

**MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING**

September 23, 2020
Florida Holocaust Museum
55 5th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Chair Andy Tuck called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked everyone to please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. The following members were present: Vice Chair Marva Johnson; Ben Gibson, Ryan Petty, Joe York with members Tom Grady and Michael Olenick, via telephone.

WELCOME

Chair Tuck thanked members and guests for adhering to the Pinellas County ordinance regarding the wearing of face mask coverings indoors, and requested that everyone continue to do so throughout the meeting. Chair Tuck then recognized Elizabeth Gellman, Executive Director of the Florida Holocaust Museum, to welcome the board.

(Via Video) Ms. Toni Rinde started by welcoming the Commissioner and the Board to the Florida Holocaust Museum. Ms. Rinde continued and explained she was a founding board member of the museum and a holocaust survivor, continuing on to the story of her escape from the Jewish Ghetto in Eastern Poland when she was a child.

Ms. Gellman followed and thanked Ms. Rinde and explained to the board that videos are just one part one the many tools the Florida Holocaust Museum uses to educate students, whether inside the classroom or in a virtual classroom. Ms. Gellman spoke on some of the other digital resources in the museum's repertoire, including the Zoom with a Survivor Program, virtual tours, interactive drop-in activities and the museum's pivot to be completely virtual in the spring. Ms. Gellman also talked about the museum's new partnership with OverDrive, a system used by the majority of libraries and schools in the country, making the Florida Holocaust Museum the first museum to offer comprehensive virtual education.

Commissioner's Report

Chair Tuck recognized Commissioner Corcoran for his report. Commissioner Corcoran started by thanking the Florida Holocaust Museum for allowing the State Board of Education to meet at their museum and talked about improving holocaust education in State of Florida. Commissioner Corcoran also recognized that is was Hispanic Heritage Month, and the deep history and culture that is woven into the state as well as a student essay contest provided by Florida Prepaid College Foundation for a four-year scholarship. Commissioner Corcoran then recognized Sara Jean Brannon McDaniel, Principal of the Year, William B. Moseley Elementary School, Putnam County; Kate Fulginiti, Assistant Principal of the Year, Matthew W. Gilbert Middle School, Duval County; Kristen Musgrove, 2019 Milken Educator, Hilliard Middle School, Nassau County; Althea Council, 2020 School-Related Employee of the Year, Citrus Springs Middle School, Citrus County; and Krista Stanley, 2020-2021 Florida Teacher of the Year, Yearling Middle School, Okeechobee County. Commissioner Corcoran then asked Krista Stanley to brief the board on what she does to help her students. Ms. Stanley thanked the board and spoke about her focus on math facts for her students. Making them all sit for ten minutes at the beginning of class to help achieve mastery.

Commissioner Corcoran thanked Ms. Stanley for speaking and thanked, Representative Newton, County Commissioner Kathleen Peter, and Representative Webb's Aid, Jessica Lewis for attending the meeting. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve the Commissioners Report. Mr. York made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Johnson. Chair Tuck opened the board for questions. Mr. Olenick asked about working with the Department of Health to create a Covid dashboard of statistics. Vice Chair Johnson asked if districts are providing notice to students that may have been exposed to Covid. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Minutes from July 15, 2020 meeting

Chair Tuck called for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 15, 2020 meeting. Vice Chair Johnson made the motion with a second by Mr. York. The motion passed unanimously.

UPDATES

EduData Website

Chair Tuck recognized Juan Copa, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Accountability Research and Measurement, for an update on the EduData Portal. Mr. Copa provided the board a brief overview on the website and some of the functionalities such as school and district report cards, the ability to search by school or zip code, educational performance highlights about Florida, and the ability to compare two school report cards side-by-side. Mr. Copa also went over two new enhancements made at the request of the board, sub-group performance and third-grade performance. Chair Tuck opened the board for questions. Mr. Gibson asked how many other states have this level of detail. Vice Chair Johnson asked what metric are the users most often accessing and followed up asking if a user can compare another state to Florida. Mr. Petty asked if data on school safety could be added.

Rapid Credentialing Program

Chair Tuck recognized Henry Mack, Chancellor, Career and Adult Education and Kathy Hebda, Chancellor, Florida College System for an update on rapid credentialing. Chancellor Mack provided the board an update on the short term rapid credentialing at Florida colleges, how the funds are being dispersed, the new statewide campaign to market workforce education, and the Get There campaign webpage. Chair Tuck opened the board for questions. Mr. Gibson commented on how he appreciated the department working with of state agencies and business entities.

Holocaust Task Force

Chair Tuck recognized Ms. Gellman for an update on the Holocaust Task Force. Ms. Gellman briefed the board on some of the things the task Force does, such as, connecting actual instruction to the law requirements and membership of the task force. Ms. Gellman also provided some information on Holocaust Education Week in November which would be a supplement to Holocaust Education in general, holocaust teacher training, and a partnership with Florida Virtual School to create a new virtual holocaust education. Chair Tuck opened the board for questions. Mr. Olenick asked what is being done to ensure that small and rural districts are getting the information and support to implement the new requirements. Mr. Gibson commented on how vital teaching the next generation of past atrocities is and thanked the museum for its hard work.

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

Chair Tuck recognized Joe Pickens, President, St. Johns River State College for an update on behalf on the college system. President Pickens thanked the board and provide a brief update on how Covid has affected the college system monetarily, student enrollment, dual-enrollment numbers, the budget, and how to increase on-campus opportunities. Chair Tuck opened the board for questions. Vice Chair Johnson asked if the virtual extension of the curriculum is an opportunity to pick-up some of the lost students.

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

Chair Tuck recognized Mike Grego, Superintendent, Pinellas County for an update on reopening schools. Superintendent Grego started by thanking the Florida Holocaust Museum for all the hard work they do in his county and across the state. Superintendent Grego briefed the board on reopening, providing instructional option to parents, how to mitigate student achievement from the Covid slide, and establishing VPK pilot programs. Chair Tuck then opened the board for questions. Mr. Gibson asked what challenges has Pinellas county and other districts faced with reopening. Vice Chair Johnson asked for updates on some of the VPK pilot programs going on in Pinellas. Mr. York asked how is Pinellas County engaging with students.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of 2021-22 Education Operating and Fixed Capital Outlay Budget Request

Chair Tuck recognized Alex Kelly, Chief of Staff, and Suzanne Pridgeon, Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations for a budget overview. Chief Kelly opened and briefed the board on the 2021-2022 legislative budget process, supporting early learning, increase in base student allocation, safe schools allocation, mental health, teacher compensation, and the Florida Civics and Debate Initiative. Chair Tuck opened the board for questions. Mr. Gibson asked if the debate initiative is being funded. Vice Chair Johnson asked if non-recurring budget items are included in the budget. Chair Tuck asked how the additional student count is made and what the comparison to last year is. Mr. Olenick asked how districts will be affected with a zero declining enrollment supplement. Mr. Petty requested clarification on how schools and districts can use their safe school allocation. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve the 2021-22 Education Operating and Fixed Capital Outlay Budget Request. Mr. York made the motion with a second by Mr. Gibson. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-1.099812, Education Accountability for Department of Juvenile Justice Education Programs

Chair Tuck recognized Juan Copa for an overview of amendment to rule 6A-1.099812, F.A.C. Mr. Copa provided the board a brief overview of the rule amendment, adding components of the DJJ accountability assessment and streamlining the calculation to more closely mirror other school accountability programs. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve the amendment to rule 6A-1.099812, Education Accountability for Department of Juvenile Justice Education Programs. Mr. York made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of New Rule 6A-6.0952, Family Empowerment Scholarship Program

Chair Tuck recognized Dr. Graham, Executive Director, Office of Independent Education for a brief overview of new rule 6A-6.0952, F.A.C. Dr. Graham provided the board an overview of new rule 6A-6.0952, F.A.C. addressing: scholarship participation, scholarship payments, private school participation in the program, time frame for scholarship payments, and procedures regarding the payment process. Chair Tuck opened the board for questions. Vice Chair Johnson asked if the department is expecting to meet the full enrollment capacity. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve the new rule 6A-6.0952, Family Empowerment Scholarship Program. Mr. York made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-10.082, Mandatory Reporting of Offenses Affecting the Health, Safety or Welfare of Florida Students

Chair Tuck recognized Jacob Oliva, Chancellor, Division of Public Schools, for an overview of the amendment to rule 6A-10.082, F.A.C. Chancellor Oliva thanked the board and provided a brief overview of the amendment which expands the list of criminal offenses that would require 24 hour reporting. Chair Tuck opened the board for questions. Commissioner Corcoran commented and thanked Senator Lauren Book for helping to craft the legislation. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve the amendment to rule 6A-10.082, Mandatory Reporting of Offenses Affecting the Health, Safety or Welfare of Florida Students. Mr. York made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT ITEMS

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

MEMBER COMMENTS

Chair Tuck opened the board for comments. Vice Chair Johnson started and thanked all the leaders in the state, superintendents, teachers, and support staff for their commitment during the pandemic. Mr. York thanked the Florida Holocaust Museum and echoed Vice Chair Johnsons comments, thanking school personnel for their commitment and talked about some of the positive disruptions that are happening despite the pandemic. Mr. Grady thanked the governor for maintaining the teacher compensation gains in the budget and thanked the department and everyone involved in getting and keeping schools open. Mr. Olenick commented on the safety of everyone in schools, students, parents, teachers, and support staff. Mr. Gibson thanked the department staff and everyone in education for all the hard work they are doing during the pandemic. Mr. Petty thanked the Holocaust Museum for hosting the meeting and echoed comments made by his fellow members. Chair Tuck echoed the members comments and thanked teachers for always rising to meet the challenge.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Chair Tuck adjourned the meeting of the State Board of Education at 12:41 P.M.

Chris Emerson, Corporate Secretary

Andy Tuck, Chair