



Board of Juvenile Justice  
Thursday, May 26, 2016  
DJJ Headquarters  
10:00 AM

### Opening Remarks

Chair Elaine Snow called to order the meeting of the Board of Juvenile Justice. The meeting was held at the DJJ Headquarters, 3408 Covington Highway, Decatur, GA 30032.

**DJJ Staff Present:** Commissioner Avery D. Niles, Chief of Staff J. Mark Sexton, Assistant Commissioner Keith Horton, Sharon D. Starks, Matthew Montgomery, Janssen Robinson, CFO Sonja R. Allen-Smith, Deputy CFO Drew Townsend, Director John T. Smith, Deputy Commissioner Dwayne Orrick, Mary Elliott, Deputy Commissioner Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Debbie, Carter, Deputy Commissioner Miguel Fernandez, Teri Stripling, Director Barry Shepard, Director Joan Quinn-Cannon, Roy Davenport, Director Nadine Crocker, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Margaret Cawood, Associate Superintendent Audrey Armistad, Chaplain Danny Horne, General Counsel Cindy Wang and Edith Guilford.

**Others Present:** Amy Radley, Attorney General's Office; Brian Lawler, Office of Planning and Budget; Helen Sloat, Nelson and Mullins and Melissa Hargrove, NORESCO.

**Secretary's Report:** Secretary Adam Kennedy conducted the Roll Call. The following members were present: Spurgeon Ambrose, Willie C. Bolton, Lisa Colbert, Thomas Coleman, John Edwards, Angie Holt, Adam Kennedy, Julia Neighbors, Elaine Snow, Fred Stephens, Kelly Stewart and Dick Yarbrough. Danny Porter attended via teleconference. Advisory Council Member Quintress Gilbert was present as well.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to approve the current agenda. A motion was made by Board Member Holt and seconded by Board Member Coleman. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2016 Board Meeting. A motion was made by Board Member Coleman and seconded by Board Member Colbert. The motion carried unanimously.

### Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Niles discussed the graduation ceremony from May 20, 2016, and he recognized the Governor and First Lady Deal for their inspiring commencement speeches to the Georgia

Preparatory Academy Graduates. The Commissioner also talked about a youth field trip to the Sea Turtle Conservation as an incentive for PBIS.

### **Budget Update**

Chief Financial Officer Sonja Allen-Smith presented on budget updates. Board members were interested in the additional funds for juvenile justice reform programming services. School Resource Officers for the DJJ Educational Transitional Centers and pay increases for certain groups of Community Services personnel were also discussed. For additional details, please see **Addendum A**.

### **Board Rule Changes and MOU**

General Counsel Cindy Wang presented on the proposed amendments to Board Rules in Chapter 97-1, "Rules of General Applicability," and Chapter 97-2, "Administrative Revocations of Juvenile Community Placement," which revises the definitions and the Board's Authority to become consistent with current law and practice. She also presented on a new proposed Board Rule Chapter 97-5, relating to the transfer of community supervision of certain youth in the Department's custody to the Department of Community Supervision, to comply with the passage of SB 367 (2016 Georgia Laws). For additional details on this topic, please see **Addendum B**.

General Counsel Wang presented on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department of Community Services (DCS) and Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) would delay implementation of the transfer of community supervision services for certain youth until after September 1, 2016. For additional details on this topic, please see **Addendum C**.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to initially adopt the proposed Board Rule Changes. Board Member Coleman made a motion to initially adopt the proposed Board Rules Changes and Board Member Edwards seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to approve the MOU between DJJ and DCS. Board Member Colbert made a motion to approve the MOU and Board Member Edwards seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to adjourn from the regular DJJ Board and reconvene as the DJJ School Board. A motion was made by Board Member Holt and seconded by Secretary Kennedy. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Board of Education**

Associate Superintendent Armistad discussed the following topics during the School Board Meeting:

- The total of graduates for each GPA school for the last three years. For additional details, please see **Addendum D**. The total number of diplomas awarded this school year was 90. Sixty-one students were able to participate in the graduation.

- The end of the year audit by the Georgia Department of Education, which showed only one minor finding, which related to inventory.
- The next graduation for the Georgia Preparatory Academy will be held on December 15, 2016 at Tift College, Forsyth, Georgia.
- The Division of Education will hold its Professional Learning Conference on June 6-9, 2016. The location is Callaway Gardens.
- Short division reports will begin at the June 2016 Board Meeting.

Chair Snow asked for a motion to adjourn from the DJJ School Board and reconvene as the regular DJJ Board. A motion was made by Board Member Coleman and seconded by Board Member Stewart. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Chair's Comments**

Chair Snow discussed the following:

- Board Member Colbert's recent swearing-in by Governor Deal.
- Congratulated Board Member Coleman on his daughter's recent victory in the election for Solicitor General in DeKalb County.
- Welcome back to Board Member Stewart

### **Old Business**

There was no Old Business before the Board.

### **New Business**

There was no New Business before the Board.

Board Member Stephens discussed hearing from staff on our school-based probation officers on their community strategies at a future Board Meeting.

Chair Snow announced that the next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 23, 2016 at DJJ Headquarters, 3408 Covington Highway, Decatur, GA 30032 at 10:00 AM.

The meeting was adjourned.

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Elaine P. Snow, Chair  
Board of Juvenile Justice

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Avery D. Niles, Commissioner  
Department of Juvenile Justice

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Adam Kennedy  
Board Secretary