

**MINUTES**  
**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
Florida Department of Education  
Turlington Building  
Tallahassee, Florida

Chairman T. Willard Fair welcomed members and guests to the State Board of Education meeting at the Florida Department of Education, on August 14, 2007, with the following members present: Donna Callaway, Akshay Desai, Roberto Martinez, Phoebe Raulerson, Kathleen Shanahan, and Linda Taylor.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Fair recognized Commissioner Blomberg to announce the appointment of Dr. Will Holcombe as Interim Chancellor for Community Colleges. Commissioner Blomberg recognized Dr. Bill Law, President of Tallahassee Community College and Dr. Jackson Sasser, President of Santa Fe Community College. Dr. Sasser thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak and voiced his support for the appointment of Dr. Holcombe as Interim Chancellor.

Chairman Fair recognized Ms. Nancy Noeske of Proact Search, Inc. to provide a brief summary on the search process for the next Commissioner of Education. Ms. Noeske stated that 32 applications were received, three applications were withdrawn, and four were received after the extended application due date of July 23, 2007. Ms. Noeske requested that the Board consider moving forward with two actions. The first action would be a motion to accept or deny consideration of the applications received after the July 23 due date. After lengthy discussion, Dr. Desai made a motion with a second by Ms. Shanahan to accept the four late applications. The motion failed with Mrs. Raulerson, Mrs. Callaway, Mrs. Taylor and Chairman Fair as the opposing votes.

Ms. Noeske stated that eight candidates had been identified as meeting the position qualifications however one applicant had not submitted complete information prior to the due date. After clarification that the only applications to be considered were those completed prior to July 23, 2007, Ms. Noeske stated that seven candidates met the profile for Commissioner of Education. Chairman Fair called for a motion to accept the proposed list of seven candidates. Ms. Shanahan made the motion with a second by Mr. Martinez. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Fair called for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2007, meeting. The motion was made by Ms. Shanahan with a second by Mrs. Callaway. The motion passed unanimously.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:**

Commissioner Blomberg recognized the 2008 Teacher of the Year Richard Ellenberg of Camelot Elementary School. Commissioner Blomberg announced the following new personnel assignments in the Department: Jean Miller, Interim Director for the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice, Steve Ritacco, Acting Director of Division of Blind Services, and Adeola Fayemi, Director of the Office of Equity and Access.

Chairman Fair recognized Representative Dan Gelber upon his arrival. Representative Gelber provided brief recommendations and thoughts relating to Florida's assessment system and FCAT for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Blomberg continued her report with an update on the current year budget reduction exercise. Ms. Shanahan recommended that the Board continue to champion the teacher pay for performance funding for the current budget year. The Board concurred.

Commissioner Blomberg provided a brief update on the timeline for districts to submit school improvement plans. Commissioner Blomberg stated that school improvement plans will be presented at the September Board meeting. Mrs. Taylor requested a breakdown of the repeating F schools by school level and district.

Chairman Fair called for a motion to accept the Commissioner's Report as presented. The motion was made by Mrs. Taylor with a second by Ms. Shanahan. The motion passed unanimously.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

## Approval of Professional Practices Advisory Council Proposed Action

Deputy Chancellor Pam Stewart provided a brief update on the proposed Professional Practices Advisory Council Action Plan. Deputy Chancellor Stewart stated that Commissioner Blomberg wished to strengthen recommendation ten, "Prohibit employer / administrator from entering into confidentiality agreements with terminated employees," to include those employees who are allowed to resign in lieu of termination. In addition, while recommendation twenty-four, "Establish independent agency outside the FLDOE for all components of K-12 educator preparation, certification, and investigative/ prosecutorial responsibilities", was not recommended by the Advisory Council, Commissioner Blomberg recommended that an independent review should be completed to come back with recommendations on the appropriate placement of these responsibilities. Mr. Martinez made a motion to withdraw recommendation twenty-three, "Require private school educators to hold certificates," as private schools are not governed by the State Board of Education. With a second by Ms. Shanahan, the motion to withdraw recommendation twenty-three passed unanimously.

Mr. Martinez made a motion to approve the recommendations as amended with a second by Mrs. Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.

### CONSENT AGENDA:

Chairman Fair called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was made by Ms. Shanahan with a second by Mrs. Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.

### UPDATE:

Commissioner Blomberg recognized Jean Miller, Acting Director, Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice, to provide an update on the process for the review of applications and submitted documents for a district to be the sole authorizer of charter schools. Mrs. Miller stated that districts were provided an opportunity to revise their original applications that were received by the March 1, 2007, statutory deadline. Mrs. Miller stated that 41 districts submitted revised documents to retain exclusive authority, nine districts did not submit revised documents, and a total of four districts will not apply for exclusive authority. Mrs. Miller stated that the review process will be completed by September 11, 2007. Chairman Fair clarified that districts who do not receive exclusive authority to charter schools will still have the option to sponsor charter schools in their district.

### ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Fair stated that the next Board meeting will be held September 17 – 18, 2007, in Tampa, Florida.

Having no further business, Chairman Fair adjourned the meeting of the State Board of Education.

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Lynn Abbott, Corporate Secretary

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T. Willard Fair, Chairman