

SLDS Governing Board

MDHS
200 South Lamar Street
Jackson, MS

Minutes
May 2, 2019

In Attendance:

Mr. John Davis, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Human Services
Dr. Andrea Mayfield, Executive Director, Mississippi Community College Board
Dr. Laurie Smith, Executive Director, State Early Childhood Advisory Council
Ms. Jackie Turner, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Employment Security
Mr. Jamie Miller, Mississippi Development Authority Representative
Ms. Audrey McAfee, Management Information Systems Director, Mississippi Department of Corrections
Dr. Jim Hood, Assistant Commissioner for Strategic Research, Mississippi IHL
Mr. Adam Swanson, MACJC Representative
Dr. Carey Wright, State Superintendent, Mississippi Department of Education
Mr. Chris Howard, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services
Dr. Thomas Dobbs, State Health Officer, Mississippi State Department of Health

A list of others present who signed the attendance roster is on file.

Call to Order: Vice Chair John Davis called the meeting to order at 11:05 am.

Introductions.

Vice Chair Davis asked the board to nominate a new Chair. Andrea Mayfield nominated John Davis as Chair. Andrea Mayfield motioned to accept the nomination. Laurie Smith seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Chair Davis asked for nomination for Vice Chair. Smith nominated Andrea Mayfield for Vice Chair. The board unanimously approved.

Chair Davis reviewed minutes from last meeting including a correction submitted by Leigh Janous, board counsel. Mayfield motioned to accept the minutes and correction. Howard seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Chair Davis asked Dr. Grice to give a summary of SLDS funding. Grice stated that as the Board identified 3rd party vendor, NSPARC/MSU, would be starting year 5 of the 5-year contract in July 2019. Average annual cost to fully fund the operation is \$1.8 m per year. The state has provided funding for the last four years but funding has steadily declined and the system lacks funding for year 5. Grice said MSU is committed to complete the project. Davis opened for questions. Mayfield commented that SLDS and NSPARC are recognized nationally and depended on by everyone. Turner commented that MDES is expected to have an SLDS and state agencies need an SLDS and the Board should seek appropriate funding. Grice noted that Mississippi embraced this as its own and that many neighboring states do not have an active SLDS because they have not had state support. This makes Mississippi special due to stakeholder buy-in and legislative funding and buy-in.

Chair Davis opened floor regarding Bylaws. It was noted that a Federal site visit related to an MDE grant identified issues about the Board meeting three times a year as the bylaws specify. Davis supports meeting three times a year. John Kraman from MDE suggested special meetings on items that have a deadline. Davis commented Dr. Wright could email Davis requesting the item be reviewed and a meeting notice will be sent out. Davis commented if board declines to be actively engaged in an agency project, the agency can still move forward but would do so without board involvement. The Board would clarify its involvement in agency grants moving forward. Davis encouraged members to look at bylaws and discuss at next meeting.

Chair Davis opened floor for discussion regarding State Data Clearinghouse MOA. Grice reiterated that a 5-year agreement with NSPARC ends June 2020. Chair Davis commented that this is something that will need to be addressed in the near future. Kraman questioned the process for MOA since some board members were not present when the current vendor was selected. Davis commented that the board should establish a committee to develop the scope and requirements for the third party vendor for the next contract. Dr. Laurie Smith commented that this process should be started as soon as possible. Davis commented that the board should understand bylaws, rules and regulations, and state statues that surround the SLDS before any discussion on the next contract. Howard questioned if this contract goes before contract review board. Davis answered that it does not.

Chair Davis opened floor for discussion regarding Early Learning SLDS Grant Site Visit Report. Davis commented document was provided in packet along with some suggested comments (emailed out a month earlier for review). Wright commented the federal program officer issued a report in September 2018 and returned for additional information. Davis noted the program officer requested comments and feedback from the Board and that these would be considered in any revision of the draft report before it becomes final. Kraman commented he would pull together a draft for the Board and get the draft to everyone for review prior to sending to the federal program officer. Kraman commented that the September report was final but the federal program officer offered to allow the State to append any additional information to it. Chair Davis opened floor for motion to draft an addendum to the September report. Smith motioned to draft addendum. Mayfield seconded the motion. All in favor of motion.

Chair Davis opened floor for discussion regarding Report - State Data Clearinghouse. Taquino gave an overview of clearinghouse activities.

Chair Davis opened floor for discussion regarding Report – Research Review and Standards Committee. Dr. Josh Gladden, RRSC Chair, provided update on RRSC activities and noted chairs rotated between research institutions and JSU is next. Davis opened for questions. None.

Chair Davis opened floor for discussion regarding Standing Request – Education Preparation Provider Report. Taquino commented clearinghouse staff has been working with the Education Preparation Providers in the state and MDE to help develop scorecards for college and statewide. Chair Davis asked for motion regarding standing request for Education Preparation Provider Report. Mayfield motioned. Howard seconded the motion. All in favor.

Chair Davis opened floor for discussion for Mississippi Department of Education Information items. Kraman provided an update all items and noted what can be found online at MDE.

Chair Davis asked if there was any other discussion. No comments.

Motion to adjourn. Mayfield motioned. Smith seconded the motion.