



**Minutes of the
Special Meeting of the State
Board of Education**

August 3, 2012

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Minutes of the Special Meeting of the
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OLIVER HODGE EDUCATION BUILDING:
2500 NORTH LINCOLN BOULEVARD, ROOM 1-20
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

August 3, 2012

The State Board of Education met in special session at 10:05 a.m. on Friday, April 3, 2012, in the Board Room of the Oliver Hodge Education Building at 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The final agenda was posted at 9:50 a.m. on Thursday April 2, 2012.

The following were present:

Ms. Connie Holland, Chief Executive Secretary
Ms. Terrie Cheadle, Administrative Assistant

Members of the State Board of Education present:

State Superintendent Janet Barresi, Chairperson of the Board
Ms. Joy Hofmeister, Tulsa
Mr. William "Bill" Price, Oklahoma City
Mr. William "Bill" Shdeed, Oklahoma City

Members of the State Board of Education not present:

MG (R) Lee Baxter, Lawton
Ms. Amy Ford, Durant
Mr. Brian Hayden, Enid

Others in attendance are shown as an attachment.

**CALL TO ORDER
AND
ROLL CALL**

Superintendent Barresi called the State Board of Education special meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Ms. Holland called the roll and ascertained there was a quorum.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, OKLAHOMA
FLAG SALUTE, AND MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Superintendent Barresi led Board members and all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and a salute to the Oklahoma Flag, and a moment of silence.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Barresi expressed her sincere gratitude to Board Members in attending the special meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Robert Brown said he was a graduating senior of Tulsa Central High School class of 2012, and wished to address the EOI testing and approvals. The EOI testings have high standards for students to pass four tests in order to graduate and attend college. He said you guys say there is not enough doctors and lawyers. Well, I want to be a lawyer, go to college, study pre-law for four years, and on to law school. The tests hold students back from completing their goals of becoming doctors, lawyers, firemen, and police officers. The SBE is letting the tests define us instead of the students defining themselves, and allowing the tests to be our personality instead of us being our personality. The tests increase the dropout rate instead of decreasing it because most kids give up when they do not pass or complete other goals because the tests are holding them back. This is the first class that this has been done to and is the last time they are doing this, too. Since this is the last time this is being done, he should be approved to go through. These tests are defining us instead of letting our grades define us. Mr. Brown said on grades alone he can pass at the top of his class; he has a 3.5 grade point average (GPA), and has been accepted to four colleges. He asked again to not allow the tests to define students but to allow students to define their own selves by their grades, personality, attitude, and background. Thank you.

Ms. Tenna Whitsel, Tulsa Public Schools, said to improve student success through service to schools, parents and students, leadership for education reform regulation and deregulation of state and federal laws to provide accountability while removing any barriers to student success. She is sure those of you around the table recognize this is the mission statement of the State Board of Education. The last six words that are most important to her are "removing any barriers to student's success." Last week the SBE reviewed several appeals from Tulsa Public Schools, and out of all the appeals seven were approved. Two were approved because they met extenuating circumstances as outlined in the legislation and the fact the students had college letters from selective universities. The other five were approved because of extenuating circumstances that reached out to the hearts of the Board Members. A student in one appeal had a college letter of acceptance, like Mr. Robert Brown does, a college that is not

considered a selective college. Board Members saw in their good judgment at that time to approve the appeal because they saw success for that student in doing so. When reviewing the appeals again, she noticed 14 of the appeals had similar situations where students had college letters of acceptance and scholarships but were not granted. There were also compelling reasons for others, but it is up to you, the Board Member, to decide their fate. She understands it is a heavy burden and one that is taken very seriously. Undoubtedly the review of each case is time consuming, tedious, and it can be overwhelming. You are asked to review each of the appeals, to make life altering decisions for each of these appeals, and as the last two cases are reviewed, take into consideration each one of these students also have letters of acceptance to a college. Although the colleges are not selective, they are colleges worthy of consideration for these students. Ms. Whitsel respectfully asked Board Members to take the time to review each of the cases as charged, and in the review keep in mind and heart those last six words in the SBE mission statement "removing barriers to student success." She requested approval of the appeals in order to put them with the other approvals. Thank you for your time.

CONSENT DOCKET

Request Approval on Exception(s) to the State Board of Education Regulations Concerning Teacher Certification Approved

Board Member Price made a motion to approve the teacher certification exception request. Board Member Shdeed seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Ms. Hofmeister, yes; Mr. Shdeed, yes; Mr. Price, yes; and Superintendent Barresi, yes.

CONSENT DOCKET – ACE Appeals

Discussion and possible action on the following Achieving Classroom Excellence (ACE) Appeal petitions filed with the Executive Secretary of the State Board of Education pursuant to 70 O. S. § 1210.523 and OAC 210:10-13-16 as recommended by the ACE Appeals Committee:

- (a) **Recommendation:**
Approval based upon verified evidence meeting the criteria contained in OAC 210:10-13-16 for granting an exception to ACE graduation requirements - Choctaw 12-0050
- (b) **Recommendation:**
Denial based upon the lack of verified evidence meeting the criteria contained in OAC 210:10-13-16 for granting an exception to ACE graduation requirements - Tulsa 12-0075, Tulsa 12-0095
- (c) **Recommendation:**
Dismissal based upon verified evidence meeting criteria contained in OAC 10-13-16 for granting an exception to ACE graduation requirements - Salina 12-0130
- (d) Discussion and possible action to Convene into Executive Session for purposes of deliberating individual ACE appeals listed in Consent Docket Agenda Item 6 (a), (b), (c) - 25 O. S. Section 307(B)(8)

- (d) Discussion and possible action to Convene into Executive Session for purposes of deliberating individual ACE appeals listed in Consent Docket Agenda Item 6 (a), (b), (c) - 25 O. S. Section 307(B)(8)
 - (a) Convene into Executive Session
 - (b) Return to Open Session
 - (c) Possible action

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Convene into Executive Session Approved

Board Member Shdeed made a motion to convene into Executive Session at 10:15 a.m. Board Member Price seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Shdeed, yes; Ms. Hofmeister, yes; and Superintendent Barresi, yes.

Board Member Price said Point of Order for the future, a motion seconded to go into Executive Session was automatically approved without a vote.

Ms. Kimberly Richey, Legal Counsel, advised the law required a roll call vote to proceed into Executive Session.

Return to Open Session Approved

Board Member Shdeed made a motion to reconvene to Open Session at 12:20 p.m. Board Member Price seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Ms. Hofmeister, yes; Mr. Shdeed, yes; Mr. Price, yes; and Superintendent Barresi, yes.

Recommended Approval Based Upon Verified Evidence Meeting the Criteria contained in OAC 210:10-13-16 for Granting an Exception to ACE Graduation Requirements Approved

Board Member Shdeed made a motion to approve the approval recommendation of Consent Docket-ACE Appeal item 6. (a)-Choctaw 12-0050. Board Member Hofmeister seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Shdeed, yes; Ms. Hofmeister yes; and Superintendent Barresi, yes.

Board Member Hofmeister asked to move Tulsa 12-0075 from the Consent Docket-ACE Appeal item 6. (b)

Recommended Denial Based Upon the Lack of Verified Evidence Meeting the Criteria contained in OAC 210: 10-13-16 for Granting an Exception to ACE Graduation Requirements Approved

Board Member Price made a motion to approve the denial recommendation of Consent Docket-ACE Appeal item 6. (b) Tulsa 12-0095. Board Member Shdeed seconded the motion. The motion failed with the following votes: Ms. Hofmeister, abstain; Mr. Shdeed, yes; Mr. Price, yes; and Superintendent Barresi, yes.

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Board Member Hofmeister asked if they were able to take the vote first and discuss Tulsa 12-0075?

Board Member Shdeed made a motion to table the denial recommendation of Tulsa 12-0095 under Consent Docket-ACE appeal item 6. (b). Board Member Price seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote: Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Shdeed, yes; Ms. Hofmeister, yes; and Superintendent Barresi, yes.

Board Member Hofmeister made a motion to disapprove the denial recommendation of Consent Docket-Ace Appeal item 6. (b), Tulsa 12-0075. She motioned to approve and grant a waiver to the Tulsa-12-0075 student who passed all but one of the EOIs. Board Member Shdeed seconded the motion.

Board Member Hofmeister said the Tulsa 12-0075 student attempted the one EOI five times and came within 13 points of passing that EOI. The student has also been granted acceptance into a university which compels her to want to see the student be granted a waiver.

Board Member Price said Tulsa 12-0075 was compelling to him because of several things, i.e. the above 700 English II, III, high biology ACT score, tested five times, and took the course twice. The letter was revealing when it said the student took the course a second time, the teacher was never in school often times sick and just not there, did tutoring and sought to do the projects. If this had been several months ago, he would have denied the waiver because there was time to do a project. Up to the point, if the letter is correct, there was a dereliction of duty by the school. To tell the student it was too late to complete a project, the teacher was not showing up, the student tries to take the course twice, and then still scores within 13 points of passage of that one EOI, it is deemed an extenuating circumstance. This was someone who was tutored and tried very hard but the school basically failed them. The student has worked hard enough to make up for the lack of an education in high school and will have a good chance at succeeding. Board Member Price said he was in support of granting a waiver.

The motion carried with the following votes: Ms. Hofmeister, yes; Mr. Shdeed, yes; Mr. Price, yes; and Superintendent Barresi, yes.

Board Member Shdeed made a motion to approve the denial recommendation of Tulsa 12-0095. Board Member Price seconded the motion.

Board Member Hofmeister said the Board wanted to make sure provisions were available to this particular student so that the student would be able to continue forward even at the university in which they have been accepted, and that assurance steps are in place through the actual university, which the Board was able to verify.

Superintendent Barresi said this is not a denial of a diploma, but a denial of an appeal.

Board Member Hofmeister said this student also needed to take and pass a few more EOIs and was a part of the decision making process in having to reach a very difficult decision.

Board Member Price said he could not justify granting a waiver because the student failed three different courses. There was no indication the student attempted a project and left it blank on the application. So it is a sign that a student just expects a waiver and does not want try accomplishing what needs to be done. The fact is in some schools, they can start without a diploma but in the worst case scenario they have to hunker down and complete the project tests and start second semester.

The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Shdeed, yes; Ms. Hofmeister, yes; and Superintendent Barresi, yes.

**Recommended Dismissal Based Upon Verified
Evidence Meeting the Criteria contained in
OAC 10-13-16 for Granting an Exception to ACE
Graduation Requirements Approved**

Board Member Shdeed made a motion to approve the dismissal recommendation of Salina 12-0130 under Consent Agenda-Ace Appeal item 6. (c). Board Member Hofmeister seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Ms. Hofmeister, yes; Mr. Shdeed, yes; Mr. Price, yes; and Superintendent Barresi, yes.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m. Board Member Shdeed made a motion to adjourn and Board Member Price seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Thursday, August 23, 2012, at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will convene at the State Department of Education, 2500 North Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.


Janet Barresi, Chairperson of the Board


Connie Holland, Chief Executive Secretary

OKLAHOMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

AUGUST 3, 2012

Sign In Sheet (please print)

Name	Business-School-Agency	Address
JACK HERRON	PO 2	NORMAN
KEN MILLER	BOE	OKC

Oliver Hodge Bldg
2500 North Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

PUBLIC COMMENT- Agenda Item #4

The State Board of Education shall hear public comment on any Action item listed on the current Board of Education meeting agenda. Public comments will be limited to only those subject matters covered in the current meeting agenda. Public comment will not be taken on issues relating to: (1) pending litigation against OSDE, OSBE, or agency employees; (2) a pending grievance; (3) an employee complaint; (4) complaints against OSDE employees; (5) disciplinary action, suspension or termination of an OSDE employee. A sign-up sheet will be posted at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the Board Meeting. Sign up must be completed prior to the scheduled start time of the meeting. The individual signing in must select one of the two public comment periods on the agenda to participate in. Only individuals who have signed up to speak will be recognized during the Public Comment period and will be recognized in the order in which they have signed in. Each speaker will be allocated three (3) minutes for presentation. The Board Chairperson may interrupt and/or terminate any presentation during public comment, which does not conform to the procedures outlined under this Section. The Board Chairperson reserves and retains the right to interrupt, terminate, or postpone public comment as necessary to effectuate the management of the public meeting.

Name	Business-School-Agency	Address
<i>Robert Brown</i>	<i>Central High School Tulsa</i>	
<i>Tenna Whitsett</i>	<i>Tulsa Public Schools</i>	