

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the**

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

**May 23, 2024**

The State Board of Education met in a regular session at 9:35 a.m. on Thursday, May 23, 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 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 22, 2024.

The following were present:

Mr. Michael Beason, General Counsel to the State Department of Education  
Ms. Cara Nicklas, General Counsel to the State Board of Education  
Ms. Terrie Cheadle, Chief Executive Secretary

Members of the State Board of Education present:

State Superintendent Ryan Walters, Chairman 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.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

State Superintendent Ryan Walters called the State Board of Education regular meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Ms. Cheadle called the roll and ascertained there was a quorum.

## **STATE SUPERINTENDENT**

### **Information from the State Superintendent**

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.

Superintendent Walters updated on the issues with Biden Administration rewriting of Title IX and illegal immigration policy; teaching certificate revocations; Tulsa Public Schools long term goals, OSDE partnership and support for summer school programs, Ready, Set, SUMMER! literacy ambassador program and credit recovery boot camp.

## **BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE**

### **Minutes of the April 25, 2024, regular State Board of Education meeting - Approved**

Board member Wesson moved to approve the minutes of the April 25, 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, abstain and Superintendent Walters, yes.

### **CONSENT DOCKET - Approved**

Discussion and possible action on the following deregulation applications, statutory waivers, and exemptions for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school year and other requests:

(a) **Cooperative Agreements for Alternative Education Programs –  
70 O.S. § 1210.568**

**3 Years**

Olive Public Schools, Creek County  
Haywood Public Schools, Pittsburg County  
Tannehill Public Schools, Pittsburg County  
Albion Public Schools, Pushmataha County

**2024-2025**

**3 Years**

Coleman Public Schools, Johnston County  
Morrison Public Schools, Noble County  
Quapaw Public Schools, Ottawa County

- Grove Public Schools, Pottawatomie County  
 Hooker Public Schools, Texas County
- (b) **Library Media Services – OAC 210:35-5-71 and 210:35-9-71**  
 Darlington Public Schools, Canadian County
- 2024-2025**  
 Cyril Public Schools, Caddo County  
 Arapaho-Butler Public Schools, Custer County
- (c) Request approval on flexibility to use textbook funds – 70 O.S. § 16-114a(B) **Crooked Oak Public Schools, Oklahoma County**
- (d) Request approval for **Prosper Academy** to participate in the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarships for Students with Disabilities program – 70 O.S. § 13-101.2
- (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) Discussion and possible action to grant **Barnsdall Public Schools** an emergency waiver of the 165-day requirement for the remainder of the 2023-24 school year calendar and receive full state allocations in response to the Disaster Emergency Declaration and Oklahoma State of Emergency Executive Order 2024-07 - **70 O.S. § 1-109**

Board member Quebedeaux moved to approve the Consent Docket waiver requests. 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.

## ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

### **Presentation from Tulsa Public School District, discussion, and possible action on the Tulsa Public School District accreditation status for the 2022-2023 school year**

Dr. Ebony Johnson, Superintendent, Tulsa Public School District (TPS) said congratulations to the 1700 TPS 2024 graduates for their dedication and earning approximately 3000 college credits between dual enrollment and advanced placement; TPS teams prepare for summer cleanings, renovation projects, preparations for the free breakfast and lunch summer café program and the Ready. Set. SUMMER! program to support student learning.

The TPS 2023-24 Improvement Plan updates included actions taken toward the three OSDE 2023-24 goals on literacy improvement, science of reading training and MRI school improvement, annual accreditation review/reduced deficiencies, continued team accreditation and accountability requirements.

Dr. Kathy Dodd, Chief of Strategy and Innovation, gave praises to TPS teams and school leader small groups focused on accreditation expectations and progress, updated on

enrollment in Ready, Set, SUMMER! PreK-8 full day academic and enrichment program, 24 school sites, free transportation, breakfast and lunch provided; community and organization partnerships, utilizing final Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds, additional summer learning opportunities resources for teachers, and preK-12 math program, centralized credit recovery program includes remedial instruction courses, OSDE additional funding created for a continuous recovery model, allows individualized outreach and attention and successes of all initiatives.

Dr. Johnson reviewed non-negotiables to continue improvement based on data use, district's selective curriculum and assessment tools, empowering TPS families, create and maintain warm and supportive environments and leading by example.

Board members asked questions and discussed TPSs nationally recognized summer programs, end of ESSER funds and budget plans; TPS team complemented and congratulated on completion of objectives and improvements; and Sean Berkstresser, Executive Director of Information and Analytics updates on program/enrollment information and website availability.

Superintendent Walters said the TPS team has been intentional in allocating funds, targeting the needs of learners, program planning, leadership, and thanked Dr. Johnson for her humility for leading the district beginning in the middle of a school year, problem solving, building teams for progress, and successful programs.

**2023-24 and 2024-25 school year request to be in session and offer instruction for a less than the requirement in 70 O.S. § 1-109**

**Bennington Public Schools, Bryan, County - Approved**

Scot McCorstin, Elementary School Principal, Bennington Public Schools requested an alternate school year calendar 165-day waiver for school year 2024-25 and answered board member questions and discussed the school days and hours, instructional time, student enrollment, successful academic outcomes, teacher recruitment and retention, parent, and community support.

Board member Burdick moved to approve Bennington Public Schools 165-day waiver request. 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.

**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**

Michael Beason, General Counsel, State Department of Education (OSDE), advised complaints were received regarding House Bill 1775 issues. Union Public Schools was resolved, and investigations are ongoing on complaints from Norman Public Schools and Luther Public Schools.

**Enter a scheduling order regarding the pending application, recommendation,  
and motion in the proceeding regarding revoking the teacher certificate  
and certificate number of Summer Boismier - Approved**

Cara Nicklas, General Counsel, State Board of Education advised to set a hearing to consider the application to revoke the teacher certification of Ms. Boismier and a request for disqualification. Counsel for Ms. Boismier requested to be notified when dates are set. Ms. Nicklas recommended June 13 filing deadline to set a hearing and findings, facts or conclusions and hearing scheduled for the June 27, 2024, State Board meeting.

Board member Burdick moved to approve June 13 deadline to have all the findings, facts, and conclusions as well as recommendation that will befall and by June 27th, we will have a hearing which will be in a regular board 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.

**Resolve into Executive Session  
pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307 (B) (4) (7) and (8) for the purpose of  
discussing possible action on the following:**

- (1) Issue an emergency order summarily suspending the teacher certificates and certificate numbers of **1) Cody Barlow, 2) John Boggs III, 3) Stephen Gainor, 4) Donald Holt, 5) Tyler Patrick McGrew, 6) Aron Wayne Percy, 7) Floyd R. Robinson, 8) Jaelah Marche Rose, and 9) Vernon Tyler Thetford** pending an individual proceeding for revocation or other action-70 O.S. § 3-104; 75 O.S. § 314; OAC 210-1-5-6
- (2) Hearing Officer's proposed findings of fact, conclusions of law and order on the teacher certificates and certificate numbers of **1) Kristen Andrews, 2) Christen Covell, and 3) Hao Jiang** -70 O.S. § 3-104; OAC 210-1-5-6
- (3) Refer pending applications to a hearing officer to revoke the teacher certificates and certificate numbers of **1) Amanda Bristow, 2) Toya Edwards/Benton, 3) Essence Fields, 4) Brandi Price, and 5) Travis Sloat** - 70 O.S. § 3-104; OAC 210-1-5-6
- (4) The filing, basis, status of CIV-24-459-JD, the *Oklahoma State Department of Education v. The United States of America*, et al. and any necessary or desired actions including but not limited to approval or ratification and preliminary case strategy

**Convene into Executive Session**

Board member Burdick moved to convene into Executive Session at 10:37 a.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 Quebedeaux moved to return to Open Session at 11:49 a.m. Board member Burdick 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.

No decisions were made on the matters discussed in the Executive Session. General Counsels Cara Nicklas and Michael Beason were in the Executive Session.

(1) Board member Quebedeaux moved to approve the emergency order to suspend the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Cody Barlow** pending an individual proceeding for revocation or other action. Board member Burdick 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 Archer moved to approve the emergency order to suspend the teacher certificate and certificate number of **John Boggs, III** pending an individual proceeding for revocation or other action. Board member Burdick 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 Quebedeaux moved to approve the emergency order to suspend the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Stephen Gainor** pending an individual proceeding for revocation or other action. 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.

Board member Wesson moved to approve the emergency order to suspend the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Donald Holt** pending an individual proceeding for revocation or other action. 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 Quebedeaux moved to approve the emergency order to suspend the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Tyler Patrick McGrew** pending an individual proceeding for revocation or other action. 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.

Board member Quebedeaux moved to approve the emergency order to suspend the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Aron Wayne Percy** pending an individual proceeding for revocation or other action. 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.

Board member Quebedeaux moved to approve the emergency order to suspend the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Floyd R. Robinson** pending an individual

proceeding for revocation or other action. 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.

Board member Quebedeaux moved to approve the emergency order to suspend the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Jaelah Marche Rose** pending an individual proceeding for revocation or other action. 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.

Board member Quebedeaux moved to approve the emergency order to suspend the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Vernon Tyler Thetford** pending an individual proceeding for revocation or other action. 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.

(2) Board member Quebedeaux moved to accept the **Hearing Officer's** findings of fact, conclusions of law and order on the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Kristen Andrews**. Board member Wesson seconded the motion. Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

Board member Quebedeaux moved to accept the **Hearing Officer's** findings of fact, conclusions of law and order on the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Christen Covel**. Board member Wesson seconded the motion. Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

Board member Quebedeaux moved to accept the **Hearing Officer's** findings of fact, conclusions of law and order on the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Hao Jiang**. Board member Archer seconded the motion. Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

(3) Board member Quebedeaux moved to refer the pending application to revoke the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Amanda Bristow** to a hearing officer. 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; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

Board member Quebedeaux moved to refer the pending application to revoke the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Toya Edwards/Benton** to a hearing officer. 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; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

Board member Quebedeaux moved to refer the pending application to revoke the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Essence Fields** to a hearing officer. 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; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

Board member Quebedeaux moved to refer the pending application to revoke the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Brandi Price** to a hearing officer. 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; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

Board member Quebedeaux moved to refer the pending application to revoke the teacher certificate and certificate number of **Travis Sloat** to a hearing officer. 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; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

Board member Quebedeaux moved to request the department to review and determine there are sufficient grounds to summarily suspend the teaching certificates of the individuals identified on agenda item 8 (b) (3) and present those applications at the June board 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, yes; Mr. Archer; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

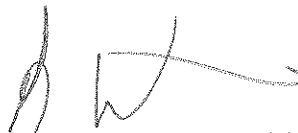
#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Individuals signed up to speak on agenda item #9 included Sean Cummings, Mike Howe, Preston Bobo, Sheena Martin, Chris Shea, Tamzen Baskeyfield, Nicole Poindexter, Elicia Kliewer, Brent Larsen, Ashley Hall, and Gracie Duhig.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

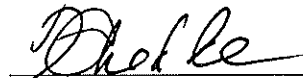
Board member Archer moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:33 p.m. Board member Quebedeaux seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes: Mr. Burdick, yes; Ms. Lepak, yes; Ms. Quebedeaux, yes; Ms. Wesson, yes; Mr. Archer; and Superintendent Walters, yes.

The next regular meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Thursday June 27, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will convene at the State Department of Education-State Board Room, 2500 North Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.



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Ryan Walters, Chairman of the Board



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Terrie Cheadle, Chief Executive Secretary