

**MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING**

October 20, 2021
Caribe Royale Orlando
8101 World Center Drive
Sierra Ballroom A & B
Orlando, FL 32821

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

Commissioner's Report

Chair Grady recognized Commissioner Corcoran for his report. Commissioner Corcoran started by thanking the board and recognized two individuals: Tiffany Woideck, from Seminole State College, pursuing her AA in early childhood education, and Sarah Painter, the 2022 Florida Teacher of the Year.

Minutes

Minutes from July 14, August 6, August 17 and August 18 meetings

Chair Grady called for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 14, August 6, August 17 and August 18 meetings. Mr. York made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Gibson. The motion passed unanimously.

UPDATES

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

Chair Grady recognized Dr. Georgia Lorenz, President, Seminole State College for an update on behalf of the Council of Presidents. President Lorenz started by thanking the board, commissioner, and department for their leadership, support and advocacy for Florida state colleges and welcomed Kathleen Plinske, the new President of Valencia College to the Council of Presidents. President Lorenz then briefed the board on the Council of Presidents legislative priorities, starting with the first priority, to strengthen the Florida College System Program fund with an investment of 60 million dollars towards Rapid Credentialing, to renew the Florida College System infrastructure with a renewed investment of \$39.8 million, and last to reinvest in Florida College System performance funding which ensures high-quality instruction and support services, student completion, and high-skill, high-wage employment for graduates. Chair Grady then opened the board for questions. Mr. Tuck asked if there was an entrepreneurship degree or certificate at Seminole State College. Vice Chair Gibson asked what areas are in high demand for rapid credentialing.

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

Chair Grady recognized Superintendent Pace for an update on behalf of the Council of Presidents. Superintendent Pace thanked the board and briefed them on the partnership between Osceola County and Valencia College, stating that 132 students in the 2021 school year will graduate high school with an AA degree and that an additional 178 high school students will graduate as program completers from Osceola Technical College. Superintendent Pace added that creating a positive, safe school climate will help our districts, schools and our teachers meet key goals, including boosting student achievement and closing achievement gaps, increasing high school graduation rates, decreasing teacher turnover and increasing teacher satisfaction, and turning around the remaining low-performing schools.

Chair Grady then withdrew Consent item 28, approval of amendment to Rule 6A-14.092, Textbook Affordability.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-1.0018, School Safety Requirements and Monitoring

Chair Grady recognized Tim Hay, Executive Director, Office of Safe Schools to provide an overview of the rule amendment. Mr. Hay thanked the board and stated the rule amendment will further enhance school safety through increased accountability for school districts and public schools. Adding that it will provide school districts, including charter schools, detailed guidance on implementation of Alyssa's Alert, as required by Senate Bill 70 from 2020. Chair Grady called for a motion to approve the amendment to rule 6A-1.0018, School Safety Requirements and Monitoring. Mr. Petty made the motion with a second by Mr. Tuck. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of New Rule 6A-1.09411, K-12 Civic Education Curriculum

Chair Grady recognized Jacob Oliva, Chancellor, Division of Public Schools for a brief overview of the new rule. Chancellor Oliva started by briefing the board on House Bill 5 which required the Department to develop a rule around civic education. Adding that the new rule has components to define what a desirable citizen is, ensures that the curriculum adheres to the adoption of social studies standards and updates courses for the 2021-2022 school year. Chair Grady then opened the board for questions. Vice Chair Gibson asked when will the Civic Education review be completed. Mr. Petty asked for an outline of the process a rule goes through before being voted on. Chair Grady then opened the board for public comment. Chair Grady then called for a motion to approve new rule 6A-1.09411, K-12 Civic Education Curriculum. Mr. Petty made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Gibson. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-10.02413, Civic Literacy Competency

Chair Grady recognized Kathy Hebda, Chancellor, Division of Florida Colleges for an overview of the rule amendment. Chancellor Hebda started by briefing the board on Florida Legislatures requirement that postsecondary students need to demonstrate civic literacy competency by passing either an approved course or test beginning with the 2018-19 students. Stating that students must have an understanding of: American democracy, the United States Constitution and its application, knowledge of the founding documents and how they have shaped the nature and functions of our institutions, self-government, and an understanding of landmark Supreme Court cases, landmark legislation, landmark executive actions and their impact on law and society. Chair Grady then opened the board for questions. Vice Chair Gibson asked if there is a way the department can track and monitor the implementation. Chair

Grady asked if high school students that pass the Civic Literacy Assessment will they be required to take an additional college level course or will that test satisfy the requirement. Chair Grady then called for a motion to approve the amendment to rule 6A-10.02413, Civic Literacy Competency. Mr. York made the motion with a second by Mr. Tuck. The motion passed unanimously.

Red Hills Academy, Inc. v. School Board of Leon County

Chair Grady recognized Adam Emerson, Director, Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice for an overview of the appeal. Mr. Emerson stated that in February 2021, Red Hills Academy provided Leon County charter review committee their application and received a recommendation of approval from the committee. However, in April 2021 the Leon County School Board voted to deny the application. Continuing Mr. Emerson noted that Red Hills appealed the decision by Leon County and was heard by the Charter School Appeal Commission which, after reviewing the case voted in Red Hills Academy's favor. Chair Grady then read the Commissioners' recommendation, to approve the Red Hills Academy Charter School. Chair Grady then opened the board for questions. Vice Chair Gibson asked what the focus of the chartered school would be and where in Leon County it would be opened. Chair Grady called for a motion to uphold the Charter School Appeal Commission's recommendation to grant the appeal. Mr. Petty made the motion with a second by Mr. Tuck. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Grady then moved Consent Items 32, approval of amendment to rule 6M-8.201, Child Enrollment Procedure for the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program and 33, approval of amendment to rule 6M-8.610, Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Director Credential for Private Providers to action.

Approval of Amendment to Rule 6M-8.201, Child Enrollment Procedure for the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program

Chair Grady recognized Chancellor Oliva for an overview of the next two items. Chancellor Oliva provided the board an overview of the amendments. Starting with updates to the agency name, changing from the Office of Early Learning to the Division of Early Learning within the Department of Education, updates to all forms, and added flexibility for parents to demonstrate residency for enrollment. Chair Grady then recognized Ms. Chopra for public comment. Ms. Chopra supported the amendments to the rule and asked for the rule to include additional language to support migrant workers and seasonal farm-working families. Chair Grady then called for a motion to approve the amendment to rule 6M-8.201, Child Enrollment Procedure for the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program. Mr. Tuck made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Gibson. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Amendment to Rule 6M-8.610, Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Director Credential for Private Providers

Chancellor Oliva then provided a brief overview of the amendment to rule 6M-8.610, Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Director Credential for Private Providers. Stating that the updates cover the credentialing and training requirements for Voluntary Prekindergarten directors. Which help to ensure that directors are high quality, have specialized training and are up-to-date with the current performance standards. Chair Grady then recognized Ms. Chopra for public comment. Ms. Chopra supported the amendment and recommended adding language for a flexible time period for implementation to allow newly hired staff to meet the requirements. Chair Grady called for a motion to approve the amendment to rule 6M-8.610, Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Director Credential for

Private Providers. Mr. York made the motion with a second by Vice Chair Gibson. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT ITEMS

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

MEMBER COMMENTS

Chair Grady opened the board for comments. Ms. Brown thanked the board and the public for commenting. Mr. Petty thanked the board and the Office of Safe Schools for getting parental notifications added and stated they are an important part of protecting our students.

Chair Grady then made a correction, stating that he inadvertently said Consent Item 28 had been removed from the agenda when it had been Consent Item 29. Chair Grady then called for a motion to reapprove the Consent Items. Vice Chair Gibson made the motion with a second by Mr. Tuck. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tuck thanked the police for being at the meeting, congratulated Sarah Painter the Florida Teacher of the Year, and thanked the governor for his support of rural counties with a six million dollar grant. Vice Chair Gibson echoed the comments of his fellow members and added we must always act with urgency when it comes to Florida's children. Chair Grady thanked all the members for their service and members of the public for their participation.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Chair Grady adjourned the meeting of the State Board of Education at 10:26 A.M.

Chris Emerson, Corporate Secretary

Tom Grady, Chair