Notice of Meeting/Workshop Hearing

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

State Board of Education

The State Board of Education announces an emergency meeting to which all persons are invited.

DATE AND TIME: August 6, 2021, 11:00 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Call: 1(800)367-2403, Confirmation Code: 8000177. This meeting will also be webcast on the Florida Channel at https://thefloridachannel.org/.

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: This is an emergency meeting of the State Board of Education to consider Emergency Rules 6AER21-01, Pupil Attendance Records for COVID-19 and 6AER21-02, COVID-19 Hope Scholarship Transfer Procedures.

These two emergency rules address attendance and the Hope Scholarship to provide additional flexibility in light of health protocols issued by the Department of Health and implemented by school districts when school begins as soon as next week, in some school districts. Emergency Rule 6AER21-01, Pupil Attendance Records, will provide criteria to avoid learning loss and consider a student in attendance, when under a "stay-home" directive due to COVID-19. Emergency Rule 6AER21-02, COVID-19 Hope Scholarship Transfer Procedures, provides parents with a mechanism to transfer a child to a private school or another school district under a Hope Scholarship when a school district's COVID-19 health protocols, including masking, pose a health or educational danger to their child. Health protocols for schools including masking, will be addressed by the Department of Health. The agency finds that the potential for student learning loss and educational disruption with schools starting next week, creates an immediate danger to the public health, safety and welfare of students and requires emergency action. The procedure for this emergency meeting is fair under the circumstances because the notice was posted as soon as possible and notice of the meeting was widely circulated.

The agenda will be posted prior to the meeting on the Department's website at http://www.fldoe.org/policy/state-board-of-edu/meetings. For more information, you may contact: Chris Emerson at Christian.Emerson@fldoe.org.