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**Board of Juvenile Justice &
Board of Education / Joint Board Meeting
Thursday, August 24, 2023
Board Meeting Minutes
(In-Person and Zoom Conference)**

Opening Remarks:

Call to Order: On Thursday, August 24, 2023, Chair Sandra Taylor called the joint board meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice and Board of Education to order at approximately 10:00 am. The meeting was held in-person and by Zoom.

DJJ Staff Present: Commissioner Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb, DJJ Executive Team Members, and various DJJ Staff Members.

Invocation: Chaplain Emily Kelly

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Board Secretary Adam Kennedy.

Roll Call: Conducted by Board Secretary Adam Kennedy. Board Member Danny Blackmon (in-person), Vice Chair Willie Bolton (in-person), Board Member Quintress Gilbert (Zoom), Board Member Joyette Holmes (in-person), Board Member Garland Hunt (in-person), Board Member Timothy McCulley (Zoom), Board Member Penny Penn (in-person), Board Member Fred Stephens (in-person), and Board Chair Sandra Taylor (in-person). A quorum was declared.

Approval of Meeting Agenda – A motion was made to approve the meeting agenda by Board Member Holmes and seconded by Vice Chair Bolton. The approval was unanimous.

Approval of July 27, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes - Chair Taylor asked if there were any corrections or changes to the July 27, 2023, minutes previously distributed. Hearing none, Chair Taylor asked for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Board Member Holmes and seconded by Board Member Hunt. The approval was unanimous.

Commissioner Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb's Report:

- The Commissioner thanked the staff for all the hard work that they are doing in providing services to the youth. These services make our agency critical for the young people that we serve. She also thanked the Board for their continued support that is received by them.
- Board Chair Taylor invited the Commissioner to spend some time with her Rotary Club and talk with some of the leaders. The Commissioner found them to be very supportive, and willing to help in support of our young people.
- The Commissioner also attended a meeting with the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. There were other state and community leaders there and they discussed how important it is for them to get back into the communities and look at prevention opportunities so that we don't have so many children ending up in our system.
- The Commissioner also thanked General Counsel Wang, Dr. Doyle, Deputy Commissioner Rodgers, and a few other staff members who represented the agency and presented to the British Consulate.
- ACA conference – Muscogee YDC and Dalton RY were both reaccredited.
- Congratulations goes to Dr. Michelle Staples-Horne who received the CATS Award. The Commissioner will bring more information on this at the next meeting.
- She also congratulated the Director of Victim and Volunteer Services, Debaja Coleman who was awarded the Presidential Citation Award at the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice.
- DJJ had three graduations this year for a total of 33 graduates between BJCOT, BJPOT and BCST.
- Human Resources has a big recruitment event coming up in the metro area.
- Dr. Christy Doyle who has worked with the agency for over 20 years will be leaving DJJ and going to Georgia State University. The Commissioner and the Board want to extend their congratulations and thanks for all she has done at DJJ.

Education Update – Zane Shelfer, Deputy Superintendent

- GA Milestone End-of-Year Assessment
 - o Results of Standardized Testing for 8th Grade (Mr. Tran and Dr. Franklin)
 - English Language Arts
 - Mathematics
 - Sciences and Social Studies
 - o Comparison of DJJ vs. State Scores (Deputy Superintendent Shelfer)
 - American Literature & Composition, Algebra 1, Biology and U.S. History
 - Grade Point Average
 - Special Education
 - Education Certified Staff Resignations/Retirements Reasons

Old Business: None

New Business: Due to scheduling conflicts, no meeting will be held in September. There will still be a meeting in October but none in November. The date for the meeting in December will be announced later.

Chair's Comments:

- Chair Taylor wants to thank Deputy Superintendent Shelfer and his team for an excellent presentation. She also wants to acknowledge the work that Dr. Doyle has done and let her know that she will be missed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Board Secretary Kennedy and seconded by Board Member Gilbert. The meeting was adjourned.

Sandra H. Taylor, Chair
Board of Juvenile Justice

Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb, Commissioner
Department of Juvenile Justice

Adam Kennedy, Secretary
Board of Juvenile Justice