

**MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**333 Market Street | 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126**

May 2, 2024

Attending:

Hon. Carol Aichele
Sen. David Argall
Nathan Barrett
Claire Chi
Kathy Christiano
Aarushi Dedhiya

Sandra Dungee Glenn
Ernest Hadrick
Amanda Hetrick
Natalie Imhoof
Robert Mitchell
Hon. Pedro Rivera

Monica Taylor
Karen Farmer White
Lee Williams
Sen. Lindsey Williams
Benjamin Wilson

CALL TO ORDER

The 380th meeting of the State Board of Education (Board) was convened on Thursday, May 2, 2024. Public notice of the meeting was made in accordance with the Sunshine Meeting Act of 1986. The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m. by Chair Karen Farmer White.

Chair Farmer White announced that she reassigned Dr. Monica Taylor to serve on the Council of Higher Education. Dr. Taylor’s transition from the Council of Basic Education to the Council of Higher Education was in effect for the May 2, 2024, meeting of the Board and its Councils.

Chair Farmer White also announced other membership transitions. She noted that Claire Chi and Natalie Imhoof had reached the end of their terms as the Board’s Senior Student Members and that Dr. Nicole Carnicella’s service to the Board had concluded. Ms. Farmer White said that Naina Bhatia, a student in the West Chester Area School District, was selected as the Board’s new Junior High School Student Member and will begin her term of service in July. She noted that a nomination for a new postsecondary student member was pending.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the March 14, 2024, meeting of the Board were approved on a **Mitchell/Hetrick** motion.

JOINT COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Sandra Dungee Glenn reported that the Teacher and School Leader Effectiveness Committee and the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee held a joint meeting earlier in the day. Ms. Dungee Glenn said the Committees received an update on implementation of Pennsylvania’s educator workforce strategy from Ray Fields, the new Chief Talent Officer in the Department of Education.

Ms. Dungee Glenn said the Committees also discussed a provision in Act 55 of 2022 that seated responsibility with the Board to evaluate the state’s new CTE Program of Study in Education within one year of the program being offered and at least every three years thereafter. With support from Judd Pittman, CTE Bureau Director, and members of his staff, Committee members discussed what information to include in a year-one program report that is due during the 2024-25 school year and what metrics might be included in longer-term evaluations of the CTE Program of Study in Education.

Finally, Ms. Dungee Glen said the Committees reviewed draft updates to the PDE-430, the form used for the evaluation of student teaching. She noted that the Teacher and School Leader Effectiveness Committee previously recommended that the Department consider updating the form in response to input from stakeholders. Dr. Carissa Pokorny-Golden, Director of the Bureau of School Leadership and Teacher Quality, was joined by Amy Glusco, Director of Field Services at York College, Dr. James Preston, Assistant to the Dean at Slippery Rock University, and Dr. Tamara Willis, Superintendent, Susquehanna Township School District to explain the draft updates to the student teaching evaluation tool. Ms. Dungee Glenn said the revised tool will be piloted during the next school year.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

Dr. Khalid Mumin, Secretary of Education, shared that a ribbon cutting ceremony was held for the re-opening of the State Library on April 26. He also shared updates on grants recently awarded by the Department, including grants to support the development of future special education teachers and food service equipment grants. Dr. Mumin announced the 12 educators nominated to be the 2025 Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year. Finally, the Secretary noted that PHEAA continues to work through applications for the new student teacher stipend program and discussed the need to improve FAFSA completion rates.

REPORT OF THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

Mr. Shane Crosby, Executive Director of the Professional Standards and Practices Commission (PSPC), presented the PSPC’s 2023 Annual Report that provides detailed information on public disciplinary actions imposed by the Commission during the 2023 calendar year. Mr. Crosby reviewed data on the number of educator misconduct complaints received and resolved. In response to feedback at a prior meeting of the Board, Mr. Crosby noted that the 2023 Annual Report includes a new column that displays information on the type of certificate held by each educator who was subject to disciplinary action.

NEW BUSINESS

APPLICATION FROM COGNIA SEEKING RENEWAL AS AN APPROVED PRIVATE SCHOOL ACCREDITING AUTHORITY

Under New Business, Chair Farmer White referred an application from Cognia filed with the Board to the Special Committee on Private School Accreditation (Special Committee).

The Hon. Carol Aichele, Chair of the Special Committee, announced that Cognia submitted an application seeking to renew its authority to serve as an approved private school accrediting organization. Cognia’s term of approval as a private school accrediting body expires

in November of 2024. The Hon. Aichele said the Special Committee will review and formulate a recommendation on the application for the Board. Per the Board's Statement of Policy on Accrediting Organizations in Chapter 52, the Hon. Aichele also referred Cognia's renewal application to the Department of Education for its review and recommendation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution Honoring Claire Chi

A motion to approve a resolution honoring Claire Chi, departing Senior Student Member of the Council of Basic Education, was made by Dr. Lee Williams and seconded by Kathy Christiano.

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

Resolution Honoring Natalie Imhoof

A motion to approve a resolution honoring Natalie Imhoof, departing Senior Student Member of the Council of Higher Education, was made by Sandra Dungee Glenn and seconded by Amanda Hetrick.

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

Resolution Honoring Dr. Nicole Carnicella

A motion to approve a resolution honoring Dr. Nicole Carnicella was made by the Hon. Carol Aichele and seconded by Sandra Dungee Glenn

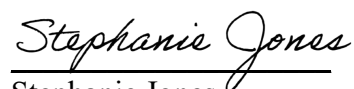
VOTE: All were in favor as indicated by unanimous voice vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Claire Chi and Natalie Imhoof, the Board's Senior Student Members, provided remarks reflecting on their time on the Board and expressing thanks for the opportunity to serve.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m. on a **Taylor/Rivera** motion.


Stephanie Jones
Administrative Assistant