

**MINUTES OF THE  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

Atlanta, Georgia  
Mr. Scott Sweeney, Chairman

February 19-20, 2020  
Mr. Richard Woods, State School Superintendent

On Wednesday, February 19, 2020, the State Board of Education assembled to consider its committee work, conduct its public hearings, and take action on official business.

**Roll Call – Committee of the Whole**

February 19, 2020

Mr. Scott Sweeney, Chair  
Mr. Mike Long  
Ms. Helen Rice  
Ms. Lisa Kinnemore

Mr. Kenneth Mason  
Mr. Scott Johnson  
Mr. Mike Royal  
Mr. Jason Downey  
Ms. Martha Zoller

Ms. Lee Anne Cowart  
Mr. Trey Allen  
Ms. Lynn Nabors  
Ms. Phenna Petty

On February 19, 2020, at 11:00 a.m., Chairman Scott Sweeney called the meeting to order. At 11:00 a.m., by motion of Ms. Lisa Kinnemore and a second by Ms. Helen Rice, a unanimous affirmative vote was given to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing appeals, legal, personnel matters and recommendations that are exempt from disclosure under the Open Records Act.

At 1:00 p.m., by motion of Ms. Helen Rice and a second by Mr. Jason Downey, an affirmative vote was given to exit Executive Session.

On February 19, 2020, at 1:00 p.m., Rules Committee met. Budget Committee met at 2:15 p.m., and Operations Committee met at 3:30 p.m. to consider State Board items to be presented at the February 20, 2020, State Board meeting.

**Roll Call – State Board Meeting**

February 20, 2020

Mr. Scott Sweeney, Chair  
Mr. Mike Long  
Ms. Helen Rice  
Ms. Lisa Kinnemore

Mr. Kenneth Mason  
Mr. Scott Johnson  
Mr. Mike Royal  
Mr. Jason Downey

Ms. Martha Zoller  
Ms. Lee Anne Cowart  
Mr. Trey Allen  
Ms. Phenna Petty

At 9:00 a.m., on Thursday, January 16, 2020, Chairman Scott Sweeney called the meeting to order.

## **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Sweeney called upon Ms. Helen Rice to provide the invocation. Ms. Rice then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Guest Recognition**

Chairman Scott Johnson recognized special guests including Dr. Curtis Jones, Superintendent, Bibb County Schools; Mr. Allen Fort, Superintendent, Taliaferro County Schools; Ms. Laura Ross, Five Forks Middle School in Gwinnett; Ms. Terriyln Rivers-Cannon, Atlanta Public Schools; Ms. Kerensa Wing, Principal, Collins Hill High School in Gwinnett; Dr. Eldrin Deese with Mass Insights, Mr. Rob Jentz, Mass Insights; Mr. Rob Johnson, NWEA; Ms. Kim Sherk, President of Georgia Republican Women; Mr. Buddy Costley, GAEL, and Mr. Josh Stephens, PAGE.

## **Inspiration**

Mr. Jason Downey introduced Dr. Curtis Jones, Superintendent of Bibb County Schools, to provide the inspiration.

## **Public Hearing**

Pursuant to the public notice and posting of the agenda, the Chair asked if there were any comments from the public regarding State Board Rule - 160-4-2-.48 High School Graduation Requirements for Students Enrolling in the Ninth Grade for the First time in the 2008-09 School Year and Subsequent Years. No one signed up to speak to the rule.

## **Superintendent's and Chair's Reports**

1. Superintendent's Report to the Board.
  - a. Voices Recognition. Superintendent Richard Woods announced that Voices for Georgia's Children held a reception in early February honoring the GaDOE's efforts to support the whole child for the innovative and well-rounded approach to educating the children of our state. Superintendent Woods thanked the Board members that attended this event.
  - b. National Educator Winners. Superintendent Woods recognized Dr. Curtis Jones, 2019 National Superintendent of the Year; Ms. Kerensa Wing, 2020 National Principal of the Year; Ms. Laura Ross, 2020 National School Counselor of the Year; and Ms. Terrilyn Rivers-Collins, 2019 National School Social Worker of the Year.
  - c. School Breakfast Program. Ms. Linette Dodson, School Nutrition Director, provided an update on expanding access to school breakfast.
  - d. School Improvement – Mass Insight. Dr. Stephanie Johnson and introduced Dr. Eldrin Deese and Mr. Rob Jentz from Mass Insights to share the results of their evaluation of the school improvement division.

- e. Standards Review Update. Chief of Staff Matt Jones provided an update on the Math standards review.
2. Chairman’s Report to the Board.
- a. Kevin Boyd Recognition. Ms. Lisa Kinnemore acknowledged Mr. Boyd, former State Board member from the 9<sup>th</sup> congressional district, for his years of service as a member of the State Board of Education. Other members of the Board offered words of thanks to Mr. Boyd.
  - b. Words from a Rural School Superintendent. Mr. Allen Fort, Superintendent of Taliaferro County School System, provided an enlightening overview of his experiences overseeing the smallest school district in the state.

*(Please note that the items in their entirety, with backup material and attachments 1-4, can be found on the State Board of Education’s Simbli website February 20, 2020, State Board meeting.)*

## ACTION ITEMS

### AGENDA

By motion of Mr. Jason Downey and a second from Mr. Mike Long, a unanimous affirmative vote was made to approve the Agenda for the February 20, 2020, State Board meeting.

### CONSENT AGENDA

By motion of Ms. Helen Rice and a second by Ms. Lisa Kinnemore, a unanimous affirmative vote was made to approve the Consent Agenda for the February 20, 2020, State Board meeting.

1. **TL – Grant – AP Teacher Training Grant.** The State Board of Education authorized the State School Superintendent to award a grant to selected school districts at a cost not to exceed \$198,100.00 in Federal Funds in order to provide Advanced Placement (AP) teacher training. (Appendix 5)
2. **TS - Contract - PC Solutions & Integration, Inc.** The State Board of Education authorized the State School Superintendent to enter into a contract with PC Solutions & Integration, Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$196,381 in State Funds for the purchase of load balancing and application security products and services.
3. **FP – Grant Amendment– FY20 Federal Formula Grant Allocations.** The State Board of Education authorized the State School Superintendent to amend the grant with 217 local educational agencies (LEAs) by the amount of \$18,984,616 for a cost not to exceed \$943,122,094 in Federal Funds for the purpose of awarding revised formula-based allocations

under Title I, Part A; Title I, Part D Subpart 1; Title I, Part D Subpart 2; Title II, Part A; Title IV, Part A; IDEA 611; and IDEA 619. (Appendix 6)

4. **SI – Grant Amendment– Georgia’s Systems of Continuous Improvement Competitive Grants.** The State Board of Education authorized the State School Superintendent to amend the grant with Local Educational Agencies with schools identified as Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) and Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) schools that have applied for a Georgia’s Systems of Continuous Improvement Grant by the amount of \$165,200 for a cost not to exceed \$9,808,158 in Federal Funds for the purpose of supporting school improvement efforts. (Appendix 7)
5. **SI – Contract – Epworth by the Sea (Added on 2/18/2020).** The State Board of Education authorized the State School Superintendent to enter into a contract with Epworth By the Sea at a cost not to exceed \$58,075 in Other Funds for the Institute for Educating All Students.
6. **CTO – Contract Amendment – Communities in Schools and Bibb County Schools.** The State Board of Education authorized the State School Superintendent to amend the contract with Communities in Schools (CIS) and Bibb County Schools that was approved at the June 14, 2018 Board meeting to increase the total maximum compensation amount from \$30,000 to \$57,500.
7. **CTO – Contract Amendment – Communities In Schools and Randolph and Clay County Schools.** The State Board of Education authorized the State School Superintendent to amend the contract with Communities In Schools (CIS) and Randolph and Clay County Schools that was approved at the June 14, 2018, Board meeting to increase the total maximum compensation amount from \$40,000 to \$57,500.
8. **CTO – Contract Amendment – Communities In Schools and Dooly County Schools.** The State Board of Education authorized the State School Superintendent to amend the contract with Communities In Schools (CIS) and Dooly County Schools that was approved at the June 14, 2018, Board meeting to increase the total maximum compensation amount from \$40,000 to \$57,500.
9. **CTO – Contract Amendment – Communities In Schools and Dougherty County Schools.** The State Board of Education authorized the State School Superintendent to amend the contract with Communities In Schools (CIS) and Dougherty County Schools that was approved at the June 14, 2018, Board meeting to increase the total maximum compensation amount from \$30,000 to \$57,500.
10. **FBO – Contract – Warehousing Storage and Delivery Service with Intergovernmental Agency.** The State Board of Education authorized the State School Superintendent to enter into a contract with Cooperative Purchasing Agency for Region “G” at a cost not to exceed \$412,845.30 in Other Funds for Warehousing storage and delivery fees for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Foods for School Systems in the Northeast region of the State..
11. **PFEA – Contract – Charter System Foundation.** The State Board of Education authorized the State School Superintendent to enter into a contract with Charter System Foundation at a cost not to exceed \$100,000 in State Funds for providing support to charter systems through a variety of training opportunities.
12. **FBO - \$50,000.01 - \$250,000 Recurring Contracts List.** The State Board of Education authorized the State School Superintendent to enter into contracts with the vendors specified

in the attachments entitled \$50,000.01 - \$250,000 Recurring Contracts at a cost not to exceed the amounts provided in said attachments. (Appendix 8)

13. **TL – Transfer Funds to Georgia Department of Administrative Services (added 2/18/2020).** The State Board of Education authorized the State School Superintendent to transfer funds, not to exceed \$60,000 in state funds, to the Georgia Department of Administrative Services.
14. **TL - Standards - Unmanned Aircraft Systems Career Pathway (Adopt).** The State Board of Education adopted the Georgia Standards of Excellence for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Career Pathway courses which will subsequently be added to the State-Funded List of K-8 Subjects and 9-12 Courses.
15. **TL - Standards - Commercial Fishing Management Career Pathway (Approval to Post).** The State Board of Education granted permission for the posting of the Georgia Standards of Excellence for Commercial Fishing Management Career Pathway courses for public review and comment.
16. **PFEA – Charter Renewal – DeKalb PATH Academy.** The State Board of Education renewed a charter for DeKalb PATH Academy, a grades 5-8 start-up charter school approved by the DeKalb County Board of Education, for a 5-year term beginning July 1, 2020 and expiring June 30, 2025.
17. **PFEA – Charter Renewal – Leadership Preparatory Academy.** The State Board of Education renewed a charter for Leadership Preparatory Academy, a grades K-8 start-up charter school approved by the DeKalb County Board of Education, for a 3-year term beginning July 1, 2020 and expiring June 30, 2023.
18. **PFEA – Charter Amendment – Tybee Island Maritime Academy Charter Amendment.** The State Board of Education approved a charter contract amendment for Tybee Island Maritime Academy, a start-up charter school approved by the Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools Board of Education, to add the 6th grade in the SY 20-21, the 7th grade in the SY 21-22, and the 8th grade in the SY 22-23, with up to 50 students per grade.
19. **PFEA – State Charter Schools Commission Appointment (Added 2/18/2020).** The State Board of Education reappointed Mr. Paul W. Williams to the State Charter Schools Commission for a two-year term ending December 31, 2021. (Appendix 9)
20. **PFEA – Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Program – Removal of Tickle Me Pink The Academy (Added on 2/18/2020).** The State Board of Education authorized the removal of Tickle Me Pink The Academy from the list of private schools permitted to participate in the Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Program. This removal is to take effect immediately.
21. **State Board Meeting Minutes – January 16, 2020.** The State Board of Education approved the minutes of the January 16, 2020, State Board meeting.
22. **Executive Session Minutes – January 15, 2020.** The State Board of Education approved the minutes of the January 15, 2020, Executive Session meeting.
23. **Executive Session Minutes – January 16, 2020.** The State Board of Education approved the minutes of the January 16, 2020, State Board Executive Session meeting.

24. **Called State Board Meeting Minutes – January 17, 2020.** The State Board of Education approved the minutes of the January 17, 2020, State Board meeting.
25. **Called State Board Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2020.** The State Board of Education approved the minutes of the February 4, 2020, State Board meeting.
26. **Called Executive Session Minutes – February 4, 2020.** The State Board of Education approved the minutes of the February 4, 2020, called State Board Executive Session meeting.
27. **Legal.** The State Board of Education approved the February Legal Report as presented.
28. **Case Number 2020-17. Macovia Bates vs Clayton County Board of Education.** The State Board of Education affirmed the decision of the local board in Case #2020-17.
29. **Case Number 2020-16. Ashley Bates vs Clayton County Board of Education.** The State Board of Education affirmed the decision of the local board in Case #2020-16.
30. **Personnel.** The State Board of Education approved the February 2020 Personnel Report as presented.
31. **EAP - Individual Student Waiver - Case # 20-0025.** The State Board of Education approved Individual Student Waiver Case #20-0025.
32. **EAP - Individual Student Waiver - Case # 20-0071.** The State Board of Education approved Individual Student Waiver Case #20-0071.

### **RULES COMMITTEE ITEMS**

1. **PFEA - State Board Rule - 160-4-2-.48 High School Graduation Requirements for Students Enrolling in the Ninth Grade for the First time in the 2008-09 School Year and Subsequent Years (Adopt).** Upon motion from Ms. Helen Rice and a second from Ms. Lee Anne Cowart, the State Board of Education unanimously voted to amend to State Board of Education Rule 160-4-2-.48 High School Graduation Requirements for Students Enrolling in the Ninth Grade for the First time in the 2008-09 School Year and Subsequent Years. (Appendix 10)

The minutes of the Budget Committee, Rules Committee, Operations Committee and Executive Session are located in the Appendices as 1-4.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 11:45 p.m., by motion of Ms. Lisa Kinnemore and a second by Ms. Helen Rice, a unanimous affirmative vote was given to adjourn the State Board meeting. The next meeting of the State Board of Education is scheduled for Thursday, March 26, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie Caputo

Recording Secretary