DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

Avery D. Niles, Commissioner



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BOARD MEETING SUMMARY December 14, 2017

Members Present: Chair Elaine Snow, Vice-Chair Sandra Taylor, Secretary Adam Kennedy, Willie C. Bolton, Dick Yarbrough, John Edwards (via telephone conference), Penny Penn, Julia Neighbors, and Dr. Thomas Coleman.

Motions and Other Business:

- 1. Chair Snow called the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice to order on Thursday, December 14, 2017, at 10:04 AM in the Central Office Board Room at 3408 Covington Hwy, Decatur, GA 30032.
- 2. A motion to approve the December 14, 2017 agenda was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.
- 3. A motion to approve the October 26, 2017 minutes was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.
- 4. Commissioner Avery D. Niles presented the Commissioner's report, which was previously submitted (included in materials). The Commissioner commended Board Member Bolton for all of his support for DJJ, including the new Wilkes RYDC facility. The Commissioner also mentioned the report from Governor's Commission on Children's Mental Health services. Additionally, the Interim Director of Human Resources is working on employee matters. Finally, the Commissioner mentioned how Georgia is doing in terms of juvenile justice reform compared to the rest of the nation. There was a brief discussion regarding parent/grandparent accountability. Division of Community Services will work on community project regarding available resources in DeKalb County.
- 5. Deputy Director for Human Resources Maria Pease presented the Employee Faithful Service Awards.
- 6. The Commissioner introduced the new executive team members and facility leadership changes.
- 7. Vice-Chair Taylor was recognized for her 13 years of service on the Board.

- 8. A motion to adjourn the Board of Juvenile Justice and to reconvene as the Juvenile Justice Board of Education was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.
- 9. Associate Superintendent Jean Lee discussed the Governor's Innovation Grant received by the Georgia Preparatory Academy. This grant will be utilized for teacher recruitment and retention plans. She also mentioned the youth graduation scheduled for December 15, 2017.
- 10. A motion to adjourn the Juvenile Justice Board of Education and to reconvene as the Board of Juvenile Justice was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.
- 11. Assistant Commissioner/Chief of Staff Joe Vignati and Chair Snow recognized Commissioner Niles for his 5 years of service as the Commissioner.
- 12. Old Business: The Office of Training presented training statistics and information to the Board.
- 13. New Business: No new business. The Commissioner provided dates of upcoming DJJ events and challenged Board Members to attend more DJJ events.
- 14. With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting will be on January 25, 2018, at 10 AM in the Central Office Board Room.

Cindy Wang, General Counsel