

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA

March 3, 2015

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 3, 2015, in the Board Room, District Office Complex, Building 3, 7205 Land O' Lakes Boulevard, Land O' Lakes, Florida. Present were Chairman Steve Luikart, Vice Chairman Joanne Hurley, and Board Members Allen Altman, Cynthia Armstrong, and Alison Crumbley. Also present were Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent and ex officio Secretary to the Board, 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 Luikart and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Oscar Macias, Distribution Materials Handler, Warehouse Services.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of February 17, 2015, and workshop of February 17, 2015. There were none, and on motion by Member Crumbley, seconded by Member Armstrong, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Linda Cobbe, Director of Communications, coordinated the special presentation(s) as follows: (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Page 1*)

- Bayonet Point Middle School - Major Remodeling Project
- Proclamation recognizing Newspaper in Education Week was presented to Sue Bedry, Tampa Bay Times (see item 11b).

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

- Adam B., New Port Richey – student apology.
- Jacob P., Hudson – student apology.
- Brianny R., Land O' Lakes – student apology. Board members thanked parents for supporting their students.
- Deborah Fairbank, New Port Richey parent – shared her concerns regarding FSA testing and the stress placed on students; reviewed yesterday's testing experiences through the eyes of her children.
- Heide Janshon, New Port Richey parent– shared her concerns regarding FSA testing and administrator responses to parents for removing their students from classrooms during FSA testing. A handout listing her concerns was distributed to Board members (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Page 30*). Superintendent Browning responded to Ms. Janshon's comments, including clarification of the background of the situation at her children's school. He said that the district has championed for students throughout this testing season. He and the School Board members, as elected officials, are legally obligated to administer the test and uphold the laws of the state. Chairman Luikart and Member Armstrong agreed with the Superintendent's comments and further stated that these concerns have been expressed to legislators.

The Chairman asked if the United School Employees of Pasco had anything to present. Kenny Blankenship, President of the USEP, spoke:

- Commended Superintendent Browning and Board members for their efforts in addressing issues with legislators regarding standardized testing. He shared examples of testing experiences at several schools and repeated his request to hold teachers harmless regarding accountability.
- Disappointed that USEP is not receiving a paper copy of the School Board packet. He said there was no advance communication regarding information or notice about several meetings. Superintendent Browning responded to Mr. Blankenship's comments, stating that pursuant to contract, USEP was notified regarding publication of the School Board agenda at the same time as Board members and the public. Providing paper copies of the Board agenda is a waste of tax dollars when the agenda can be viewed online. Notification of meetings in question had been provided, which USEP declined to attend.

Committee Reports:

- Member Armstrong:
 - Investment Oversight Committee – received updates on investments performance, bond recap and savings information, etc. Will hear the latest annual report of the Investment Committee later in the meeting. Several committee members have agreed to serve additional terms; there is one vacancy. Suggestions for potential committee members should be forwarded to Olga Swinson, Chief Finance Officer.

- Member Crumbley:
 - Was not able to attend the Student Code of Conduct committee meeting; the committee has made a few changes for Board recommendation in a few weeks.
- Member Altman:
 - Value Adjustment Board - approved final tax rolls.
 - Insurance Committee - distributed summaries to Board members from the committee regarding clinic utilization. (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Page 31*). The new clinic in Wesley Chapel will open soon. He noted that “no shows” affect the efficiency of the system. The committee is exploring options to provide additional retirement planning for employees. He commended the efforts of the committee.
- Vice Chairman Hurley:
 - Missed the Success Planning Committee meeting; work continues on the scorecards and refining of goals and objectives.
- Chairman Luikart:
 - Missed the Student Code of Conduct meeting; minor changes coming for the Board’s upcoming review.

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:

Superintendent Browning:

- Updated Board members last evening regarding FSA testing. There were no district issues but there were issues with the state’s testing platform. After a conference call late yesterday afternoon with Commissioner Stewart, a decision was made to suspend Pasco County computer testing for grades 8, 9, and 10 today. The state’s test provider, AIR, is working on resolving issues. He anticipates that computer based testing will resume tomorrow for grades 8, 9, and 10. Paper and pencil testing for grades 4 through 7 is proceeding today.
- Asked Board members to consider an out-of-state travel request to item 6C from the Food and Nutrition Services department. The request was received from the vendor this week after the agenda was published. The travel dates of April 7-10, 2015, are after the next scheduled Board meeting.
- Asked Board members to also add a contract under item 6E1. The contract with Red Apple Training Center will provide services to a student. He reminded Board members to include the additional items when approving the consent agenda.
- Requested that item 7E (*Investment Oversight Committee Annual Report*) be pulled from the consent agenda in order for Chairman Al Torrence to present the Annual Report of the Investment Committee.
- Requested that item 4A3 (*Plato Academy Charter School (K-8) – Fifteen Year Charter Contract*) be pulled for discussion. Representatives from Plato Academy are in attendance today to answer questions regarding the charter school’s request.

Deputy Superintendent:

- Ray Gadd – no comments.
- Kevin Shibley:
 - Forwarded information to Board members sent to USEP regarding the Board packet change.
 - Staff worked hard on load testing for FSA testing over the last few weeks, which went well. The issues have not been on our end but with the state’s testing platform.
 - Verified that the health and wellness clinics are expanding, which will alleviate and ease capacity issues.
- Ray Bonti:
 - Stated there is a healthy budget for furniture, equipment, and technology for schools currently under renovation.
 - The ATM machine has been relocated to the front of Building 3. It is a “cash only” machine, not full-service.
- Olga Swinson:
 - Invited Al Torrence, Chairman of the Investment Oversight Committee, to present the committee’s Annual Report. She thanked Mr. Torrence for continuing to serve on the Committee for another term. He reviewed highlights of the committee’s work and savings to the district over the last year.
 - Finished refunding of the COPS Series 2007, which resulted in a \$3.3 million savings.
- Vanessa Hilton:
 - Reminded Board Members of Special Olympics at River Ridge High School on Thursday, March 5, 2015.
 - The first TEDx event for secondary students will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 7, 2015, at River Ridge High School; she invited Board members to attend these events as their schedules permitted.

- Staff recommendations:
 - Richard D’Onofrio, Manager, Center for the Arts at River Ridge High School;
 - Keri Allen, Principal, Richey Elementary School.

(2.0) The Chairman remarked that there were no expulsion recommendations tonight.

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

4A3. Plato Academy Charter School (K-8) – Fifteen Year Charter Contract

11. Resolutions

- A. National Purchasing Month
- B. Newspaper in Education Week

12. Property Acquisitions - None Submitted

13. Miscellaneous Action Items - None Submitted

The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda. Member Armstrong moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda, including addenda, with the exception of item 4A3 (*Plato Academy Charter School (K-8) – Fifteen Year Charter Contract*). Member Crumbley seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** as follows:

3. LEARNING COMMUNITIES (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Page 2*)

- A. School Field Trips

4. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

A. Teaching and Learning (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Page 3-5*)

- 1. School Choice Change of Placement
- 2. Learning Lodge Academy, Inc. - Charter Contract Amendment

B. Professional Development and School Supports - None Submitted

C. Accountability Research and Measurement (*See Misc. Supplemental Minute Book 415, Page 6*)

- 1. District End-of-Course (EOC) Assessments (Paper-based)

D. Student Support Programs and Services (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Page 7*)

- 1. Disciplinary Change of Placement

E. Early Childhood (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Pages 8-9*)

- 1. Out-of-State Travel - *Managing Comprehensive Health Services* – Maryland
- 2. Enrollment, Recruitment, Selection and Eligibility Procedures 2015-16

F. School Field Trips - None Submitted

5. ADMINISTRATION

A. Human Resources and Educator Quality (*See Misc. Supplemental Minute Book 415, Pages 10-11*)

- 1. New Job Description - Site Coordinator
- 2. 2014-2015 Salary Schedules
- 3. Personnel Recommendations (*See Personnel Supplemental Minute Book 81, Page 2*)

B. Employee Relations - None Submitted

C. Technology and Information Services - None Submitted

6. SUPPORT SERVICES

A. Planning Services (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Pages 12-14*)

- 1. Agricultural Lease Agreement – Hicks Road Property
- 2. Interlaken Road – Interlocal & Purchase Agreements with Pasco County
- 3. Annual Florida Inventory of School Houses (FISH) Certification

B. Construction Services - None Submitted

C. Food and Nutrition Services (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Page 15-15a*)

- 1. Wellness Policy Implementation Survey Results
- 2. Out-of-State Travel - *Wittern Group/USI Vending Training* - Iowa

D. Maintenance Services (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Pages 16-17*)

- 1. Surplus Equipment
- 2. R-12 Refrigerant

E. Purchasing Services (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Page 18-19*)

- 1. Bid Recommendations
Date/Time: February 24, 2015; 16:03:00
Contracts: *Board of Trustees of the University of Northern Colorado;*
Pasco Kids First, Inc. d/b/a Healthy Families Pasco-Hernando; Red Apple Training Center
- 2. Use of Facilities

7. FINANCE SERVICES (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Page 20-25*)

A. Warrant Lists

B. Interim Financials for All Fund Types (July 1, 2014-January 31, 2015)

C. Disposition of Property - Obsolete Transportation Services Inventory

D. Disposition of Property - Obsolete Telecommunications Inventory

E. Investment Oversight Committee Annual Report - **Information**

F. Investment Oversight Committee Members for 2015-2016

G. 2014-2015 Budget Amendments #35-#42 - January 2015 (See *Budget Supp. Minute Book 34, Page 18*)

8. GRANT PROPOSALS (See *Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Page 26*)

A. Grants Summary - **Information**

9. ALLOCATIONS (See *Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Page 27*)

A. 2015-2016 Allocation Formulas

10. INTERNAL AUDIT - None Submitted

(4A3) The Chairman presented the request for approval of *Plato Academy Charter School (K-8) – Fifteen Year Charter Contract* (See **Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Page 5**). Superintendent Browning said that prior to publication of the agenda, it was his understanding that a high performing charter school could open a new charter school in another school district and be entitled to a 15-year contract. He later learned that this was not the case and that Plato (Plato) Academy Charter School is not entitled to a 15-year contract. Further, this Board does not typically grant 15-year charter school contracts. Therefore, he is revising his recommendation to the Board to grant Plato a five-year charter contract with the same review as other charter schools. All other conditions will remain the same. Member Armstrong noted that the contract states Plato will have two Board meetings in Pasco County. She requested a schedule of all charter school board meetings so that Board members could attend the meetings. Ray Gadd reported that this information is available today and will be provided to all Board members. Member Altman moved that the Board approve item 4A3 (*Plato Academy Charter School K-8*) to a 5-year contract as revised by Superintendent Browning, seconded by Member Crumbley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(11A) The Chairman presented the request for approval of a proclamation recognizing *National Purchasing Month* (See **Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Page 28**). Member Altman moved that the Board approve the proclamation recognizing *National Purchasing Month*, seconded by Member Crumbley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(11B) The Chairman presented the request for approval of a proclamation recognizing *Newspaper in Education Week* (See **Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 415, Page 29**). Member Armstrong moved that the Board approve the proclamation recognizing *Newspaper in Education Week*, seconded by Member Hurley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items:

- Member Armstrong:
 - Spoke to the Republican Executive Committee recently about the district's innovative programs and efficiencies to better utilize taxpayer dollars (i.e., energy savings, CNG buses, propane, wellness centers, etc.).
 - Will attend the 28th Annual Day in the Legislature next week and share information later.
- Member Crumbley:
 - Attended a SAC meeting at Calusa Elementary School.
 - Toured Classical Preparatory Charter School.
 - She and the Superintendent met with a representative from Duke Energy this week; good information will be shared later.

Member Altman:

- Attended Special Olympics last Friday; commended the number of high school students that helped out. He appreciates all the efforts that make this a tremendous event for everyone.
- Asked for a report of costs related to End-of-Course exams, when completed. Superintendent Browning said that the estimated cost is \$1.8 million dollars. He and Ms. Swinson are meeting with departments for cost saving measures; budget amendments will be submitted for Board approval. He said that a brief workshop on this topic would be held at a later date.
- Going to Tallahassee in a few weeks to meet with legislators.
- Vice Chairman Hurley:
 - Thanked all involved in Special Olympics; it is an uplifting event.
 - Visited 3 schools – New River, Double Branch, and Sand Pine Elementary Schools - to see for herself how testing was going and to let the principals know she appreciates what they are doing.
- Chairman Luikart:
 - Encouraged participation in the upcoming Hunger Walk at Gulf High School.
 - Thanked Superintendent Browning and staff for staying on top of the testing issue.

Dennis Alfonso, School Board attorney, had no comments.

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

The Chairman announced that there is a workshop immediately following today's meeting in Training Room D.

The Chairman announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board is April 7, 2015, at 9:30 a.m.

There was no further business to come before the Board, and upon motion by Member Altman, the meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

(Audio recording of the above proceeding is available and preserved as public document.)

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: March 3, 2015 – 11:13 a.m.

TOPIC: *Educational Options for Advanced Coursework*

The Board met for a workshop session at the District Office Complex, Building 3, Training Room D. Present were Board Members Allen Altman, Cynthia Armstrong, Alison Crumbley, Joanne Hurley and Steve Luikart; Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent; Dennis Alfonso, School Board Attorney; Ray Gadd, Deputy Superintendent; Olga Swinson, Chief Finance Officer; Kevin Shibley, Asst. Supt. for Administration; Ray Bonti, Asst. Supt. for Support Services; Dave Scanga, Beth Brown, Monica Ilse, and Todd Cluff, Area Superintendents; Linda Cobbe, Communications Director; and Jeff Solochek, Tampa Bay Times. Other district staff was also in attendance.

Superintendent Browning introduced Darrell Huling, Senior Supervisor, Office for Teaching and Learning. Mr. Huling explained to the Board and staff that they would be actively participating in a simulated classroom environment instead of listening to a Power Point presentation today. They would be making decisions on how and what they want to learn, just like the students.

After moving to Training Room C, Holly Oakes, Supervisor, Office of Teaching and Learning, explained the activity to Board members and staff. Each assigned group selected an advanced program to explore. At the end of "class", each group was to create a three to five minute conversational speech informing a community member about an enriched program, explaining the benefits and how it differs from other programs. The mini-lessons included Dual Enrollment, AVID, AP Capstone Diploma, International Baccalaureate, Cambridge AICE Diploma, and Gifted coursework. During the "Using Data Benchmark" lesson, members looked at various types of data points commonly used in reviewing the enriched programs. A "Conversational Speech Rubric" was another resource used by the groups. Students from local schools participated in the workshop, explaining how a particular enrichment program helped them become successful in school.

The workshop concluded at 12:39 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD
IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman

April 7, 2015

Superintendent of Schools