

**MINUTES  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
EMERGENCY MEETING**

April 22, 2009  
Via Conference Call

Chairman T. Willard Fair called the emergency meeting to order at 12:34 p.m. and welcomed members and guests to the State Board of Education meeting. The following members were present: Peter Boulware, Roberto Martinez, Phoebe Raulerson, and Linda Taylor. Akshay Desai joined the conference call in progress. Mr. Martinez requested confirmation that the emergency meeting was noticed as required in law. Commissioner Smith confirmed that all requirements for an emergency meeting (Section 120.525(3), Florida Statutes) had been followed. A notice of the emergency meeting was provided to the media through a media advisory and notice was provided on the Department's website.

**ACTION ITEM**

**Appointment of Financial Emergency Board to Provide Support and Financial Oversight to the District School Board of Jefferson County**

Chairman Fair recognized Commissioner Smith to provide a summary of the agenda item. Commissioner Smith stated that the Jefferson County School Board has declared a financial emergency. At this time, consistent with Section 218.503, Florida Statutes, the State Board of Education should appoint board members and a chair to serve as the Financial Emergency Board. The Board would review plans for financial recovery and assist the district in developing specific expenditure patterns and monthly operations to ensure the financial recovery plan is being followed.

Commissioner Smith recommended that the Board appoint the following to serve as volunteers on the Financial Emergency Board: William Johnson, James Messer, and James Parry. Commissioner Smith recommended Mr. Johnson serve as Chair of the Board. Commissioner Smith stated that the Financial Emergency Board will have support from the Offices of Finance and Operations and K-12 Public Schools in the Department and that the oversight of the School District may be as long as 2 years. Commissioner Smith stated that an update on the progress will be presented to the Board at every State Board of Education meeting. Commissioner Smith stated that the Financial Emergency Board will have authority as prescribed in Section 218.503(3)(g)1., Florida Statutes. Commissioner Smith informed the Board that the Department is monitoring all the districts and at this time does not expect other districts to declare financial emergency. Commissioner Smith further stated that if stimulus money is received, Jefferson County will significantly benefit by receiving both stabilization and Title I funds.

Chairman Fair called for a motion to approve the recommendations for Board appointments including the selection of the Chairman as recommended by the Commissioner. The motion was made by Mrs. Taylor with a second by Mrs. Raulerson. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Chairman Fair adjourned the emergency conference call of the State Board of Education at 12:46 p.m.

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Lynn Abbott, Corporate Secretary

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T. Willard Fair, Chairman