

## MINUTES

### ARKANSAS BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON PUBLIC EDUCATION

May 29, 2002

9:00 a.m.

Room 151, State Capitol  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Mr. Bob McGinnis, the Co-Chair of the Arkansas Blue Ribbon Commission on Public Education, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ARKANSAS BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON PUBLIC EDUCATION MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. Frank Anthony; Ms. Charlie Cole Chaffin; Dr. Charles Dunn; Ms. Judy Donovan; Dr. Benny Gooden; Dr. Reed Greenwood; Mr. Gene Gregory; Ms. Pat Harris; Mr. Wayne Hartsfield; Ms. Shelby Hillman; Mr. Randy Hughes; Mr. Phil Jones; Dr. Don Love; Ms. Kathy McFetridge; Mr. Bob McGinnis, Co-Chair; Dr. Martha McNair; Mr. David Matthews; Mr. Kevin Moore; Ms. Stacy Pittman, Co-Chair; Ms. Alisia Ramirez-Hartz; Mr. Ulicious Reed; Mr. Larry Ross; Mr. Keith Stokes and Ms. Johnette Walker.

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT:** Representative M. Olin Cook, Senator Jim Hill, and Representative Larry Teague.

**OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY PRESENT:** Representative Marvin Parks, Representative Tommy Roebuck, and Representative Robert White.

#### **Approval of the Minutes of the May 15, 2002 Meeting of the Blue Ribbon Commission [Exhibit C].**

After reviewing the minutes of the May 15, 2002, meeting of the Blue Ribbon Commission, the minutes were approved as written.

Mr. McGinnis announced that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 19, 2002, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 151 of the State Capitol. Mr. McGinnis also announced that June 26, 2002, has been set aside as a tentative meeting date for the Commission should the need arise. Mr. Larry Ross, Chair, Funding/Facilities Subcommittee, was recognized. Mr. Ross announced that the Funding/Facilities Subcommittee was scheduled to meet on Wednesday, June 5, 2002, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 138 of the State Capitol.

#### **Initial Review and Discussion of the Recommendations of the Commission's Subcommittees [Exhibits D1, D2, and D3]**

See attached forms for the actions taken by the Commission on the pending subcommittee recommendations.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

(more)

**Arkansas Blue Ribbon Commission on Public Education  
Amendments Considered  
5-29-2002**

**Teacher Salary and Professional Development Subcommittee**

Recommendation III B

Amendment 1 by Dr. Gooden:

**Prevailed on Voice Vote**

Employee contributions made by teachers for health insurance and related benefits be the same amount as contributed by other state employees. **The State of Arkansas shall provide additional state funding to cover the associated costs.**

Recommendation III D

Amendment 1 by Dr. Gooden:

**Prevailed on Voice Vote**

Equate hiring practices throughout the state by accepting all of a teacher's previous experience in Arkansas **in a school accredited by a regional accreditation agency (i.e. North Central Association).**

**Organizational Structure Subcommittee**

Recommendation #3

Amendment 1 by Ms. Chaffin:

**Prevailed on Voice Vote**

Amend Arkansas' Public School Choice statute to enhance the ability of students and parents to utilize it and create regional high schools dispersed throughout the state.

Recommendation #4

Amendment 1 by Ms. Chaffin:

**Prevailed on Voice Vote**

Separation of service and accountability/regulatory roles within the Arkansas Department of Education is recommended to more effectively monitor and implement the state's school accountability requirements. We also encourage the ADE to continue working on the reorganization of ~~accountability and regulatory~~ **service and accountability/regulatory** roles within ADE.