

## **Minutes of the Education Achievement Council Meeting**

**January 27, 2017**

**BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Education Achievement Council (EAC) met in the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning Board Room in Jackson, Mississippi at 10:30 a.m. on January 27, 2017.**

### **Council Members Present:**

Mr. Milton Anderson, President, Mississippi Association of Proprietary Schools  
Mrs. Rosemary Aultman, President, Mississippi Board of Education  
Mr. Lee Bush, Chair, Mississippi Community College Board  
Dr. Jim Borsig, President, Mississippi University for Women, via teleconference  
Dr. Glenn Boyce, Commissioner, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning  
Dr. Harold Fisher, Executive Director, Mississippi Association of Independent Colleges and Universities  
Ms. Debra Gilbert, representing Dr. Andrea Mayfield, Executive Director, Mississippi Community College Board  
Chairman Nolan Mettetal, Chairman, House of Representatives Universities and Colleges Committee  
Mr. C.D. Smith, Trustee, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning  
Dr. Jesse Smith, President, Jones County Junior College  
Mrs. Cheryl Thurmond, Board Member, Mississippi Community College Board  
Dr. Carey Wright, State Superintendent, Mississippi Department of Education

### **Council Members Absent:**

Dr. Rodney Bennett, President, University of Southern Mississippi  
Dr. William Bynum, President, Mississippi Valley State University  
Chairman Eugene Clarke, Chairman, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Mr. Tom Duff, Trustee, Institutions of Higher Learning  
Dr. Jim Haffey, President, Holmes Community College  
Chairman Josh Harkins, Chairman, Senate Universities and Colleges Committee  
Dr. John Kelley, Chairman, Mississippi Board of Education  
Mr. Adam Moore, Mississippi Department of Mental Health  
Chairman John Moore, Chairman, House of Representatives Education Committee  
Dr. Laurie Smith, Education Policy Advisor, Office of Governor Phil Bryant  
Dr. Billy Stewart, President, East Central Community College  
Chairman Gray Tollison, Chairman, Senate Education Committee

### **Others Present:**

Mrs. Caron Blanton, Communications Director, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning  
Dr. Jimmy Clarke, Lumina Strategy Labs  
Mr. Raul Fletes, Assistant Executive Director for Research and Effectiveness, Mississippi Community College Board  
Mrs. Mitzi Gendron, Director of Database Management, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning  
Dr. Jim Hood, Assistant Commissioner for Strategic Research, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning  
Ms. Audra Kimble, Associate Commissioner for Academic and Student Affairs, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning  
Dr. Shawn Mackey, Associate Executive Director for Workforce, Career and Technical Education, Mississippi Community College Board  
Mrs. Kay Mettatal, wife of Chairman Nolan Mettatal  
Mrs. Heather Morrison, P-20 Project Coordinator, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning  
Mrs. Amber Palmer, representing Kim Gallaspy, Director of Legislative Services, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning  
Mrs. Jennifer Rogers, Director, Office of Student Financial Aid  
Dr. Casey Turnage, Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning

## **I. Welcome**

Dr. Smith invited members and guests to introduce themselves.

## **II. Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Smith asked the members to review the minutes. Dr. Fisher moved to approve the minutes as presented. Dr. Boyce seconded the motion. The motion carried.

## **III. Presentation on College Countdown Mississippi**

Dr. Smith called on Heather Morrison to present on College Countdown Mississippi.

Mrs. Morrison discussed the three components of College Countdown: Application Day, FAFSA Day, and Signing Day. She also shared data on FAFSA completion rates by high schools across the state of Mississippi.

Mrs. Morrison called on Jennifer Rogers to discuss the ability high school counselors have to login to reports, produced by the Office of Financial Aid at Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, to see whether or not the students at their school have completed FAFSA. Ms. Rogers also discussed the positive correlation between FAFSA completion and college enrollment.

Mrs. Morrison called on Ms. Audra Kimble to discuss the partnership with Get2College and the training they provide to financial aid officers, admissions counselors, and student success coordinators for FAFSA completion.

#### **IV. Discussion of Educational Attainment Goal**

Dr. Smith reviewed the main goal of the Education Achievement Council recommended to the EAC in 2012, which is to have sixty percent of those between the ages of 25-64 obtain a higher education credential by 2025. Under this goal is a sub-goal, which is to have sixty percent of those between the ages of 25-34 obtain a higher education credential by 2020.

Dr. Smith called on Dr. Jimmy Clarke to review strata definitions other states are studying. Dr. Clarke suggested as a part of what is adopted as the goal of the Education Achievement Council, focus should be turned to underrepresented populations.

Dr. Smith assigned the following to the Education Attainment Goal committee: Raul Fletes, Dr. Jim Hood, Audra Kimble, Heather Morrison, Dr. Jesse Smith, Jennifer Rogers, Dr. Casey Turnage, and Dr. Jimmy Clarke. This committee will be responsible for reviewing the Graduation Rate Task Force report and recommendations, conducting research to see what others states are doing with regards to education attainment goals and sub-goals, evaluating Mississippi data and underrepresented populations, and identifying the goal, sub-goal(s) and sub-group tracking appropriate for Mississippi. The committee will report their findings to the EAC on April 27, 2017.

Dr. Smith suggested the following sub-group tracking be considered:

1. Underrepresented Categories
  - a. Urban, Rural
  - b. Ethnicity, Race
  - c. Age Ranges
  - d. Gender
  - e. Income Quintiles
2. Traditional College Group
  - a. 100% graduation rate
  - b. 150% graduation rate
  - c. 200% graduation rate
3. 21-24 age group
4. 25-64 age group
5. MDE Strategic Goal – Every student in every school graduates from high school and is college and career ready. (Note: Dr. Wright will send measures to Dr. Turnage to share with the council in the April meeting.)

During the August 24 meeting, the goals set by the EAC will be officially adopted, upon approval by all involved. Progression results will be published in November.

## **V. Presentation on Complete 2 Compete**

Dr. Smith called on Dr. Casey Turnage and Ms. Audra Kimble to present Complete 2 Compete.

Ms. Kimble discussed the collaboration of Mississippi Community College Board and Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning pulling data from the past fifteen years to identify that over 350,000 people ages 21 and over have some college, but no degree.

Dr. Turnage identified the four target areas for Complete 2 Compete:

1. Reverse Transfer Associate Degree – no additional coursework
2. Bachelor's Degree – no additional coursework
3. Associate Degree – some additional coursework
4. Bachelor's Degree – some additional coursework

If Mississippi continued on its current track, Dr. Turnage pointed out that by 2025 only 37.8% of those between the ages of 25-64 will have reached the education attainment goal of obtaining a higher education credential. However, Dr. Turnage gave information on the potential impact Complete 2 Compete on the education attainment rate:

1. If 100% of those identified in the four target areas obtained a higher education credential by 2025, the education attainment rate would be 59.5%.
2. If 50% of those identified in the four target areas obtained a higher education credential by 2025, the education attainment rate would be 48%.
3. If 25% of those identified in the four target areas obtained a higher education credential by 2025, the education attainment rate would be 40.8%.

## **VI. Future Meeting Dates**

For the remainder of 2017, the council will meet on April 27, August 24, and October 26. The meetings will begin at 10:30 a.m. in the IHL Board Room.

A suggestion was made by Chairman Moore, through Dr. Smith, to schedule future January meetings on Monday instead of Thursday. The January 2018 meeting has been tentatively scheduled for January 22.

## **VII. Other Business**

Dr. Jimmy Clarke commended Dr. Casey Turnage and Ms. Audra Kimble on the Complete 2 Compete initiative. He also offered the Lumina Foundation's assistance to the Education Attainment Goal Committee.

## **VIII. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.