

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Action Item**

January 16, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Minutes of the September 14 and October 25, 2018 Meetings

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

For Approval

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

N/A

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The minutes of the September 14 and October 25, 2018, meetings are presented for approval.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Minutes, September 14 and October 25, 2018

**Facilitator/Presenter:** Chair Marva Johnson



**MINUTES  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MEETING**

September 14, 2018  
Collier County School Board Office  
Naples, Florida

Chair Marva Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. The following members were present: Vice Chair Tuck; Ben Gibson; Tom Grady, Michael Olenick and Joe York. Gary Chartrand attended by phone.

**WELCOME**

Chair Johnson welcomed members and guests to the State Board of Education meeting. She recognized the Naples High School Junior ROTC for presentation of the colors and the members of the Barron Collier High School Choir for the National Anthem. After which, she recognized Dr. Kamela Patton, Superintendent, Collier County, to welcome and address the Board. Chair Johnson then opened the floor for Board questions and comments then recognized Commissioner Pam Stewart to present her report.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Stewart recognized 10 students for outstanding academic success in the face of hardships. These students, two from each educational sector, are enrolled in K-12 public schools, the Florida College System (FCS), Career and Adult Education, Vocational Rehabilitation and Blind Services. After which, each student was presented with an award and photo opportunity. Commissioner Stewart then provided a brief overview of the FCS Foundation scholarship programs which, through generous contributions from Helios, Bank of America and Florida Blue, awarded over \$1 million in funds to first-generation and workforce-specific FCS students. After a quick photo opportunity, she then invited FCSF Board Chair, Tami Cullens to provide remarks. Commissioner Stewart then introduced the 2019 Teacher of the Year, Ms. Joy Prescott to provide comments followed by a presentation of the TOY award and photo opportunity.

Following the awards presentations, Commissioner Stewart shared the news that Florida is now fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) in the nation for student achievement as announced earlier in September as part of education week's quality counts 2018 report. She reminded the Board that this news comes on the heels of other great successes, such as the improvements made and recognized in Florida's Grade 4 mathematics, Grade 8 reading and mathematics as reported on in the 2017 national assessment of education progress assessments (NAEP), the continued demonstrated school improvement which puts 58 percent of Florida's K-12 schools rated at an A or B, and only seven percent at D or F. She also mentioned Florida's 14-year high graduation rate of 82.3 percent demonstrating 11 percentage point improvement since 2011. She continued her report indicating that the Department understands and continues its work to ensure qualified and high-quality teachers are entering the classrooms. One way to do this is through teacher certification exams. She then asked Mr. Phil Canto, Chief, Postsecondary Assessment Bureau to provide a brief presentation regarding teacher certification.

Mr. Canto outlined the teacher certification process, which included an overview of the development of each of the subject-specific assessment tools, the general knowledge assessments and the professional education tests, each aligned to K-12 student standards.

Chair Johnson called for a motion to approve the Commissioner's Report. Mr. Olenick made the motion with a second by Mr. York. The motion passed unanimously.

### **MINUTES**

Chair Johnson called for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 15, 2018, Board meeting. Mr. York made the motion with a second by Mr. Gibson. The motion passed unanimously.

### **UPDATES**

#### **Review of Turnaround Option Plan for School District of DeSoto County**

Chair Johnson recognized Mr. Hershel Lyons, Chancellor, Division of Public Schools who provided a brief overview of the next action item as it related to the status report for the Turnaround Option Plan for DeSoto County. He indicated the status report was being presented as part of the monthly status report recommended at the July 18, 2018, board meeting where the TOP for this district was denied. This is the second such update since the initial denial. After Chancellor Lyons's report, Chair Johnson opened the floor for Board questions for district personnel to address.

#### **Review of Turnaround Option Plan for School District of Marion County**

Chair Johnson recognized Chancellor Lyons, who then provided a brief overview of the next action item as it related to the status report for the Turnaround Option Plan for Marion County. He indicated the status report was being presented as part of the monthly status report recommended at the July 18, 2018, board meeting where the TOP for this district was denied. This is the second such update since the initial denial. After Chancellor Lyons's report, Chair Johnson opened the floor for Board questions for district personnel to address.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Approval of 2019-20 Education Operating and Fixed Capital Outlay Budget Request**

Chair Johnson recognized Ms. Linda Champion, Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations, who provided a detailed overview of the 2019-20 Legislative Budget Request for the Department. After which, Ms. Champion answered questions from the Board.

#### **Tallahassee Classical School v. School Board of Leon County**

Chair Johnson recognized Adam Miller, Executive Director, Officer of Independent Education and Parental Choice, who presented an overview of the charter school appeal before the Board. Mr. Miller indicated that the Charter School Appeal Commission (CSAC) heard the appeal on August 9, 2018, and based upon their review decided to grant the appeal to Tallahassee Classical School by unanimous vote. He then invited Mr. Shawn Arnold, representing Tallahassee Classical School to present. After concluding his presentation, Mr. Arnold answered questions from the Board. Mr. Miller then invited Mr. Rocky Hannah, Superintendent, Leon County, to present. Mr. Hannah expressed his apologies for his initial intent not to attend the meeting to address the Board. After which, he indicated that while he has concerns about the pending location of the charter school, Leon County School Board would be fully cooperating and supporting the efforts of Tallahassee Classical School. Following Mr. Hannah's comments, Chair Johnson opened for questions from the Board.

Chair Johnson asked Mr. Miller for a recommendation on the charter school appeal. Mr. Miller recommended that the Board uphold the CSAC decision to grant the appeal to Tallahassee Classical School. Chair Johnson then called for a motion to adopt the recommendation. Mr. Gibson made the motion with a second by Mr. Chartrand. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Johnson took a moment to recognize Ms. Deborah Quinn, who submitted a public comment card. Ms. Quinn provided an overview of her thoughts about the Teacher Certification Exams, the difficulty she has experienced in passing the General Knowledge portion of the exam and how it resulted in her dismissal. She indicated her love of the profession. After her address, Chair Johnson connected Ms. Quinn with Department staff to share study aids and tools that are available at no cost to assist Ms. Quinn in achieving her certifications.

### **PRESENTATION**

Chair Johnson then recognized Ms. Madeline Pumariega, Chancellor, Division of Florida Colleges, who provided a detailed overview of (degree) Attainment in Florida. After which, Ms. Pumariega answered questions from the Board.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

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

### **MEMBER COMMENTS**

Chair Johnson opened the floor for Board member comments which included a thanks to Collier County Superintendent Patton for hosting a tour for one of the members and for hosting the Board meeting. Vice Chair Tuck expressed his interest in requiring the incentivizing of teacher pay for teachers to come to struggling schools in turnaround and his concern in paying an External Operator a fee that can otherwise be used to entice highly-effective teachers to come to failing schools. These thoughts were echoed by other members. Mr. Gibson expressed his admiration for the success of our teachers, students, commissioner and Governor Scott for the outstanding educational achievements and how it means that lives are being changed for the better. Mr. Chartrand reiterated these comments, indicating he could not be more proud of what has been accomplished in Florida.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting of the State Board of Education at 1:17 P.M.

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Chris Emerson, Corporate Secretary

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Marva Johnson, Chair

**MINUTES  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MEETING**

October 25, 2018  
Citrus County – Crystal River Middle School  
Crystal River, Florida

Chair Marva Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. The following members were present: Vice Chair Tuck; Ben Gibson; Tom Grady; Michael Olenick and Gary Chartrand.

**WELCOME**

Chair Johnson welcomed members and guests to the State Board of Education meeting. She recognized the Crystal River High School Junior ROTC for presentation of the colors. After which, Chair Johnson indicated that she amended the agenda to include an additional action item regarding transition. She also changed action item six (6), indicating that Hillsborough County withdrew two of its Turnaround Option Plans (TOPs) for Greco Middle School and Jackson Elementary School, which will be presented to the Board at a later meeting. After which, she recognized Ms. Sandra Himmel, Superintendent, Citrus County, to welcome and address the Board. Chair Johnson then offered remarks and a special recognition of departing Board member Gary Chartrand, thanking him for his eight years of service to the Board. She then opened the floor for Board questions and comments. After which, she recognized Commissioner Pam Stewart to present her report.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Stewart provided a detailed overview of the status of the districts and the activities and actions of the Department in the wake of Hurricane Michael. She thanked many of the members of the staff for their countless hours worked to provide each of the impacted areas with assistance to help meet immediate needs, indicating that even after schools reopen, the state's families in the hardest-hit areas will have a long road ahead.

She then recognized eight (8) students for outstanding academic success in the face of hardships. These students are enrolled in K-12 public schools, the Florida College System (FCS), Career and Adult Education, Vocational Rehabilitation and Blind Services. Commissioner Stewart also recognized two teachers that were honored as part of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). After which, each of the students and teachers were presented with an award and photo opportunity.

Commissioner Stewart also provided an overview of the launch of the FortifyFL app which was developed in collaboration with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and Department of Legal Affairs to provide a mobile tool for reporting suspicious activity. The new FortifyFL app is available for download on Apple and Android mobile devices. She also outlined other activities in the Department, including Dads Day. She then recognized Ms. Tanya Cooper, Director of Legislative Affairs who provided a recap of the Department's 2019 Legislative priorities. After which, Chair Johnson opened for Board questions.

Chair Johnson called for a motion to approve the Commissioner's Report. Mr. Olenick made the motion with a second by Mr. Chartrand. The motion passed unanimously.

## **UPDATES**

### **Florida College System Update**

Chair Johnson recognized Dr. Stanley Sidor, President, Lake-Sumter State College who provided a brief overview of issues and activities related to the Florida College System.

### **K-12 Public Schools Update**

Chair Johnson recognized Ms. Sandra Himmel who provided a brief overview of the activities occurring within the district and issues and activities related to K-12 Public Schools.

### **Review of Turnaround Option Plan for School District of DeSoto County**

Chair Johnson recognized Mr. Hershel Lyons, Chancellor, Division of Public Schools who provided an overview of the status report submitted to the Department for the Turnaround Option Plan for Nocatee Elementary School. He indicated the status report was being presented as part of the monthly status report recommended at the July 18, 2018, board meeting where the TOP for this school was denied. This is the third such update since the initial denial. After Chancellor Lyons's report, Chair Johnson opened the floor for Board questions for district personnel to address.

### **Review of Turnaround Option Plan for School District of Marion County**

Chair Johnson recognized Chancellor Lyons who provided an overview of the status report submitted to the Department for the Turnaround Option Plan for Evergreen Elementary School. He indicated the status report was being presented as part of the monthly status report recommended at the July 18, 2018, board meeting where the TOP for this school was denied. This is the third such update since the initial denial. After Chancellor Lyons's report, Chair Johnson opened the floor for Board questions for district personnel to address.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Approval of New Bachelor Degree Program in the Florida College System**

Chair Johnson recognized Dr. Carrie Henderson, Executive Vice Chancellor, Division of Florida Colleges who provided an overview of the baccalaureate program approval process, indicating that all requirements in Florida statute and rule were met in the proposal from Valencia College for its Bachelor of Applied Science in Software Development. Dr. Henderson then invited Dr. Kathleen Plinske, Executive Vice President, Valencia College to provide additional details regarding collaboration in the development of the program in conjunction and with the cooperation of the University of Central Florida, private postsecondary institutions and the business community. After which, Chair Johnson opened for questions from the Board.

Chair Johnson called for a motion to approve the Bachelor of Applied Science Degree in Computer Software Development from Valencia College. Mr. Gibson made the motion with a second by Mr. Chartrand. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of District Turnaround Option Plans for Schools Implementing Year 1 in 2018-19**

Chair Johnson recognized Chancellor Lyons who provided an overview of the 2018-19 Turnaround Option Plan process. Commissioner Stewart then reminded the members of the two schools withdrawn from consideration by Hillsborough County School district. She

indicated to the Board that she would be providing a recommendation to the Board for the entirety of the schools on the list with exception of the TOPs for the four schools submitted from Marion County School District to include Belleview-Santos; Reddick-Collier; Fessenden and Greenway Elementary Schools, specifying that she had prepared a separate recommendation for each of these four schools.

Commissioner Stewart then outlined issues related to Belleview-Santos Elementary School which included concern about the placement of a new principal at such a vulnerable school. She recommended the Board deny the TOP Year 1 for Belleview-Santos Elementary School.

Chancellor Lyons introduced Marion County Superintendent Heidi Maier and district staff in attendance for Marion County. District staff stayed on hand throughout the discussions on the TOPs for the four schools. Chair Johnson then opened for Board questions.

Commissioner Stewart made a recommendation to deny the TOP Year 1 for Belleview-Santos Elementary School. Mr. Olenick countered the recommendation with a motion to approve the TOP Year 1 for Belleview-Santos Elementary School. Mr. Chartrand seconded the counter-motion. The counter-motion passed 4 to 2.

Commissioner Stewart outlined issues related to Reddick-Collier Elementary School, indicating that this schools TOP Year 1 was the weakest of the four. She recommended the Board deny the TOP Year 1 for Reddick-Collier Elementary School. After which, Chair Johnson opened for Board questions.

Chair Johnson called for a motion to approve Commissioner Stewart's recommendation to deny the TOP Year 1 for Reddick-Collier Elementary School. Mr. Olenick made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Tuck. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Stewart then made a recommendation to approve the TOP Year 1 for the remaining two schools from Marion County, Fessenden and Greenway Elementary Schools as well as for the remaining TOP Year 1 schools on the list. After which, Chair Johnson opened for Board questions.

Chair Johnson called for a motion to approve Commissioner Stewart's recommendation to approve the TOP Year 1 submissions remaining on the list. Mr. Grady made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Tuck. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Schools of Hope Program Awards for Traditional Public Schools – Whole School Transformation Model (TOP-3 applications)**

Chair Johnson recognized Chancellor Lyons who provided an overview of the Schools of Hope Program Awards application review process. Commissioner Stewart then made a recommendation to the Board to approve 14 applications from seven (7) districts to receive 2018-19 Schools of Hope funding. These include: Brevard – Golfview Elementary Magnet School; Duval – Hyde Park, Rutledge H. Pearson, Long Branch and Susie E. Tolbert Elementary Schools; Hendry – Labelle Elementary School; Manatee – Ballard and Palm View Elementary Schools; Marion – Belleview-Santos Elementary School; Palm Beach – Lake Shore Middle School and Glade View Elementary School; and Pinellas – Campbell Park, Ponce De Leon, and Sandy Lane Elementary Schools. After which, Chair Johnson opened for Board questions.

Chair Johnson called for a motion to approve Commissioner Stewart's recommendation to approve the Schools of Hope Program Awards for the 14 identified schools. Mr. Olenick made the motion with a second by Mr. Chartrand. The motion passed unanimously.

**TRANSITION**

Chair Johnson reminded the members that she had amended the agenda to include an item related to transition planning. She indicated that she wanted the board to have the opportunity to discuss its leadership role and ensure that plans are in place to support a smooth and orderly transition. She then provided a recap of the great strides made in Florida to improve education under Pam Stewart's leadership, and reiterated the board's role and responsibilities in supervising the state's system of education and in appointing the commissioner of education. She indicated that stability and continuation of the efforts made and continuity is best accomplished by inviting and requesting that Commissioner Stewart stay for one year, to help ensure an orderly transition. Chair Johnson then called attention to the resolution that was before them. After which, each of the Board members provided short remarks about the excellent work being done in Florida as a result of the leadership of Commissioner Stewart.

Chair Johnson called for a motion to approve the resolution to retain Pam Stewart as Commissioner of Education for an additional year. Mr. Grady made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Tuck. The motion passed unanimously.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

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

**MEMBER COMMENTS**

Chair Johnson opened the floor for Board member comments which included final parting comments from Gary Chartrand. Comments included acknowledgement of the hard work that will be ahead and during the transition, but confidence that the momentum that Commissioner Stewart and her team set in motion will not be interrupted.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting of the State Board of Education at 1:22 P.M.

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Chris Emerson, Corporate Secretary

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Marva Johnson, Chair