

**MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING**

February 25, 2015
Room LL03, The Capitol
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida

Chair Gary Chartrand called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m. and welcomed members and guests to the State Board of Education meeting. The following members were present: Vice Chair John Padget, John Colón, Marva Johnson, Rebecca Fishman Lipsey, Michael Olenick and Andy Tuck.

Welcome

Chair Chartrand welcomed Mr. Olenick as the newly appointed member of the Board.

Chair Chartrand called for a motion to amend the agenda moving consent item number nine, Approval of Amendment to Rule 6M-8.603, Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Provider Placed on Probation and Required to Apply for a Good Cause Exemption to an action item to address the concerns of the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee. The motion was made by Vice Chair Padget with a second by Mr. Colón. The motion passed unanimously.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Colón thanked Commissioner Stewart for being the keynote speaker at the United Negro College Fund scholarship event on January 30th in Sarasota-Manatee County. He also thanked Senator Legg and other legislators for their work on the statewide assessments.

Ms. Fishman Lipsey reminded everyone of the importance of assessing students and reiterated that the new standards are harder as they require students to create, analyze, deconstruct and think critically versus define and identify. She ended her comments by reminding everyone that as the new assessments kick off, there is no us, there is no them, the results that we get are all of ours.

Vice Chair Padget also welcomed Mr. Olenick to the Board and suggested shortening the testing window next year. He also reiterated his recommendation for one Learning Management System (LMS) for the Florida Colleges and the University System.

Ms. Johnson shared Governor Scott's challenge to keep college affordable by not taxing the sale of textbooks and keeping tuition costs down.

Mr. Tuck also welcomed Mr. Olenick to the Board and thanked Governor Scott and Commissioner Stewart for the Teacher of the Year Summit in Tallahassee.

Mr. Olenick thanked everyone for the kind comments and provided a brief work history.

Chair Chartrand thanked Commissioner Stewart for all her hard work and proposed the Board establish a process to annually evaluate the Commissioner. First, allow the Commissioner to document her work to date using the existing template; and, second, establish a process for developing evaluation criteria and for conducting an annual evaluation. He also shared the following information from the Department's newly

developed infographic: Florida ranked seventh out of 50 states last year, according to Quality Counts in K-12 Education; Enrollment in STEM accelerated courses over the last five years has increased by 46 percent; Florida's Teacher Quality Policies ranked best in the nation twice; Only state in the nation to narrow the achievement gap between white and African-Americans students in 4th and 8th grade in both reading and mathematics; 12th grade Hispanic students' reading scores were higher than the national average; and this past year Florida had its highest graduation rate in 11 years.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Stewart recognized two of Florida's teachers of the year, Celena Crews, STEM teacher from Columbia County and Grace Kellermeier, French teacher from Volusia County.

Commissioner Stewart recognized Michael Warren, teacher at Alachua County Micro School for Integrated Academics & Technologies, for the Black History Month Excellence in Education Award; Tom Dunaway, Wakulla County, Outstanding School Volunteer; Scott Walker, student at Montford Middle School, Outstanding School Volunteer; and Ann Marie Brown, Liberty County High School, Sunshine State Scholar.

Commissioner Stewart also welcomed Mr. Olenick to the Board and announced new employees at the DOE:

- Hershel Lyons, Chancellor for K-12
- Mathew Mears, General Counsel
- Chris Mullin, Executive Vice Chancellor
- Mike Hightower, Chair of the Florida College System Foundation Board of Directors

Commissioner Stewart shared Governor Scott's budget recommendations: \$1 million to facilitate partnerships with high tech Florida companies for teachers to do summer internships; \$80 million for digital classroom plans; \$146 million for maintenance repair and renovation of public school educational facilities and \$100 million for charter schools; \$5 million more for personal learning scholarship accounts for the eligible K-12 students with disabilities; \$5 million to Florida Colleges for \$10,000 STEM degrees; and \$25.5 million to the Bright Futures Scholarship Fund. Governor Scott is also supporting a College Affordability Bill, which includes the following requirements: eliminating sales tax on college textbooks; requiring state colleges and universities to publicly notice any tuition or fee increases at least 30 days prior to the Board of Trustee's meeting; prohibiting state universities from increasing resident tuition for graduate and professional programs above the amounts set July 1, 2015; keeping textbooks affordable by reusing the same books for three years and also requiring that the cost of the textbook be known to the students prior to enrollment for each class.

Commissioner Stewart provided an update on the comprehensive investigation of standardized testing in Florida public schools and shared Governor Scott's Executive Order to suspend the grade 11 Florida Standards Assessment for English Language Arts until legislation can be enacted to eliminate that requirement. Also, looking to enact legislation that eliminates requirement of the Postsecondary Education Readiness Test as a state mandate for 11th grade; enact legislation to eliminate the current mandates surrounding progress monitoring and leave it up to the districts to make the determination of when to do progress monitoring, who to progress monitor, and how long it should last; enact legislation to eliminate local final exams in those subjects that there is already a state end-of-course exam.

Commissioner Stewart also urged districts to consider the following recommendations: give no more than one school-wide or district-wide interim assessment per course, per subject, per grading period; not to test students solely for the purpose of teacher evaluation; and provide teachers, students and parents the assessment results.

Commissioner Stewart provided an update on the Keep Florida Learning Committee. More than 2,800 applied to serve on the 11-member committee. The committee will be looking at key education issues like deregulating school districts, the instructional material selection process, and sharing best practices for parental involvement.

Commissioner Stewart provided an overview of the Governor's 2015 Teacher of the Year event and her recent trip to Pennsylvania with Governor Scott to promote Florida. She also shared her experience as the keynote speaker for the United Negro College Fund gala in Manatee Sarasota and thanked Mr. Colón extending the invitation.

Commissioner Stewart provided an overview of Celebrate Literacy Week and thanked First Lady Ann Scott for spending the entire week visiting Florida schools, sharing her passion for reading with Florida students.

Commissioner Stewart thanked the college trustees for all their volunteer work in helping more than 800,000 students prepare for success in careers and in life. She also announced that February is Career and Technical Education month.

Commissioner Stewart recognized Tanya Cooper, Director, Office of Governmental Relations, to share the Department of Education's legislative priorities. Ms. Cooper provided an overview of the legislative priorities. Chair Chartrand requested clarification on a bill filed for class size. Ms. Cooper clarified that the intention is to move the calculation to the school-wide average.

Chair Chartrand called for a motion to approve the Commissioner's Report. The motion was made by Vice Chair Padgett with a second by Ms. Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

Chair Chartrand called for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 14th Board meeting. The motion was made by Ms. Johnson with a second by Vice Chair Padgett. The motion passed unanimously, with the exception of Mr. Olenick who abstained from voting as he was not a member of the Board at the last meeting.

UPDATE

Florida College System – President Jim Murdaugh, on behalf of the Council of Presidents

Chair Chartrand recognized Jim Murdaugh, President, Tallahassee Community College, on behalf of the Council of Presidents. President Murdaugh provided an overview of the Florida College System budget request and a recently published op-ed by Dr. Jim Henningsen, President, College of Central Florida. He also shared that the Council of Presidents have adopted a position in opposition to the Guns on Campus Bill. He thanked Governor Scott for his budget proposal and thanked Commissioner Stewart for starting a monthly call with the

28 College Presidents and for appointing Kathy Hebda, Chief of Staff, as the interim Chancellor while the search is underway.

Vice Chair Padgett requested the status of a single learning management system (LMS) and to have an update at a future meeting. President Murdaugh shared that the Presidents are actively working towards a single LMS.

Ms. Fishman Lipsey requested the impact data of the new policy for students not required to take remedial exams and if there's anything else the Board should be prioritizing to specifically help low income students to graduate. President Murdaugh stated that on behalf of his college the early data is not positive and a large number of students that choose to opt out show diminished success rates and their progression is adversely effected.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of New Rule 6A-1.09433, Voluntary Prekindergarten Pre- and Post-Assessments

Chair Chartrand recognized Mary Jane Tappen, Executive Vice Chancellor, K-12 Public Schools, to provide an overview of the new rule. Chair Chartrand called for a motion to approve rule 6A-1.09433, as presented. Mr. Colón made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Padgett. Ms. Tappen provided an overview of the new rule. Vice Chair Padgett requested the cost of the test and the number of children impacted. Tara Huls, VPK Program and Policy, Office of Early Learning, said it will be \$1.6 million and beginning in the fall of 2015, it will be about \$2.3 million a year, impacting approximately 177,000 children. Ms. Fishman Lipsey requested further clarification on what students are required to do for this assessment. Ms. Tappen explained that it's an observational tool aligned to the standards. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of New Rule 6M-8.620, Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Pre- and Post-Assessments

Chair Chartrand recognized Rodney MacKinnon, Interim Executive Director, Office of Early Learning, to provide an overview of the new rule. Chair Chartrand called for a motion to approve rule 6M-8.620, as presented. Mr. Colón made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Padgett. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-6.05281, Educational Programs for Students in Department of Juvenile Justice Detention, Prevention, Residential, or Day Treatment Programs

Chair Chartrand recognized Mary Jane Tappen, Executive Vice Chancellor, K-12 Public Schools, to provide an overview of the amendment. Chair Chartrand called for a motion to approve rule 6A-6.05281, as presented. Vice Chair Padgett made the motion with a second by Mr. Colón. Ms. Tappen explained that the rule is amended to meet the requirements of Florida Statutes and it defines what a high quality and effective education program must include for students in the Department of Juvenile Justice Program. Chair Chartrand recognized Jeff McSpaddin, Florida Juvenile Justice Association and Katie Dalbey, Director, Outward Bound Families in Need of Services Program, to present in opposition of the rule. Mr. Olenick shared his concern for the lack of an accountability component. Ms. Tappen stated that the Department plans on bringing a rule to the Board before the end of this school year and to collect data the following school year for indicators to be reported at the end of the next school year. The motion passed unanimously.

Discovery High School, Inc. vs. School Board of Polk County

Chair Chartrand recognized Adam Miller, Executive Director, Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice, to present the next three action items. Chair Chartrand called for a motion to accept the recommendation of the Charter School Appeal Commission to grant the appeal for Discovery High School. Vice Chair Padget made the motion with a second by Mr. Colón. Mr. Miller provided an overview and recognized Melissa Gross-Arnold, Attorney representing Discovery High School, Inc. and Wes Bridges, Attorney representing Polk County School Board. The motion passed unanimously.

SVG Leadership Academies, Inc. on behalf of The Leadership Academy for Academic and Personal Achievement vs. School Board of Broward County

Chair Chartrand called for a motion to accept the recommendation of the Charter School Appeal Commission to deny the appeal for the Leadership Academy for Academic and Personal Achievement. Vice Chair Padget made the motion with a second by Ms. Johnson. Mr. Miller recognized Christopher Norwood, representing the Leadership Academy for Academic and Personal Achievement and Marylin Batista-McNamara, on behalf of the Broward County School Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Request for Waiver of Termination - Acclaim Academy of Florida - Osceola County

Mr. Miller provided an overview of the data regarding Acclaim Academy of Florida. Chair Chartrand called for a motion to either grant or deny the request for a waiver of termination. Vice Chair Padget made the motion to deny with a second by Ms. Johnson. Mr. Miller recognized Dennis Mope, CEO, Acclaim, Inc. on behalf of Acclaim Academy of Florida. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Amendment Rule 6M-8.603, Voluntary PreK, Provider Placed on Probation and Required to Apply for a Good Cause Exemption

Chair Chartrand called for a motion to approve rule 6M-8.603, as amended to address concerns by the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee. Mr. Colón made the motion with a second by Ms. Johnson. Chair Chartrand recognized Maggi Parker, General Counsel, Office of Early Learning, to explain the amendment to the amendment. The motion passed 6-1 with Ms. Fishman Lipsey in opposition.

CONSENT ITEMS

Chair Chartrand called for a motion to approve items one through eight and ten and eleven. Vice Chair Padget made the motion with a second by Mr. Olenick. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Chartrand announced that the next meeting would be on April 15th in Tallahassee.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Chair Chartrand adjourned the meeting of the State Board of Education at 4:45 p.m.

Cathy Schroeder, Corporate Secretary

Gary Chartrand, Chair