



**Board of Juvenile Justice  
Thursday, August 27, 2020  
Decatur, GA  
Board Meeting Minutes  
(Audio Conference)**

**Opening Remarks**

On Thursday, August 27, 2020, Chair Taylor called the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice to order at 10:00 AM. The meeting was held as an audio conference.

**DJJ Staff Present:** Commissioner Tyrone Oliver, Chief of Staff Mark Mitchell, Assistant Commissioner Sean Hamilton, Deputy Superintendent Zane Shelfer, DJJ Executive Team Members, DJJ Staff Members

**Roll Call:** Members present were Chair Sandra Taylor, Vice-Chair Willie C. Bolton, Secretary Adam Kennedy, Danny Blackmon, Dick Yarbrough, Margaret D. Kaiser, Penny Penn, Fred Stephens, Dr. Thomas Coleman, Past Chair Elaine Snow, and Judge Lisa Colbert joined later (non-voting). Judicial Advisory Council Member Judge Quintress Gilbert participated.

Chair Taylor asked for a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was made by Board member Yarbrough, seconded by Vice-Chair Bolton, and approved unanimously.

Chair Taylor called for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2020 Board meeting. Board member Coleman moved that the August 27, 2020 minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Board member Kaiser and approved unanimously.

**Commissioner's Report**

Commissioner Tyrone Oliver provided the Commissioner's Report to the Board. The latest COVID-19 numbers (staff and youth) were provided. Staff was commended for efforts to minimize COVID-19 spread. Commissioner Oliver also mentioned the new JCO uniform rollout to go along with the new mission statement and culture change. He Spoke about the "F.R.E.S.H. Start" re-entry job program in partnership with the Pinky Cole Foundation (the "Slutty Vegan" restaurants).

Commissioner Oliver encouraged the board to watch the news video. The youth already participating are doing a great job. The Pinky Cole Foundation has committed to providing annual \$10,000 scholarships to the participating youth hired by the restaurant to go towards college tuition.

Other Topics of Discussion:

### **Evening Reporting Center**

Program Director Tricia Phillips presented on the Evening Reporting Center in Lowndes/Valdosta with the Southwest Key (SWK) Programs. (Guest speakers: Stephanie Williams, SWK CEO and Shamekia Williams, SWK Director). Secretary Kennedy inquired about the aftercare program.

### **Employee Engagement Survey**

Deputy Commissioner of Administrative Services Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb presented on the employee engagement survey and the efforts to increase employee participation. The staff engagement survey will be distributed on 9/14/20.

### **Reduction of Paper Consumption**

Commissioner Oliver mentioned the efforts to reduce paper consumption for the Board materials.

*This concluded the Commissioner's Report.*

Chair Taylor called for a motion to adjourn the regular DJJ Board Meeting and reconvene as the DJJ School Board. A motion was made by Board member Coleman to adjourn the Board of Juvenile Justice and reconvene as the Juvenile Justice Board of Education. The motion was seconded by Secretary Kennedy and approved unanimously.

### **Board of Education**

Deputy Superintendent Zane Shelfer shared information about the education data dashboard, COVID-19 protocol guides, and the positive start of the fall semester. He also mentioned the teacher vacancies. Chair Taylor asked about the special education enrollment rate. Superintendent Oliver commended education, medical, and health services staff for minimizing COVID-19 spread. Dr. Rufus Johnson talked about the upcoming re-accreditation process for the Georgia Preparatory Academy. Deputy Superintendent Shelfer discussed the federal grant review and the joint project with the Office of Behavioral Health Services (OBHS) and Secure Facilities called "T.A.R.G.E.T." Chair Taylor commended Superintendent Oliver and staff.

*This concluded the Deputy Superintendent's Report.*

Chair Taylor called for a motion to adjourn from the DJJ School Board and reconvene as the regular DJJ Board. A motion was made by Board member Yarbrough to adjourn the Juvenile Justice Board of Education and to reconvene as the Board of Juvenile Justice. It was seconded by Board member Coleman and approved unanimously.

**Chair's Comments**

Chair Taylor shared her appreciation for the agency's leadership and keeping the Board apprised of the efforts to rehabilitate youth placed in the Department's care and custody.

**Old Business:** No old business.

**New Business:** No new business.

**Comments:** No Comments.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting will be on September 24, 2020, at 10:00 AM, via audio/Teams conference.

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Sandra H. Taylor, Chair  
Board of Juvenile Justice

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Tyrone Oliver, Commissioner  
Department of Juvenile Justice

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Adam Kennedy, Secretary  
Board of Juvenile Justice