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Governor

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Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Date: August 21, 2015

Time: 9:35 a.m.

Place: Aftercare Building 100 N. Western, Chicago, IL

APPROVED: September 18, 2015

- IO 1.0 CALL TO ORDER by President Jones
- 1.1 Roll Call
- 1.2 Board Members Present: Candice Jones, Heather Dalmage, Tresa Dunbar Garrett, Patrick Griffin, Candice Smith, Jennifer Vidis
- 1.3 Board Members Absent: David Green
- 1.4 Others present: Superintendent Gloria Davis, Beth Compton, Kiersten Neswick (by phone), Jessica McMiller Baptiste, Jesse Montgomery, Heidi Mueller, Eva Moore, Maurice McAllister, Trina Azvalo, Rita McGoines from Achieve 3000
- 1.5 President Jones opened the meeting with a round table introduction of all present.
- 1.6 President Jones requested to amend the agenda to have the reading of the Oath of Office as the first topic on the Agenda. Member Smith motioned to move the Oath of Office for Board Members as the first item on the agenda and Member Dunbar Garrett seconded.
- Voice Vote:
 Aye; Unanimous
 Nay: None
 Motion Carries.
- 1.7 All board members present were sworn in under oath by General Counsel Beth Compton.
- AI 2.0 CONSENT AGENDA
- 2.1 Approval of Agenda
 President Jones requested to move the approval of the agenda. Member Vidis motioned to approve the agenda and Member Dalmage seconded.

Voice Vote:

Aye; Unanimous

Nay: None

Motion Carries

2.2 Approval of Minutes April 17, 2015

President Jones requested to move the approved of minutes for April 17, 2015 meeting with an amendment to include Member Dunbar Garrett as present during the April 17, 2015 meeting. Member Dunbar Garrett motioned to approve the April 17, 2015 minutes with the amendment to add Member Tresa Dunbar Garrett as present. Member Smith seconded.

Voice Vote:

Aye: Unanimous

Nay: None

Motion Carries.

IO 3.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Jones mentioned that ordinarily when the board meets, it is generally with her General Counsel Beth Compton, School Superintendent Gloria Davis, and Administrative Support Maurice McAllister. Staff usually not present is the Chief of Staff and deputies of all the subsequent areas. President Jones wanted everyone here today to talk about their work at the agency. This is a curious role that you have stepped in to, it is a big role. We will talk about what we call the opportunity, there is nowhere to go but up with the type of educational offering at the Department of Juvenile Justice. If you engaged previously with a school board in the past, this is not a normal school board it is a curious construct to have a school board sit with an otherwise State agency. This board takes responsibility for education and educational related issues for this agency. The agency's full ranges of responsibilities are quite broad. President Jones believes and she is happy to conceive that with dissidents in the past that it is necessary to have a full understanding of all the work we do. To remedy that, it is reasonable to start this new board with the whole executive staff. We can think about with some regularity maybe having annually or bi-annually the executive team joins the board and talk about their work. We will conclude our meeting with a tour of one of the facilities to understand the work that we do. We currently run 6 facilities in the State of Illinois. The Department of Juvenile Justice manages the prison systems for the youth in Illinois. If you worked with Nancy B. Jefferson or Juvenile Temporary Detention Center in the past, you know that in Illinois we have a bifurcated court system that is decentralized. So every county manages pretrial institutions where they house their kids before they are adjudicated delinquent to State custody. Once the youth are committed to State custody they come to us, the Department of Juvenile Justice then takes the responsibility to house and educate them. Once the youth are released from State custody, they go to Aftercare. The post-release is retained by the Department for a period of time until they are no longer under supervision. In the pass, when the youth were released from State custody they were under adult parole. Now in the last year, the Deputy Director for Aftercare has worked diligently to build out an Aftercare program in the community. Starting January 2016, all youth would be supervised

by law. When the Department was created in 2006 it was under the Department of Correction and the ideal model was that you do something wrong you are punished. President Jones believes that when you do something wrong you should be rehabilitated and rehabilitation is gained when you can build on something and return to the community. As a result, she believes that with rehabilitation we are safer when our youth returns back to their communities. The Department's staff knows their tasks and work very hard on behalf of this Department and the State of Illinois.

IO 3.1 Executive Team Overview

Jesse Montgomery, Deputy Director of Operation and Security. The Deputy Director of Operations is responsible for the overall operations of all six youth facilities within the Department. The Deputy is responsible for all aspects relating to security, staffing, training, investigations and audits. Mr. Montgomery recommends that each of the board members tour the facilities for themselves to get a firsthand view of our facility in operation.

Heidi Mueller, Director of Programs. The Deputy Director of Programs serves as the principal policy-making official, conceptualizing, developing and implementing program services for the Department while the youth are in our custody. Ms. Mueller mentioned that we have medical, mental health, recreational services, vocational, chaplain and religious programming any services provided to the youth falls under her program, except education. Our model is geared towards the youth and not an adult model, recognizing that we are working with 13 year olds. The Deputy assists in the planning, coordination of goals and objectives, formulates, and executes policies and procedures for statewide programs and services that are evidence-based.

Eva Moore, Director of Aftercare exercises principal programmatic responsibilities of the formulation and implementation of statewide aftercare policy for all juvenile community supervision, case management, public safety, family, aftercare services, and interstate compact. Aftercare was piloted in 2011 and was in place a year later. Ms. Moore started with just educating what already existed and started building out. She rolled out statewide 8 offices: Chicago; Chicago Heights; Rockford; Peoria; Aurora; Springfield; East St Louis; and Champaign. She roughly has 1100 to 1200 youth currently in Aftercare. Once the youth are assigned to aftercare they are assigned an Aftercare Specialist. Interstate compact comes into play when the youth has run away across State lines and the State facilitates the safe return of the youth; and Interstate Compact secures the youth moving to and from State to State.

Beth Compton, Chief General Counsel provides legal and policy advice on all matters which impact the Department. She directs all legal and policy work of the agency from; review which includes contract issues on employees involved in a car accident; to class action litigation that the Department is involved in. Ms. Compton serves at the Ethics Officer and ensures that all board members receive the Open Meetings Act and Ethics Trainings. The Department is under two Consent Decrees: one is, youth returning back to IDJJ; and the second, is RJ vs Jones that requires the Department to bring in experts to ensure we are in compliance with federal laws, the rights for youths, confinement and education.

Jessica McMiller Baptiste, Chief of Staff oversees the daily operations of the Department this includes; personnel; hiring; and reform. Chief McMiller Baptiste's job is to work with her colleagues to bring those ideals to parish ion and to work within the confines of the State bureaucracy. One of the things that is most recent and exciting is education, Superintendent Davis and Chief McMiller were able to work together with the Director's contacts on Teach for America to target teachers and administrative positions. Chief McMiller plans to have those positions completed by the end of the year. Also, we are continuing to search for an Assistant Superintendent's position that is also open. If you have someone you would like to consider, we can send out the information for them to apply for the position.

Kiersten Neswick, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) comes to the Department with much experience in her role as the CFO. Ms. Neswick mentioned that the Department's budget which in its entirety comes from General Revenue Funds; and other State funds 523, which is for the School District. The Department's general office fund pays for: travel reimbursements; commodities; telecommunications; personnel; and payroll. School District has its own budget as well as the Aftercare program. Ms. Neswick will provide a complete budget analysis for the school district at our next board meeting.

IO 5.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Davis welcomed all new Board Members to the meeting and to education reform because all of you have been chosen to lead the charge.

5.1 School Board Members Manual

Superintendent Davis mentioned that the School Board Manual was put together last year but has been enhanced over the course of the year. Please use this manual for keeping pertinent information together. Superintendent Davis went through each tab in the School Board Manual. She highlighted that the contact list is not used for the purpose of meeting as a group but members can speak one on one, but never to talk business relative to the board with three or more members together, this is State Law. The Department would provide more information as we go forward.

- A question was raised to how the members handle media inquiries. President Jones mentioned that all media inquiries for this board should be handled through the Public Information Officer (PIO), see the member's listing for PIO contact information.
- We will like to invite the court appointed liaison Dr. Peter Leone at some point in the future. To give the board an update on the status of education services and support for the students in IDJJ.
- A question was raised by the board member to receive an abbreviation sheet to understand the data reports clearly. The department will provide a sheet for clearer understanding of the data information. The data reports will be provided during all board meetings.
- A question was raised as to the graduation requirements for the youth in Juvenile Justice System. Superintendent Davis mentioned that the Department has its own transcript and graduation requirements are in place. The graduation requirement is currently 16.30 credit hours after which the

youth receives the High School Diploma once the graduation requirements are met.

5.2 Board of Education Meeting Calendar

Superintendent Davis mentioned that the Board of Education Meeting Calendar is established and the next meeting will be September 18, 2015. The Board of Education meetings are scheduled 6 times a year.

5.3 Illinois School Code

Superintendent Davis has asked that each board member read the School Code for the Department of Juvenile Justice School District to better understand from a State level what the requirements are for the school board and its members.

AI 6.0 CLOSED EXECUTIVE MEETING

President Jones requested that the board members attend the closed executive meeting. Member Vidis moved that the board members attend the close executive meeting, seconded by Member Griffin. Close session began at 11:19 a.m. Motion Carried.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Unanimous

Nays: None

Motion Carries.

6.1 Board meeting were back in open session at: 11:32 a.m. President Jones requested to continue the open meeting session. Member Smith moved to continue the open meeting session, seconded by Dalmage. Motion Carried.

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: Candice Jones, Heather Dalmage, Tresa Dunbar Garrett, Patrick Griffin, Candice Smith, Jennifer Vidis

Board Members Absent: David Green

DI 7.0 BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

IO 8.0 IMPORTANT DATES

8.1 Community Dialogue – Wednesday, September 2, 2015 at 10:00 am, IYC Pere Marquette. Invited community and civic leaders will be in attendance. All Board of Education members are welcome.

AI 9.0 President Jones requested to adjourn the board meeting. Member Dunbar Garrett motion to move and seconded by Member Dalmage. Motion carried. The board meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.