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Board of Education

Minutes

9:30 a.m. on June 20, 2014

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

Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 9:36 a.m. by President Candice Jones.

Present Board members: Tresa Dunbar, Carl Ellis, David Green, Donald Smoot, James Gunnell and Candice Jones. Others present: DJJ Chief General Counsel Beth Compton; and DJJ Chief of Intergovernmental Relations, Mary Reynolds. Participation by telephone: Dr. Anthony Grady joined at 9:49 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Smoot made a motion to accept the minutes from May 16, 2014 with minor changes noted and it was seconded by Mr. Green. Motion carried.

President's Report

President Jones shared a summary of the Department's Fiscal Year 2015 budget as it passed the General Assembly. She also provided an update on the changes to the leadership team of the Department. She noted that staff plans to undertake strategic planning this summer and invited the Board to tour the Illinois Youth Centers. Ms. Reynolds provided an overview of House Bill 4781 that passed the General Assembly. The bill included additional exemptions to the School Code for the DJJ School District.

Closed Session

Ms Dunbar made a motion to go into closed session at 10:19 a.m. to discuss personnel matters relating to the School Superintendent, Mr. Ellis seconded motion. Motion was carried. President Candice Jones made a motion for DJJ General Counsel Beth Compton and Mary Reynolds; DJJ Chief of Intergovernmental Relations to sit in on closed session, Ms. Dunbar seconded the motion. Motion was carried with Mr. Ellis voting no.

The Board returned to open session meeting at 11:20a.m.

Old Business

- a. Superintendent Search – Mr. Smoot made a motion to invite the four candidates for School Superintendent to second interview. Mr. Green seconded the motion. Motion carried with Mr. Ellis voting no.
- b. School Board Polices Update – the work group has not met since the last meeting of the Board.

Mr. Gunnell left the meeting at 11:38a.m.

New Business

Mr. Ellis wants to see details about credit recovery. How have the youth credits increased?

- a. Pearson Contract – Lisa Hampton, Resource Coordinator for IDJJ staff, provided an update over the telephone on the status of the contract with Pearson for online learning and the written report from Pearson was discussed. Mr. Smoot requested a more detailed accounting of the number of youth currently using the program and an update on staff training. Mr. Ellis requested more details about credit recovery by youth and alternative learning options. Ms. Dunbar suggested that a School Principal be invited to share their experience with the program at the next regularly scheduled School Board meeting. Ms. Hampton noted that the current contract expires in December 2014.
- b. Budget Update – President Jones provided a summary during the President’s Report.
- c. Consent Decree Timelines – DJJ staff have been implementing the timelines outlined in the RJ v. Jones consent decree, including the filing of the School Calendar that the School Board approved in May, 2014.

Adjournment

Ms. Dunbar made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Ellis seconded the motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 12:53 p.m.