Ms. Zook voted no. The final vote was 6-1. The motion carried.

A-14 Consider Recommendation of New Praxis Physical Education and Health Test

Public School Program Advisor for the Office of Educator Effectiveness Michael Rowland reported that Educational Testing Service (ETS) facilitated a test review for Arkansas physical education and health faculty on Thursday, February 27, 2014. Representatives from ETS, including one physical education and health specialist, reviewed test data from a 2013 ETS multi-state standard setting study for the Praxis™ Health and Physical Education: Content Knowledge (5857) and from a 2010 ETS multi-state standard setting study for the Praxis™ Physical Education: Content and Design (5095). At its January 2014 meeting, the State Board of Education (SBE) followed the ADE recommendation to replace the Praxis™ Health and Physical Education: Content Knowledge (5856) with the Praxis™ Health and Physical Education: Content Knowledge (5857) with a passing score of 160 effective September 1, 2014; however, after reviewing test data, the PE and health faculty recommend adopting the -1 standard error of measurement (SEM) score of 155 as the passing score for PE and Health educator licensure. He reported a SEM represents the uncertainty associated with a test score allowing states flexibility to choose a score higher or lower than the study value (passing score). At its September 2010 meeting, the SBE adopted the Praxis™ Physical Education: Content and Design (5095) with a cut score of 169 that went into effect January 1, 2011. Representatives from ETS suggested that using both the Praxis™ Health and Physical Education: Content Knowledge (5857) and the Praxis™ Physical Education: Content and Design (5095) was unnecessary since both tests covered the same general physical education and health content competencies. Two

recommendations resulted from the PE and health faculty meeting: (1.) Adopt the -1 Standard Error of Measurement (SEM) score of 155 (on a 100 - 200 scale) instead of the study value of 160 for the Praxis™ Health and Physical Education: Content Knowledge (5857), and (2.) Drop the Praxis™ Physical Education: Content and Design (5095).

Dr. Barth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Mahony, to approve the New Praxis Physical Education and Health Test. The motion carried unanimously.

A-15 Consider Recommendation of New Praxis Music Licensure Test

Public School Program Advisor for the Office of Educator Effectiveness Michael Rowland said at its February 2012 meeting, the State Board of Education followed the ADE recommendation to replace three (3) Praxis™ music tests, the Praxis™ Music: Concepts and Processes (0111)*, the Praxis™ Music: Analysis (0112), and the Praxis™ Music: Content Knowledge (0113), with the Praxis™ Music: Content and Instruction (5114) effective September 1, 2012. Arkansas's current pass rate on the Praxis™ Music: Content and Instruction (5114) is 50.27%. To address the low pass rate, Educational Testing Service (ETS) facilitated a test review for Arkansas music education faculty on Thursday, January 9, 2014. The following consensus was reached as the best option for Arkansas's educator licensure exam in music: (1.) Drop the current Praxis™ Music: Content and Instruction (5114), which contains 84 multiple-choice questions, 22 based on recorded musical excerpts, and 3 constructed response questions, and (2.) Adopt the Praxis™ Music: Content Knowledge (5113), which contains 120 four-option multiple-choice questions; 30 based on recorded musical excerpts. The study value (recommended passing score) from a 2011 ETS multi-state standard setting study for the Praxis™ Music: Content Knowledge (5113), which included three Arkansas music educators, is 161 with a -1 Standard Error of Measurement (SEM) score of 157 (on a 100 - 200 scale). He reported a SEM represents the uncertainty associated with a test score allowing states flexibility to choose a score higher or lower than the study value. The ADE recommended dropping the Praxis™ Music: Content and Instruction (5114) and adopting the Praxis™ Music: Content Knowledge (5113) with a cut score of 157 effective immediately. Candidates may continue to take the current Praxis™ Music: Content and Instruction (5114) with a cut score of 162 until December 31, 2014.

Ms. Zook made a motion, seconded by Ms. Newton, to approve the New Praxis Music Licensure Test. The motion carried unanimously.

A-16 Consideration for Emergency Adoption: Proposed Revisions to the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment and Accountability Program and the Academic Distress Program

Department General Counsel Jeremy Lasiter said Acts 600, 1073, 1081 and 1429 of 2013 resulted in several revisions to Arkansas laws related to the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment and Accountability Program (ACTAAP) and the Academic Distress Program. The proposed revisions include revisions made necessary by the above-listed acts. He said the rules include relevant language from the current Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Public School End-of-Course Assessments and Remediation. Department staff recommended the combination of the ACTAAP and End-of-Course rules and that the existing End-of-Course rules be repealed. Department staff requested the State Board of Education grant emergency adoption to the proposed rules.

The Board discussed many items in the rules. Ms. Mahony noted two areas for revision. Mr. Lasiter said the emergency rules lasts four months.

Ms. Mahony made a motion, seconded by Ms. Zook, to table for additional study, review and revision of the proposed revisions to the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment and Accountability Program and the Academic Distress Program.

Ms. Mahony and Ms. Zook withdrew their motion and second.

Mr. Ledbetter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to approve for emergency adoption with immediate revisions to the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment and Accountability Program and the Academic Distress Program. The motion carried unanimously.

A-17 Consideration for Emergency Adoption: Rules Governing Professional Development

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Attorney Cheryl Reinhart said the Department recommended changes to the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Professional Development to implement changes made to the Arkansas Code regarding professional development under Act 2 of the First Extraordinary Session of 2013. Because the effective date of the rule is July 1, 2014, and school districts are planning now for the 2014-2015 school year professional development, the Department requested the State Board grant emergency adoption of the proposed rule.

Dr. Barth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to approve for emergency adoption the Rules Governing Professional Development. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board considered A-18, A-19, A-20, A-21, and A-22 together.

A-18 Consideration for Public Comment: Proposed Revisions to the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment and Accountability Program and the Academic Distress Program

A-19 Consideration for Public Comment: Proposed Repeal to the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Public School End-of-Course Assessments and Remediation

A-20 Consideration for Public Comment: Proposed Revisions to the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Fiscal Assessment and Accountability Program

A-21 Consideration for Public Comment: Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Public Charter Schools

A-22 Consideration for Public Comment: Proposed Rules Governing Professional Development

Dr. Barth made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ledbetter, to approve for public comment the proposed revisions to the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment and Accountability Program and the Academic Distress Program with immediate revisions, proposed repeal to the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Public School End-of-Course Assessments and Remediation, proposed revisions to the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Fiscal Assessment and Accountability Program, proposed Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Public Charter Schools, and the proposed Rules Governing Professional Development. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board considered A-23, A-24, A-26, A-27 and A-29 together.

A-23 Consideration for Final Approval: Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the School Worker Defense Program Advisory Board

A-24 Consideration for Final Approval: Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Digital Learning Act of 2013

A-26 Consideration for Final Approval: Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Schools of Innovation

A-27 Consideration for Final Approval: Proposed Rules Governing Nontraditional Licensure Programs

A-29 Consideration for Final Approval: Proposed New Policies Governing Programs for Educator Licensure Offered by Institutions of Higher Education in Arkansas

Ms. Saviers made a motion, seconded by Ms. Newton, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the School Worker Defense Program Advisory Board, the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing the Digital

Learning Act of 2013, the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Schools of Innovation, and the Rules Governing Nontraditional Licensure Programs. The motion carried unanimously.

A-25 Consideration for Final Approval: Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Instructional Materials

Department Attorney Kendra Clay said Act 511 of 2013 amended Ark. Code Ann. § 6-21-401 et seq. relating to instructional materials. Revisions to these rules include the necessary changes based on Act 511 of 2013. The State Board approved these revisions for public comment on February 13, 2014. Public comments were received and additional revisions were made to the rules. Department staff requested the State Board approve an additional comment period for these rules.

Ms. Saviers made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ledbetter, to approve the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Instructional Materials for public comment. The motion carried unanimously.

A-28 Consideration for Final Approval: Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators

Professional Licensure Standards Board (PLSB) Attorney Cheryl Reinhart said the Department recommended changes to the Rules Governing the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators adopted by the Professional Licensure Standards Board to revise the wording of Standard 2 and its accompanying guideline, revise Standard 6 and create a new Standard 7 out of the former Standard 6 and revise the wording of the accompanying guidelines, renumber and revise the wording and accompanying guideline of Standard 8, implement a technical change made in Act 454 of the 2013 Regular Session, and implement new provisions in the Code of Ethics under Act 1323. Department staff received public comments on the proposed rules and after careful consideration of the public comments and State Board member concerns made revisions to the proposed rules. Ms. Reinhart requested the State Board adopt these rules as final.

Dr. Barth made a motion, seconded by Ms. Saviers, to approve the Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Barth moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to make a resolution to the PLSB to revisit the code of ethics and provide stronger language against discrimination of students. The motion carried unanimously.

A-30 Consideration of Revocation of Teaching License – Heather Eshenbaugh

A-30 was pulled from the agenda.

Nominating Committee Appointment

Ms. Gullett appointed a nominating committee consisting of Ms. Mahony, chair; Ms. Reith; and Dr. Barth. The committee will bring nominations for Board Chair and Board Vice-Chair to the May Board meeting.

Special Committee Appointment

Ms. Gullett said Arkansas is eligible to apply for a NASBE grant. Ms. Gullett appointed Dr. Barth to a special committee to work with Dr. Tracy Tucker and the Science team.

Special Committee Appointment

Ms. Gullett appointed Ms. Diane Zook to serve on the Department’s Dyslexia Committee.

Special Committee Appointment

Ms. Gullett appointed a special committee including Ms. Mahony, chair, Ms. Reith, and Mr. Black to work with the ADE Communications Team to focus on parent involvement.

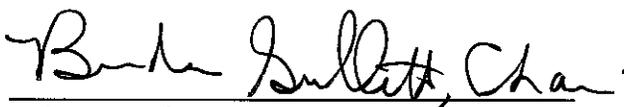
Recognition

Ms. Mahony recognized Prescott School District because they sent envelopes home and asked parents to write encouraging notes to students during Benchmark Exam week.

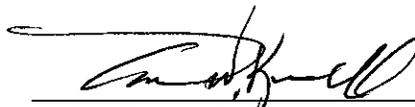
Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Deborah Coffman.



Brenda Gullett, Chair



Dr. Tom W. Kimbrell, Commissioner