Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the State Board of Education

December 19, 2024



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION 2500 NORTH LINCOLN BOULEVARD STATE BOARD ROOM, SUITE 1-20 OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

December 19, 2024

The State Board of Education met in regular session at 1:05 p.m. on Thursday, December 19, 2024, in the Board Room of the Oliver Hodge Education Building at 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The final agenda was posted at 12:45 p.m. on Wednesday, December 18, 2024.

The following were present:

Mr. Michael Beason, General Counsel to the Oklahoma State Dept. of Education(OSDE)

Mr. Chad Kutmas, Acting General Counsel to the State Board of Education

Ms. Hannah Roberts, Associate Counsel to the State Board

Ms. Terrie Cheadle, Chief Executive Secretary

Members of the State Board of Education present:

State Superintendent Ryan Walters, Chairperson of the Board

Mr. Zachary Archer, Hammon

Mr. Donald Burdick, Tulsa

Ms. Sarah Lepak, Claremore

Mrs. Katie Quebedeaux, Guymon

Mrs. Kendra Wesson, Norman

Others in attendance are shown as an attachment.

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CALL TO ORDER ROLL CALL

State Superintendent Ryan Walters called the State Board of Education regular meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Ms. Terrie Cheadle called the roll and ascertained there was a quorum.

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

Superintendent Walters welcomed everyone to the meeting and led Board Members and all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag, a salute to the Oklahoma Flag, and Prayer.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Information from the State Superintendent

Superintendent Walters announced the new social studies standards, a new rule on immigration, a new rule on flag policy, a new rule that will require school districts to report any teacher or administrator who resigns under the suspicion of a busine or neglecting a child. A new proposal has been put forth for new legislation that would require the election of new superintendents across the state.

BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE

Minutes of the October 24, 2024, regular State Board of Education meeting - Approved

Board member Lepak moved to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2024, regular State Board of Education meeting. Board member Quebedeaux seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

Minutes of the November 8, 2024, Special State Board of Education meeting - Approved

Board member Lepak moved to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2024, special State Board of Education meeting. Board member Archer seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, abstain; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

CONSENT DOCKET - Approved

Discussion and possible action on the following deregulation applications, statutory waivers, and exemptions for the 2024-2025 school year and other requests:

November

(a) Abbreviated School Day – OAC 210:35-29-2 and 210:35-3-46

Kingfisher Public Schools, Kingfisher County

- (b) Cooperative Agreements for Alternative Education Programs 70 O.S. § 1210.568
 3 years
 Geary Public Schools, Blaine County
- (c) Library Media Services OAC 210:35-5-71 and 210:35-9-71
 - 3 Years
 Geary Public Schools, Blaine County
- (d) Library Media Specialist 70 O.S. § 3-12
 Putnam City Public Schools, Oklahoma County
 (Western Oaks MS, Harvest Hills EM, Hilldale EM,
 Western Oaks EM, Wiley Post EM, James L. Capps MS)
- (e) Request approval on exceptions to State Board of Education Teacher certification regulations to permit issuance of emergency (provisional) certificates 70 O.S. § 6-187
- (f) Request approval on flexibility to use textbook funds-70 O.S. § 16-114a(B) Morrison Public Schools, Noble County

December

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

Board member Burdick moved to approve the Consent Docket waiver requests 5 (a) through (g). Board member Lepak seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

Recommendation on eleven proposed qualified suppliers of Mobile Panic Alert System services - Approved

Board member Lepak moved to approve the recommendation request. Board member Quebedeaux seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

LEGAL SERVICES

Monthly report on complaints filed, and status thereof, regarding alleged violations of 70 O.S. § 24-157 and Administrative Code Rule 210:10-1-23, prohibiting race and sex discrimination

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Michael Beason, General Counsel, State Department of Education (OSDE), advised working with Attorney General to satisfy federal litigation and Solicitor General discovery items and there were no other House Bill 1775 issues to report on agenda item 7 (a).

Proposed 2025 School Capital Improvements Budget - Approved

Mr. Beason advised Board members of the 2025 School Capital Improvements Budget is zero dollars.

Board member Wesson moved to approve the request. Board member Quebedeaux seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Convene into Executive Session pursuant to 25 O.S. §§ 307 (B) (4) (7) and (8) for the purpose of discussing possible action on the November and December issues on item 8. (a) (1) through (10)

Board member Burdick moved to convene into Executive Session at 1:27 p.m. Board member Quebedeaux seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes: Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

Return to Open Session

Board member Lepak moved to return to Open Session at **3:36 p.m**. Board member Wesson seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes: Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

Mr. Beason advised no decisions were made on the matters discussed in the Executive Session. General Counsels were in the meeting, but Mr. Beason did not remain in the Executive Session for the duration of time. Superintendent Walters state all board members and counsel were present.

8 (a) (1) Applications for an emergency order summarily suspending the teacher certificates and certificate numbers and application to revoke of 1) Kimberly Coody; 2) Andrew C. Swartz; 3) Mickey Replogle; 4) Melanie Brownfield; 5) Karl King; 6) Billy J. Little; 7) Courtney Peck; and 8) Jacob Peck - 70 O.S. § 3-104; 75 O. S. § 314; OAC 2101-5-6

Board member Quebedeaux moved to approve the emergency order summarily suspending the teacher certificates of 1 through 8. Board member Wesson seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

(2) Final Board determination after Hearing Officer's proposed findings of fact, conclusions of law and on the teacher certificates and certificate numbers of 1) Toya Benton; 2) John Boggs III; 3) Vernon Thetford; 4) Floyd Robinson; 5) James Miller; 6) Cody Barlow; and 7) Kimberly Coates - 70 O.S. § 3-104; OAC 210-1-6

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Board member Lepak moved to approve the Hearing Officer's proposed findings of fact, conclusions of law on teacher certificates of 1 through 5. Board member Quebedeaux seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

Board member Lepak moved to **reject Cody Barlow**. Board member Quebedeaux seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

(3) Amended application for an emergency order summarily suspending the teacher certificate and certificate number and application to revoke of **Dr. Aaron P. Espolt - 70 O.S. 3-104; OAC 210:1-5-6**

Board member Wesson moved to summarily suspend the teacher certificate and certificate number and application to revoke. Board member Lepak seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

- (4) Motion to Strike the Final Order, and determine the Final Order Void as a matter of law and Motion for Rehearing and/or Reconsideration on the teacher certificate and certificate number of Nathan Holland -70 O.S. § 3-104; OAC 210-1-5-6 No Action
- (5) Consent Order to Accept Voluntary Surrender teacher certificates and certificate numbers of 1) Brandi Price; 2) Kevin Frazier; 3) Waylon Heavin; 4) Roger Hoffman; and 5) Tisha Morris 70 O.S. 3-104; OAC 210:1-5-6

Board member Quebedeaux moved to accept the Voluntary Surrender of teacher certificates and certificate numbers of 1 through 5. Board member Archer seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

(6) Student Transfer Appeal applications denied pursuant 70 O. S. § 8-101.2; OAC 210:10-1-18.1, by the following local school districts: **No Action**

Pryor Public Schools – 24-06 Sand Springs Public Schools – 24-07 Jenks Public Schools – 24-08 Jenks Public Schools – 24-09

(7) Appoint a Chief Executive Secretary to the State Board of Education at the retirement or absence of the current Chief Executive Secretary pursuant to 25 O.S. 2001 § 307 (B)(1)

Board member Wesson moved to appoint Amy London as the Chief Executive Secretary. Board member Quebedeaux seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

(8) Applications for an emergency order summarily suspending the teacher certificates and certificate numbers and application to revoke of (1) Jennifer Enyart; and (2) Cody Richison - 70 O. S. § 3-104; OAC 210:1-5-6

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Board member Quebedeaux moved to approve emergency order suspending teacher certificates and certificate numbers and application to revoke 1 through 2. Board member Lepak seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

(9) Application to revoke the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Greg Werner** – 70 O. S. § 3-104; OAC 210:1-5-6

Board member Quebedeaux moved to revoke the teacher certificate and certificate number and refer to a hearing officer for Greg Werner. Board member Lepak seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

(10) Consent Order to Accept Voluntary Surrender teacher certificates and certificate numbers of (1) Kayla Sutton; (2) Lyla Lynn; (3) Leon Ashlock; and (4) Betty Buff - 70 O. S. 3-104; OAC 210:1-5-6.

Board member Quebedeaux moved to accept the Voluntary Surrender of teacher certificates and certificate numbers of 1 through 4. Board member Lepak seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Individuals signed up to address Agenda item #9 included Ashley Hall, Linda Woodrow, Mike Howe, Peggy Howe, Sean Cummings, Phil Solinger, Ephraim Bowling, Thomas Sauvary, Vickie Stuard.

ADJOURNMENT

Board member Burdick moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:06 p.m. Board member Lepak seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer, yes; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

The next regular meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will convene at the State Department of Education-State Board Room, 2500 North Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Ryan Walters, Chairperson of the Board

Amy London, Chief Executive Secretary

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