

MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Conference Call
July 17, 2006

Chairman F. Philip Handy opened the call at 8:30 a.m. on July 17, 2006, with the following members present by phone: Donna G. Callaway, Vice Chairman T. Willard Fair, Roberto Martinez, Phoebe Raulerson, Kathleen Shanahan, Linda K. Taylor.

APPROVAL OF ACTION PLANS FOR REPEATING F SCHOOLS

K12 Chancellor Cheri Yecke provided an overview on the following three requirements for repeating F schools: (1) provide specific criteria that were used to determine which teachers are hired and which teachers are asked not to return to the school; (2) parent contracts will be very detailed in that they will provide specific academic interventions that will be provided for ninth-grade students; (3) a better alignment of professional development and student needs that will link the professional development plan to student weaknesses.

Commissioner Winn provided an overview of the following penalties for school districts that are deemed non-compliant as of August 7, 2006: (1) withhold, on a monthly basis, an amount equal to the salary of the district superintendent until the district is deemed compliant; and (2) school districts that do not provide correct monthly updates on the implementation of their plans to the State Board of Education accurately demonstrating that each school continues to be in compliance with the plan, will be directed by the Board and the Commissioner of Education to withhold, on a monthly basis, all state discretionary funds which do not directly affect services for students with disabilities including blind students, federal dollars which are flow-through dollars to provide services through community initiatives such as Boys and Girls Clubs, etc., until compliance is reached; and (3) districts that do not provide monthly updates on the implementation of their plans to the State Board, accurately demonstrating that each school continues to be in compliance with the plan, will be directed by the Board and the Commissioner of Education to withhold the superintendent's salary until such reports are provided.

Chairman Handy called for a motion to approve the penalties. The motion was made by Mrs. Callaway with a second by Mrs. Taylor.

Duval County

Chancellor Yecke stated that Jean Ribault High School is considered out of compliance based on four findings: (1) Insufficient clarification on Jean Ribault High School's "House" concept (requirement one); (2) insufficient documentation on the district budget showing specific funding for Jean Ribault High School (requirement four); (3) insufficient clarification on the status of teachers who currently have the full reading coach endorsement and status of the teachers who are working toward acquiring the reading coach endorsement (requirement 19); (4) insufficient justification for retaining the principal who does not meet the requirement of being a turn-around principal by moving a school from an F or D to an A or B (requirement 11).

Chairman Handy called for a motion to deem Duval County School District non-compliant and directed the Commissioner to impose sanctions on the district if it is not in compliance by August 7, 2006. The motion was made by Mrs. Callaway with a second by Mrs. Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Chancellor Yecke stated that Jefferson County School District is deemed in compliance because it did meet requirement number eleven. Sherry Hine representing Duval County School District was present on the conference call and assured the Board that Jefferson County will meet the additional requirements by August 7, 2006.

Chairman Handy called for a motion to deem Jefferson County School District in compliance with the understanding that the additional requirements must be met no later than August 7, 2006. The motion was made by Mrs. Raulerson with a second by Mrs. Callaway. The motion passed unanimously.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Chancellor Yecke stated that Miami Central, Miami Edison, and Miami Jackson High Schools in Miami-Dade County School District are non-compliant based on the following four findings: (1) Insufficient explanation on how the overall funding is over and above what other schools in the district are receiving (requirement 4); (2) did not provide a chart showing the number of ELL students and how professional development plans will address their needs (requirement eight); (3) insufficient justification for retaining the three repeating F high school principals who do not meet the requirement of being turn-around principals by moving the schools from Fs or Ds to As or Bs (requirement 11); and insufficient clarification on the status of teachers who currently have the full reading coach endorsement and status of the teachers who are working towards acquiring the reading coach endorsement (requirement 19).

Miami-Dade County Superintendent Rudy Crew was present on the conference call. Superintendent Crew stated that moving the principals from Miami Edison and Miami Jackson High Schools would be counter-productive at this time. Superintendent Crew also stated that requiring teachers at the three schools to re-apply for their positions would also be counter-productive.

Mrs. Callaway stated that she was very concerned that the principal at Miami Jackson High School has allowed the school grade, graduation rate, and learning gains to drop at this school.

Chairman Handy called for a motion to deem Miami-Dade County School District as non-compliant and directed the Commissioner to impose sanctions on the district if it is not in compliance by August 7, 2006. The motion was made by Mrs. Callaway with a second by Mrs. Raulerson.

ORANGE COUNTY

Chancellor Yecke stated that Jones and Evans High Schools are non-compliant based on the following findings: (1) Insufficient explanation for the number of reading coaches and how the overall funding is over and above what other schools in the district are receiving (requirement four); and (2) insufficient justification for retaining the

principal who does not meet the requirement of being a turn-around principal by moving a school from an F or D to an A or B (requirement 11).

Orange County School District Superintendent Ron Blocker was present on the conference call. Superintendent Blocker stated that he felt that Orange County is in compliance with requirement four in that they were providing the appropriate number of reading coaches but that they would be willing to adjust the number to meet this requirement. Chancellor Yecke stated that the context in item four needed to reflect the number of reading coaches at each school.

Chairman Handy recognized Senator Gary Siplin. Senator Siplin stated that he disagrees with the Board's decision to deem Orange County non-compliant.

Chairman Handy called for a motion to deem Orange County School District as non-compliant and directed the Commissioner to impose sanctions on the district if is not in compliance by August 7, 2006. The motion was made by Mr. Martinez with a second by Vice Chair Fair.

Adjournment

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

Lynn Abbott, Corporate Secretary

F. Philip Handy, Chairman