



requires teachers to be proficient in the use of technology, and that a representative of the Florida DOE will be available at a future Council meeting to discuss progress made related to this issue.

Dr. Proctor shared with the Council that Mr. W.C. Gentry gave a presentation on the Contract Study to the Board of Governors. He said that the presentation went well.

Dr. Proctor gave a brief presentation on the NCLB and Annual Yearly Progress and said that the Council will have a full presentation later in the meeting. Vice Chairman Taylor said based on Dr. Proctor's brief presentation, the Council should continue to get facts on the table related to the issues.

### **State Board of Education**

Vice Chairman Taylor introduced Mr. Phil Handy, Chairman of the State Board of Education. Mr. Handy said that Florida is engaged in the most exciting and far-reaching education reform movement in the world. He said that when you put this into perspective, there is no place where more parents and children are being given choices, where social promotion is being outlawed, where standards are so high and being maintained, and there is no place in the world that has a governance system like Florida. He said what Florida is doing is unique.

Mr. Handy said that he was the Chairman of the Educational Transition Task Force, which took the 1998 amendment and turned educational governance upside down in Florida and did away with the Cabinet. He said this was to get educational governance on better footing. He said that CEPRI is in a privileged position. Mr. Handy said that the Department of Education manages the education process extremely well, but they do not have the resources or the time to do what CEPRI could do. He said that the Department of Education hopes to continue working together with CEPRI. Mr. Handy said that he has been appointed to the National Board of Statistics. He said that the Federal Government has a board of about 400 people that operates like CEPRI called the National Board of Education Sciences. He said that two people from the State of Florida have been appointed to the board of directors. Mr. Handy said that on behalf of the SBOE, he looks forward to working with CEPRI.

Vice Chairman Taylor asked Mr. Handy what he sees as the best way to make sure that CEPRI is getting the most out of joint resources. Mr. Taylor shared with Mr. Handy that the Council receives assignments from the Legislature and the Governor. Mr. Handy said that the leadership of CEPRI and the SBOE should meet regularly to avoid parallel universes. He said that the SBOE and CEPRI should share each other's views.

Vice Chairman Taylor asked Mr. Handy if the SBOE has focused on the topic of Career Education. Mr. Handy replied that the Board has discussed Career Education and there are two issues; funding and governance. Mr. Handy said that the Board continues to discuss the governance issue and concludes that it is a local option. He said that the Board does not try to prescribe one governance system for the State of Florida. Mr. Handy said that there are no effective advocates for workforce funding. He said the Board is trying to rectify this issue. He said that the operating costs associated with the Classroom Size Amendment this year, will exceed the community college budget. He said that half the counties are not in compliance with the Classroom Size Amendment. He also said that the Board is trying to determine how to maximize funding to vocational technical centers, community colleges, and career education. Vice Chairman Taylor suggested that Dr. Proctor and Mr. John Winn meet on this issue.

## **Board of Governors' Report**

There was no report at this time.

## **Florida Sunshine Law**

Vice Chairman Taylor introduced Ms. Pat Gleason, General Counsel, Office of the Attorney General. Ms. Gleason said that the Sunshine Law is broad in scope. She said that she is approached by other states to discuss Florida's Sunshine Law because they know how strong Florida's Laws are. She said that when the other states heard that Florida's Open Meetings Law applies to any gathering of two or more members of the board when they need to discuss any matter on which a single action could be taken, they said that they were not interested. She said that many public officials in Florida think that government in the sunshine is a good thing for Florida. The officials of Florida see it as a way to provide the public an opportunity to understand. Ms. Gleason said that the general population feels this is the greatest thing that the government has ever done in Florida. She said that the public voted the law into the constitution. Ms. Gleason discussed the Sunshine Law in respect to the school board meetings. She said that when the law is violated the entire meeting process is required to start over with the public involved. She said that the Legislature balances the public policies involved. Also, the school districts have an obligation to protect the student records and try to comply with the Open Records Law. The Legislature gave the school districts a break and provided exemption from the Sunshine Law for expulsion hearings. Dr. Proctor asked Ms. Gleason if the school districts applied to universities and community colleges. Ms. Gleason said that universities and community colleges have more protection from disclosure of material in the personnel files. She said that university and community college evaluations are exempt from disclosure.

The Council continued discussion on the Sunshine Law. Vice Chairman Taylor thanked Ms. Gleason for attending the Council meeting and giving an informative overview of the Sunshine Law.

## **Legislative Assignments**

**Workforce Development Education** – Ms. Tara Goodman and Mr. Juan Copa presented staff recommendations for the framework of a new funding methodology for adult and career-technical education. The issues under consideration are the following: separate categorical funding for workforce education programs, performance and enrollment components, funding new program development, and apprenticeship funding.

Public testimony was received from the following speakers: Ms. Susan Lehr, Florida Community College at Jacksonville; Mr. Dave Barnes, Pinellas County Schools; Mr. Joe Kolinsky, School Board of Hillsborough County; Mr. Terry Miller, Lake Technical Center; Mr. Jim Sullivan; Mr. Don Payton, Seminole Community College; Mr. Chuck Shaw, Palm Beach County Schools; and Mr. Ken Allen, Hillsborough County Schools.

Following the public speakers, Council discussion of policy options for the new funding methodology continued and will conclude at the January 2004 meeting when a comprehensive draft final report will be presented to the Council. The Council agreed with staff recommendations on issues two through four and requested additional information on the first issue at the next meeting.

Additionally, the Council requested consideration for developing an advocacy plan for career/workforce education programs.

### **Master Plan**

**Major Initiatives** – Dr. Rogers presented a summary of responses to questions on school district governance that were initiated by Mrs. Telson. The summary provides information on the evolution of school district boards and their powers and includes information on school board member compensation that was provided by the Florida School Boards Association (FSBA). Mrs. Telson added that these materials are intended to provide background information to the Council members on these topics.

Mr. Wayne Blanton, Executive Director of the FSBA, explained the process that districts follow to annually set their salaries and reported that over one-half of the boards in the State will have frozen their salaries over the past two years. He explained that FSBA salary recommendations are calculated based on a formula set forth in statute. Mr. McIntyre said that school board member salaries are among the highest in the country and believes that these positions have become career positions for many individuals. He asked if these positions should be made appointed positions. Mr. Blanton reported that the average tenure for board members is eight years and discussed the value of having a highly diverse mix of members among school boards. Mr. Wishna commented on his experiences in a number of school districts and stated that school boards with appointed members are the result of a highly political process. A number of school board members presented their views on school board governance, functions and compensation to the Council, including Tom Greer- Osceola County, Beverly Gallagher -Broward County, Lois Wexler – Broward County, Jane Kuckel – Lee County, Becky Elswick - Lake County, and Dede Schaffner – Seminole County.

**Collaborative Efforts** – Dr. Pat Dallet discussed the October 22, 2003, meeting with representatives of Florida organizations as well as the Business Round Table (BRT). He said that Ms. Susan Traidman, Education Director, confirmed the need for a sustaining third-party organization with strong business and community involvement to support the reform efforts currently underway. Vice Chairman Taylor requested a paper outlining the need for and nature of the entity being discussed along with examples of similar efforts in other states and any evidence of their impact. Dr. Dallet mentioned another point made at the October meeting was the value of strategic alignments among existing organizations, for example BRT aligned with AARP on Medicare issues and with the Education Trust on the No Child Left Behind Legislation. Also, the work of the Council for Educational Change was briefly discussed and Vice Chairman Taylor suggested inviting Mr. Ted Foote, the Chair of this organization, to a future meeting.

### **Examination of NCLB Annual Yearly Progress, Florida A+ and NAEP Results**

Mr. Mark Peach said that while Florida's A+ Plan and the No Child Left Behind Act share the same goals of high achievement for all students, the ways in which the two laws measure progress toward the goals differ significantly. He said that consequently the results of these two programs are not directly comparable. An examination of NAEP reading gap changes and reading score gains by race shows that NAEP scores will not necessarily mirror NCLB results. Mr. Peach said that the NCLB results, A+ Plan results, nor NAEP scores should be read in isolation. He said that they should be thought of as representing complementary perspectives on an education system that is multifaceted, complex, and constantly changing.

**Other Items of Interest**

There were no other items of interest at this time.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 14, 2004, at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2003.

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William B. Proctor  
Executive Director