

MINUTES
FLORIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION
BY TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
DECEMBER 7, 2001

Chairman F. Philip Handy convened the meeting of the Florida Board of Education by telephone conference call, 1505 Turlington Building, Tallahassee, Florida, at 9:30 a.m., with the following members present: Dr. Linda J. Eads, Mr. T. Willard Fair, Ms. Julia Johnson, Dr. William Proctor, and Mrs. Carolyn Roberts.

Members of the staff present were: Jim Horne, Secretary; John Winn, Assistant Secretary; Georgia McKeown, Chief of Staff; Lauren Cain; Larry Wood; Syd McKenzie; and Mary-Anne Bestebreurtje.

1. Consideration of Chancellors/Executive Director Job Descriptions

Chairman Handy said Board members had received copies of the proposed job descriptions for the three Chancellors and the Executive Director of Independent Education and the search and hiring process. He said Mr. Fair's suggestions as to process and substance had been incorporated.

Mrs. Roberts moved that the Board approve the proposed process for these position searches and the job descriptions, as presented. Dr. Eads seconded the motion.

Mrs. Roberts said she had discussed these job descriptions with Secretary Horne and understood that there would be a committee for each search. She suggested that the descriptions should reflect that each of the four positions require the candidate to have a minimum of a Master's degree, with a doctorate preferred. Dr. Eads recommended that the descriptions reflect the doctorate or a terminal degree as the preferred degree requirement, particularly for the Chancellor of the Division of Colleges and Universities. Ms. Johnson said this would include the J.D. degree. Mr. Handy said each of the position descriptions included the requirement that the successful candidate would have demonstrated proven leadership skills as well.

Ms. Johnson said the description of process for the searches seemed overly prescriptive. Dr. Eads said she was disappointed that Board members would not serve on the screening committees for the positions, but she could accept that provision. Mr. Fair said that Step 3 should be restated that the "Secretary should recommend the top candidate" for the Board's consideration. Mr. Horne said it was especially important to him that the candidates show qualities of proven leadership.

Dr. Eads said “capacity for analysis” could be stated more strongly. She added that a candidate should also demonstrate a track record, not merely having been in a position for a long time. The Chairman concurred and said the Board would seek candidates who had been successful in seeking non-traditional strategies. Mr. Fair remarked that the candidate review team could validate the generic terms of the position description through the interview process.

Dr. Proctor said that Provost Abele, at FSU, was working with a Commission on Accountability to develop accountability measures that were meaningful. He said there was a struggle in trying to develop measures of quality for postsecondary education.

There were no further comments. Members of the Board concurred.

2. Adjournment

Having no further business, Chairman Handy adjourned the regular meeting of the Florida Board of Education at 10:00 a.m., December 7, 2001.

F.Philip Handy,
Chairman

Mary-Anne Bestebreurtje,
Corporate Secretary