

**MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MAY 16, 2012**

The State Board of Education met via telephone conference call at 3:30 p.m., CDT, on May 16, 2012.

Present..... 9	Absent.....2
Mr. Mike Edwards	Dr. Richard Rhoda
Ms. Vernita Justice	Ms. Lauren Haley, Student
Ms. Carolyn Pearre	
Mr. Lonnie Roberts	
Dr. Jean Anne Rogers	
Mr. Fielding Rolston, Chair	
Ms. Teresa Sloyan	
Dr. Melvin Wright	

Others Present

Dr. Gary Nixon, Executive Director, State Board of Education (SBE)
Dr. David Sevier, SBE
Dr. Scott Eddins, SBE
Ms. Dannelle Walker, SBE
Ms. Phyllis Childress, SBE

Chairman Rolston welcomed the members.

I. Consent Items

A. *Adoption of Agenda*

ACTION: **Mr. Edwards** moved approval. **Dr. Rogers** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Charter School Appeal Items

- A. *Charter School Appeal – Arrow Academy of Excellence***
- B. *Charter School Appeal – Aurora Collegiate Academy***
- C. *Charter School Appeal – City University Schools***
- D. *Charter School Appeal – Memphis Grizzlies Preparatory***
- E. *Charter School Appeal – W. E. B. DuBois Consortium***

Dr. Nixon presented these items. On May 3, 2012, a hearing was held at the Shelby County Board of Education in Memphis, Tennessee, to consider Arrow Academy of Excellence, Aurora Collegiate Academy, City University Schools, Memphis Grizzlies Preparatory, and W.E.B. DuBois Consortium’s appeal of the denial of their applications by the Memphis/Shelby County Unified Board of Education.

Based on the procedural history and findings of fact, **Dr. Nixon** believed that the decision to deny Arrow Academy of Excellence, Aurora Collegiate Academy, City University Schools, Memphis Grizzlies Preparatory, and W.E.B. DuBois Consortium’s application was “contrary to the best interests of the pupils, the school district, and the community”, and recommended that the Board remand the decision back to Memphis/Shelby County Unified Board of Education with instructions to approve these applications. Due to the onerous delay that these applicants have endured, he also recommended that the Board strongly encourage Memphis/Shelby County Unified Board of Education to approve the applications at their next regularly-scheduled board meeting.

ACTION: **Mr. Edwards** moved approval. **Dr. Rogers** seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Arrow Academy of Excellence

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Mike Edwards	X			
Vernita Justice	X			
Carolyn Pearre	X			
Lonnie Roberts	X			
Jean Anne Rogers	X			
Fielding Rolston	X			
Teresa Sloyan	X			
Melvin Wright	X			
Lauren Haley			X	

Aurora Collegiate Academy

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Mike Edwards	X			
Vernita Justice	X			
Carolyn Pearre	X			
Lonnie Roberts	X			
Jean Anne Rogers	X			
Fielding Rolston	X			
Teresa Sloyan				X
Melvin Wright	X			
Lauren Haley			X	

City University Schools

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Mike Edwards	X			
Vernita Justice	X			
Carolyn Pearre	X			
Lonnie Roberts	X			
Jean Anne Rogers	X			
Fielding Rolston	X			
Teresa Sloyan	X			

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Melvin Wright	X			
Lauren Haley			X	

Memphis Grizzlies Preparatory

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Mike Edwards	X			
Vernita Justice	X			
Carolyn Pearre	X			
Lonnie Roberts	X			
Jean Anne Rogers	X			
Fielding Rolston	X			
Teresa Sloyan	X			
Melvin Wright	X			
Lauren Haley			X	

W.E.B. DuBois Consortium

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Mike Edwards	X			
Vernita Justice	X			
Carolyn Pearre	X			
Lonnie Roberts	X			
Jean Anne Rogers	X			
Fielding Rolston	X			
Teresa Sloyan	X			
Melvin Wright	X			
Lauren Haley			X	

F. Charter School Appeal – Advanced Learning Academy

Dr. Nixon presented this item. On May 3, 2012, a hearing was held at the Shelby County Board of Education in Memphis, Tennessee, to consider Advanced Learning Academy’s appeal of the denial of its application by the Memphis City/Shelby County Unified Board of Education.

Based on the procedural history and findings of fact, **Dr. Nixon** believed that the decision to deny Advanced Learning Academy’s application was not “contrary to the best interests of the pupils, the school district, and the community”, and he recommended that the Board affirm the decision of the Memphis City/Shelby County Unified Board of Education.

ACTION: **Mr. Edwards** moved approval. **Dr. Rogers** seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Mike Edwards	X			
Vernita Justice	X			

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Carolyn Pearre	X			
Lonnie Roberts	X			
Jean Anne Rogers	X			
Fielding Rolston	X			
Teresa Sloyan	X			
Melvin Wright	X			
Lauren Haley			X	

G. Charter School Appeal – Global Leadership Academy

Dr. Nixon presented this item. On May 3, 2012, a hearing was held at the Shelby County Board of Education in Memphis, Tennessee, to consider Advanced Learning Academy’s appeal of the denial of its application by the Memphis City/Shelby County Unified Board of Education.

Based on the procedural history and findings of fact, **Dr. Nixon** believed that the decision to deny Advanced Learning Academy’s application was not “contrary to the best interests of the pupils, the school district, and the community”, and he recommended that the Board affirm the decision of the Memphis City/Shelby County Unified Board of Education.

ACTION: **Mr. Edwards** moved approval. **Dr. Rogers** seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Mike Edwards	X			
Vernita Justice	X			
Carolyn Pearre	X			
Lonnie Roberts	X			
Jean Anne Rogers	X			
Fielding Rolston	X			
Teresa Sloyan	X			
Melvin Wright	X			
Lauren Haley			X	

Chairman Rolston thanked members for being available to participate in the meeting by telephone and reminded them of the upcoming workshop and meeting on July 26-27, 2012 in Nashville. The meeting was adjourned.

Approved by: _____ Date _____