



Mississippi Autism Board
P.O. Box 20
Jackson, Mississippi 39205
(601) 359 – 6792

Special Called Meeting

May 8, 2026
Zoom Meeting
12:30 PM

A Regular Meeting of the Mississippi Autism Board (“Board”) was called to order on Friday, May 8, 2026, at 12:30 PM. by board chair, Dr. Neelima Duncan. The meeting took place virtually via Zoom.

Board Members Present: Neelima Duncan, Ph.D. (Chair), Christopher Furlow, Ph.D., Kasee Stratton-Gadke, Ph.D., Krystal Thurman, Ed.D., and Mark Garrett Yeager

Others Present: Stacie Sharp (Board Administrator) and Pamela Ratliff (Special Assistant Attorney General, MS Attorney General’s Office)

Motion to Approve Minutes of March 20, 2026

Duncan - approved
Stratton-Gadke - seconded
Unanimous Vote

Board Administrator Report

Rules and Regulations updates are pending. Travel arrangements for Duncan and Furlow travel to BACB conference in October have been made.

Motion to enter closed session to determine the need enter Executive Session

Duncan – motioned
Stratton-Gadke - seconded
Unanimous Vote

Motion to Enter Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing oral examinations under Miss Code Ann. § 73-52-1(1), (2), & (3) (test questions and results are exempt from public access).

Duncan - motioned
Thurman - seconded
Unanimous Vote

Motion to Exit Executive Session:

Duncan - motioned
Yeager - seconded
Unanimous Vote

Motion to approve for Licensure (based on the Report/Recommendation from Exam Committee) upon completion of all requirements for licensure:

Thurman – motioned
Duncan - seconded
Unanimous vote

Licensed Behavior Analyst

261016	Rebecca Spencer
261018	Abby Ray
261019	Bianca Chang
261021	Ysabella Pitochelli
261022	Kara-Lee Davis

The aforementioned licenses are valid 05.08.2026 –05.08.2029.

Motion to approve BCaBA for licensure (based on the Report/Recommendation from Exam Committee) upon completion of all requirements for licensure:

Thurman – motioned
Duncan – seconded
Unanimous vote

Licensed Assistant Behavior Analyst

262001	Taylor Renee Evans
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The aforementioned license is valid 05.08.2026 –05.08.2029.

Motion to approve for licensure upon remediation.

Thurman – motioned
Duncan - seconded
Unanimous vote

261017
261020

Motion to Enter Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing investigative reports under Miss Code Ann. § 25-41-7(4)(d): investigative proceedings by any public body regarding allegations of misconduct or violation of law:

Duncan – motioned
Stratton-Gadke – seconded
Unanimous vote

Motion to Exit Executive Session:

Duncan - motioned
Stratton-Gadke - seconded
Unanimous vote

Investigative Report and Procedures:

The Board determined the following actions:

Motion to recommend summary suspension and notification of a hearing of case 250201.

Furlow – motioned
Duncan – seconded
Unanimous vote

Upon motion made by Furlow and seconded by Duncan, the Board voted unanimously to order the summary suspension of License No. 160003 pursuant to 30 Miss. Code R. Pt. 3301, R. 7.3 and Miss. Code Ann. § 73-75-19 and to issue a Notice of Hearing and Complaint in Case No. 250201. The Board considered concerns regarding the licensee's fitness to practice, including the suspension of the licensee's certification by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) and BACB's determination that the licensee was not fit to practice at that time. The Board determined that immediate action was necessary to protect the public pending further proceedings.

Motion to authorize attorney general's office to explore possible civil or criminal proceedings for unlawful practice of cases 260801, 260802, and 260803.

Duncan – motioned
Furlow – seconded
Unanimous vote

250502 - Investigation ongoing
250603 - Investigation ongoing
250604 - Investigation ongoing
250605 - Investigation ongoing
250606 - Investigation ongoing
261230 - Investigation ongoing

Motion to enter executive session for the purpose of reviewing oral examination questions.

Duncan – motioned

Furlow – seconded

Unanimous vote

Motion to Exit Executive session:

Thurman - motioned

Stratton-Gadke - seconded

Unanimous vote

Motion to approve proposed Mississippi Autism Board meeting dates for 2027:

Stratton-Gadke – motioned

Duncan – seconded

Unanimous vote

Motion to Adjourn Meeting:

Duncan – motioned

Stratton-Gadke - seconded

Unanimous vote

Adjournment:

A special called meeting will take place virtually on July 17, 2026. Duncan adjourned the meeting at 1:20 PM.