

**MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING**

February 12, 2020
325 W. Gaines St., Suite 1703/07
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Chair Andy Tuck called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following members were present: Vice Chair Marva Johnson; Ben Gibson; Tom Grady; Michael Olenick; Ryan Petty; and Joe York.

WELCOME

Chair Tuck welcomed members and guests to the State Board of Education meeting and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Tuck then welcomed new board member Ryan Petty.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Corcoran recognized Marquez Johnson of Gulf Coast State College for his academic achievement through hurricane Michael. Commissioner Corcoran then briefed the board on the new Florida standards, Benchmarks for Exceptional Students Thinking (B.E.S.T.) and recognized DOE staff members: Kathy Nobles, Patricia Duncan, Courtney Starling, Jennifer Enfinger, Michael DiPierro, Rebecca Mead, and Carey Sweet; Commissioner Corcoran also recognized Emma Rollins from True North Classical Academy and Dr. Gray, Mathematics at the University of Minnesota for the great work they all did on creating B.E.S.T. Commissioner Corcoran also recognized: Chancellor Eric Hall, Chancellor Henry Mack and their staff, Bruce Harrington, Kathy Hammond, Lee Chip Walton, Kathleen Taylor, and Tara Goodman for the outstanding work they all did on the Perkins V plan. Chair Tuck called for a motion to approve Commissioner Corcoran's report. Mr. York made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Minutes from the September 20th, November 15th and December 19th meetings

Chair Tuck called for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 20th, November 15th and December 19th meetings. Mr. York made the motion with a second by Mr. Olenick. The motion passed unanimously.

UPDATES

Legislative/Policy Update

Chair Tuck recognized Bethany Swanson, Deputy Chief of Staff, for a legislative and policy update. Ms. Swanson briefed the board on the current legislative session including, bill priorities, status of bills, budget components, and an overview of ACCTS. Chair Tuck then opened the board for questions. Mr. Olenick asked about pay differential for veteran teachers and the timeline for turnaround schools.

Holocaust Task Force

Chair Tuck recognized Barbara Goldstein, Chair of the Holocaust Task Force, for an update. Ms. Goldstein provided the board a brief update on task force duties, how the task force monitors what's being taught in the state and what kind of teaching materials are available. Chair Tuck then opened the board for questions. Mr. Gibson asked if Ms. Goldstein would come back and provide the board the results of the statewide audit.

K-12 Public Schools – Superintendent Hanna and Superintendent Pearce on behalf of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents

Chair Tuck recognized Superintendent Rocky Hanna of Leon County and Superintendent Robert Pearce of Wakulla County on behalf of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents for a brief update on what the districts are doing for school safety, teacher pay, and the rollout of B.E.S.T. Chair Tuck opened the board for questions. Vice Chair Johnson commented on the implementation of the B.E.S.T. standards, asking each of the superintendents to help in the transition of the standards. Mr. Petty commented that using Behavioral Threat Assessment could help mitigate district cost of school safety.

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

Chair Tuck recognized Dr. Jim Murdaugh, President, Tallahassee Community College for a brief update on the Council of Presidents. Dr. Murdaugh provided an overview of Patriots Path initiative, a program for military veterans. Continuing with overviews of dual-enrollment, workforce education, and budget.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-1.09401, Student Performance Standards

Chair Tuck recognized, Jacob Oliva, Chancellor, K-12 Public Schools for a brief update on the proposed student performance standards. Chancellor Oliva briefed the board on Executive Order 1932, providing the board a history of standards in Florida, an overview of Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.), and a timeline for rollout. Mr. Grady made a motion for an amendment to the amendment for technical clarifying and scrivener's amendments, to both Mathematics and ELA standards with a second my Mr. York. Motion passed unanimously. Chair Tuck called for a motion to approve the amendment to rule 6A-1.09401. Mr. Grady then called for a motion to approve the rule 6A-1.09401 with a second by Mr. Gibson. Chair Tuck then opened the board for questions. Mr. Olenick asked if the new BEST standards were similar to the old common core standards and if the testing that is now on hold will have an impact on students and teachers. Vice Chair Johnson suggested that the department also provide training and information for parents. Mr. Petty asked what are the practical implications on the rollout timeline if professional development training is not funded. Chair Tuck then opened for public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Florida's State Plan for the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V)

Chair Tuck recognized, Henry Mack, Chancellor, Career and Adult Education to provide an overview of the proposed Perkins V plan. Chancellor Mack briefed the board on the progress being made towards Florida being number one in the nation in workforce education by 2030 as detailed in Executive Order 19-31 issued by Governor DeSantis. Chair Tuck opened the

board for questions. Vice Chair Johnson asked two questions, how do we improve on student engagement and how do we make sure students know about the workforce initiatives. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve Florida's State Plan for the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V). Mr. York made the motion with a second by Mr. Grady. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Request from St. Petersburg College for a Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Cybersecurity

Chair Tuck recognized Tonya Williams, President, St. Petersburg College for an overview of the proposed Bachelor of Applied Sciences in Cybersecurity. President Williams shared information on the curriculum, importance of the field, how students will benefit and the demand for jobs. Chair Tuck then opened the board for questions. Mr. Olenick asked if the program was the first of its kind at the college level. Mr. Grady asked if there is tuition assistance for students that cannot afford the program. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve the Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Cybersecurity. Mr. Olenick made the motion with a second by Mr. York. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of A.A.A. Scholarship Foundation- Florida, LLC as a Scholarship Funding Organization (SFO) for 2020-21

Chair Tuck then recognized Laura Mazyck, Interim Director, Office of Independent Education to introduce the next two items. Ms. Mazyck thanked the board and recognized Kimberly Dyson, President, AAA Scholarship Foundation for an overview of their SFO application. Ms. Dyson briefed the board on foundation initiatives, funding sources, and a new webpage designed to assist parents with their school choice. Chair tuck opened the board for questions. Mr. Olenick commented on articles that state some choice schools discriminate and that discrimination has no place in Florida schools. This comment was echoed by the board. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve A.A.A. Scholarship Foundation-Florida, LLC as a Scholarship Funding Organization for 2020-21. Mr. York made a motion with a second by Vice Chair Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Step Up for Students, Inc. as a Scholarship Funding Organization (SFO) for 2020-21

Ms. Mazyck recognized Joe Pfountz, CFO, Step Up for Students, Inc. for an overview of their SFO application. Mr. Pfountz provided the board with the specifics of how the money is spent and the number of students it has helped. Chair Tuck then opened the board for questions. Chair Tuck asked if the reading portion of the scholarship was being maximized. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve Step Up for Students, Inc. as a Scholarship Funding Organization for 2020-21. Mr. York made a motion with a second by Vice Chair Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

Request for Approval of an Additional Year of Turnaround

Chair Tuck recognized Melissa Ramsey, Deputy Chancellor, K-12 Public Schools for an overview of the next two items. Ms. Ramsey briefed the board on the plans from Escambia, Hillsborough, Marion, and Pinellas counties. Commissioner Corcoran then made the recommendation to approve all the plans with the following conditions: if a grade of C or higher is not earned the school will replace the current External Operator, replace the principal, and retain all highly-effective teachers. Chair Tuck called for a motion to approve Commissioner Corcoran's recommendations. Mr. Gibson made the motion with a second by Mr. Olenick. Motion passed unanimously.

Request for Approval of Closure as a Turnaround Plan Option

Ms. Ramsey provided an overview of the turnaround option plans for school closure. Ms. Ramsey briefed the board on the each of the districts requesting closure: Broward, Pasco, and Polk counties. Commissioner Corcoran made the recommendation to approve the closure for all three schools. Chair Tuck called for a motion to approve Commissioner Corcoran's recommendations. Mr. York made the motion with a second by Mr. Olenick. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT

Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve the consent items. Mr. Olenick made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Chair Tuck opened the board for comments. Mr. Gibson stated he was proud of the accomplishments the board has made. Mr. Grady thanked the board and welcomed board member Ryan Petty. These comments were echoed by the board. Mr. Petty thanked the members for their support and DOE for their outstanding work. Chair Tuck congratulated Ryan Petty on his first board meeting and thanked all the people that came to make comment to the board.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Chair Tuck adjourned the meeting of the State Board of Education at 12:52 P.M.

Chris Emerson, Corporate Secretary

Andy Tuck, Chair