

## **SLDS Governing Board**

The Mill at MSU - Rivers Room  
600 Russell Street  
Starkville, MS

### **MINUTES**

September 12, 2019

#### In Attendance:

Dr. Andrea Mayfield, Executive Director, Mississippi Community College Board  
Dr. Thomas Dobbs, State Health Officer, Mississippi Department of Health  
Dr.. Adam Swanson, MGCCC Representative  
Ms. Audrey McAfee, Management Information Systems Director, Mississippi Department of Corrections  
Mr. Chris Howard, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services  
Mr. Jacob Black, Mississippi Department of Human Services Representative  
Ms. Jennifer Sledge, Mississippi Development Authority Representative  
Dr. Jim Hood, Assistant Commissioner for Strategic Research, Mississippi IHL  
Mr. John Kraman, Chief Information Officer, Mississippi Department of Education  
Dr. Laurie Smith (via phone), Executive Director, State Early Childhood Advisory Council

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

Call to Order: Andrea Mayfield called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Introductions.

Andrea Mayfield asked the board to elect a new Chair. Chris Howard motioned to nominate Mayfield. Jim Hood seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Chair Mayfield appointed Thomas Dobbs as Vice Chair. Dobbs accepted the appointment.

Board reviewed minutes from the last meeting. There were no corrections. The board unanimously agreed to accept the minutes.

Chair Mayfield gave a summary of SLDS funding; it was \$1.8 million in 2014; a decline to \$800,000 in 2016; 2019 was \$400,000; and 2020 is \$0. Chair Mayfield motioned to include a line in the MCCB Admin Bill for SLDS funding and lobby to restore funding. Mayfield asked for the board's support and advocacy for the SLDS.

Laurie Smith commented on when they previously sought funding; Smith stated it does not matter where it is placed. Smith also commented there was no line item in MDE's bill, and it does not currently exist anywhere.

Mayfield opened the floor for possible strategies to capture their attention to support obtaining SLDS funding. Chris Howard mentioned creating a one-page fact sheet that highlights projects done and how SLDS benefits Mississippi. Smith mentioned speaking with legislators at events. Howard commented to list the amount of money in grants that has been awarded to the state of Mississippi through the SLDS. Audrey McAfee mentioned the economic development side would be effective. Hood suggested a collective letter of support from the board. Jennifer Sledge noted that it cannot be a one-time ask; it must be continuous to ensure it is not forgotten. Sledge said to make sure it goes to the legislative budget office

because a lot of times legislators will talk to analysts, and analysts can help explain it since lot of work is done through analysts.

Chair Mayfield opened the floor regarding Bylaws. There were no comments.

Chair Mayfield opened the floor for discussion regarding the State Data Clearinghouse MOA. Chair Mayfield asked for more information on the MOA. Mike Taquino gave an overview of clearinghouse activities.

Chair Mayfield opened the floor for discussion regarding the Research Review and Standard Committee. Taquino mentioned the Research Review and Standard Committee is comprised of four universities: MSU, Jackson State, USM, and Ole Miss. The RRSC Chair moved from Ole Miss to USM. Taquino mentioned RRSC Chair will be Dr. Gordon C. Cannon. Grice mentioned MDE has appointed a new committee member.

Chair Mayfield circled back to SLDS funding. Chair Mayfield opened the floor for the board to vote on adding a line for SLDS funding to the MCCB Admin Bill. Vice Chair Dobbs motioned. Howard seconded the motion. All in favor of the motion.

Chair Mayfield gave the floor to John Kraman to discuss Mississippi Department of Education items. Kraman commented on the 2019 SLDS Grant for LifeTracks; max is \$3.5 million. He mentioned thirty states will be getting awards and MDE has letters of support from NSPARC. Kraman hoped to know something by the next meeting. The second item: Early Learning Collaborative Study Phase 2 has been completed. The first set of children took the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Gate tests, and they will continue to build on analysis. It is presented in March. The third item discussed was the College and Readiness Data Needs; they are moving towards extending their MS dashboard report card and how they will know their students are ready. Regarding the fourth item, National Student Clearinghouse Data Request, Kraman discussed data elements, the alignment of research agendas, and the transition in and out of segments.

Kraman noted how it will all help students in the long term; how they will move the data more efficiently, faster, and on the regular; analysis reporting will move more towards automation; and how they will expand, grow, and improve that work. Kraman also mentioned MDE is still working with the Student Data Clearinghouse and looking forward to continue working together.

Jacob Black asked if the entire board was comfortable with pushing for the \$1.8M funding as a collective Black asked the board to agree to make a request and support the requested amount. Grice clarified NSPARC's role and how its overall funding works for SLDS projects and a variety of projects that do not rely on SLDS funding. Mayfield opened the floor for the board to vote to ask for appropriation of the full amount. Black motioned. Howard seconded the motion. All in favor of the motion.

Adjournment: Chair Mayfield adjourned at 11:12 a.m.