

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Action Item
March 22, 2017

SUBJECT: Implementation of Turnaround Plan for School District of Jefferson County

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

TBD

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1008.33, Florida Statutes
Rule 6A-1.099811, Florida Administrative Code

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The turnaround plan submitted by Jefferson County School District selected the charter option for its low performing schools. This option requires that the district consolidate its schools and reopen in the beginning of the 2017-18 school year, as a charter school, with the charter operator having a record of effectiveness with similar student demographics. Jefferson's plan was approved with contingencies, by the State Board of Education at its February 16, 2017 meeting.

Three charter operators presented to the Jefferson County School Board in February 2017; two had a record of effectiveness with similar student demographics. Of the two charter entities with a record of effectiveness with similar student demographics, one charter operator elected not to present a proposal to operate in Jefferson County and the other, Somerset Academy, submitted a proposal to operate Jefferson's schools. The Somerset Academy charter proposal proposes to open an elementary, middle and high school on one site.

At the date when the agenda was published for this meeting of the State Board of Education, the Jefferson County School Board was scheduled to vote on acceptance of Somerset's proposal on March 21, 2017.

The State Board of Education will be advised of the outcome of the vote of the Jefferson County School Board. Depending on the outcome of that vote, the State Board may consider recommending steps the Commissioner can undertake to ensure that the School Board implement its proposed plan or, alternatively, of steps to hold the Board accountable, should they fail to implement the District's approved plan.

Supporting Documentation Included: TBD

Facilitator/Presenter: Hershel Lyons, Chancellor, K-12 Public Schools and Melissa Ramsey, Regional Executive Director, Bureau of School Improvement