

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Action Item
November 18, 2014

SUBJECT: Approval of Minutes of September 29, 2014, Meeting

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

N/A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The minutes of the September 29, 2014, meeting are presented for approval.

Supporting Documentation Included: Minutes, September 29, 2014

Facilitator/Presenter: Chair Gary Chartrand

**MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING**

September 29, 2014
Tampa Airport Marriott
Duval Room
Tampa, FL

Chair Gary Chartrand called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed members and guests to the State Board of Education meeting. The following members were present: Vice Chair John Padget, John Colón, Marva Johnson, Rebecca Fishman Lipsey and Andy Tuck. Dr. Ada Armas participated via phone.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Fishman Lipsey shared her conversation with a Miami-Dade County student in the foster care system that is student body president and is applying to college. Ms. Fishman Lipsey stated concern for the cost of reports for the ACT and AP exams for low income students. Ms. Fishman Lipsey also shared a recommendation from researchers in the state for a standalone half-credit course in Financial Literacy.

Ms. Johnson stated that she recently visited Palmetto Elementary School in Orange County where Principal Dr. Murphy-Osborne turned the school from an F school, to an A school. This school has a high diversity ratio, high English as a second language ratio, and an incredibly high poverty ratio but this principal proved that with the right leadership and the right attitude, we can take our kids on a very successful path. Ms. Johnson thanked Ron Nieto, Deputy Commissioner of Innovation, and his team for developing a template for the schools and the districts to work with, to make sure that they're focusing not only on having the right devices in the classroom to accomplish the technology objectives, but to also include the training the teachers need to actually enable the curriculum.

Vice Chair Padget echoed the concerns of Ms. Fishman Lipsey for the cost of reports. Vice Chair Padget shared the following from his time in Europe: Estonia requires all students to take coding classes starting in elementary school and this month in the United Kingdom, computer science is required at every grade level. Vice Chair Padget ended his comments by sharing a story about a student he met in Amsterdam named Baktash Wali, a 20 year-old political refuge from Afghanistan studying law at the University of Amsterdam. He shared a copy of the internationally recognized Certiport Industry Certificate Mr. Wali received when he was 16 and encouraged Florida students to aspire for the same.

Dr. Armas agreed with the comments by Vice Chair Padget and Ms. Fishman Lipsey regarding the cost of reports. Dr. Armas commended Commissioner Stewart and the Department for their hard work on the budget request.

Mr. Colón thanked Chair Legg and Chair Adkins for their work with the Department. Mr. Colón stated that the Board's recommendation to double the amount of funding for digital classrooms from \$40 million to \$80 million reflects a true commitment to ensuring that our schools are technology ready and critical needs associated with the repair and maintenance of our public schools are addressed by including \$165 million in our proposed budget.

Mr. Tuck thanked Governor Scott for accompanying Commissioner Stewart on her Back-to-School Tour this year and stated that he was fortunate enough to visit a few of the schools with them.

Chair Chartrand added to the comments regarding cost of exam reports and requested the Commissioner provide an update during her report of the Board's previous request to look at those students that have high SAT or ACT scores that are not going on to college. To Mr. Padget's point on coding, legislation was passed this last year for computer science to count towards credit. But we need a strong strategy on how we introduce this to our children at a young age, what kind of curriculum do we need for our younger children, when do we introduce them to coding and how much, and these questions should be a high priority. Chair Chartrand ended his comments by sharing how proud he is to sit on a Board where we will have historic levels of funding for education with the highest K-12 funding per student in the history of Florida, Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) at \$7,176. Chair Chartrand thanked Governor Scott for his leadership and support of education.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Stewart provided an update on students that score 1500 or above on the SAT and 21 or above on the ACT and do not go on to higher education. She explained that Florida has a higher percentage of these students going on to higher education than the national average and that the Department will continue to work on identifying the barriers for the students that do not go on higher education.

Commissioner Stewart provided an update on the Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading (FAIR) assessment. She explained that she recently suspended the kindergarten through second grade FAIR assessment because of the difficulties in the way it was performing but the third grade through 12th grade FAIR is performing well and continues to be used very widely throughout this state. She further explained that the Department will continue to work with the vendor on making sure that kindergarten through second grade is usable as we move forward through this school year and she will have more information in November.

Commissioner Stewart provided an overview of her Back-to-School Tour where she visited 15 schools and the Governor accompanied her on six of the visits. She visited the following schools: Riversprings Middle School, Wakulla County; Hope Centennial Elementary, Palm Beach County; Southside Elementary School, Miami-Dade County; The Webster School, St. Johns County; Vineland Elementary, Charlotte County; Memorial Elementary School, Highlands County; John E. Ford Pre K-8 Spanish and English Montessori School, Duval County; Jefferson High School, Roland Park K-8 Magnet, LaVoy Exceptional Center, Alexander Elementary, Bailey Elementary School, Strawberry Crest High School, and Franklin Boys Preparatory Academy, Hillsborough County.

Commissioner Stewart recognized Christie Bassett, 2015 Florida Department of Education/Macy's Christa McAuliffe Teacher Ambassador of the Year. Ms. Bassett demonstrated a lesson on cross-curricular instruction called Lakeland Landscapes.

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

MINUTES

Chair Chartrand called for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 17th and August 18th Board meetings. The motion was made by Vice Chair Padget with a second by Ms. Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

UPDATE

K-12 Public Schools – MaryEllen Elia, Superintendent, Hillsborough County Public Schools on behalf of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents

Chair Chartrand recognized Superintendent Elia to present on behalf of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS). Superintendent Elia stated that the Florida school superintendents support a strong accountability system that promotes student achievement. However, Florida's school superintendents have some serious concerns: Superintendents need some direction from the State Board of Education as to how to respond to a parent's request that their children not participate in state testing; the number of assessments required for promotion; the new assessment has not been field tested in Florida with Florida students, Florida Standards and Florida Curriculum; capacity and availability of technology required for these assessments; there has not been sufficient time to teach students the keyboarding and computer literacy skills; and regarding the teacher evaluations and pay for performance, not all districts have sufficient local assessments to provide valid and reliable assessments of performance. Superintendents support the Florida State Standards but recommend the first year of the new assessment be a baseline year, schools grades should be held in abeyance, and a modification of the percentage of evaluation based on performance should be considered for teacher's evaluations.

Florida College System – President Jim Henningsen, College of Central Florida on behalf of the Council of Presidents

President Henningsen was unable to attend but comments from the Council of Presidents were included in the materials.

ACTION ITEMS

Chair Chartrand made a motion to withdraw Action Item number three - Approval of New Rule 6A-10.083, Standards Relating to Gross Immorality and Acts of Moral Turpitude and Consent Items number five - Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-1.09441, Requirements for Programs and Courses Which are Funded Through the Florida Education Finance Program and for Which the Student May Earn Credit Toward High School Graduation and numbers 13 through 16 - Approval of Repeal of Rules 6M-8.200, 6M-8.2015 and 6M-8.202, related to the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program; Approval of Amendment to Rule 6M-8.201, Child Enrollment Procedure for the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program; Approval of Amendment to Rule 6M-8.301, Standard Statewide Provider Contract for the VPK Program; and Approval of New Rule 6M-8.620, Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Pre- and Post-Assessments to be considered at a future meeting. The motion was made by Vice Chair Padgett with a second by Mr. Colón. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of 2015-16 Education Operating and Fixed Capital Outlay Legislative Budget Request

Chair Chartrand recognized Commissioner Stewart for a budget introduction and Linda Champion, Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations, for a PowerPoint presentation. Commissioner Stewart provided the following highlights of the budget: highest FEFP, largest per-student funding level in history, it focuses on math and STEM initiatives, and additional funds for repair and maintenance of our public school facilities. Ms. Champion provided an overview of the Operating and Fixed Capital Outlay Budget for 2015-16. Commissioner Stewart thanked Department staff for all the hard work developing this budget request. Ms. Johnson thanked the Commissioner and staff for all the hard work put into the budget and made the following comments in favor of the budget: this budget meets the Governor's

challenge to make education affordable; proud to see \$5 million in the budget to get the \$10,000 STEM degree programs in place and supported; increased focus on STEM; and this budget acknowledges and accepts the governor's challenge on making sure that the merit-based pay was carried forward. Vice Chair Padgett stated that compared to other budgets he's seen while on this Board, this budget connects education with Florida's economy in a performance-based way better than any other budget passed. Vice Chair Padgett made a motion to approve the budget with a second by Ms. Johnson. Chair Chartrand recognized Emma Miller for comment on the budget. Ms. Fishman Lipsey commended Ms. Champion and her entire team for an amazing job and was happy to see the \$29.3 million for support of our lowest performing elementary schools and \$5 million for health and student services. Ms. Fishman Lipsey recommended having a Board workshop prior to the budget season to analyze data across the state, review the progress and gaps, and discuss the vision for the future. Mr. Tuck also complimented Commissioner Stewart and staff for their hard work and agreed with Ms. Fishman Lipsey on conducting a workshop next year. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of New Rule 6A-6.0961, Florida Personal Learning Scholarship Accounts Program

Chair Chartrand recognized Adam Miller, Executive Director, Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice, to present the rule. Mr. Miller provided an overview of the new rule. Ms. Johnson requested that at the end of the process for the Board to be informed if there was a deficit. Chair Chartrand called for a motion to approve new rule 6A-6.0961, as presented. Vice Chair Padgett made the motion with a second by Mr. Colón. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT ITEMS

Chair Chartrand called for a motion to approve items one through four, six through 12 and item 17. Vice Chair Padgett made the motion with a second by Mr. Colón. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Chartrand announced that the next meeting will be on November 18th.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Chair Chartrand adjourned the meeting of the State Board of Education at 10:30 a.m.

Cathy Schroeder, Corporate Secretary

Gary Chartrand, Chair