

**MINUTES  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MEETING**

January 13, 2021  
Daytona State College  
1200 W. International Speedway Blvd.  
L. Gale Lemerand Student Center, Bldg. 115  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Chair Andy Tuck called the meeting to order at 9:02 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, with members Tom Grady, Monesia Brown and Joe York via telephone.

**WELCOME**

Chair Tuck thanked members and guests for adhering to the ordinance regarding the wearing of facemask coverings indoors, and requested that everyone continue to do so throughout the meeting. Chair Tuck then recognized Dr. Tom LoBasso, President, Daytona State College to welcome the board and provide an update on behalf of the Council of Presidents (COP).

Dr. LoBasso started by thanking Commissioner Corcoran, the Board, and Chancellor Hebda for choosing Daytona State College (DSC) as the first meeting location of 2021. Dr. LoBasso briefed the board on what DSC has done to help mitigate the COVID environment, providing online classes for programs at DCS and creating safe environments in classrooms and offices. To accommodate for physical social distancing, Dr. LoBasso explained that large lecture halls and event spaces have been converted into classrooms. Dr. LoBasso continued, recognizing his colleges' accolades; a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, being recognized as the most affordable of its kind in the United States and the School of Education receiving an A rating by the National Council of Teacher Quality; one of 17 nationwide to receive an A rating in both clinical practice and classroom management. Dr. LoBasso also briefed the board on a new program called Up-Skill Now, offering high value, low cost training in nine different programs for rapid credentialing. Chair Tuck opened the board for questions. Vice Chair Johnson asked if all of the classes are hybrid model or just specific courses. Mr. Gibson asked about when the Up-Skill now program was started at DSC.

**Commissioner's Report**

Chair Tuck recognized Commissioner Corcoran for his report. Commissioner Corcoran started by thanking Dr. LoBasso for hosting the State Board of Education and for his great leadership, also thanking Robert Doyle, Director of Blind services for putting together a tour of the Division of Blind Services (DBS) Rehab Center. Commissioner Corcoran also recognized new board member, Monesia Brown, welcoming her to the State Board of Education and thanked former board member Mike Olenick for his service on the board and education of students in the State of Florida. Commissioner Corcoran then recognized Shamara McCall, a former DBS Rehab Center client that now works at the center helping others and LaWanda Eastman, a graduate from College of Central Florida for her hard work and commitment to graduate while balancing work and family. Commissioner Corcoran continued, talking about Emergency Order-7, providing parental choice for student instruction, giving flexibility to districts and superintendents, and asking districts to identify their most at need learners and adjust their education modality.

Commissioner Corcoran then recognized Chancellor Hall for a brief update on the Emergency Order and district academic plans. Chancellor Hall briefed the board on the district academic plans, stating that a hundred percent of districts in Florida have submitted their spring plans and all have been approved.

Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve the Commissioners Report. Mr. Gibson made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Minutes**

### **Minutes from November 18, 2020 meeting**

Chair Tuck called for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 18, 2020 meeting. Mr. York made the motion with a second by Mr. Gibson. The motion passed unanimously.

## **UPDATES**

### **Florida Education Foundation Update on Civics Initiatives**

Chair Tuck recognized Beth Eskin, Director, Florida Civics and Debate Initiative for a brief update on the debate initiative in Florida. Ms. Eskins started with how this initiative came about, explaining that students are leaving high school and college with a lack of civics knowledge and that civic engagement is at an all-time low. Ms. Eskins continued providing illustrations of the projected growth over the next three years, with a goal towards having all Florida districts participating in three years, as well as the amount of students currently in the debate program.

### **2020-2025 Strategic Plan**

Chair Tuck then recognized Dr. Eric Hall, Senior Chancellor for a brief update on the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan. Chancellor Hall provided the board an update on the mid-year achievements, starting with the goal of 90 percent literacy, how the department is striving to meet that goal, and the focus on VPK and investments in early learning. Chancellor Hall also talked about the ways the department can assist a provider when they are not hitting the benchmark. In the first two years, if a provider continues to be low performing, they will go in to a turnaround status and take aggressive steps to improve. If the provider does not improve, the department can remove them from being a VPK provider. Continuing, Chancellor Hall talked about the high school graduation rate, and post-secondary completion rate.

### **Teacher Salary Increase Allocation**

Chair Tuck recognized Jacob Oliva, Chancellor, Division of Public Schools for an update on the teacher salary increase. Chancellor Oliva started with an update on how the implementation was progressing, explaining the categories established for teacher salary increase and how those funds are distributed to districts for allocation. Chancellor Oliva also provided the board an update on the district allocation plans; stating 44 district plans are approved; 12 are in the process of department review; 11 are still in local negotiations; and six are at an impasse. Chair Tuck opened the board for questions. Mr. Gibson asked about the districts that have not received their teacher allocation and if they will be able to meet the deadline.

## **Office of Safe Schools**

Chair Tuck recognized Tim Hay, Executive Director, Office of Safe Schools for an update on school safety in Florida. Mr. Hay began with some background on the Office of Safe Schools and then moved to talk about the Care Assessment Instrument, adopted from the University of Virginia, and regional compliance/support personnel from around the state that make unannounced school visits to review safety and security practices. Chair Tuck then opened the board for questions. Mr. Petty asked if the department is using the CARES Act to bridge the gap in funding for districts that do not have a guardian on campus. Mr. Gibson asked how the pandemic is affecting the Office of Safe Schools and reporting.

## **Progress Monitoring Initiatives**

Chair Tuck then recognized Chancellor Hall for an update on progress monitoring initiatives. Chancellor Hall briefed the board on the minimum score for childcare providers to contract with the state, class assessments to identify where there are childcare provider deserts, the kindergarten–readiness test, and a progress monitoring dashboard from BrightBytes. Chair Tuck then opened the board for questions. Vice Chair Johnson asked when the department expects to have the childcare provider deserts mapped.

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

Chair Tuck then recognized Diana Kornegay, Superintendent, Lake County Public Schools for a brief on items relating to K-12 education. Superintendent Kornegay started by thanking the Commissioner and Board for the emergency order allowing school districts to continue their innovative learning model while also emphasizing the importance of progress monitoring and timely interventions of students. For Lake County that included required remediation that is built into the instructional day for all brick-and-mortar schools as well as using progress monitoring to target specific student needs. Superintendent Kornegay also briefed the board on the additional cost being incurred at districts and CARES Act funding. Chair Tuck then opened the board for questions. Mr. Gibson asked if there were any efforts from the districts or state to get high risk teachers the vaccinations.

Chair Tuck then amended the agenda, moving Consent Item 17, Approval of Repeal of Rule 6A-10.060, The Dale Hickam Excellent Teaching Program, to Action Item 16.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-6.053, K-12 Comprehensive Evidence-Based Reading Plan**

Chair Tuck recognized Chancellor Oliva for an update on the amendment to rule 6A-6.053, F.A.C. Chancellor Oliva provided the board some background of the rule and the revisions being made that will help to drive instruction that is more effective and improve student reading outcomes. Including gathering more information from the lowest performing schools and updating the literacy coach description. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve the amendment to rule 6A-6.053, K-12 Comprehensive Evidence-Based Reading Plan. Vice Chair Johnson made the motion with a second by Mr. Petty. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of Florida SouthWestern State College's Proposal for a Bachelor of Applied Science in Information Systems Technology**

Chair Tuck recognized Dr. Jeffery Albritton, President, Florida SouthWestern State College for a brief overview of the proposed degree program. Dr. Albritton briefed the board on the BAS in Information Systems Technology. Providing information on the employment opportunity, availability, and academic partners. Chair Tuck opened the board for questions. Vice Chair Johnson asked if the college has any plans to use professional executives to help accelerate real time learning. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve Florida SouthWestern State College's Proposal for a Bachelor of Applied Science in Information Systems Technology. Mr. Gibson made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of Recommendation of Articulating Coordinating Council (ACC) for a Framework to Analyze Prior Military Training, Courses and Occupations for Postsecondary Credit**

Chair Tuck recognized Henry Mack, Chancellor, Division of Career and Adult Education for an overview of credit for prior military training. Chancellor Mack briefed the board on the framework recommendations, reviewing courses and experience held by service members and converting that into postsecondary credit. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve the recommendation of Articulating Coordinating Council (ACC) for a framework to analyze prior military training, courses and occupations for postsecondary credit. Vice Chair Johnson made the motion with a second by Mr. Petty. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of A.A.A. Scholarship Foundation- Florida, LLC as a Scholarship Funding Organization for 2021-22**

Chair Tuck recognized Laura Mazyck, Deputy Executive Director, Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice for an overview of the next two items. Ms. Mazyck briefed the board on the application process and recognized Ms. Dyson, from the AAA Scholarship Foundation. Ms. Dyson provided the board an overview of the changes made to AAA's tax status that would allow them to continue to be a scholarship provider. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve A.A.A. Scholarship Foundation as a Scholarship Funding Organization for 2021-22. Mr. Gibson made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of Step Up for Students, Inc. as a Scholarship Funding Organization for 2021-22**

Ms. Mazyck continued, briefing the board on the application process for Step Up for Students and recognizing Joe Pfountz, Chief Financial Officer, Step Up for Students. Mr. Pfountz briefed the board on Step Up for Students background and the creation of an online marketplace called MyScholarShop. Chair Tuck opened the board for questions. Vice Chair Johnson asked about the number of applications that get started versus the number that are completed and if Step Up for Students helps families through the application process. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve Step Up for Students as a Scholarship Funding Organization for 2021-22. Mr. Petty made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-6.0571, Career and Technical Education and Adult General Education Standards and Industry-Driven Benchmarks**

Chair Tuck recognized Chancellor Mack for an overview of the amendment to rule 6A-6.0571. Chancellor Mack briefed the board on proposed changes, reducing the training-hour

requirement for some CTE programs and the introduction of two new short-term certificate programs. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve the amendment to rule 6A-6.0571, Career and Technical Education and Adult General Education Standards and Industry-Driven Benchmarks. Vice Chair Johnson made the motion with a second by Mr. Gibson. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of Critical Teacher Shortage Areas for 2021-22**

Chair Tuck recognized Juan Copa, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Accountability Research and Measurement for an update on teacher shortage areas. Mr. Copa briefed the board on the statutory requirement to annually identify areas of statewide critical teacher shortages and incentives to address areas of critical need. Mr. Copa then recognized Dr. Paul Burns, Deputy Chancellor, Education Quality. Dr. Burns briefed the board on teacher preparation, increased accountability, and the quality of teacher preparation programs. Chair Tuck then recognized Cathy Boehme for public comment. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve areas of critical teacher shortage. Mr. Gibson made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of Repeal of Rule 6A-10.060, The Dale Hickam Excellent Teaching Program**

Chair Tuck recognized Dr. Burns for an overview of the repeal of rule 6A-10.060. Dr. Burns provided the board a brief update on why the rule is being repealed, stating that the rule is redundant as the program requirements will still exist in statute. Chair Tuck then opened the board for questions. Vice Chair Johnson asked what year did the state stop funding the program. Chair Tuck then opened for public comment from Sabrina Gates, Dr. Madona Higgs, Barbara Knox, Elizabeth Brown Davis, and Cathy Boehme. Chair Tuck then called for a motion to approve the repeal of rule 6A-10.060, The Dale Hickman Excellent Teaching Program. Mr. Gibson 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. Petty. The motion passed unanimously.

### **MEMBER COMMENTS**

Chair Tuck opened the board for comments. Vice Chair Johnson commented on Superintendent Carvalho and the amazing job he did representing Florida in his interview with CNN and also thanking former board member Michael Olenick for all his work. Mr. Gibson welcomed new board member Monesia Brown and echoed Vice Chair Johnson. Mr. Petty thanked the commissioner for his executive order giving families an opportunity to choose their learning modality, and the focus on accountability and progress monitoring. Ms. Brown thanked the Governor and Commissioner for their confidence in choosing her to be a member of the board and expressed her excitement to be a part of the education discussion. Chair Tuck started by thanking former member Olenick for all the years he has put into education in Florida and thanked the Division of Blind Services Rehab Center for the tour.

Chair Tuck then recognized Juna Copa for a brief clarification on critical teacher shortage. Mr. Copa clarified that 6.14 percent of elementary education courses are taught by out-of-field teachers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Chair Tuck adjourned the meeting of the State Board of Education at 1:00 P.M.

---

Chris Emerson, Corporate Secretary

---

Andy Tuck, Chair