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Governor

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Board of Education

Minutes

9:30 a.m.

April 18, 2014

100 N. Western, Aftercare Conference Room, Chicago IL 60612

Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting was called to order 9:37a.m. by board Secretary Dr. James Gunnell. Motion was made by Mr. Smoot for Dr. James Gunnell the secretary of the board to chair meeting in the absence of President Candice Jones. Mr. Ellis seconded the motion and it carried.

Present board members: James Gunnell, Tresa Dunbar, Carl Ellis, Donald Smoot and David Green at this time acknowledge quorum. Board members absent: Anthony Grady. Others present: Acting Superintendent Rick Gravatt and DJJ Chief General Counsel Beth Compton, Mary Reynolds, DJJ Chief of Intergovernmental Relations participated by telephone. President Candice Jones joined the board at 9:41 and assumed the chair.

Motion to approve the minutes from 03/28/14 motion carried.

President's Report

Juvenile Justice Director and School Board President Candice Jones informed the school board of the possibilities of up to 18% budget cuts that may occur for state fiscal year 2015. She expressed her concerns for the impact on DJJ programing and DJJ's ability to meet the mandates of the R.J v Jones Consent Decree. All school board members shared their concerns as well.

Superintendent Report

Acting Superintendent Gravatt provided reports on the following topics.

- a. GED Update – Installation should begin at the Kewanee site at the beginning of May. Once this site set up has been completed DJJ can quickly move on to the remaining facilities.
- b. Roadmap – Superintendent Gravatt provided updates on many of the important school district projects that he is working on.
- c. School District Staffing Needs – Superintendent Gravatt provided a list of recommended school district staffing needs to address the requirements of the consent decree.
- d. School District Report –The school district report was provided to all school board members.

Old Business

- a. Superintendent Search – The position is posted and applicants may apply until April 24. IDJJ will come back with a list of applicants as the next step. President Jones and Mr. Smoot will work together to establish the rubric to evaluate applicants.
- b. School board policies – Superintendent reminded the school board about the policies that had been submitted to them for their review and comments. They were informed to submit all comments and recommendations to Mrs. McKinney. Once DJJ has all of the recommendations Department staff can create a document to be approved by the board in future meetings. Motion was made by Mr. Gunnell for he and Ms. Dunbar to work with Chief Legal Counsel Compton and Chief of Governmental Affairs Ms. Reynolds on the board policies. Motion was seconded by Mr. Ellis and carried.
- c. Ad hoc Committee- School Board President Jones informed the board that an ad hoc committee could be a good tool to help channel and direct IDJJ and the board and expedite the process of moving forward.
- d. ISBE School Recognition Tool – Superintendent Gravatt reminded the school board to review the ISBE School Recognition Tool and be prepared to comment and make recommendations of highlighted areas. The school board was informed that we need to submit a final version of the tool to the State Board of Education that will be used to evaluate our school district.

New Business

- a. School Calendar – Superintendent Gravatt informed the school board that he was working with the court appointed expert Dr. Peter Leone to create a school calendar that will be used to address the consent decree mandates and requirements. Once we have a final draft the calendar will be presented to the board for approval prior to submitting to the courts and posting at ISBE and the district website.
- b. Administrative staff for the Board – School Board member Ellis requested that an Administrative staff for the school board be provided them. No action was taken at this time.

Adjournment

Ms. Dunbar made a motion to adjourn meeting at 12:13 p.m. and Mr. Ellis seconded motion carried.