DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

Avery D. Niles, Commissioner



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BOARD MEETING SUMMARY January 25, 2018

Members Present: Vice-Chair Sandra Taylor, Secretary Adam Kennedy, Willie C. Bolton, Angie Holt, Richard Ambrose, Dr. Thomas Coleman, Judge Lisa Colbert, Penny Penn (via telephone conference), Chair Elaine Snow (via telephone conference), Kelly Stewart (via telephone conference), Fred Stephens (via telephone conference), and James Valbrun (via telephone conference). Judicial Advisory Committee Member Judge Quintress Gilbert was also present.

Motions and Other Business:

- 1. Vice-Chair Taylor called the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice to order on Thursday, January 25, 2018, at 10:03 AM in the Central Office Board Room at 3408 Covington Hwy, Decatur, GA 30032.
- 2. A motion to first amend the January 25, 2018 agenda to show Vice-Chair Taylor as presiding was made, seconded, and approved unanimously. A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.
- 3. Commissioner Avery D. Niles presented the Commissioner's report, which was previously submitted (included in materials).
- 4. HR Employee Relations Manager Kristi Johnson presented the Employee Faithful Service Awards.
- 5. A motion to approve the December 14, 2017 minutes was made, seconded, and approved unanimously.
- 6. Dr. Christy Doyle, DJJ Director of Office of Behavioral Health Services, presented on the different treatment services provided to youth in the facilities and a percentage breakdown of the mental health caseload per facility. She discussed an increase in the mental health caseload and staff being more educated regarding trauma-centered treatment services. Secretary Kennedy wanted to make sure that community services staff was also receiving mental health services training. Judge Colbert commended Division of Support Services staff. Commissioner Niles mentioned providing to the Board a report on validation/fidelity of programming services.

- 7. Commissioner Niles stated that HR will present at the next board meeting a report on staff retention.
- 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 state of some of the youth education records (e.g. incomplete records) that DJJ receives. Board member Ambrose and Secretary Kennedy expressed concerns about the issues mentioned by Ms. Lee. Board member Stephens discussed needing a mechanism to correspond with other school districts. Board member Bolton suggested ways that Superintendent Niles can continue to reach out to other school superintendents to discuss education issues for DJJ youth (e.g. school records, re-entry into the local school system, etc.). Superintendent Niles discussed the strides that DJJ-GPA has already made with community outreach, and he reminded the Board regarding the origin of the Education Transition Centers. Ms. Lee also spoke about the literacy grant and schools developing literacy plans.
- 10. Pathway to Success Specialist Holly Cannon discussed additional vocational and workforce development opportunities for DJJ youth, and DJJ-GPA Teacher of the Year Harold Farmer of Rockdale RYDC was recognized.
- 11. 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.
- 12. Old Business: Dr. Coleman commended DJJ staff for representing the agency well at a recent community event. Judge Gilbert asked for an update on the Paulding CSEC facility at the next board meeting.
- 13. New Business: No new business. Vice-Chair Taylor announced that the April board meeting will be held in South Georgia in conjunction with the annual statewide Law Enforcement Appreciation events.
- 14. With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting will be on February 22, 2018, at 10 AM in the Central Office Board Room.