

**MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**333 Market Street | 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126**

May 10, 2018

The 344th meeting of the State Board of Education was convened on Thursday, May 10, 2018. Public notice of the meeting was made in accordance with the Sunshine Meeting Act of 1986. The meeting was called to order at 8:50 a.m. by Chair Karen Farmer White.

Attending:

James Agras (<i>via phone</i>)	Pamela Gunter-Smith (<i>via phone</i>)	Jonathan Peri
Andrew Ahr	Kirk Hallett	Rep. James R. Roebuck (<i>via phone</i>)
Carol Aichele (<i>via phone</i>)	Shirlann Harmon	Karen Farmer White
James Barker	Maureen Lally-Green	A. Lee Williams
Nicole Carnicella (<i>via phone</i>)	(<i>via phone</i>)	
Sandra Dungee Glenn		

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the March 15, 2018, meeting of the State Board of Education were approved on a **Dungee Glenn/Hallett** motion.

**REPORT OF THE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ESSA IMPLEMENTATION OVERSIGHT**

Chair Karen Farmer White provided a brief update on behalf of the Special Committee on ESSA Implementation Oversight. She reported that the Committee held its second meeting on May 9 at which time it received a presentation from the Department of Education on the system of LEA and School Improvement developed as part of the State ESSA Plan. Ms. Farmer White said the Committee was pleased to learn that this system of supports will include differentiated resources based on the needs and context of each individual LEA and school.

The Committee also learned that 19 schools in three districts – Pittsburgh, Allentown, and Juniata County – are participating in a pilot program of the new school improvement system that will be deployed statewide in the next school year. Ms. Farmer White said she looks forward to learning more about the pilot after an evaluation of it is completed in late June.

**REPORT OF THE
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION**

Chair Karen Farmer White announced that a representative of the Professional Standards and Practices Commission (PSPC) was unable to attend the meeting. The PSPC provided a written report that was made available to Board members.

DISCUSSION ITEM
STUDENT DEBT NOTIFICATIONS (HOUSE BILL 2124)

Alyssa Dobson, of the Pennsylvania Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, made a presentation on House Bill 2124, legislation addressing Student Debt Notifications. Ms. Dobson's presentation identified areas of the legislation for further discussion related to implementation by institutions of higher education and coordination with federal law.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marcia Roberts Gregorio, a retired gifted support teacher from the Gettysburg Area School District and member of the Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education, expressed concern regarding the vacancy of a full-time specialist for the Gifted Advisor position at the Department of Education. Ms. Gregorio said she has continued to request information on the status of this position for which funds were released when the budget was approved months ago and said she has received reassurances that the Department will be reposting the position soon.

ACTION ITEMS

REVISED PERFORMANCE LEVEL DESCRIPTORS FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA SYSTEM OF SCHOOL ASSESSMENT IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

A motion to approve the revised Performance Level Descriptors for the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment in English Language Arts was made by Lee Williams and seconded by James Barker.

VOTE: All were in favor as indicated by unanimous voice vote. (Proxy votes in the affirmative from Nathan Barrett, Pamela Gunter-Smith and James Roebuck)

RESOLUTION HONORING ANDREW AHR

A motion to approve a resolution honoring Andrew Ahr was made by Kirk Hallett and seconded by Lee Williams.

VOTE: All were in favor as indicated by unanimous voice vote. (Proxy votes in the affirmative from Nathan Barrett, Pamela Gunter-Smith and James Roebuck)

RESOLUTION HONORING SHIRLANN HARMON

A motion to approve a resolution honoring Shirlann Harmon was made by Kirk Hallett and seconded by Maureen Lally-Green.

VOTE: All were in favor as indicated by unanimous voice vote. (Proxy votes in the affirmative from Nathan Barrett, Pamela Gunter-Smith and James Roebuck, Jr.)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Farmer White called for an Executive Session of the Board for the purpose of receiving a legal briefing from counsel on the William Penn School District litigation.

The Board adjourned its Executive Session and the Chair re-convened the 344rd meeting of the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. on a **Barker/Hallett** motion.



Stephanie Jones
Administrative Assistant