

**MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THE STATE OF ALABAMA
MARCH 10, 2022
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA**

The Alabama State Board of Education met for its regular meeting of Elementary/Secondary Education matters on Thursday, March 10, 2022, at 10 a.m., in the auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building, Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called to order by the Vice President of the Board in accordance with *Alabama Code* (1975), §16-3-7, as amended.

PRESIDING: DR. YVETTE RICHARDSON, VICE PRESIDENT

The invocation was done by Reverend Candice Frazer, Rector, Church of the Ascension, Montgomery, Alabama, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was done in unison.

The following members were present:

Present

Mrs. Stephanie Bell in person
Dr. Tonya Chestnut in person
Dr. Cynthia McCarty in person
Dr. Wayne Reynolds in person
Dr. Yvette Richardson in person
Mrs. Tracie West in person
Mrs. Jackie Zeigler in person

Absent

Governor Kay Ivey
Mrs. Belinda McRae

Dr. Eric G. Mackey, State Superintendent of Education, was also present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE FEBRUARY 10, 2022, MEETING

On motion by Dr. Tonya Chestnut and seconded by Mrs. Jackie Zeigler, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the meeting of February 10, 2022.

On motion by Mrs. Jackie Zeigler and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**RESOLUTION TO EXTEND APPROVAL OF AN EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM
Spring Hill College**

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education approves educator preparation programs, including the time frame for approved program status; and

WHEREAS, the Class B Visual Arts (P-12) program provided by Spring Hill College was granted probationary approval until June 30, 2022, pending documentation of compliance with Alabama State Board of Education rules; and

WHEREAS, the program documented compliance with all Alabama State Board of Education rules pertaining to the program previously granted probationary approval; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Superintendent of Education recommends approval of the program:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby approves the following program with approval to expire on June 30, 2028, to align with the expiration date for other approved programs at Spring Hill College:

Class B Visual Arts (P-12)

Done this 10th day of March 2022

On motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Mrs. Tracie West, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:

**ANNOUNCE INTENT TO ADOPT AMENDED ALABAMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE
CHAPTER 290-4-5, PERTAINING TO STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES**

EXECUTIVE (INCLUDES LEGAL AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)

Dr. Mackey stated that there was no report necessary for the month of March.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Mackey stated that his report includes a surprise for the Board Members. He reported that March is Read Across America Month and last week was Read Across America Week. On March 1, 2022, Dr. Mackey and Dr. Tonya Chestnut participated in the kickoff at McMillian International School in the Montgomery County School System. Some Board Members participated by visiting schools in their districts, and some participated in the online reading. Due to current circumstances, some schools requested zoom readers to limit the going and coming into the buildings. Dr. Mackey stated that it has been an amazing kickoff to Read Across America and Alabama has a very special reader.

Dr. Mackey introduced Dr. Dee Bennett, a professor at Troy University and reading phenom. Dr. Bennett shared a briefing of how she and Dr. Monica Young created SHORT the Squirrel, Alabama's literacy mascot who desires to increase literacy. She showed an inspiring presentation and introduced SHORT the Squirrel to the audience. Dr. Bennett charged everyone to inform their educators about SHORT, invite SHORT to speak to community leaders at events, consider how SHORT can help in their area, and encourage communities to use SHORT materials. Dr. Mackey stated that having SHORT in person was a large portion of his report. He said it will be helpful to get SHORT publicized. The Department has also publicized SHORT on social media. Montgomery County Commissioner Ronda Walker has provided resources to purchase books and to help get materials into the Montgomery County School System. Dr. Mackey reported that SHORT spends the majority of his time on the road.

Dr. Mackey gave the Board Members an overview of the following Work Session as well as plans to attend the Arts musical performance in the Rotunda. He informed everyone that the Teacher Preparation and Certification Work Group would present at the Work Session. The group consisted of a variety of high-level educators.

Dr. Mackey gave a big thank you to SHORT the Squirrel and the literacy group.

There being no other business before the Board, on motion by Dr. Wayne Reynolds and seconded by Dr. Cynthia McCarty, Board Members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m. The next Alabama State Board of Education Meeting for Elementary and Secondary Education will be held on Thursday, April 14, 2022, at 10 a.m. in the Auditorium of the Gordon Persons Building followed by the Work Session.

Vice President

Secretary and Executive Officer