

**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**January 20, 2009**

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 20, 2009, in the Board Room, District Office Complex, Building 3, 7205 Land O' Lakes Boulevard, Land O' Lakes, Florida. Present were Chairman Frank Parker, Vice Chairman Allen Altman and Board Members Joanne Hurley, Kathryn Starkey and Cathi Martin. Also present were Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent, and Dennis Alfonso, Attorney for the Board.

The meeting was opened with the reading of the School Board's vision statement and was followed with the thought for the day by Chairman Parker and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Kathy Boyette, teacher at Lake Myrtle Elementary School, Denise Wilder, instructional assistant at Cotee River Elementary School and Ellen Bean, retired school teacher.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting, executive session and budget workshop of December 16, 2008. There being none, and on motion by Member Starkey seconded by Member Martin, the minutes were approved unanimously.

The Chairman announced that there were no special presentations this evening.

The Chairman asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to address the Board.

Student Apologies:

Dayna – Fighting

Justin – Drugs

Robert – Drugs, Weapon

Sean – Disruption in School

The Chairman asked if the United School Employees of Pasco had anything to present. Lynne Webb, President of the USEP, stated that the executive board met and reviewed the tentative contract agreements. Instructional and school related personnel will vote on contract ratification January 29 and votes will be tallied on February 2 and brought to the Board for approval February 3. USEP representatives traveled to Washington, DC and Tallahassee speaking on behalf of public education. Ms. Webb will share information obtained with each board member.

The Chairman acknowledged several boy scouts from Troop 201 who were viewing the meeting as a requirement for a communication merit badge.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

Member Hurley attended a staff breakfast at Quail Hollow Elementary School. She thanked everyone involved in holding the school boundary meetings, which she found very informative. She also attended a SAC committee meeting at Charles S. Rushe Middle School and a Headstart Policy Council meeting.

Member Starkey attended the Arbor Day celebration at San Antonio Elementary School. She visited career academies in Okaloosa County along with principals Pat Reedy and Jim Michaels. She traveled to Tallahassee where she met with people on workforce development. Member Starkey and Superintendent Fiorentino met recently with the Superintendent and a board member from Hillsborough County. Discussion was held on forming a coalition with surrounding counties to share resources in working with the business community and legislative delegation.

Member Altman visited Pasco Middle, Wesley Chapel High and San Antonio Elementary Schools.

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:

1.1 2008-2009 High School Graduation Schedule-**Information**

1.2 Florida Department of Education Food and Nutrition Training Assistance – **Information**

1.3 Monthly Report of the Pasco Education Foundation (Chip Wichmanowski reported) –  
**Information**

Superintendent Fiorentino noted challenges that the food service program is facing and what is being done to meet the demands. Free and reduced lunches are increasing to about 50% by the end of February. She reminded everyone of the Community Night event which is being held on January 29.

Mrs. Reilly announced that the Education Celebration would be Saturday, January 24 at Wesley Chapel High School at 5:00 p.m. She noted that an audit was held last week for all of the Title Grants. An electronic system was used this year and preliminary results were very good. Written results will be shared with the Board when received.

Dr. Scanga noted that interviews are currently being held for principals at Centennial Elementary School and Moon Lake Elementary School.

Mrs. Swinson presented an off agenda item for Classrooms for Kids Program Allocation – High school “FFF” and Elementary “V”. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_.) Member Martin moved that the Board accept the off agenda item, seconded by Member Starkey. On vote the motion carried unanimously. Member Starkey moved that the Board approve the off agenda item as presented. Member Martin seconded the motion and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Swinson informed the Board that all peanut butter products have been removed from vending machines as a precaution due to the recall from the USDA.

Mrs. DuBose distributed an update on the Athenian Academy Charter School. She noted that Athenian was due to start the renewal process in November when the Florida Schools of Excellence was declared unconstitutional. The district is in the process of renewal of the extension of their contract. Further discussion was held and Nancy Scowcroft, Director of Charter Schools responded to a question by Member Altman regarding Athenian’s relationship with their leadership group. She said that the district is moving forward and the decision will be that of Athenian to determine their fate under the new leadership. Legally the school district has to follow through with the process.

Mrs. DuBose said Volunteer luncheons have been scheduled for the month of March and invitations would be sent out soon.

Mr. Davis noted that adult graduation ceremonies would be held February 5 on each side of the county.

(2.0) Lizette Alexander, Director of Student Services, presented the following expulsion recommendations. Board members have been provided with detailed information on which to base their decision.

- 2.1 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 1/31/91) from Wiregrass Ranch High School - **TABLED**
- 2.2 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 1/28/92) from Wesley Chapel High School - **TABLED**
- 2.3 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 7/12/91) from River Ridge High School - **TABLED**
- 2.4 Expulsion of Female Student (DOB 10/28/94) from Paul R. Smith Middle School - **TABLED**
- 2.5 Expulsion of Female Student (DOB 7/10/92) from Ridgewood High School - **TABLED**
- 2.6 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 5/30/92) from Moore-Mickens Education Center - **APPROVED**
- 2.7 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 11/28/91) from Pasco High School - **TABLED**
- 2.8 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 6/18/93) from Wesley Chapel High School - **TABLED**
- 2.9 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 10/6/89) from F. K. Marchman Technical Education Center - **TABLED**
- 2.10 Bus Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 9/18/98) from Mary Giella Elementary School - **APPROVED**
- 2.11 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 8/20/93) from Hudson High School - **TABLED**
- 2.12 Expulsion of Female Student (DOB 8/25/93) from Hudson High School - **TABLED**
- 2.13 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 10/20/92) from Hudson High School - **TABLED**
- 2.14 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 5/2/92) from Hudson High School - **TABLED**
- 2.15 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 6/21/90) from Wesley Chapel High School - **TABLED**

Member Starkey moved that the Board approve to table items 2.1-2.5, 2.7-2.9 and 2.11-2.15 as recommended. Member Hurley seconded the motion, and on the vote the motion carried unanimously. Member Starkey moved that the Board approve the expulsions as recommended in items 2.6 and 2.10. Member Martin seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman asked Board members to identify the items on the scheduled agenda that they would like placed on the action agenda. The items on the **ACTION AGENDA** are as follows:

**13.0 Policies**

13.1 Second Reading – Policy GCC, Direct Deposit Program

**14.0 Resolutions**

14.1 Resolution Commending the Students at San Antonio Elementary School for Their Involvement In the Arbor Day Celebration on January 16, 2009

14.2 Resolution Recognizing the 12th Annual “Pasco Art of Recycling” Art Exhibition

(3.0 – 12.0) The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda. Member Martin moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda. Member Starkey seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** as follows:

**3.0 Human Resources** (See Personnel Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

3.1 Instructional and Administrative Personnel Recommendations

3.2 Noninstructional Personnel Recommendations

**4.0 Students** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

4.1 Student Transfer Requests

4.2 River Ridge High School French Students to Travel to Orlando for State Competition April 16-18, 2009 and German Students to Travel to Daytona Beach April 23-25, 2009, Funding: Student Contributions

4.3 J.W. Mitchell High School Key Club Students to Travel to Orlando April 16-19, 2009 for State Convention, Funding: Student Contributions

4.4 J.W. Mitchell High School Debate Club to Travel to Washington, D.C. to Attend the Junior State of America Convention February 13-16, 2009, Funding: Student Contributions and Fundraisers

4.5 Pasco High School NJROTC Students to Travel to Port Clinton, Ohio February 25 – March 1, 2009 to Attend the NJROTC National Championships, Funding: Student Contributions and Navy Reimbursement

**5.0 Requests for Use of Facilities** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

**6.0 Construction Services and Code Compliance/Planning/Facility Maintenance Services and Transportation** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

6.1 Connerton Quit Claim Deed Revision

6.2 Watergrass – Hold Harmless Agreement

6.3 Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative Generator Contract

6.4 R.B. Cox Elementary – Florida Power (d/b/a Progress Energy Florida, Inc.) Easement Agreement

**7.0 Business/Finance** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

7.1 2008-2009 Budget Amendments #21-25 – November 2008 (See Budget Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

7.2 Surplus Equipment

7.3 Interim Financial Statements for All Fund Types 07/01/08-11/30/2008

7.4 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008

7.5 Request for Approval of Payroll Expenditures for November, 2008 and Authorization to Expend Funds for December, 2008 and January, 2009

7.6 Warrant Lists

7.7 Requisitions and Related Contracts

**Contracts:** The Gallup Organization

7.8 Bids and Related Contracts

**Contracts:** Checkcare Systems; Just Kidz Preschool and Learning; Orchard Ridge Rehab & Nursing Center, University Community Hospital, Inc.; Baldomero Lopez Veterans' Nursing Home

**8.0 Grant Proposals**

8.1 Carl D. Perkins Grant – Amendment #3

**9.0 Allocations** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

9.1 R.B. Cox Elementary School – Saturday School Math Program - Title I Funds

9.2 Allocation Transfer of Supervisor from Human Resources to Community, Career and Technical Services

**10.0 Agreements/Contracts** – None Submitted

**11.0 Charter School** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

11.1 The Language Academy Charter School, Inc. Independent Auditor’s Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

**12.0 Pasco Education Foundation** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

12.1 Approval of Advertising on Athletic Fields and in Gymnasiums

(13.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Second Reading – Policy GCC, Direct Deposit Program (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Altman moved that the Board approve the second reading of policy GCC. Member Starkey seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

(14.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Resolution Commending the Students at San Antonio Elementary School for Their Involvement In the Arbor Day Celebration on January 16, 2009 (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Altman moved that the Board approve the resolution, seconded by Member Martin. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(14.2) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Resolution Recognizing the 12th Annual “Pasco Art of Recycling” Art Exhibition (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Martin moved that the Board approve the resolution, seconded by Member Hurley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman asked for Board member committee reports.

Member Starkey reported that she served as a judge at the recent Science Fair. She also attended the Cinderella Ball committee, hosted by the Pasco Education Foundation.

Member Altman requested that the Board hear an off agenda item to choose a substitute Board Member to attend the upcoming Value Adjustment Board (VAB) meeting on February 5. Member Hurley moved that the Board accept the off agenda item, seconded by Member Altman. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Member Altman explained that neither he or Member Parker were able to attend the meeting and confirmation was received from the County Attorney that at the Board’s discretion, a temporary substitute could be chosen. Member Altman moved that Member Starkey serve temporarily to represent the School Board on the VAB meeting on Thursday, February 5 in Dade City. Member Martin seconded the motion and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Alfonso addressed the Board for the need to reschedule an employee termination appeal hearing previously scheduled for January 13, 2009. The hearing was not heard at the request of the employee’s attorney. There was consensus of the Board to hold the hearing on Tuesday, February 10, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.

The Chairman asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to address the Board. No one came forward.

The Chairman announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board is February 3, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. with a workshop immediately following.

There was no further business to come before the Board, and upon motion by Member Altman the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

**SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: January 20, 2009 1:30 p.m.**

**TOPIC: Budget**

The Board met for a workshop session on the *Budget*, which was presented by Olga Swinson, Chief Finance Officer. Present were Board Members Frank Parker, Kathryn Starkey, Cathi Martin and Joanne Hurley. Member Allen Altman was not in attendance. Also present were Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent; Dennis Alfonso, School Board Attorney; Ruth Reilly, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instructional Services; Jim Davis, Assistant Superintendent for High, Adult and Alternative Schools; Ray Gadd, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services; Dave Scanga, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instructional Services; Lynne Webb, Robert Benjamin and Jim Ciadella, USEP; Bill Kleinsorge and John Simon, Finance; Ashley Dunn, The Laker; Ronnie Blair, Tampa Tribune and Jeff Solocheck, St. Petersburg Times.

Board Members were updated on current budget cuts and cost saving ideas for 2009-2010. They learned that previously proposed cuts should be enough to handle the results of the special legislative session held this month, as they were less than originally expected. The Superintendent explained that be more cuts could be coming, though from another special session. The district is also anticipating cuts of at least \$25 million for the 2009-2010 budget year. A question and answer session followed.

The workshop concluded at 2:20 p.m.

**EMPLOYEE APPEAL HEARING: January 20, 2009 2:30 p.m.**

The District School Board of Pasco County met at 2:30 pm., Tuesday, January 20, 2009 for an employee appeal hearing on the recommendation of termination of Susan Gozo, teacher at Thomas E. Weightman Middle School. The hearing was held in the Board Room, District Office complex, Building 3, 7205 Land O'Lakes Boulevard, Land O'Lakes, Florida. Present were Chairman Frank Parker and Board Members Allen Altman, Kathryn Starkey, Joanne Hurley and Cathi Martin. Also present were Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent and Dennis Alfonso, School Board Attorney and Facilitator; Tammy Rattray, Counsel representing Superintendent Fiorentino and Mark Herdman, Counsel representing Ms. Gozo. A court reporter was present. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

The Board heard evidence and sworn testimony from the following witnesses: Shae Davis, Principal, Thomas E. Weightman Middle School; Thomas Osmun, teacher at Thomas E. Weightman Middle School, Sandy Thompson, parent and Susan Gozo.

Board Members were informed that written closing statements would be submitted by February 10, 2009. The Board will render their decision on February 17, 2009 during a regularly scheduled board meeting that day at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD  
IN OPEN SESSION

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

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2/3/09

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Superintendent