

**MINUTES  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
COUNCIL OF BASIC EDUCATION**

**333 Market Street | 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17126**

**November 14, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 2:06 p.m. by Chairman James Barker.

**Attending:**

James Agras (*via phone*)  
Carol Aichele  
James Barker  
Nathan Barrett  
Jamie Bracey-Green

Nicole Carnicella  
Sandra Dungee Glenn  
Pamela Gunter-Smith  
Kirk Hallett  
Jeffrey Keeling

Jonathan Peri  
Ashley Svec  
Karen Farmer White  
A. Lee Williams

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the September 12, 2018, meeting of the Council of Basic Education were approved on an **Williams/Aichele** motion.

**REPORT OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR  
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

Dr. Sherri Smith, Director of the Bureau of School Support, announced that the Future Ready PA Index would be launched live tomorrow.

Brian Campbell, Director of the Bureau of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, presented statewide assessment results for the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment and the Keystone Exams. He then shared examples of how the state assessment results would be displayed and utilized within the Future Ready PA Index.

Rosemary Hughes, Special Advisor on School Improvement, updated the Board on implementation of the state's new system for LEA and school improvement.

**DISCUSSION ITEM  
DRAFT MASTER PLAN FOR EDUCATION**

Dr. Barker presented a final draft Master Plan for Basic Education that he said reflected input from Council members and interested stakeholders. He reviewed the recommendations included in the final draft and invited discussion on the document. Dr. Barker said he intended to call for approval of the draft Master Plan later in the meeting.

The Honorable Carol Aichele suggested that the Council consider an amendment to the draft Master Plan in the section on School Program Approval, Evaluation, and Requirements. Ms. Aichele said the Master Plan should highlight the importance of establishing a strong foundation in reading for all students and noted that she planned to offer an amendment to the plan to state, “In delivering innovative instruction, all public school entities are encouraged to utilize reading instructional practices that are evidence-based and that are grounded in the science of learning to read.”

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **ACTION ITEM**

#### **MASTER PLAN FOR BASIC EDUCATION**

Hon. Carol Aichele made a motion to amend the draft Master Plan for Basic Education to add the following sentence to the section on School Program Approval, Evaluation and Requirements: “In delivering innovative instruction, all public school entities are encouraged to utilize reading instructional practices that are evidence-based and that are grounded in the science of learning to read.” The motion was seconded by Nathan Barrett.

Upon discussion on the motion, members debated whether referencing the science of learning to read was too vague and reached consensus that a potential amendment should refer to evidence-based practices. Members further debated whether the amendment should focus only on instructional practices related to reading when the Master Plan is more generalized and reached consensus that support for the use of evidence-based practices should be broader.

Hon. Aichele withdrew her proposed amendment.

Hon. Aichele offered another motion to amend the draft Master Plan for Basic Education to add the following sentence to the section on School Program Approval, Evaluation and Requirements: “In delivering innovative instruction, all public school entities are encouraged to utilize evidence-based differentiated instruction aligned to meet individualized learner needs.” The motion was seconded by Mr. Barrett.

VOTE: All were in favor as indicated by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Barrett moved that the Council of Basic Education approve the draft Master Plan for Basic Education, as amended, and transmit the Plan to the State Board of Education with a recommendation that the Board adopt the Plan. The motion was seconded by Lee Williams.

VOTE: All were in favor as indicated by unanimous voice vote.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m. on an **Aichele/Barrett** motion.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephanie Jones".

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Stephanie Jones  
Administrative Assistant