

MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Florida Department of Education
Turlington Building, 1721/25
September 19, 2006

Chairman F. Philip Handy welcomed members and guests to the State Board of Education meeting at the Florida Department of Education at 8:30 a.m., on September 19, 2006, with the following members present: Donna G. Callaway, Vice Chairman T. Willard Fair, Phoebe Raulerson, and Linda K. Taylor. Ms. Kathleen Shanahan participated via phone.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman Handy called for a motion to amend the State Board of Education Agenda to add a new item 4 to the consent agenda. The motion was made by Vice Chairman Fair with a second by Mrs. Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Handy recognized the following principals as Turn-Around Principals who have increased a school's rating by two letter grades in two years or two letter grades in one year: Walt Griffin of Seminole High School; Michael Murphy of Freeport Senior High School; Lesa Morgan of West Florida High School; Toni Wiersma of Okeechobee Freshman Campus; James Parker of Miami Lakes Educational Center; Sharon Shaulis of Charles W. Flanagan High School; Dale Braddock, Hilliard Middle-Senior School; Brenda Grasso of Gaither High School; James Michaels of River Ridge Middle/High School; Jim Wohrley of Belleview High School; and Gerald Schlereth of Countryside High School.

Chairman Handy stated that the Koret Task Force had released its study on education reform in Florida and made copies available to the Board members.

Chairman Handy reported that he had received a letter from Carolyn Roberts, Chair of the Board of Governors, stating her concerns about the process for allowing community colleges to offer baccalaureate degree programs. Vice Chairman Fair requested that a formal response be sent to Chair Roberts reiterating the Board's support of community colleges offering baccalaureate degree programs provided the criteria and process approved by the Board has been met.

Chairman Handy called for a motion to approve the August 15, 2006, minutes. Vice Chairman Fair made the motion with a second by Mrs. Taylor. The vote passed unanimously.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Winn recognized new DOE staff members Kimberly Davis, Director, Drop-Out Prevention, and Cheryl Sattler, Bureau Chief for Student Assistance, Title I.

Commissioner Winn reported that after meeting with Superintendent Blocker, Orange County School District, and Superintendent Crew, Miami-Dade County School District, he

recommends the Board consider the submitted plans for the repeating F schools to be deemed compliant with the State Board directives.

Commissioner Winn recognized Carolyn Vega, Director of Special Projects, Just Read, Florida! to provide information on Governor Bush's Break the Record Read Aloud event to take place on September 28, 2006. Ms. Vega reported that over 200,000 students have been signed up to attempt to break the current record of the most students reading the same passage simultaneously at multiple locations.

Chairman Handy called for a motion to approve the Commissioner's Report. The motion was made by Mrs. Taylor with a second by Mrs. Raulerson. The motion passed unanimously. (Mr. Martinez joined the State Board meeting at this time.)

ACTION ITEMS:

Approval of Partnership Between the Florida School Boards Association (FSBA) and the State Board of Education—Commissioner Winn recognized Dr. Wayne Blanton, Executive Director, and Jack Lamb, Past President, Florida School Boards Association. Commissioner Winn stated that the State Board of Education and the Department are looking forward to a partnership with the Florida School Boards Association to improve the communication and the engagement of members of the state and local school boards in meeting the challenges and goals of Florida's education system.

Chairman Handy called for a motion to approve the Proposed Partnership between the Florida School Boards Association and the State Board of Education. The motion was made by Vice Chairman Fair with a second by Mrs. Callaway. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of District Support Plans for D and F Schools—Chancellor Cheri Yecke provided an overview of the district support plans for the ten D schools, formerly F schools, and the current eleven F schools. Vice Chairman Fair requested that the Department assist the D and F schools in Miami-Dade County in determining all variables that contributed to the status of these schools.

Ms. Shanahan requested that the item be tabled for further clarification as to the consequences should the Board not approve the submitted plans. A motion to table this item was made by Mr. Martinez with a second by Vice Chairman Fair. The motion passed with Mrs. Callaway as the opposing vote. Upon further discussion and clarification, a motion for approval of district support plans for D and F schools was made by Vice Chairman Fair with a second by Mrs. Callaway. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of 2007-08 K-20 Legislative Budget Request and Approval of the 2007-08 K-20 Fixed Capital Outlay Budget Request—Commissioner Winn provided an overview of the budget preparation process and the priorities considered which included: middle and high school reform, class size reduction, career education investment, student financial aid, and access to postsecondary education. Chairman Handy stated that Action Items 3 and 4 should be considered as one for purposes of voting. A motion to approve the 2007-08 K-20 Legislative Budget Request and the 2007-08 K-20 Fixed Capital Outlay Legislative Budget Request was made by Vice Chairman Fair with a second by Mrs. Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.

Broward County School Board’s Appeal of the Department of Education’s Decision on Reallocation of Title I Funds Based on Supplementary Education Services Participation--Chairman Handy called for a motion to grant the request for a continuance of the Appeal filed by Superintendent Franklin Till on behalf of the Broward County School Board. The motion was made by Vice Chairman Fair with a second by Mrs. Raulerson. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT ITEMS:

Chairman Handy called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was made by Vice Chairman Fair with a second by Mrs. Callaway. The motion passed unanimously.

RESEARCH UPDATES:

Data Driven Decision-Making: The Foundation for Good Policy—Hanna Skandera, Deputy Commissioner of Accountability, Research, and Measurement, provided an update on the current study presented at the Manhattan Institute relating to Florida’s efforts to end social promotion. Ms. Skandera completed her update with an overview of the study released by the National Center for Education Statistics examining the difference in reading and mathematics scores between public and private institutions.

REQUESTED REPORTS, UPDATES, AND DISCUSSIONS:

Update on the Progress of the Florida Virtual School--Julie Young, President and CEO of the Florida Virtual School, provided an overview of the progress of the Florida Virtual School. Ms. Young stated that Florida is leading the nation in distance learning.

Report on Career Education and Succeed Grant—Chancellor David Armstrong provided a summary of the grants funded through the Succeed grant appropriation. Chancellor Armstrong reported that a total of 294 grants have been awarded.

Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK)--Summer Debriefing Program—Shan Goff, Executive Director, VPK, provided a summary of the participation of students in the Summer VPK program. Ms. Goff stated that approximately 11,000 students participated in the Summer VPK program.

Adjournment

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

Lynn Abbott, Corporate Secretary

F. Philip Handy, Chairman