

**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**March 4, 2008**

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 9:35 a.m., Tuesday, March 4, 2008, in the Board Room, District Office Complex, Building 3, 7205 Land O' Lakes Boulevard, Land O' Lakes, Florida. Present were Chairman Kathryn Starkey, Vice Chairman Frank Parker and Board Members Marge Whaley and Allen Altman. Member Cathi Martin was held up in traffic and arrived during the meeting. 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 Starkey and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Jane Comer (Retired Reading Specialist at Sand Pine Elementary School) and Anthony Brown, Jr. (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Student at Sunray Elementary School).

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of February 19, 2008 and workshops of February 19, 2008. There being none, and on motion by Member Parker, seconded by Member Altman, the minutes were approved unanimously.

The Chairman announced that there are no special presentations scheduled.

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

The Chairman asked if the United School Employees of Pasco had anything to present. Lynne Webb, President of the USEP, distributed information on end-of-course exams. She remarked that discussion had been held previously by the Board on developing these exams, but USEP was not aware that it was the intent of the Board to implement these exams this May, as is now being done. She reported that teachers are communicating their concern over this issue due to many other programs already in place during this time, including intense LFS implementation. Member Whaley addressed the issue and remarked that in conversation with Peggy Jones, Director of Research & Evaluation she learned that this year's exams would be normative tests to make sure the district is on the right track and teachers could replace a fourth quarter grade or use as special credit. It was her understanding that next year would be the implementation year. Ms. Webb stated that she feels it is unwise during an unknown budget year and questioned teachers' comfort level with the test and the short turnaround time.

Member Martin arrived and joined the Board on the dais.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

Member Whaley remarked that she enjoyed the Special Olympics this year. She also attended the Odyssey of the Mind and commended the event.

Member Altman attended the master plan meeting at Pasco High School with the Superintendent and staff, and later that evening a similar meeting at Pasco Middle School.

Member Martin remarked on the interesting student speakers at the Gulf Trace Elementary School dedication.

Member Starkey attended a Learning First meeting in Tallahassee where Senator Wise spoke on upcoming cuts in education.

**(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:**

The Superintendent remarked that today is the first day of the Legislative Session and it is hoped that budget cuts will be determined soon for the current school year. She invited Board Members to the RSVP Volunteer luncheons that are taking place during the next couple of weeks.

The Superintendent initiated discussion on item 7.6, Bond Refinancing and asked that it be pulled from consent and placed on the action agenda. Jerry Ford, President of Ford & Associates, Financial Advisor and Ken Artin of Bryant Miller and Olive, Bond Counsel, spoke to the Board regarding the problem in the sub prime market. The variable rate debt is challenging security of funds and the district's rates have increased within the last two weeks. They have been working diligently with our banks, trying to find a solution to this situation and are hopeful that a resolution can be found to decrease the drain on the

district's cash flow. Mr. Artin described various procedures and timelines regarding the process and asked for authority to send out necessary notices. He noted that they are not asking for authorization to incur more debt. Mr. Ford reassured the Board that our credit and financial oversight is excellent.

Mrs. Ramos informed the Board that the District could lose around \$1.2-million in Medicaid funding because of federal rule changes.

Mrs. Reilly updated the Board on the Summer VPK Program. Richey and Centennial Elementary schools will be hosting the summer programs and information will be available to parents during the Kindergarten registration. She also remarked that we could be required to add supplemental services, through Title I, at three additional school sites. Applications will be submitted to the Board for review.

Mr. Gadd reported that the County has signed off on the Interlocal Agreement and we are now awaiting response from the State. He noted that High School "FFF" is in the design phase and "EEE" is under construction. Veterans Elementary School is looking great and road construction is moving along.

Mrs. DuBose said they are pleased with the teacher recruitment schedule for the spring. The locations are in the north, where many schools are closing down. She also confirmed the dates of the RSVP Volunteer luncheons of March 10, 17 & 31 at the Spartan Manor, beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Mr. Davis remarked that 11,000 students have presently signed up for courses using the new online course registration process and they anticipate more.

Mrs. Tiede introduced David Salerno as the new principal of Seven Springs Middle School.

(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 Bus Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 3/27/94) from Thomas E. Weightman Middle School - **TABLED**
- 2.2 Expulsion of Female Student (DOB 7/31/92) from Land O'Lakes High School - **TABLED**
- 2.3 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 10/21/90) from Ridgewood High School - **TABLED**
- 2.4 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 5/11/90) from James W. Mitchell High School - **TABLED**
- 2.5 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 8/14/91) from James W. Mitchell High School - **TABLED**
- 2.6 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 2/2/94) from Charles S. Rushe Middle School - **TABLED**
- 2.7 Expulsion of Female Student (DOB 11/4/89) from James W. Mitchell High School - **TABLED**
- 2.8 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 5/2/90) from Land O'Lakes High School - **TABLED**
- 2.9 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 1/5/93) from Wesley Chapel High School - **TABLED**
- 2.10 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 3/15/91) from Ridgewood High School - **TABLED**
- 2.11 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 7/30/90) from Wesley Chapel High School - **TABLED**
- 2.12 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 5/14/92) from Land O'Lakes High School - **TABLED**
- 2.13 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 10/23/91) from Hudson High School - **TABLED**
- 2.14 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 8/7/92) from James W. Mitchell High School - **TABLED**
- 2.15 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 9/18/90) from James W. Mitchell High School - **TABLED**
- 2.16 Expulsion of Female Student (DOB 1/1/94) from Charles S. Rushe Middle School - **TABLED**
- 2.17 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 10/28/92) from Land O'Lakes High School - **TABLED**
- 2.18 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 12/13/90) from Land O'Lakes High School - **TABLED**

Member Parker moved that the Board approve the tabling of expulsions as recommended in items 2.1-2.18. Member Whaley 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:

- 7.6 Bond Refinancing
- 12.0 Resolution Proclaiming March as National Purchasing Month

(3.0 – 11.0) The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda. Member Parker moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda with the exception of 7.6. Member Altman 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 Students to Travel to Boca Raton, Florida March 7-8, 2008 to Participate in Cheerleading Competition – Funding: Cheerleading & Internal School Accounts
- 4.3 J.W. Mitchell High School Students to Travel to Orlando, Florida March 6-9, 2008 to Participate in DCT State Competition – Funded by Students and Substitute Paid Through CTE Funds
- 4.4 Students (26) to Travel to Lakeland, Florida April 16-18, 2008 to Participate in the State Science and Engineering Fair Competition – Funded through Science Fair Funds
- 4.5 Ridgewood High School Students to Travel to Orlando March 6-9, 2008 to Participate in DCT State Competition, Funded through Students and Internal Funds
- 4.6 Wesley Chapel High School Students to Travel to Dunedin, Florida February 22-23, 2008 to Compete at the Black History Month-African American Heritage Celebration – Funded with Student Contributions and Club Funds
- 4.7 Sunlake High School Students to Travel to Boca Raton, Florida March 6-8, 2008, to Participate in Cheerleading Competition, Funded Through Cheerleading Accounts
- 4.8 Wiregrass Ranch High School Students to Travel to Tampa, Florida April 30 – May 3, 2008 to participate in State Thespian Competition – Student Fees to Cover Cost of Registration
- 4.9 Land O’Lakes High School Students to Travel to Tampa, Florida April 30 – May 3, 2008 to Participate in State Thespian Competition – No Cost to the District
- 4.10 River Ridge High School Students to Travel to Orlando, Florida April 3-4, 2008 to Participate in the French Conference Competitions – No Cost to District
- 4.11 Gulf High School Students to Travel to Boca Raton, Florida March 6-7, 2008, to Participate in the FHSAA State Cheerleading Competition, Funding – Fundraisers
- 4.12 Hudson High School Student to Travel to Orlando, Florida March 6-9, 2008 to Participate in DCT State Competition – Funding: Student, Chaperone & Club Account
- 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** – None Submitted
- 7.0 Business/Finance** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 7.1 Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) – Declare Surplus for Return to Manufacturer and Authorize Receipt of Updated AEDs
  - 7.2 Donation of Laptop Computers to Renaissance Academy
  - 7.3 Surplus Equipment
  - 7.4 Surplus Transportation Motor Vehicles and Equipment
  - 7.5 Termination of 401(k) Plan
  - 7.7 Warrant Lists
  - 7.8 Requisitions and Related Contracts
  - 7.9 Bids and Related Contracts**Contracts:** Pasco Regional Medical Center; Christo's Restaurant
- 8.0 Grant Proposals**
  - 8.1 Title III, Part A – Budget Revision
  - 8.2 Student Assistance Grant – Fred K. Marchman Technical Education Center
  - 8.3 Teaching SMART – Updated Grant Proposal 2007-2008
  - 8.4 Title I Part D (Neglected & Delinquent) Improvement Initiative Grant 2007-2008
  - 8.5 Title I Part A Schools In Improvement Corrective Action and Planning Restructuring Grant Application 2007-2008
- 9.0 Allocations** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 9.1 Change to 2008-2009 Allocation Formulas
  - 9.2 Ridgewood High School – Alternative to Suspension Program – Funding: IDEA Part B
  - 9.3 Allocation for Supervisor of Curriculum and Instructional Services (School Improvement) – Funding Title I, Part A
- 10.0 Agreements/Contracts** – None Submitted
- 11.0 PLACE Program Expansion to Veterans Elementary School** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

(7.6) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Bond Refinancing (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Whaley moved to authorize the Superintendent and Chief Finance Officer to prepare and distribute any required notices related to the refinancing or conversion of the outstanding Certificates of Participation and secure commitments from financial institutions with respect to providing credit enhancement and liquidity facilities with respect to the outstanding Certificates of Participation. Member Parker seconded the motion. Discussion was held previously in the meeting and with no further discussion, on vote the motion carried unanimously.

(12.0) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Resolution Proclaiming March as National Purchasing Month (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Whaley moved that the Board approve the resolution. Member Parker seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman asked for Board member committee reports.

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 March 18, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

There was no further business to come before the Board, and upon motion by Member Martin, seconded by Member Altman; the meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

### **SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOPS: March 4, 2008**

The Board met for a workshop session on *Allocations* at 11:00 a.m., which was coordinated by Jim Davis, Assistant Superintendent for High, Adult and Alternative Schools. Present were Board Members Kathryn Starkey, Frank Parker, Allen Altman, Cathi Martin and Marge Whaley; Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent; Dennis Alfonso, School Board Attorney; Sandra Ramos, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instructional Services; Olga Swinson, Chief Finance Officer; Renalia DuBose, Assistant Superintendent for Administration; Ruth Reilly, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Schools; Tina Tiede, Assistant Superintendent for Middle Schools; Ray Gadd, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services; Dave Scanga, Executive Director for Elementary Schools; Directors from the Departments of Planning, CCTE, Finance, ESE, CIS and Food & Nutrition Services; Ronnie Blair, Tampa Tribune; Ashley Reams, The Laker and Jeff Solochek, St. Petersburg Times.

Board Members were given overviews and timelines of the allocation process from individual departments. Olga Swinson, Chief Finance Officer presented information on the current and projected budget issues and FTE calculations.

The workshop concluded at 12:30 p.m.

The Board met for a workshop session on *Leadership Development* at 12:30 p.m., which was presented by John Mann, Director of Leadership Development. Present were Board Members Kathryn Starkey, Frank Parker, Allen Altman, Cathi Martin and Marge Whaley; Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent; Dennis Alfonso, School Board Attorney; Sandra Ramos, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instructional Services; Olga Swinson, Chief Finance Officer; Renalia DuBose, Assistant Superintendent for Administration; Ruth Reilly, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Schools; Jim Davis, Assistant Superintendent for High, Adult and Alternative Schools; Tina Tiede, Assistant Superintendent for Middle Schools; Ray Gadd, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services; Dave Scanga, Executive Director for Elementary Schools; Ronnie Blair, Tampa Tribune; Ashley Reams, The Laker and Jeff Solochek, St. Petersburg Times.

Dr. Mann presented an overview of the 2008 Leadership program and explained the need for leadership support for administrators and staff members with the mandates, expectations and goals for student achievement never being greater.

The workshop concluded at 1:00 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD  
IN OPEN SESSION

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Chairman

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Superintendent