DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

Avery D. Niles, Commissioner



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BOARD MEETING SUMMARY February 22, 2018

Members Present: Chair Elaine Snow, Vice-Chair Sandra Taylor, Secretary Adam Kennedy, Willie C. Bolton, Richard Ambrose, Dr. Thomas Coleman, Judge Lisa Colbert, Penny Penn, Dick Yarbrough, Angie Holt (via telephone conference), Julia Neighbors (via telephone conference), and Kelly Stewart (via telephone conference).

Motions and Other Business:

- 1. Chair Snow called the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice to order on Thursday, February 22, 2018, at 10:06 AM in the Central Office Board Room at 3408 Covington Hwy, Decatur, GA 30032.
- 2. A motion to approve the February 22, 2018 agenda was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.
- 3. A motion to approve the January 25, 2018 minutes was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.
- 4. Commissioner Avery D. Niles presented the Commissioner's report, which was previously submitted (included in materials). He mentioned that these are challenging times for students, dealing with terroristic threats and violence at schools. Other law enforcement agencies have reached out to him for guidance. The Commissioner also presented the 2018 Quick Facts prepared by the DJJ Office of Communications.
- 5. HR Employee Relations Manager Kristi Johnson presented the Employee Faithful Service Awards.
- 6. Assistant Commissioner Keith Horton announced his departure from the agency to run for political office.
- Interim HR Director Charmaine Johnson presented a report on juvenile correctional officer retention. The report is included in the Board's materials. Board members Yarbrough and Coleman asked about the exit interview process. Commissioner also talked about leadership opportunities for the officers.

- 8. Vice-Chair Taylor asked about the status of the report on fidelity of programming. Deputy Commissioner of Support Services Margaret Cawood gave an update on where she is with the fidelity report. She has visited and audited 21 of the 26 facilities so far. She hopes to give the Board a report by the next Board meeting.
- 9. Chief Audit Executive William Smith presented on the internal audit charter and what his audit division will be doing for the Department.
- 10. 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.
- 11. Associate Superintendent Jean Lee presented on the 2018-2019 school calendar. The Board adopted the calendar. Ms. Lee also talked about the "Real Men Read Initiative," and she presented two DJJ community youth from the Bibb County ETC who acted as legislative pages for State Representative Robert Trammel (132nd District). Each of the youth presented on what she learned from the experience.
- 12. Assistant Associate Superintendent Zane Shelfer spoke about the E-Core College Program updates and the college education opportunities for DJJ Youth. Board member Coleman commended DJJ for all the additional educational opportunities for DJJ youth. Vice-Chair Taylor asked how many students attended school at the ETCs.
- 13. 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.
- 14. Old Business: No old business. Chair Snow thanked everyone for their participation and recognized youth and staff. The Commissioner reminded the Board that the April board meeting will be held on April 12th in South Georgia (Statesboro) in conjunction with the annual statewide Law Enforcement Appreciation events. He also invited the Board to the Georgia Preparatory Academy open house events.
- 15. New Business: No new business.
- 16. With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting will be on March 22, 2018, at 10 AM in the Central Office Board Room.

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