



“Strengthening Educator Preparation Collaboratively”

**MACTE Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2026
Central High School Building, Room 102
Mississippi Department of Education
Jackson, Mississippi**

Members Present: Kelly Ballard, Ashley Coleman, Teresa Duke, Theresa Dumas, Tracey Gregory, Trent Gould, LeTina Guice, Kim Hall, Terry Jayroe, Kalanya Moore, Clay Norton, Eddie Peasant, Teresa Poole, Anjanette Powers, David Rock, Mariella Simons, Merideth Van Namen, Deidre Wheaton

I. Welcome

II. Mississippi Department of Education Updates – Dr. Vanderford, Dr. Murphy, Dr. Van Cleve, Dr. Stoulig, Dr. McNeil, & Ms. Lipsey

- A. Dr. Vanderford provided a legislative update and reported that most of the bills proposed were killed. Amendments also failed. The MS Teacher Residency (MTR) bill is still alive. A new assessment contract has been proposed. It is more expensive but includes a great deal of technology to support assessment.
- B. Dr. Van Cleve provided an update on their legislative request for level funding for the MS Teacher Residency (MTR). They expressed appreciation for the universities and their work with MTR. *TeachMS.org* has been revamped as a recruitment tool. MELFA has been working to strengthen common assessments for leadership programs. They are willing to attend any training or professional development to provide information from MDE for both students and/or faculty (i.e., submitting your licensure application); they will tailor it to specific university needs.

- C. Dr. Murphy discussed Foundations of Reading and Aims. Candidates who have completed everything except the Foundations of Reading exam can enter service with a three-year provisional license. For candidates who signed up before the memo, Aims will offer a full refund and allow them to register for the correct course. Dr. Murphy reminded everyone that exams are for licensure purposes only as far as MDE is concerned; if universities choose to use them as part of academic requirements, then that is a university decision. Members requested that MDE consider sending completer/employer surveys. Dr. Murphy responded that the next phase of MECA should have the capability to send out these surveys.
- D. Members requested that MDE help with the Impact Report Card. Dr. Murphy responded that this was good to discuss and asked that universities communicate their needs as they begin building functions in MECA.
- E. Dr. Stoulig reminded everyone that they had emailed the Spring Newsletter. They are beginning to review program modifications, additions, and deletions. They will be looking for reviewers to assist.

III. **Financial Report – Dr. Gould**

March 10, 2025 – 14 EPP members; 13 EPPs submitted dues for 2024-2025

August 4, 2025 – 14 EPP members; 13 EPPs submitted dues for 2025-2026

The non-paying EPP has been notified.

August 31, 2025 – March 2, 2026: Revenue - \$3,000; Expenses - \$151.20; Ending Balance - \$12,877.74

The Awards Ceremony last year cost approximately \$9,000. We may need to consider an increase in dues.

IV. **National Center for School-University Partnerships – Dr. Rock**

Dr. Rock handed out NCSUP information. The goal of NCSUP is to improve school outcomes with the primary focus on reducing critical teacher shortages. Membership dues are \$2,500. Using Improvement Science, Dr. Rock would like to focus on one or two changes to reduce teacher shortages and test them to see what works. Focus is on working together instead of as separate universities. He discussed developing a website that provides information on how much it costs to earn a degree in teaching, the scholarships available, etc., for each semester. On April 2, AACTE will be hosting a virtual meeting to discuss what different states can do to address teacher shortages.

V. **GoReact – Dr. Hall**

Members discussed the pros, cons, and uses of GoReact as well as other programs, such as Vosaic, People Grove, and ChatGPT, to assist with supervision and data collection.

VI. **MACTE Awards Ceremony Location and Date**

A. Awards Categories:

1. Outstanding Administrator
2. Outstanding Educator
3. Outstanding Teacher Intern
4. Outstanding Educational Leadership Student

B. Members discussed dates, potential locations, etc., for the awards ceremony.

Dr. Jayroe will send out additional information. A suggestion was presented to have a MACTE retreat before or after the award ceremony.

VII. **Other Business**

A. Members discussed their frustrations with House Bill 1528 and the process of editing the bill. They were encouraged to remain abreast of legislative issues and to carefully review proposed bills and amendments.

B. CAEP and MDE do not have a signed agreement, but CAEP is still honoring the agreement for a joint CAEP review with MDE.

C. Dr. Jayroe discussed how training for university supervisors, classroom mentor teachers, and candidates is provided through the University of Mississippi. She plans to discuss with Dr. Lance Evans how MDE could provide this training.

D. Members discussed concerns with EPPCC, which is not a decision-making group; however, it should discuss concerns and provide recommendations to the Deans.

VIII. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.