



Juvenile Services Education Program Board Meeting - Virtual

October 6, 2021

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

<https://youtu.be/divXI28yU8Y>

MINUTES

Members and Guests in Attendance:

Sec. Sam Abed - DJS	Dr. James Fielder - MHEC
Sup. Mohammed Choudhury	Sharon Merriweather- Attorney General's Designee
Dr. Monica Goldson	Dr. Tracey L. Durant
Dr. Peter Leone	Dr. Bernard Sadusky
Dr. Catherine Gammage	Mrs. Grace Reusing
Mr. Richard Stevenson	Mr. Nick Moroney, JJMU

- I. Welcome and Introductions Chairwoman Grace Reusing
- II. Minutes approved by acclamation, motion by Dr. James Fielder, Seconded by Dr. Gammage
- III. Public Comment Period - None
- IV. Executive Director Report & Updates Cory Fink
 - Summarized activities that had taken place since the last board meeting, report attached to the minutes
 - Superintendent Job Posting – The job announcement posted on DBM's website on 9/27 and will close at midnight on 10/27; as well as DJS social media sites,

CJJA website, School Superintendents Association website (AASA), Board of Education and Top School Jobs.org websites, in addition to various local newspapers. The interest and response has been very positive so far.

- The Recruitment Subcommittee met with DJS HR and Office of Fair Practices to determine classification of applications for best, better and qualified list. At the time of the last meeting, 13 applicants had applied. Interview questions are 90% completed and will undergo routine examination by DJS HR & Fair Practices.
- Student Survey Presentation
- Facility Site Visits Presentation
- Board Report to the General Assembly due December 1, 2021

V. Old Business

- Standards Committee Report Out - presentation by Dr. Leone
 - SB497 requires the Board to develop minimum reporting standards to measure outcomes. The Standards Subcommittee (Reusing, Leone, Sadusky, Goldson and DJS representatives) met over several months and developed a draft for full Board review.
 - Superintendent Choudhury offered to assist in development of re-entry standards so that both JSEP and the LEA were accountable
 - Committee to continue their work and come back to the full board

VI. New Business

- JSEP/DJS MOU
 - Review JSEP / DJS MOU – SB497 requires delineation of responsibilities and the role of JSEP and DJS. A subcommittee was formed to draft the MOU (Reusing, Merriweather, Mintz and Fink)
 - Motion to approve the MOU made by Secretary Sam Abed, Seconded by Mrs. Sharon Merriweather
 - *All members voted in favor 11-0*
 - *Executive Director Fink to begin routing for final signature*
- Superintendent Hiring Process
 - Subcommittee to conduct first round of interviews the week of November 15
 - Top 3 candidates to be interviewed virtually by full Board during December 2021 JSEP Board meeting during a closed session

V. Comments and Announcements

- Nick Moroney – Sought an explanation for lack of certified educators and Garrett Children’s Center (GCC) teachers teaching virtually from facility.
- Richard Stevenson – Acknowledged that certified educators are virtually teaching all 5 subject matters and special education from GCC to encompass students at all facilities across the state.
- Superintendent Choudhury – Acknowledged national shortages with educators, bus drivers, etc. Virtual programming is being used for continuity of services across the state. MSDE can embed vacancy data in next month’s presentation to the Board by Mrs. Pulley.
- Mrs. Reusing – Encouraged Board members to consider participating in future teacher meetings with Mr. Stevenson to hear educator concerns. Chairwoman Reusing shared the takeaway from the last meeting is that teachers expressed concern with hiring and retaining dedicated staff, the 12-month calendar and salaries.
- Dr. Leone – Volunteered to attend the next educator meeting. Recommended upon hiring of Superintendent, a priority be to draft an understanding of salary and job restructuring.
- Mrs. Reusing – Encouraged Board to sign up to visit and tour education sites.
- Next meeting November 3, 2021 – virtual

VI. Adjournment – motion to adjourn by Dr. Tracey L. Durant, seconded by Mrs. Sharon Merriweather

Staff Contact: Cory Fink

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