

**Minutes
State Board Meeting
June 8, 2023**

Present: Ouida Newton, Chair; Dr. Sarah Moore, Vice-Chair; Adrienne Woods; Kathy Rollins; Lisa Hunter; Dr. Fitz Hill; Randy Henderson; Steve Sutton Jeff Wood, Jessica Saum, 2022 Arkansas Teacher of the Year, Jacob Olivia, ADE Secretary.

The Arkansas State Board of Education (State Board) met Thursday, June 8, 2023. Ms. Ouida Newton called the meeting to order at 9:31 AM, followed by a moment of silence.

Recognition

Item III.1. 2022 Milken Award Winner, Emily Howard

Item III.1. was presented by Ms. Karli Saracini, ADE Assistant Commissioner, Educator Effectiveness & Licensure. Present was Ms. Emily Howard, 2022 Milken Award winner.

Ms. Emily Howard, third grade teacher at Drew Central School District, Monticello, Arkansas, was recognized as the Milken Award winner, sponsored by the Milken Foundation.

Former Milken Award winners were also present.

III.2. Stagecoach Elementary Robotics Team (Jessica House, Teacher)

Item III.2. was presented by Ms. Jessica Saum, 2022 Arkansas Teacher of the Year. Present were the Stagecoach Elementary Robotics team Magnolia Saum, Lily Perkins, Blaine Tierney, Aliya White, and Ainsley Wood and their coach, Ms. Jessica House. Also present were their sponsors Ms. Cooper, Ms. Cartwright (absent), their principal Ms. Carol Skiba, and Dr. Tony Thurman, Superintendent, Cabot School District.

The all-girl team qualified at the regional tournament, making it to state where they won the Design Award, making it to the Worlds competition in Dallas, TX where 800 teams competed, of which four teams were from Arkansas.

Ms. Jessica Saum, 2022 Arkansas Teacher of the Year recognized Ms. Capri Salaam, 2023 Arkansas Teacher of the Year (ATOY), who was present for Ms. Saum's last State Board meeting, June 8. Ms. Salaam's year of service as the 2023 ATOY will begin July 1, 2023. Ms. Salaam addressed the State Board expressing her excitement to begin her year as the 2023 ATOY.

Changes to the Agenda

Pulled:

Item V.1.d. Recommendation for Accredited – Probation Status for Cutter Morning Star School District.

Action Agenda

V.1. Standards for Accreditation Status Recommendations fore the 2022-2023 Accreditation Cycle

V.1.a. Recommendation of Final Accredited Status for the Districts Listed on Report

Item V.1.a. was presented by Dr. Matthew Sutherlin, Coordinator for Standards and Systems Support.

Schools listed are fully accredited or recommendations for fully accredited schools. They do not have any exceptions in SFA; no standards have been violated.

A motion to approve the final accredited status for the districts listed on the report was made by Ms. Lisa Hunter, seconded by Mr. Jeff Wood. The motion unanimously passed.

V.1.b. Recommendation of Final Accredited - Cited Status for the Districts on Report

Item V.1.b. was presented by Dr. Matthew Sutherlin, Coordinator for Standards and Systems Support.

Schools listed were cited by the State Board in March, in addition to new citations.

A motion to approve final accredited cited status for the districts listed was made by Ms. Kathy Rollins, seconded by Dr. Fitz Hill. The motion unanimously passed.

V.1.c. Recommendation for Accredited-Cited Status for Lincoln School District Lincoln Middle School for Standard 4-D.1. Teacher Licensure

Item V.1.c. was presented by Dr. Matthew Sutherlin, Coordinator for Standards and Systems Support. Also present was Ms. Shastady Wagner, DESE Attorney Specialist. Present via ZOOM was Ms. Mary Ann Spears, Superintendent.

Consideration of appeal of Accredited (Cited) status for Lincoln School District. The district employed a teacher without a license for the school year without obtaining a Long-Term Sub exception or a provisional license until May 5, 2023, of the current school year.

A motion to deny the appeal accredited-cited status of Lincoln School District was made by Ms. Adrienne Wood, seconded by Ms. Lisa Hunter. The motion unanimously passed.

A motion to recommend accredited-cited status for Lincoln School District-Lincoln Middle School for Standard 4-D.1. Teacher Licensure was made by Ms. Adrienne Woods, seconded by Mr. Steve Sutton. The motion unanimously passed.

Consent Agenda

Report – Alternative Learning Education Long-Term Subs in Arch Ford Cooperative Region

The report on alternative learning education (ALE) long-term subs in the Arch Ford Education Cooperation region was presented by Ms. Karli Saracini, ADE Assistant Commissioner, Educator Effectiveness & Licensure, Ms. Deborah Coffman, ADE Assistant Commissioner, Public School Accountability, and Dr. Ivy Pfeffer, ADE Deputy Commissioner.

At the State Board meeting held May 11, the State Board requested the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to research and report findings on long-term subs in the Arch Ford Education Service Cooperative at the State Board meeting scheduled June 8. Ms. Saracini reported that after researching the issue of ALE long-term subs, standard operating procedures are being put into place to correct this issue in the future. Furthermore, Licensure is researching each waiver to ensure students have qualified teachers. The ALE issue is still being worked on and Matt Sewell, ADE Director, Special Programs/Special Education and his team will report to the State Board. Licensure is not granting long-term subs for ALE; they have essentially been denied. DESE will communicate with Ms. Audie Alumbaugh, who initially brought the issues to the attention of the State Board. Additionally, Licensure will begin to submit to the State Board current waivers compared to last-year waivers. Also, the State Board would like to see from Licensure, the State average number and grand total of alternative licensing plans in Arkansas to look at the statewide picture, to include districts statewide that have 1240 waivers through the Office of Public School Accountability by statewide, co-op region, down to district level.

Items included for consideration in the Consent Agenda were as follows:

1. Minutes
 - a. Special Board Meeting, 05-05-2023
 - b. State Board Meeting Minutes, 05-11-23
2. Report on Waivers to School Districts for Teachers Teaching Out of Area for Longer than Thirty (30) Days, Ark. Code Ann. § 6-17-309
3. Review of Loan and Bond Applications
4. Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case 23-072 Megan Wilson
5. Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case 23-078 Becky Ramsey
6. Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case 23-080 Shayne Taylor

7. Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case 23-081 Reba Holmes
8. Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case 23-085 Dennis Smith
9. Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case 23-088 Dustin Lee
10. Consideration of the Recommendation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board for Case 23-089 Dan Cathey
11. Consideration of Charter Amendment Requests Approved by the Charter Authorizing Panel
 - a. Consideration of Amendment Request for Scholarmade Achievement Place of Arkansas
 - b. Consideration of Amendment Request for Future School of Fort Smith
 - c. Consideration Amendment Request for Westwind School for he Performing Arts
 - d. Consideration of Amendment Request for Graduate Arkansas
 - e. Consideration of Amendment Request for Hope Academy of Northwest Arkansas
 - f. Friendship Aspire Academy Arkansas
 - g. Consideration of Amendment Request for Exalt Academy
 - h. Consideration of Amendment Request for Haas Hall Academy
 - i. LISA Academy
 - j. Consideration of Amendment Request for eSTEM Public Charter Schools
 - k. Consideration of Amendment Request for Arkansas Arts Academy
 - l. Consideration of Amendment Request for Academics Plus Charter Schools
 - m. Consideration of Amendment Request for Arkansas Virtual Academy
 - n. Consideration of Amendment Request for Centerpoint Academy of Agriculture and Skilled Trades
 - o. Consideration of Amendment Request for Vilonia Pathways Academy
 - p. Consideration of Amendment Request for River Valley Virtual Academy

Per Ms. Shastady Wagner, DESE Attorney Specialist, Arkansas Virtual Academy requested to pull their recension of their waiver of 6-17-2403 from the Consent agenda. A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as adjusted by Ms. Wagner's comments, was made by Mr. Steve Sutton, seconded by Dr. Fitz Hill. The motion unanimously passed.

New Business

None

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the State Board meeting was made by Dr. Fitz Hill, seconded by Mr. Steve Sutton. The motion unanimously passed. Chair Ouida Newton adjourned the State Board meeting at 11:38 AM.

Minutes recorded by Angela Scaife.

Jacob Oliva, Secretary
Arkansas Department of Education

Ouida Newton, Chair
State Board of Education

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