

**In The Matter Of:**  
*ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION*

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*June 8, 2023*

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*Sharon K. Hill, CCR*  
*(501) 680-0888*

ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

JUNE 8, 2023

9:00 a.m.

A P P E A R A N C E S

BOARD MEMBERS:

MS. OUIDA NEWTON, Chairman  
DR. SARAH MOORE, Vice Chairman  
DR. FITZGERALD HILL  
MS. KATHY ROLLINS  
MS. ADRIENNE WOODS  
MR. STEVE SUTTON  
MR. RANDY HENDERSON  
MS. LISA HUNTER  
MR. JEFF WOOD

NON-VOTING PARTICIPANTS:

MR. JACOB OLIVA, Secretary of Education  
MS. JESSICA SAUM, Arkansas Teacher of the Year

DESE LEGAL COUNSEL:

MS. SHASTADY WAGNER

LOCATION:

ARKANSAS DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION  
- Auditorium  
#4 Capitol Mall  
Little Rock, AR 72201

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E X H I B I T S

Exhibit One (1)  
    SBE Timeline re: Lincoln School District

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 1) STANDARDS FOR ACCREDITATION STATUS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE  
3 2022-2023 ACCREDITATION CYCLE

4 a) RECOMMENDATION OF FINAL ACCREDITED STATUS FOR THE  
5 DISTRICTS LISTED ON THE REPORT BELOW

6 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: The first item on our  
7 action agenda are recommendations of final accredited  
8 status for the districts listed. Dr. Sutherlin.

9 DR. SUTHERLIN: So, Matthew Sutherlin, Standards  
10 and Systems Support.

11 The first list that you have is the list of  
12 fully accredited or recommendations for fully  
13 accredited schools. This means these schools have no  
14 exceptions in SFA, and so no standards have been  
15 violated.

16 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. Is there any discussion  
17 on these districts?

18 Okay. If not, I need a motion for approval.

19 MS. HUNTER: So moved.

20 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. I have a motion by Ms.  
21 Hunter to approve. Do I have a second?

22 MR. WOOD: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Second by Mr. Wood.

24 All in favor?

25 (UNANIMOUS CHORUS OF AYES)

1 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Any opposed?

2 Motion passes.

3 b) RECOMMENDATIONS OF FINAL ACCREDITED-CITED STATUS FOR  
4 THE DISTRICTS ON THE REPORT BELOW

5 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: All right.

6 DR. SUTHERLIN: Okay. The next list is actually  
7 the recommendations for accredited-cited status. So  
8 these are both -- well, they are the citations that  
9 you issued in March, plus any new citations.

10 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. All right. So it did  
11 include those that we voted on previously?

12 DR. SUTHERLIN: Yes.

13 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. Any discussion on  
14 these?

15 Dr. Moore.

16 DR. MOORE: Yeah. Just a little background  
17 about how this process works. This is an annual -- I  
18 mean accreditation occurs every year?

19 DR. SUTHERLIN: Yes.

20 DR. MOORE: Is that correct?

21 DR. SUTHERLIN: Uh-huh.

22 DR. MOORE: And so these are citings just for --

23 DR. SUTHERLIN: For this year.

24 DR. MOORE: -- the full year?

25 DR. SUTHERLIN: But the status will go with them

1           until next year.

2           DR. MOORE:   Okay.

3           DR. SUTHERLIN:  Yeah.

4           DR. MOORE:  Are any of these on the list ones  
5           that have been cited in previous years?

6           DR. SUTHERLIN:  Not since I've been here.  So --

7           CHAIRMAN NEWTON:  There are no consecutive  
8           citations?

9           DR. SUTHERLIN:  Correct.

10          CHAIRMAN NEWTON:  But if they're consecutive  
11          then they move up a level.  Is it to probation?

12          DR. SUTHERLIN:  To probation.

13          CHAIRMAN NEWTON:  Okay.

14          DR. MOORE:  And can I ask --

15          DR. SUTHERLIN:  Sure.

16          DR. MOORE:  A lot of them were for 1-C.1?

17          DR. SUTHERLIN:  That's the testing citation.  So  
18          that's the not testing --

19          DR. MOORE:  Oh.

20          DR. SUTHERLIN:  -- 95% from March.

21          DR. MOORE:  Okay.

22          DR. SUTHERLIN:  Yeah.

23          DR. MOORE:  And this is -- we already --

24          DR. SUTHERLIN:  We've already voted on it.  But  
25          this is kind of like the final --

1 DR. MOORE: Did we grant them a waiver at that  
2 point, or what did we vote on?

3 DR. SUTHERLIN: No. So --

4 DR. MOORE: We voted that they would be cited?

5 DR. SUTHERLIN: Uh-huh.

6 DR. MOORE: And so this is the final step of  
7 this?

8 DR. SUTHERLIN: Uh-huh.

9 DR. MOORE: Okay.

10 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Any other discussion on these?  
11 Okay. Then I'm ready for a motion to approve  
12 the citations.

13 MS. ROLLINS: I'll make the motion to approve.

14 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. We have a motion by Ms.  
15 Rollins.

16 DR. HILL: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Seconded by Dr. Hill.

18 All in favor?

19 (UNANIMOUS CHORUS OF AYES)

20 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Any opposed?

21 Motion passes.

22 c) RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCREDITED-CITED STATUS FOR  
23 LINCOLN SCHOOL DISTRICT/LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR  
24 STANDARD 4-D.1 TEACHER LICENSURE

25 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay.

1 DR. SUTHERLIN: Okay. The next is a  
2 recommendation for accredited-cited status for  
3 Lincoln School District, and it's for Lincoln Middle  
4 School for Standard 4-D.1 Teacher Licensure.

5 The consideration is for an appeal of the  
6 accredited-cited status for Lincoln School District.  
7 The district employed a teacher without a license for  
8 the 2022-2023 school year.

9 Oh, sorry.

10 MS. WAGNER: Good morning. Shastady Wagner,  
11 Legal.

12 I have to give you guys the procedure since this  
13 is an appeal; so we have procedures that we have to  
14 walk through. So, give me just a second.

15 All right. So the first thing that will happen  
16 is the Chair will swear in anybody who is going to  
17 testify. And then the Division will have up to 20  
18 minutes to present its case to you; of course, the  
19 Chair can allow additional time, if needed. The  
20 appealing district, which in this case is the Lincoln  
21 School District, shall have 20 minutes to present its  
22 case. If it needs more than 20 minutes, the Chair --  
23 you can decide to grant more than that. After that  
24 time, then you can pose any questions to either side.  
25 And then you will make your decision at that point.



1                   Okay. And if there are any questions, I'll be  
2 here.

3                   CHAIRMAN NEWTON: All right. Thank you.

4                   DR. SUTHERLIN: So there should be someone from  
5 Lincoln on the Zoom.

6                   CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Do we have someone from  
7 Lincoln on Zoom?

8                   SUPT. SPEARS: Yes, I'm here. Mary Ann Spears.

9                   CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Ms. Spears -- is that what I  
10 heard?

11                  SUPT. SPEARS: Yes.

12                  CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. Ms. Spears, welcome.  
13 We'll -- we will start this morning by swearing  
14 anyone that is going to give testimony today, that is  
15 not an attorney. Would you raise your right hand,  
16 please? Do you swear or affirm that the testimony  
17 you're about to give shall be the truth, the whole  
18 truth, and nothing but the truth?

19                  SUPT. SPEARS: Yes.

20                  CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Thank you.

21                  Okay. We'll begin with the Division.

22                  DR. SUTHERLIN: Okay. So let me just preface  
23 this by saying that our specialists work to keep  
24 schools accredited every day of the school year, so  
25 it shouldn't be an issue where they're carrying

1 exceptions for long periods of time. So there's  
2 copious amounts of communication with the districts  
3 throughout the school year.

4 I'm trying to advance the slide. Yeah, okay,  
5 it's working now.

6 All right. So what you're looking at here is  
7 our SFA system. So this is our Standards for  
8 Accreditation system. It shows the districts, their  
9 accreditation status at that moment. And this is the  
10 current status for Lincoln School District. So you  
11 can see it gives them information for their standards  
12 specialist; it gives them reports each month; it  
13 gives them all their waivers that they have, document  
14 management, which includes the Statement of  
15 Assurance; it gives them all their schools and their  
16 accreditation status, as well as their trend each  
17 month.

18 So the standard that we're talking about is  
19 Standard 4-D.1. 4-D.1 says each public school  
20 district shall employ classroom teachers that meet  
21 the licensure requirements in accordance with the  
22 laws of the state of Arkansas and the rules of the  
23 Division or are under an approved waiver in  
24 accordance with the laws of the state of Arkansas and  
25 the rules of the Division.

1           So what we're looking at here is they do either  
2           have to have a license or they have to have some form  
3           of waiver for a licensure exception. So that could  
4           be a long-term sub, but that would need to be granted  
5           at the first of the school year.

6           All right. So, districts have access to their  
7           status 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. So they can --  
8           they get reports on the 21st of every month; these  
9           are snapshots of each of their reports that they  
10          received. And if you notice where I've got that  
11          arrow pointing, that's actually Standard 4. So  
12          that's 4-D.1 that they were flagging for all year  
13          long.

14          All right. And then, here's our reports. So  
15          these are the reports that get sent out to the  
16          district on the 21st of each month. So when you look  
17          at those reports you can see this is the example of  
18          their most recent report, which was in April. So you  
19          can see up at the top the district gets notified that  
20          they are cited; so they already know when they get  
21          that report that they need to do something. But  
22          beyond that, what we have here is our timeline of  
23          communication.

24          So I'm just going to go over the highlighted  
25          ones. And what I'm going to do too is I have a more

1 thorough description here.

2 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: If you just want to give them  
3 to us, we'll pass them down.

4 (WHEREUPON, Exhibit One (1) was marked for  
5 identification and entered into evidence.)

6 DR. SUTHERLIN: All right. So what you'll see  
7 here is that it has, on 8/29, the Standards  
8 Specialist actually reached out to the District with  
9 all expiring licensure exceptions. So they printed  
10 out from LEA Insights all of the expiring exceptions  
11 and sent that to the District.

12 Then, on 12/6/2022, the Specialist received an  
13 email stating that the teacher would graduate with  
14 her MAT on Friday, December 9, 2023. So we were  
15 trying to work with the District to make sure that  
16 she was getting her license, she was working through  
17 her program.

18 And then, on February 3rd, the Licensure Unit  
19 Coordinator responded to an email sent by the  
20 Specialist to the Licensure Coordinator that they had  
21 not received anything from that teacher for this  
22 school year.

23 Now you'll also notice at the bottom there's  
24 communication on 9/21 and 10/21, 11/21, 12/21, 1/21,  
25 and then 2/21. Those are all the reports that they

1 receive each month.

2 Now on February 24th -- it shouldn't say 24; I  
3 don't know how the 4 got there. But anyway, the  
4 District stated that the teacher had received the  
5 university transcript and it was uploaded to AELS.  
6 It was stated that she was set up for fingerprinting  
7 on March 2nd.

8 Then, on 3/6/2023, the District emailed stating  
9 licensure was still waiting on the teacher's  
10 transcript. So we had a transcript that they had,  
11 but then it's not there anymore.

12 So then, on March 13th, the District -- I'm  
13 sorry -- the Director of Licensure responded that the  
14 teacher had not applied for her license as of March  
15 13th.

16 Then, on March 13th I actually called the  
17 Superintendent and let her know that the license had  
18 not been applied for. She said she would take care  
19 of that.

20 And then, on March 1st -- I'm sorry -- May 1st,  
21 SFA closed and the teacher got her provisional  
22 license, which then turned into a standard license.  
23 And then the Specialist notified them that they still  
24 had an exception for social studies because the  
25 teacher's license was not in social studies.

1                   And then, on the 3rd we actually sent them a  
2                   hearing letter.

3                   So this is just a summary of the outreach. So  
4                   we have our monthly reports on the 21st. We have 26  
5                   emails directly to the District from the Standards  
6                   Specialist. We have emails from the Standards  
7                   Specialist to Licensure regarding the exception to  
8                   aid the District in clearing up the exception. And  
9                   then phone calls to the District by the Standards  
10                  Specialist. And then phone calls and emails to the  
11                  Superintendent by the Coordinator of Standards and  
12                  Systems Support.

13                  Okay. That's it.

14                  CHAIRMAN NEWTON: All right. I have one  
15                  question before you sit down, Dr. -- Mr. Sutherlin.

16                  DR. SUTHERLIN: Yes.

17                  CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Is -- all during this time  
18                  that they were getting these emails and contact from  
19                  the Division, were there things that the District  
20                  could have done at those individual points to have  
21                  removed them from the citation?

22                  DR. SUTHERLIN: So they could have requested a  
23                  1240 waiver or they could have requested a long-term  
24                  sub.

25                  CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay.

1 DR. SUTHERLIN: And so --

2 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: And that would have taken care  
3 of it?

4 DR. SUTHERLIN: Yes. And just to kind of give  
5 you a little more background knowledge, the teacher  
6 had an ETP for the prior two years. And then they  
7 requested another ETP, but you can't receive an ETP  
8 for the third year, which is an Emergency Teaching  
9 Permit.

10 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. All right. So that was  
11 only good for two years, but there were other options  
12 for the district to pursue but they chose not to?

13 DR. SUTHERLIN: Correct.

14 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. All right.

15 Ms. Spears.

16 SUPT. SPEARS: Yes. Yes. So the teacher in  
17 question should have really been finished last  
18 summer, but she had a baby in the middle of the  
19 summer with some complications; so she had to defer  
20 and take a class in the fall. She should have  
21 graduated in December, but her University of  
22 Monticello advisor failed to get her paperwork in or  
23 something to that effect. So she actually didn't  
24 actually graduate till May. We were kind of on hold.  
25 I mean we felt like this was going to clear before

1           that March end thing with her, so we didn't apply for  
2           the emergency permit or any other -- you know, she  
3           was in a non-traditional, she was working on her MAT.  
4           She's an excellent teacher. She'd been with us two  
5           years already. Just some life circumstances kind of  
6           got in the way, and, you know, no fault of ours. We  
7           don't really feel like we could've done anything any  
8           different just working through with her, and we  
9           really felt that this was all going to clear. She  
10          got her transcript, she'd finished the coursework.  
11          There was just that hiccup with the advisor at the  
12          University of Monticello.

13                 So we're just asking for a little grace here and  
14                 to not be cited. We've never been cited before.  
15                 Just appreciate you working with us on this. Thank  
16                 you.

17                 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. We'll see if we have  
18                 any questions from the Board.

19                 Anyone over here have a question for the  
20                 Division or Ms. Spears?

21                 MS. WOOD: So at what point could they have  
22                 applied for a 1240 waiver?

23                 DR. SUTHERLIN: At any point --

24                 MS. WOOD: At any point.

25                 DR. SUTHERLIN: -- during the school year.



1 MS. WOOD: Okay. So even back when they thought  
2 she was going to graduate in the summer, she didn't,  
3 they could've applied -- August, September, October,  
4 all the way through?

5 DR. SUTHERLIN: (Nodding head up and down.)

6 MS. WOOD: Okay.

7 DR. SUTHERLIN: Correct.

8 MS. WOOD: That's my question.

9 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. Any other questions  
10 over here? Over here?

11 Dr. Moore.

12 DR. MOORE: Yes. For the District, is there a  
13 reasoning why y'all didn't apply for that Act 1240  
14 waiver?

15 SUPT. SPEARS: We weren't advised about a 1240  
16 waiver at that point.

17 DR. MOORE: You just thought because she would  
18 get her degree in the year that would cover --

19 SUPT. SPEARS: Well, she had her -- we had her  
20 transcript, she'd applied for licensure. Yes.

21 DR. MOORE: Okay. I did notice -- and this  
22 might be because of the process. But it says not  
23 until February when her transcript was uploaded she  
24 had a background check and fingerprinting. I'm  
25 assuming that went through the first -- you have to

1 have a background check before --

2 SUPT. SPEARS: Yeah. She had done that already  
3 when she became employed with us.

4 DR. MOORE: Okay.

5 SUPT. SPEARS: But that was a new regulation,  
6 because she was applying for a standard license.

7 DR. MOORE: Okay.

8 SUPT. SPEARS: Yes.

9 DR. MOORE: Okay.

10 SUPT. SPEARS: So she had to go through that  
11 process again, and she did.

12 DR. MOORE: And so then what subject was she  
13 teaching?

14 SUPT. SPEARS: She was teaching literacy and  
15 some social studies.

16 DR. MOORE: Okay. And so social studies is the  
17 one that --

18 SUPT. SPEARS: Uh-huh.

19 DR. MOORE: -- she went to apply for. Okay.

20 SUPT. SPEARS: Fourth grade.

21 DR. MOORE: Now back to the Agency, Dr.  
22 Sutherlin, what is the consequences for receiving a  
23 citation?

24 DR. SUTHERLIN: So a citation is just a warning.

25 DR. MOORE: Okay.

1 DR. SUTHERLIN: So essentially they would have  
2 to be cited two years in a row to then be put on or  
3 recommended for probationary status.

4 DR. MOORE: Okay. And so if this were to happen  
5 again --

6 DR. SUTHERLIN: Correct.

7 DR. MOORE: -- they would come back in front of  
8 the Board. Is that correct?

9 DR. SUTHERLIN: Correct.

10 DR. MOORE: Okay.

11 DR. SUTHERLIN: And at that time they could be  
12 recommended for probation status.

13 DR. MOORE: Okay.

14 DR. SUTHERLIN: Yeah.

15 DR. MOORE: Does this district have any Act 1240  
16 waivers for any other teachers or anything else?

17 DR. SUTHERLIN: Not that I'm aware of.

18 DR. MOORE: Okay. Okay. I think that's --

19 SUPT. SPEARS: We do have some Act 1240 waivers  
20 for our high school --

21 DR. MOORE: Okay. For teacher licensure?

22 SUPT. SPEARS: -- but not any -- but not middle  
23 school.

24 DR. MOORE: Are those for teacher licensure or  
25 for other issues?

1 SUPT. SPEARS: Yes, there is some -- yes.

2 DR. MOORE: Okay. So you do have some teachers  
3 employed under waivers?

4 SUPT. SPEARS: Not at this time, not anymore.  
5 We have in the past, but not anymore. Everyone else  
6 is fully certified. Everything is good.

7 DR. MOORE: Okay. And I guess -- so this  
8 teacher now, has she received everything? Will she  
9 be able to teach this upcoming school year?

10 SUPT. SPEARS: Yes. Yes, she will. And she  
11 took a Praxis and all that. She will, but she's  
12 moving to a different district. But she --

13 DR. MOORE: Oh no.

14 SUPT. SPEARS: -- she should be well -- she  
15 should be certified for her new district. Yes.

16 DR. MOORE: Okay. Thank you.

17 SUPT. SPEARS: Yeah. We're kind of caught here  
18 and she's leaving us, but it's fine. Husband is a  
19 coach, got a coaching job in his hometown. You can't  
20 fault that. We're happy for their family.

21 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Any other questions over here?  
22 Ms. Rollins.

23 MS. ROLLINS: Ms. Spears, I'm concerned that all  
24 this communication went on between ADE and your  
25 district, and I'm just wondering how all of this got

1 missed. This took a lot -- this took a lot of --

2 SUPT. SPEARS: I'm sorry, Kathy. Ms. Kathy, I  
3 can't hear you.

4 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Can you pull your microphone,  
5 Ms. Rollins?

6 SUPT. SPEARS: I'm sorry.

7 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: There we go. Get it closer to  
8 you. There you go.

9 MS. ROLLINS: No, I'm just surprised at how much  
10 communication went on between the ADE and your  
11 district and I'm wondering how all of this got  
12 missed. I mean this took a lot of time from the  
13 Department to try --

14 SUPT. SPEARS: Yes. And there was great  
15 communication with the Department. We -- I mean, we  
16 were just kind of at the mercy of that higher ed.  
17 institution, University of Arkansas-Monticello, to  
18 finishing up their end of what she needed to get  
19 totally certified. So I mean we were kind of  
20 hampered. We didn't really have any other options.

21 MS. ROLLINS: Can you tell us -- I guess I  
22 didn't know what higher ed. needed to do for her.  
23 Can you explain to me --

24 SUPT. SPEARS: They should've filed -- she  
25 should've graduated in December, and her -- somehow

1 her advisor did not file the proper paperwork and get  
2 her graduated. So this would've all been taken care  
3 of and been wrapped up by, you know, end of January  
4 had they done what they needed to do.

5 MS. ROLLINS: So they wouldn't normally  
6 communicate with the Superintendent and the district  
7 on that?

8 SUPT. SPEARS: No, they -- no. They were just  
9 communicating with her.

10 MS. ROLLINS: Okay. Thank you.

11 MS. HUNTER: I have a question too --

12 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Ms. Hunter.

13 MS. HUNTER: -- for Dr. Sutherlin. So in all  
14 this communication were all -- were options to  
15 remediate --

16 DR. SUTHERLIN: Yes.

17 MS. HUNTER: -- laid out?

18 DR. SUTHERLIN: Yes. And in fact I just got a  
19 text from one of my specialists that was  
20 communicating with them that on 11/16 there was a  
21 recommendation of a 1240 waiver.

22 MS. HUNTER: Okay. Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Mr. Wood, did you have a  
24 question?

25 MR. WOOD: I don't think so.

1           CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. My question has to do  
2           with -- even after she got her degree she still does  
3           not have a certificate in social studies; she's not  
4           certified to teach that. Were you aware that that  
5           would still be an issue?

6                           (MOMENT OF SILENCE)

7           CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Ms. Spears?

8           SUPT. SPEARS: Yes. We -- yes, we -- we did --  
9           we put her in as a long-term sub at that point, when  
10          they realized that was going to be an issue, that she  
11          was only going to get the English certification. She  
12          was understanding she would be able to get both  
13          through that process, so --

14          CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Dr. Sutherlin, did they apply  
15          for long-term sub?

16          DR. SUTHERLIN: They did apply for long-term  
17          sub, but it was after the accreditation window had  
18          closed.

19          CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. All right. Okay. So  
20          they had opportunities all along but then chose not  
21          to?

22          DR. SUTHERLIN: (Nodding head up and down.)

23          CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. Any other discussions?  
24          Mr. Henderson.

25          MR. HENDERSON: Yeah, I have one in regards to

1           their ETP. I noticed that for two years they were  
2           granted that, and the third -- the third request was  
3           denied. Can you elaborate on that a little bit for  
4           me, please?

5           DR. SUTHERLIN: Well, generally, ETPs are  
6           Emergency Teaching Permits and they're normally one  
7           year, but they can be extended to two years. But  
8           they don't go to three years.

9           MR. HENDERSON: Okay.

10          CHAIRMAN NEWTON: And that's -- is that in  
11          statute or is that our rule?

12          Ms. Saracini.

13          MS. SARACINI: Karli Saracini, Educator  
14          Effectiveness and Licensure.

15          It's in our rules that it's an Emergency Teacher  
16          -- Teaching Permit for one year, with the exception  
17          it can be two. But it has to be worked out between  
18          the district and the Department working with you to  
19          make sure they're on a path. And then we never grant  
20          them after two. It's only for emergency for that  
21          second year.

22          CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay.

23          MR. HENDERSON: Thank you.

24          CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Any other discussion from the  
25          Board?



1                   Okay. We are ready for a motion on the  
2 recommendation --

3                   Dr. Sutherlin, let me make sure I understand  
4 this. What is the Department's recommendation?

5                   DR. SUTHERLIN: It's a recommendation of  
6 citation.

7                   CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. So the Department is  
8 recommending cited?

9                   DR. SUTHERLIN: Yes, ma'am.

10                  CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. So we need a motion on  
11 Recommendations for Accredited-Cited Status for the  
12 Lincoln School District.

13                  MS. WOODS: I'll motion for that.

14                  CHAIRMAN NEWTON: To approve?

15                  MS. WOODS: To approve.

16                  CHAIRMAN NEWTON: To approve. Okay. We have a  
17 --

18                  MS. WAGNER: Ms. Newton?

19                  CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Yes.

20                  MS. WAGNER: I'm sorry. We need two motions.

21                  CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay.

22                  MS. WAGNER: The first motion needs to be on  
23 whether to uphold the appeal or deny the appeal.

24                  CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay.

25                  MS. WAGNER: And then the second motion needs to

1 be whether or not to accept the Division's  
2 recommendation for the accredited-cited status.

3 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. Thank you.

4 MS. WAGNER: Yes, ma'am.

5 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: All right. So our first  
6 motion does need to be to either uphold the appeal by  
7 the Lincoln School District or to deny the appeal by  
8 the Lincoln School District.

9 MS. WOODS: I'll move to deny, I think as I  
10 understand it.

11 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. Ms. Woods is moving to  
12 deny the appeal of the Lincoln School District. Do  
13 we have a second?

14 MS. HUNTER: Second.

15 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Seconded by Ms. Hunter.  
16 All in favor?

17 (UNANIMOUS CHORUS OF AYES)

18 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Any opposed?

19 The motion passes.

20 Now we need a motion on their accredited --  
21 accreditation status.

22 MS. WOODS: Whatever the -- move to accept the  
23 Department's recommendation.

24 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. Your recommendation is  
25 to have cited status for the Lincoln School District/

1 Lincoln Middle School for teacher licensure?

2 MS. WOODS: Yes, ma'am.

3 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. So we have that motion  
4 by Ms. Woods.

5 MR. SUTTON: I'll second.

6 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Okay. Seconded by Mr. Sutton.  
7 All in favor?

8 (UNANIMOUS CHORUS OF AYES)

9 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: Any opposed?  
10 Motion passes.

11 Thank you, Ms. Spears, for being here. And I'm  
12 sure that you and the district will have this taken  
13 care of in the near future.

14 SUPT. SPEARS: Thank you for your time.  
15 Appreciate it.

16 CHAIRMAN NEWTON: All right.

17

18

19 (The Action Agenda was concluded at 10:20 a.m.)

20

21

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25

## C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF ARKANSAS     )  
                                       ) ss.  
 COUNTY OF SALINE     )

I, SHARON K. HILL, CCR, a Certified Stenomask Reporter and Notary Public before whom the foregoing proceedings was taken, do hereby certify that the same is a true and correct transcription before the Arkansas Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, State Board of Education, in Little Rock, Arkansas, on June 8, 2023, that the said proceedings was reduced to typewritten form by me or under my direction and supervision; and that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct transcription of all proceedings had in said matter.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this action.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I have no contract with any parties within this action that affects or has a substantial tendency to affect impartiality, that requires me to relinquish control of an original transcript or copies of the transcript before it is certified and delivered to the custodial agency, or that requires me to provide any service not made available to all parties to the action.

WITNESS, MY HAND AND SEAL, THIS DATE: June 14, 2023.

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SHARON K. HILL, CCR  
 Certified Court Reporter  
 Certificate No. 670

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