

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
2500 NORTH LINCOLN BOULEVARD
STATE BOARD ROOM, SUITE 1-20
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA**

May 27, 2021

The State Board of Education met in special session at 9:33 a.m. on Thursday, May 27, 2021, conducted via a virtual platform only. The agenda was posted at 5:28 p.m. on Wednesday, May 26, 2021.

The following were present at remote locations:

Mr. Brad Clark, General Counsel, via Zoom videoconference
Ms. Terrie Cheadle, Chief Executive Secretary, via Zoom videoconference

Members of the State Board of Education present at remote locations via Zoom videoconference:

State Superintendent Joy Hofmeister, Chairperson of the Board
Mrs. Estela Hernandez, Oklahoma City
Mr. Trent Smith, Yukon
Mrs. Carlisha Williams Bradley, Tulsa
Mr. William “Bill” Flanagan, Claremore
Mr. Brian Bobek, Oklahoma City
Mrs. Jennifer Monies, Oklahoma City

**CALL TO ORDER
AND
ROLL CALL**

State Superintendent Joy Hofmeister called the State Board of Education special virtual meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. Ms. Cheadle called the roll and ascertained there was a quorum.

Superintendent Hofmeister welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting of the State Board of Education. Due to a time restraint for Board member Williams Bradley Superintendent Hofmeister instructed to proceed to Agenda item 6. (d).

LEGAL SERVICES/STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE

Executive Session

**pursuant to [25 O.S. §§ 307](#) (B) (1) regarding the resignation of Brad Clark
in the duties and employment as legal counsel to the State Board of Education**

Board member Flanagan moved to convene into Executive Session at 9:35 a.m. Board member Monies seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Ms. Hernandez, yes; Ms. Williams Bradley, yes; Mr. Flanagan, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Ms. Monies, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; and Superintendent Hofmeister, yes.

Return to Open Session

Board member Bobek moved to return to Open Session at 10:35 a.m. Board member Williams Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Ms. Williams Bradley, yes; Mr. Flanagan, absent; Ms. Hernandez, yes; Ms. Monies, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; and Superintendent Hofmeister, yes.

Superintendent Hofmeister said no action was taken on the matter discussed in the Executive Session. Brad Clark, General Counsel, remained in the Executive Session.

Board members sharing thoughts and gratitude included Board member Williams Bradley, “I publicly want to share to Brad my appreciation for your role as our legal counsel on the Board of Education and the time that you have spent tirelessly, and at times, thanklessly supporting us on this journey. I appreciate your integrity and the ways in which you lead with students at the center. It has been a lot of work with you in this capacity and I look forward to the ways in which you will support the work in the State Department in the future.”

Superintendent Hofmeister, “I want to also thank you. We are grateful for your leadership and service and look forward to our next chapter. We have a great debt of gratitude for all your leadership and work. We did get some questions when people saw the agenda, but you are not going anywhere. Brad Clark remains as general counsel for the State Department of Education. We have an enormous amount of work with the new federal funds and regulations, as well as a host of other duties. We are grateful for that.”

Board member Monies, “We have been on the phone at 5:00 in the morning and midnight and all things in between. You have always been available to us as a board. I know we have a lot of questions a lot of times and I appreciate everything that you have done and will continue to do.”

Board member Bobek, “Brad, you have been and are my friend and will continue to be. I appreciate you very much and all that you do. I know with the workload and as everyone said, this is not goodbye. This is a new future and will be local and different. We look forward to great work together so thank you for everything.”

(Board member Flanagan returned at 10:38 a.m.)

(Board member Williams Bradley left the meeting at 10:50 a.m.)

STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Information from the State Superintendent

Recognition of Department Employee for the month of May

Superintendent Hofmeister recognized Kendra Merveldt, Director of Training, Office of Child Nutrition, for outstanding leadership, professionalism and going above and beyond in meeting the needs of children, school districts and OSDE.

Also recognized were employees for long-time service with the State of Oklahoma included Sharon Wheeler, Administrative Coordinator, Child Nutrition Programs-30 years and Vickie Hale, Coordinator, Office of Curriculum and Instruction-25 years.

Superintendent Hofmeister said in July, OSDE staff members will attend the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) national conference held in Las Vegas. Staff attendees include Sarah Kirk, School Counselor Specialist and ASCA National Board member; Beth Woodell, Executive Director of Counseling and School Based Mental Health Integration; Cheryl McGee, Program Manager of Project Aware; and Dr. Shelly Ellis, Deputy Superintendent of Student Support. Congratulations to staff who will lead two sessions: Ms. Kirk presenting ‘Happy Counselors Change the World’ teaching how to cultivate mindfulness before practicing in education setting and Ms. Woodell and Ms. McGee presenting ‘State Level Student Support Programming’ detailing comprehensive school based mental health plan and implementation.

Superintendent Hofmeister said the “Ready Together Oklahoma” recovery action plan was launched. Initiatives will bolster accelerated learning, strengthen instruction, address social and emotional needs and connection in wake of COVID-19. Video of the ‘first step’ recovery plan announcement at Chavez Elementary in Oklahoma City was presented. Also, the announcement video launching the \$35 million of set aside funds for the Oklahoma School Counselor Core. The grant initiative, based on needs, provides 50 percent of funds necessary for districts to hire high school counselors and mental health professionals on a three-year cycle. With this grant school districts will be better equip to address the whole child with social, emotional and connection needs.

Approximately 1400 Oklahoma sites are preparing for free summer meal services with breakfast, lunch and snack combinations, at no charge, as part of the Summer Seamless Option Program. The summer feeding programs are a component of the United

State Department of Agriculture (USDA) Summer Food Service Program which the OSDE administers. Meal service site locations and hours are listed at mealsforkidsok.org.

Superintendent Hofmeister said historic events are taking place in Tulsa commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. The Oklahoma State Board of Education and 2019 Legislature adopted the inclusion of teaching and testing students about the massacre in the Oklahoma Social Studies Standards. Video highlighting the Greenwood District, massacre timeline, commemoration events, future progresses was presented.

**Minutes of the April 22, 2021, Special
State Board of Education meeting - Approved**

Board member Monies moved to approve the April 22, 2021, State Board of Education special meeting minutes. Board member Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Ms. Hernandez, yes; Mr. Flanagan, yes; Ms. Monies, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; and Superintendent Hofmeister, yes.

CONSENT DOCKET – Approved

Discussion and possible action on the following deregulation applications, statutory waivers, and exemptions for the 2020-2021 school year – 70 O.S. § 3-104; OAC 210: 35-1-4:

- (a) **Abbreviated School Day - OAC 210:35-29-2 and 210:35-3-46**
Kellyville Public Schools, Creek County

- (b) **Cooperative Agreements for Alternative Education Programs – 70 O.S. § [1210.568](#)**
Mounds Public Schools, Creek County
Agra Public Schools, Lincoln County

3 Years
Felt Public Schools, Cimarron County
Bethany Public Schools, Oklahoma County
Beggs Public Schools, Okmulgee County

- (c) **Library Media Services – OAC 210:35-5-71 and 210:35-9-71**
Grove Public Schools, Delaware County
Checotah Public Schools, McIntosh County
Midway Public Schools, McIntosh County
Nowata Public Schools, Nowata County
McAlester Public Schools, Pittsburg County

3 Years
Grandview Public Schools, Stephens County

- (d) Request approval on **exceptions** to State Board of Education teacher certification regulations to permit issuance of emergency (provisional) certificates - **70 O.S. § 6-187**

- (e) Request approval of private school accreditation application for **Osage Nation School**
- (f) Request approval for **Mt. Olive Lutheran School (MOLS)** to participate in the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarships for Students with Disabilities program [70 O.S. § 13-101.2](#)
- (g) Request approval for **SNU Lab School** to participate in the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarships for Students with Disabilities program [70 O.S. § 13-101.2](#)
- (h) Request approval for **Tri-City Learning Academy (TCLA)** to create shared Interlocal Cooperative specialized school operating agreement with Newcastle Public Schools, McClain County cooperating school district for the 2021- 2022 school year -**70 O.S. § 5-117(b)**

Board members discussed and asked questions regarding Consent Docket item 4 (a) **Abbreviated School Day - Kellyville Public School** waiver request is not clear on actual number of hours and instructional days; and if applications are increasing and/or any type increasing.

Ryan Pieper, Executive Director, Accreditation, said Kellyville did not thoroughly explain that the six-hour time requested is the independent study for students participating in core career exploration. Instruction takes place in-person on campus with teachers present.

Currently, waiver applications going into 2021 have not increased as the end of the year is busy. As of this time schools have time to work on submissions which will revert to the new procedure and policy and transition into the next school year.

Mr. Clark said Dr. Melonie Hau, Superintendent, at **Tri City Learning Cooperative** was present to discuss their **Cooperative Agreement** request Consent Docket 4(h) that highlights the creative way to keep students in the district and provide a much-needed virtual option.

Dr. Hau thanked board members and OSDE for their support, comments and recognizing the innovation. The entire school team and school mission is to provide students a high-quality, virtual education and pool resources to do it best possible way.

Board member Bobek moved to approve the Consent Docket. Board member Hernandez seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Ms. Hernandez, yes; Mr. Flanagan, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Ms. Monies, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; and Superintendent Hofmeister, yes.

ACCOUNTABILITY & ASSESSMENTS

Recommendation to the Oklahoma Office of Management Enterprise Services (OMES) to award a testing contract for a nationally recognized college-and-career-readiness assessment as a part of the statewide student assessment system - Approved

Christian McCreary, Executive Director of State Assessment presented an RFP solicitation #26500003878, Proposal A, bid award recommendation for the Oklahoma School Testing Program (OSTP): College-and-Career Readiness Assessment (CCRA) grade 11.

Board members and asked questions and discussed Ms. McCreary's presentation recommendation for the state assessment that included OSDE 2016 assessment task force evaluations and recommendations; State Board adoption, legislative and Governor approved Oklahoma Management Enterprise Services (OMES) solicitation proposal, proposal assessments, specifications, and alignments; evaluation team selection and OMES requirements and allowances, evaluation rubric/components, vendor submissions, category award points; USDE approved plan local control options; state vendor participation; and spring 2022 school year implementation.

Board member Bobek moved to approve the Proposal A bid award recommendation. Board member Monies seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Ms. Hernandez, yes; Mr. Flanagan, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Ms. Monies, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; and Superintendent Hofmeister, yes.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE

Oologah- Talala Public Schools Quarterly report

Mr. Clark said representatives of Oologah-Talala Public Schools and legal counsel are present voluntarily appearing to remark and answer questions as part of the ongoing probational status of the district.

Tony Sappington, Assistant Superintendent; new superintendent Dr. David Wilkins, and Matt Cyran, Legal Counsel provided update on the expanded survey directive, actions and feedback.

Board members asked questions and discussed future proactive and reactive plans put into effect, Dr. Wilkins' July 1 start date, timeline training and August accreditation status review.

Report and update on Sovereign Community School, including the school's 5-year financial plan, student enrollment, liabilities and assets, Measurements of operational progress from the April 9, 2021, State Board of Education meeting - Tabled

Brad Clark, General Counsel said due scheduling conflicts Agenda item 6. (b) will be moved to the June meeting; and recommended to move into executive session, Agenda item 6. (c) for reasons stated on the agenda.

**Resolve into Executive Session
pursuant to 25 O.S. §§ 307 (B) (4) for the purpose of conducting
confidential communication between the State Board of Education and
legal counsel concerning *Western Heights Independent School District No. 1-41
of Oklahoma County and Mannix Barnes, Superintendent v.
State of Oklahoma, ex rel., Oklahoma State Board of Education, et al.*,
Case No. CV-21-9457, in the District Court of Oklahoma County, State of
Oklahoma, the State Board having been advised by legal counsel
that disclosure will seriously impair the ability of the State Board
to conduct the litigation in the public interest.**

Board member Flanagan moved to convene into Executive Session at 11:32 a.m. Board member Monies seconded the motion: The motion carried with the following votes: Ms. Hernandez, yes; Ms. Mr. Flanagan, yes; Monies, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; and Superintendent Hofmeister, yes.

Return to Open Session

Board member Flanagan moved to return to Open Session at 12:23 p.m. Board member Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Ms. Hernandez, yes; Mr. Flanagan, yes; Ms. Monies, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; and Superintendent Hofmeister, yes.

Superintendent Hofmeister said no decisions were made on the matters discussed in the Executive Session. Brad Clark, General Counsel, remained in the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Board member Bobek moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:24 p.m. Board member Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Ms. Hernandez, yes; Mr. Flanagan, yes; Ms. Monies, yes; Mr. Bobek, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; and Superintendent Hofmeister, yes.

The next regular meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 9:30 p.m. The meeting will convene at the State Department of Education-State Board Room, 2500 North Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Joy Hofmeister, Chairperson of the Board

Terrie Cheadle, Chief Executive Secretary