

## **MINUTES**

### STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ladislaus B. Dombrowski Board Room  
John A. Hannah Building  
608 West Allegan  
Lansing, Michigan

April 24, 2019  
9:30 a.m.

Present: Dr. Casandra E. Ulbrich, President  
Dr. Pamela Pugh, Vice President  
Ms. Michelle Fecteau, Secretary  
Mr. Tom McMillin, Treasurer  
Ms. Tiffany Tilley, NASBE Delegate  
Dr. Judith Pritchett  
Ms. Lupe Ramos-Montigny  
Ms. Nikki Snyder

Absent: Ms. Sheila A. Alles, Chairperson  
Mr. Josh Neyhart, representing Governor Gretchen Whitmer, ex officio

Also Present: Mr. Mike Collins, Regional Search Associate, Ray & Associates, Inc.  
Mrs. Marilyn Schneider, State Board Executive, Michigan Department  
of Education

## **SPECIAL MEETING**

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Ulbrich, acting as Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

### II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

**Ms. Fecteau moved, seconded by Mr. McMillin, that the State Board of Education approve the agenda and order of priority.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

III. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS & GUESTS

Dr. Ulbrich asked that the members of the State Board of Education be introduced. Mrs. Marilyn Schneider, State Board Executive, introduced members of the State Board of Education, and guests were introduced.

Dr. Ulbrich asked audience members to complete public participation forms if they wish to offer comments during the public participation portion of the meeting.

IV. OVERVIEW OF INTERVIEW PROCESS

Dr. Ulbrich outlined the procedures that would be followed during the interview process.

V. INTERVIEW OF DR. MICHAEL RICE

Dr. Ulbrich introduced Dr. Michael Rice, Superintendent, Kalamazoo Public Schools.

The interview with Dr. Rice began at 9:38 a.m. and ended at 11:10 a.m.

VI. RECESS

The Board recessed at 11:10 a.m. and reconvened at 11:24 a.m.

VII. INTERVIEW OF DR. RANDY LIEPA

Dr. Ulbrich welcomed Dr. Randy Liepa, Superintendent, Wayne RESA.

The interview with Dr. Liepa began at 11:24 a.m. and ended at 12:56 p.m.

VIII. RECESS

The Board recessed at 12:56 p.m. and reconvened at 1:35 p.m.

IX. INTERVIEW OF DR. JEANICE SWIFT

Dr. Ulbrich welcomed Dr. Jeanice Swift, Superintendent, Ann Arbor Public Schools. Dr. Swift distributed a document.

The interview with Dr. Swift began at 1:35 p.m. and ended at 3:05 p.m.

X. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

1. Dr. Anne M. Hooghart, from Ypsilanti, Michigan provided verbal comments regarding State Superintendent candidate Dr. Randy Liepa.

XI. RECESS

The Board recessed at 3:12 p.m. and reconvened at 3:35 p.m.

XII. DISCUSSION AND IDENTIFICATION OF FINALISTS

Mr. Mike Collins joined the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

Dr. Ulbrich said the Board interviewed five exceptional candidates. Dr. Ulbrich said the Board will begin to identify two to three finalists who will be invited for a second interview.

Dr. Ulbrich introduced Mr. Collins who assisted with the facilitation of discussion and selection of finalists. Mr. Collins said Dr. Cassellius is one of three finalists for the Superintendent of Boston Public Schools, and the decision is expected to be made the first week in May.

Discussion followed, and an informal ranking of the candidates occurred.

An informal roll call vote was taken on the elimination of Dr. G. Eric Thomas as a potential finalist.

Fecteau – Aye  
McMillin – Aye  
Pritchett – Aye  
Pugh – Aye  
Ramos-Montigny – Aye  
Snyder – Aye  
Tilley – Nay  
Ulbrich – Aye

There was Board consensus to eliminate Dr. Thomas as a potential finalist.

Discussion followed, and informal rankings of the candidates occurred.

**Mr. McMillin moved, seconded by Ms. Ramos-Montigny, that the State Board of Education invite Brenda Cassellius, Michael Rice, and Jeanice Swift to interview as finalists for the position of Superintendent of Public Instruction on May 7, 2019; and that Randy Liepa be invited to interview if Brenda Cassellius is offered and accepts the Superintendency of Boston Public Schools.**

Discussion followed.

The vote was taken on the motion.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Dr. Pritchett asked for information on the process for the next interviews.  
Mr. Collins said a new set of interview questions will be developed.

Discussion followed.

XIII. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Tuesday, May 7, 2019 (9:30 a.m.) Special Meeting
- B. Tuesday, May 14, 2019 (9:30 a.m.) Regular Meeting
- C. Wednesday, May 22, 2019 (9:30 a.m.) Board Retreat

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

The video archive of the meeting is available on the [Michigan State Board of Education website](http://www.michigan.gov/sbe) ([www.michigan.gov/sbe](http://www.michigan.gov/sbe)).

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Fecteau  
Secretary