

MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
EDISON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FT. MYERS, FLORIDA
SEPTEMBER 16, 2003

Chairman F. Philip Handy convened the meeting of the State Board of Education in Tanei Hall, Edison Community College, Ft. Myers, Florida, at 1:00 p.m., September 16, 2003, with the following members present: T. Willard Fair, Vice Chairman; Sally Bradshaw, Linda J. Eads; Charles P. García; and William L. Proctor. Julia Johnson participated via telephone.

Welcome

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Kenneth Walker, Edison Community College, welcomed the Board. Dr. Walker introduced three of Edison's Board Members, Chairman Enid Gorvine, Kim Long, and Mary Lee Mann, followed by an overview of the Edison Community College district.

Member Comments and Observations

Mr. Garcia presented each member of the Board with an advance copy of "A Message From Garcia."

Dr. Eads reported that she had a one-day meeting in Washington on Iraq Operations and National Strategies for Homeland Defense as a result of an invitation by Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld. Dr. Eads also requested a joint analysis be provided by the community college and university systems: 1) current enrollment per degree granting programs; 2) specific process for program review and who participates, and 3) identify all collaborative relationships among citizens, business, economic development organizations, and our academicians to determine need and demand for each degree program offered.

Dr. Proctor related that during his work with the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind on a property acquisition project to comply with a federal mandate it was brought to his attention that this institution does not have the right of eminent domain. Dr. Proctor requested that staff research this issue and determine if there is a reason for the absence for such authority or if it merely is an oversight.

Chairman's Report

Four-year baccalaureate degree programs. Chairman Handy reported that as requested via a motion by the Board at the last meeting, he spoke to the Chairman of the Board of Governors to advocate that the funding for the four-year baccalaureate degrees for the community colleges be moved to the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors will respond to a formal request if made by the State Board of Education.

Delegation of responsibilities and the allocation of responsibilities between the Board and the Commissioner. Motion by Ms. Johnson to accept the memorandum delineating these responsibilities as distributed by Department staff with a second by Ms. Bradshaw. The motion passed. Vice Chairman Fair voted against the motion.

Appointment of Corporate Secretary. Chairman Handy requested a motion to name Lynn Abbott as the Corporate Secretary, replacing Mikey Bestebreurtje. Motion by Dr. Proctor with a second by Ms. Bradshaw. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Ad hoc Evaluation Committee. Chairman Handy reported that the committee had not met yet. A meeting will be noticed and material distributed prior to the meeting.

Workshops. The workshop in October will be on independent education and in November it will be on No Child Left Behind, federal/state relationship.

Marketing Plan. The Commissioner and staff are developing a plan and will brief State Board members as requested.

Chairman Handy reminded the State Board members that October 21, 2003, is the date for the next State Board of Education meeting. Lastly, a call for a motion on the minutes from the August 19, 2003, meeting was made. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dr. Eads with a second by Vice Chair Fair. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner's Report.

Recognition.

Commissioner Horne recognized Dr. Peg Gray-Vickrey, founding faculty member and professor in the School of Nursing at Florida Gulf Coast University and presented her with the Apple Award. Commissioner Horne updated the Board on his participation in the school recognition tour, Title I Conference recently held in Orlando, President Bush's recent visit to a school in Jacksonville, and Business Partners in Education.

Just Read, Florida!

Mary Laura Openshaw provided the following updates relating to the Just Read, Florida! initiatives:

The Department of Education has partnered with the Department of State to provide resources to 18 districts hosting reading camps, districts and cities through a federal grant – Library Services and Technology Act. \$135,000 was used to bring library services to the summer camps. It is anticipated that 18 more districts will pilot this program next summer.

Information was provided concerning the attendance at summer reading camps, who attended the reading camps, and what the reasons were they may not have attended. Examples were given of what some districts did to enhance their reading camps and to encourage participation by the students.

\$16 million was recently granted to school districts for funding reading which included \$2 million given in research based reading grants for Grades 6-12 which has never been done before.

Family Building Better Readers workshops will go to 21 front porch communities over the next year.

The Department is partnering with the Florida Center for Reading Research to bring in experts and do afternoon seminars on specific components of reading.

Commissioner Horne provided the following updates to the Board:

Certification. At this time, there is no certification backlog.

Private School Scholarships. A new on-line compliance form to be used by private schools that receive any type of scholarship funding has been instituted and notification letters have been issued.

No Child Left Behind. The No Child Left Behind AYP numbers will be released in their final version. Percentages did not change, however, 326 schools have a new designation. Sixty schools that had not made AYP have done so, and 58 schools that appeared to have made AYP initially did not achieve at least one of the criteria.

Class Size. The Commissioner concluded his report with comments relating to the class size amendment and the dilemma it has placed on the square footage requirements for kindergarten, first, second, and third grade classrooms as required in current rule. A revised rule will be brought to the State Board for their consideration to align the constitutional change and rule.

Vice Chairman Fair made the motion to accept the Commissioner's report, with a second by Mr. Garcia. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Garcia was recognized by the Chairman before the start of the action items for discussion. Mr. Garcia led a discussion on grading superintendents based on FCAT reading scores and the No Child Left Behind and annual yearly progress goals. He pointed out that students are graded as are schools. Chairman Handy concluded the discussion by confirming that accountability measures are due to the Board in November and to the Legislature in December. He added that the criteria for judging accountability will have to be determined.

Action Items

The recommendation of the Commissioner relating to the Governor's funding for four-year community colleges was discussed as presented in the slide presentation in the workshop held earlier in the day. Vice Chairman Fair made the motion to adopt the statement in two parts. The motion "The community college baccalaureate program will remain under the jurisdiction of the State Board for all matters relating to approval, funding, accountability, and planning" was made by Vice Chairman Fair with a second by Ms. Bradshaw. An amendment to the motion was offered by Mr. Garcia to include a separate line item in the budget for the baccalaureate programs. This motion was seconded by Dr. Eads and passed unanimously without discussion. The motion as amended passed with Dr. Proctor voting against the motion. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Fair to adopt the second sentence of the statement, "The State Board will review all access tools and develop a comprehensive plan for access to baccalaureate degrees with the Board of Governors that will yield a comprehensive budget strategy to fund the most effective approaches." Ms. Bradshaw seconded the motion and an amendment was offered by Dr. Proctor to add the word "efficient" after "effective" in the statement. The amendment was seconded by Dr. Eads and passed unanimously. The motion as amended was adopted unanimously.

Consideration of Recommendation for School Improvement Plans for "F" Schools. Chancellor Warford presented the list of schools whose plans are recommended for approval and those whose plans were not ready for approval. A motion to accept the plans for approval was made by Dr. Proctor with a second by Ms. Bradshaw. After discussion the motion passed unanimously.

Gulf Coast High School vs. The School Board of Escambia County. The State Board of Education had before it the recommendation from the Charter School Appeal Commission that they accept the decision of the school board in terminating the charter of Gulf Coast High School. Mr. Garcia made the motion to accept the Charter School Appeal Commission's recommendation with a second by Dr. Proctor. Gulf Coast Charter School was represented by Kathleen Schoenberg and Darnell Sims; Escambia County School Board was represented by Francisco Negron and Superintendent Jim Paul. After a lengthy discussion the State Board voted four to three to accept the recommendation of the Charter School Appeal Commission with Ms. Bradshaw, Mr. Garcia, and Mr. Fair voting against the motion.

2004-2005 K-20 Fixed Capital Outlay Legislative Budget Request. A motion was made by Dr. Proctor to accept the recommended budget request with a second by Vice Chairman Fair. A brief summary was given by Chief Education Finance Officer Raymond Monteleone with clarification of funding for higher education verses the formula for K-12 by Commissioner Horne. The motion to accept the recommended budget passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Proposed Amended Rule 6E-1.0032 Fair Consumer Practices was withdrawn at the request of the Commission for Independent Education.

Proposed Amended Rule 6E-2.0042 Medical Clinical Clerkship and Approval of High School Credit Equivalencies for English Dual Enrollment Courses. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Fair to adopt both items with a second by Dr. Proctor. Motion passed unanimously without discussion.

Discussion – Class Size Amendment

As requested by the State Board on August 19, 2003, Commissioner Horne made a presentation relating to the class size amendment. His presentation consisted of two parts: what is the cost of class size and what kind of impact it has on competing priorities. Daniel Woodring gave a brief overview of the process to repeal a constitutional amendment explaining that there are two options. One is the suggestion to the legislature that they adopt a resolution bringing the initiative back to before the voters. The other is the citizen initiative option. Chairman Handy stated that a petition drive would have to get started quickly to have the requisite number of signatures before next July or August. He further clarified the other steps associated with a petition drive.

Dr. Proctor inquired as to what would be the most appropriate timing for either action. The Commissioner responded that the timing is either now or two years from now depending upon the process. Dr. Proctor asked Chancellor Warford to consult with superintendents to obtain their opinion as to when the discord and the disruption resulting from the implementation of the amendment would most favor its repeal. Chancellor Warford assured Dr. Proctor he would have that conversation. (Please see the attached transcript for additional detail of the discussion.)

Status Report

The reports on the K-20 Data Warehouse and SAT, ACT, & AP Trends in Florida were postponed.

Dr. Bill Proctor updated the Board on the activities of CEPRI including the university contract study. Dr. Proctor will do a presentation to the Board of Governors and will ensure that all members of the State Board get a copy of the presentation. Dr. Proctor also informed the Board that he had been asked by the Senate to look at work force education funding. He assured the Board he would keep them updated on both topics.

Adjournment

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

F. Philip Handy,
Chairman

Lynn Abbot,
Corporate Secretary