

MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
CONFERENCE CALL
September 20, 2005

Chairman F. Philip Handy convened the meeting of the State Board of Education via Conference Call, at 8:30 a.m., September 20, 2005, with the following members participating: Donna G. Callaway, Julia Johnson, Roberto Martinez, Phoebe Raulerson, and Linda K. Taylor. Vice Chairman Fair was unable to participate.

Welcome

Chairman Handy welcomed the members and thanked them for their indulgence in conducting the meeting as a conference call due to the projected impact of Tropical Storm Rita.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Handy thanked the Board Members for their cooperation and participation in the Commissioner's evaluation. Chairman Handy requested support from the Board in continuing discussions relating to compensation of the Commissioner and stated that follow-up would be provided. Each member of the Board expressed their support for the Chairman's representation on their behalf on matters relating to the Commissioner's compensation.

Chairman Handy welcomed Dr. Cheri Yecke as the Chancellor of K-12 Public Schools.

Chairman Handy reported that the Access Task Force met on September 14, 2005 and that clearly over the next 5 – 10 years there will be explosive growth in the demand for higher education.

Chairman Handy called for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2005, State Board meeting. Mrs. Taylor made the motion to approve the minutes with a second by Mrs. Callaway. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner's Report

Hurricane Katrina – Commissioner Winn reported that the Department had been actively involved in working with the Governor's Office and the Emergency Operations Center to assist long term evacuees from Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama. Two supplemental orders to the Governor's Executive Order enabled Florida's public schools, community colleges and state universities to open their doors to displaced students by removing state barriers to enrollment, including required documents for proof of residency, age, student records and birth certificates. In addition, the Department has established a nationwide, toll-free hotline to assist and parents and students of any age to obtain information on and access to resources to help them enroll in school in Florida.

School Recognition - Commissioner Winn reported that \$134 million dollars was distributed to high performing schools throughout the state.

FCAT – Commissioner Winn stated that a full version of the 10th grade FCAT test with answers would be released on Wednesday, September 21, 2005, and information will be provided on the difficulty of the questions, as well as how to use and not to use the test.

Career Education – Commissioner Winn provided an overview of the 4 point plan to promote and improve career education in the state and reported that this plan was announced in connection with the announcement of the Succeed Florida Grant Awards.

Commissioner Winn thanked the Board for the opportunity to meet with each of them during the evaluation process and stated that areas needing improvement would be addressed to ensure that the Department functions at the highest level.

Chairman Handy called for a motion to accept the Commissioner's report. Mrs. Callaway made the motion with a second by Mrs. Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of 2006-2007 K-20 Fixed Capital Outlay Legislative Budget Request. Chairman Handy provided an overview of the 2006-2007 K-20 Fixed Capital Outlay Legislative Budget Request. Mrs. Taylor made the motion to approve the budget with a second by Mrs. Raulerson. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of District Actions Plans for F Schools and F School Improvement Plans (Action Item 2) and Strategic Plan for Community Colleges (Action Item 3). Chairman Handy called for a motion to defer Action Items 2 and 3 to the October Board Meeting. Mrs. Callaway made the motion with a second by Mrs. Raulerson. The motion passed unanimously.

At Chairman Handy's request, Mary Jane Tappen, Deputy Chancellor for School Improvement, provided a brief overview of the 60 F School Improvement Plans and reported that a complete report for their consideration would be provided at the October meeting.

Consent Items

Mrs. Taylor made the motion to approve items 1-6 of the consent agenda with a second by Mrs. Callaway. The motion passed unanimously.

Policy Issue and Requested Reports

Chairman Handy asked for a motion to defer Policy Issues and Requested Reports, Updates and Discussions to the October Board Meeting. Mrs. Raulerson made the motion with a second by Mrs. Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Chairman Handy stated that the next Board meeting will be October 18, 2005, at Broward Community College at 8:30 a.m.

Having no further business, Chairman Handy adjourned the meeting of the State Board of Education.

F. Philip Handy, Chairman

Lynn Abbott, Corporate Secretary