

MINUTES
FLORIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION
BY TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL
1505 FLORIDA EDUCATION CENTER
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
MARCH 19, 2002

Chairman F. Philip Handy convened the meeting of the Florida Board of Education, by telephone conference call, Tallahassee, Florida, at 10:00 a.m., March 19, 2002, with the following members present: Linda J. Eads, T. Willard Fair, Charles P. García, Julia L. Johnson, William Proctor, and Carolyn K. Roberts.

Staff present were: Jim Horne, Secretary; John Winn; Bob Ward; Georgia McKeown; Larry Wood; Wayne Pierson; Sara Struhs; Mary-Anne Bestebreurtje; Sharon Koon; Laura Butler; and Shaunna Speer.

1. Member Questions/Observations

Dr. Eads said she had been in Tallahassee to meet with staff. She congratulated Secretary Horne on his new staff organization. She said she had attended the meeting of the Council for Education Policy Research and Improvement in Tampa on March 12, 2002. Dr. Proctor reported that he had also attended that meeting.

Mr. Handy said he had met with the Trustees at Florida International University to discuss the universities' funding formulas. He said this was one of the issues being addressed by the Board's Higher Education Funding Advisory Council. He reported on his meeting with the Chair of the New York Board of Regents with whom he had discussed accountability in higher education. He said he had been in Tallahassee meeting with legislators, and had also met with the Council of 100's Education Governance Committee.

2. Secretary's Report

Secretary Horne reported that he had been in Washington, D.C., testifying on education research issues. He said he had met with Congressman Bill Young and with Senator Bob Graham to seek their support for several Florida projects. He said he had met with the State University Presidents Association, who had also met with the Governor and Lieutenant Governor. He had also met with the Superintendents Association and had invited their feedback and commentary. He said he had attended the Florida Education Technology Conference where he met numerous education technology vendors.

Secretary Horne said he had been in Naples the previous week to celebrate Family Literacy with Former President Bush and Mrs. Bush. He said the Candidate Review Team for the Chancellor search for the Division of Colleges and Universities had begun its work. He also reported on the excellent cooperation by all the

interested parties in the School Code Rewrite, and said that he expected the Legislature to act on this legislation this Session.

Mr. Fair moved that the Board approve the Secretary's report. Mrs. Roberts seconded the motion, and members of the Board concurred.

Mr. Handy commented that he was especially pleased that all the university presidents had reached consensus on the projects for which they would seek Federal legislative support. He asked staff to distribute the proposed list of projects to Board members. Mr. Horne added that he had also met with the universities' lobbyists in Washington.

Mr. Winn reported that he had presented some preliminary data to the One Florida Accountability Commission that showed an increase in the number of students taking more rigorous courses and an increase in the participation of minority students in the PSAT testing program. He said he would distribute the data to the Board members.

3. Update, Department Reorganization

Secretary Horne said Board members had been advised of the appointment of members of his Management Team. He said he intended to be more proactive in communicating the Department's story. He explained the new duties and responsibilities for Ms. Georgia McKeown in External Affairs and Communications, Mr. Larry Wood as the Chief Operating Officer, Mr. John Winn as the Deputy Secretary for Accountability, Research and Measurement, and Mr. Wayne Pierson as the Chief Financial Officer. He said this completed half of his Management Team.

He said there had been discussions with members of the Legislature about the Department's reorganization. He had emphasized the need for appropriate flexibility to allow him to complete the reorganization, as necessary.

4. Update, Implementation of Strategic Imperatives

Mr. Winn said the Team Leaders had been introduced to the Board at its February meeting. They had begun to develop working definitions. Each team was developing a research protocol to reach out for best practices and the best research. He said he expected to bring information to the Board at its April 15, 2002, workshop on each of the objectives and to begin to discuss specific projects related to the objectives.

Mr. Dolan added that over the next few days he would schedule conference calls with each Board member to review the draft working definitions for each of the Imperatives and to develop the objective themes. These would be sent to the members on March 20, 2002. The staff hoped to reach consensus on the management objectives by the end of March. He noted that the Imperatives were only eight or nine words in length; the Accenture Team was working to provide more detail to each of them.

Dr. Eads inquired about the working subcommittees. Mr. Winn responded that each of the seven team leaders had assembled teams from among DOE staff, and had also reached out to the affected stakeholders including those in the business community and in workforce programs. The teams included policy-makers as well as practitioners. Dr. Eads asked that Board members be advised of the meeting schedules for these teams. Mr. García asked that staff advise the Board of programs or special initiatives they had contacted for information as to these objectives.

5. Update, Accountability Workgroup

Mr. Winn reported that the Accountability Advisory Council had held its first meeting on March 5, 2002, to review accountability systems and measures already in place. There were some 117 performance measures in place across the systems. The Council divided into subgroups to address each of the goal areas and to look at new measures across systems. The Council would meet again in Tallahassee on April 8, 2002, to review accountability in K-12 and in higher education. The Board would receive a status report at the workshop scheduled for April 15, 2002.

Mr. García said he had sent some information he had prepared on an accountability system for higher education to the Secretary and to Mr. Winn. Further, he inquired about the possibility of a website open to Board members to exchange commentary and views prior to adopting a final position. Mr. McKenzie responded that he would inquire about the feasibility of such a website with the Attorney General.

6. Update, Higher Education Funding Workgroup

Secretary Horne reported that the Higher Education Funding Advisory Council had held its initial meeting on February 25, 2002. On April 5, 2002, the group would review financial aid issues. He commented that any decision on the Florida Prepaid Tuition Program would affect tuition policy. The group was also tackling the issues of the Bright Futures Scholarships, resource availability, access and relative costs. The group discussed different funding models for higher education throughout the country. He noted that this group would be reviewing the university funding formulas. Mr. García said he was also interested in the resource people and the outreach for this workgroup.

Dr. Proctor said he hoped the group was considering the total picture of funding for postsecondary education; financial aid was but one small piece. He said it would be difficult to assess the current funding issues without knowing the goal. He inquired whether the group had explored the funding models for institutions it sought to emulate. He said the Board did not need to determine how to address the current need for higher education, but needed to look at future demand. He suggested that the group look at both systems and at individual institutions.

7. Update, Legislative Session

Mr. Ward advised the Board members of the status of the School Code Rewrite. In the House, a number of amendments had been offered. He said there were a few issues on which there was still disagreement, but that the level of agreement was astonishing for a 1700-page bill. Community college and university representatives had signed-off on the proposed bill; the few unresolved issues affected the K-12 sector. These sections addressed pay for School Board members; qualifications for school principals; the FBOE as the final arbiter for Charter School appeals; and a teacher pay issue for charter school teachers. Senators and Representatives were engaged in a dialogue about the format for the final bill, as the Senate had addressed sections of law repealed the previous year and the House had proposed a rewrite of all the education statutes. He noted that Friday, March 22, 2002, was the last scheduled day for the 2002 Session.

Members inquired if there were ways in which they could be helpful in these last days of Session. Mr. Ward thanked them and said he would let them know.

8. Update, General Appropriations Bill

Mr. Wood advised the Board members of the current posture of the Appropriations Bills in both the House and the Senate. Neither the House nor the Senate had sent their Bills for consideration by a Conference Committee.

9. Update, Council for Education Policy Research and Improvement

Mr. Handy said the Council for Education Policy Research and Improvement (CEPRI) had met in Tampa on March 12, 2002, to review baccalaureate program proposals from three community colleges. He asked that staff provide the Board members the background information about these proposals. Mr. Winn said Dr. Proctor (CEPRI) had been asked to present CEPRI's recommendations to deny all the applications. He said this Board should review the applications, review the CEPRI staff analysis, address any further concerns, and have discussions with CEPRI staff and members on these applications. He said this Board should do an independent evaluation of the applications; the Board's staff would not start over with a new evaluation, but would provide new or supplemental information to the reviews already completed. Dr. Proctor, Florida Board, said he would like to receive copies of the materials submitted by the colleges. Mr. Winn said he would distribute these materials.

Dr. Proctor, CEPRI, said all these materials would be forwarded to this Board with a transmittal letter from Mr. Philip Morgaman, Chair, CEPRI, including the rationale for CEPRI's recommendations. He said CEPRI had spent more than five hours on these proposals, hearing presentations by the colleges and debating the issues. He said that while the Council had accepted the CEPRI staff recommendations, the rationale for the decision was theirs, not that of the staff. In explaining the decision, Dr. Proctor said CEPRI supported continued funding for additional baccalaureate access; the Council did not disagree with this concept for

future proposals. CEPRI had recommended that the Trustees of the community colleges should meet with the Trustees of the universities and develop a baccalaureate needs analysis which they should provide to the Florida Board along with CEPRI's plan to meet those needs. He hoped to provide that information to the Florida Board by March 25, 2002.

Dr. Proctor, Florida Board, said he felt this Board needed more reliable cost projections. He said this Board would need to know the differences between CEPRI's cost projections and the institution's cost projections. In addition, this Board should be advised of the efforts the proposing community college had made to address baccalaureate access needs with respect to existing institutions, and the efforts to retain the functional integrity of the community college. He added that he was interested in seeing how the institution proposed to fund these new programs without taking resources from existing programs. He said he was also interested in seeing cost estimates for a proposed "third tier of institutions." Dr. Proctor, CEPRI, said many of these questions had been addressed.

Dr. Eads said she needed a better understanding of the Legislature's funding criteria for these baccalaureate proposals, and the Board's flexibility in making decisions on these applications.

Dr. Proctor, CEPRI, described other CEPRI projects. CEPRI had approved the overview of technology for the K-12 sector, noting that teachers needed more in-service training on the use of computers. The Council had created a Committee on Planning to review governance issues, structure and school size; a Committee on the Status of the Teaching Profession; and a Committee on the Integration of Education and the Economy. CEPRI has adopted a schedule of meetings every other month, with the Committees meeting on the alternate months.

Dr. Proctor, Florida Board, inquired if there were data available on the high school dropout rate, on the students in college preparatory courses, on the percent of students proceeding to college from high school, and the numbers of students who start A.A. programs and continue to a university. Mr. Handy asked staff to compile the data.

10. Delivery System Action Items

Ms. Johnson moved that the Board approve the following items, as presented. Mrs. Roberts seconded the motion, and members of the Board concurred.

A. Limited Access Status for the B.A. and B.S. in Digital Arts and Sciences, UF

The Board approved the request from the University of Florida to designate the B.A. and the B.S. in Digital Arts and Sciences (CIP 50.0150) as Limited Access programs, as presented.

B. 2002-2003 Operating Budgets and Building Repair and Renovation Reserve Reports for Auxiliary Facilities that have Bond Covenants requiring FBOE Approval

The Board approved the operating budgets and building repair and renovation reserve reports for auxiliary facilities that have bond covenants requiring Florida Board of Education approval, as presented.

C. Adoption of the UF Campus Master Plan Amendment, Five Year Update

The Board approved the Amendment (Five Year Update) to the University of Florida Ten Year Comprehensive Master Plan, in accordance with Sections 240.155, 253.034, and 259.032, Florida Statutes, as presented. The adopted campus master plan amendment is consistent with the requirements of Rule 6C-21.203(7)(b), Florida Administrative Code.

D. Approval of Academic Improvement Trust Fund Use

The Board approved the requests from Pensacola Junior College and Tallahassee Community College to use funds from the Academic Improvement Trust Fund, as presented.

11. Adjournment

Having no further business, Chairman Handy adjourned the meeting of the Florida Board of Education at 11:35 a.m., March 19, 2002.

F. Philip Handy,
Chairman

Mary-Anne Bestebreurtje,
Corporate Secretary