

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA
March 5, 2013

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 5, 2013, in the Board Room, District Office Complex, Building 3, 7205 Land O' Lakes Boulevard, Land O' Lakes, Florida. Present were Chairman Cynthia Armstrong, Vice Chairman Alison Crumbley, and Board Members Allen Altman, Steve Luikart and Joanne Hurley. 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 Member Altman, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of February 19, 2013. There were none, and on motion by Member Crumbley, seconded by Member Hurley, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Linda Cobbe, Director of Communications and Government Relations coordinated the special presentations as follows: **(See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)**

- Recognition - Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union Foundation

The Chairman called a break for pictures and the meeting came back to order at 9:35 a.m.

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

- Matthew VanStraff of New Port Richey said he has spoken with Member Crumbley regarding concerns with recent bomb threat procedures at Chasco Elementary School. Staff members, including his wife, were instructed to search for unfamiliar items in the classrooms. He stated that the Sheriff's Office should have functioned in that capacity, as they have extensive training. Chairman Armstrong responded that a future workshop will address this issue along with other safety items

People speaking on the possible closing of Moore-Mickens Education Center (MMEC):

- Warren Godbolt of Dade City gave a personal history of his attendance at the school and commended the school for the positive impact on the students of all races
- Carl Waldron, retired MMEC faculty member referenced Mr. Moore and Mr. Mickens and their positive legacy on the school and community. Asked the Board to table plans to move programs from the school
- Harriett Craig of Dade City said she was shocked to hear that MMEC may be closed. She expressed sadness that the Board would take "the easy road" to close this education center and implored the Board to keep the school open
- Matthew Kurtz of Dade City spoke as a former student on behalf of the Adult Education program at MMEC. He feels that his disability (short term memory loss) has been assisted by the program while enrolled in at the center and implored the Board to keep the school open
- Lisa Kurtz of Dade City spoke on behalf of keeping the school open. She believes that her son (Matthew Kurtz) has been assisted by his learning environment at MMEC
- Margarita Romo representing Farmworkers Self-Help stated that MMEC has been invaluable to her constituents. She implored the Board to fix MMEC and not displace those students currently attending
- Lynne Webb of Land O'Lakes said she came from Dade City and raised her family there. She started her teaching career at MMEC and gave a history of the wonderful programs housed at the school. Her son attended MMEC and she believes the SOS Program helped him become a productive member of society. She noted that racial, ethnic and cultural tensions still exist in the Dade City community and she believe that MMEC is a part of the heart of the community. She implored the Board to weigh financial savings against political issues, trust and goodwill – not just a cost center
- Maudrienne Hammer of Dade City said she is a "product of MMEC" and believes the situation is based on race. She said that black heritage is being destroyed. She heard rumors at church on Sunday
- Billy Poe, spoke representing the Dade City Commission. He presented a resolution from the City proclaiming the significance of MMEC. He asked the Board to consider the great value of the school
- Daniel Hamm of Hudson referenced the financial challenges of the District and hopes there is a better plan than closing MMES
- Francisco Contreras of Dade City and former MMEC student explained that he attended the migrant program leading to F. K. Marchman Vocational Center, which then lead to a successful career in Air Conditioning Maintenance. Showed a poster to the board announcing the Farmworker jobs and

education program held at the school (**See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.**)

- Willie Broner of Dade City said he is a former student at MMEC and former teacher and coach for Pasco County Schools. He explained that MMEC played a big part in his success and asked the Board to consider keeping the school open

The Chairman asked if the United School Employees of Pasco had anything to present.

Lynne Webb, President of the USEP reported on negotiations. Last piece on status of insurance was reviewed. Informed District that USEP is ready to go back to the table to discuss economics. Explained ratification timeline if agreement is reached tomorrow. Language must be out in the schools for an adequate time. Will try to post online by Friday, out to the schools for posting on Monday. Vote may be during the first week of April. With no board meeting until April 19 she asked the Board to discuss and report to Ms. Webb to put out for ratification.

Committee Reports:

Member Hurley:

- ERP Steering Committee

Member Altman:

- Value Adjustment Board. Finalized tax roll information
- Conference call with Florida Blue on federal mandates regarding insurance rates

Chairman Armstrong:

- Nomination Committee for new Executive Director of Pasco Education Foundation. Decision by end of the month
- Investment Oversight Committee

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments

Superintendent Browning:

- Communications Department is conducting RSVP luncheons. Commended volunteers and thanked the Communication Department
- Affordable Healthcare Act update. Board Workshop will be scheduled on the implications of the act
- School closures: Quail Hollow and Shady Hills Elementary schools will be closed for the purpose of renovations. Quail Hollow will be divided between Watergrass Elementary and Wesley Chapel Elementary schools. Shady Hills Elementary will attend Crews Lake Middle School, which will become a K-8 school
- Thanked people representing the MMEC issue. He understands the historical significance of the school and clarified that MMEC will not be bulldozed. Proposing to relocate the Save Our Schools and Cysis programs to Pasco High School campus. Will not be discontinuing any programs currently at MMEC. It is felt that relocating will allow great educational opportunities for all students, similar to Marchman Vocational Center in New Port Richey and allow students access to AP, Honors and Dual Enrollment classes plus extra-curricular activities. Noted that they are trying to backfill a \$23 million budget hole and want to do what is best for our students while enhancing their education. Community meetings are scheduled in the upcoming days at MMEC, QHES and SHES. No decision has been made at MMEC, only at SHES and QHES. City Commission met last night believing that the Board was making a decision today on MMEC, which is inaccurate
- Announced the retirement of Renalia DuBose, Executive Director for Administration, effective mid April. She is leaving the district in order to serve as a law professor at a local law school

Ray Gadd:

- Provided statistical enrollment information on students at MMEC. (**See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.**) Three major programs: SOS, Cysis and Nursery Program. Approximately 130 total students enrolled and 120-125 students are transported to and from the school. He assured the community that this change is not racial, nor political. He previously sought advice from Coach Willie Broner prior to this proposed decision and is asking for the community's support and input into the future of the school. He stressed that the district does not want the facility to go away, but be used in a viable way by the community. People were assured that all programs would remain intact, being taught by the same teachers and in the same group setting. Paperwork distributed also includes information on Career and Technical Education, Drop Out Prevention and FAPE Program.
- Olga Swinsin asked the Board to approve the underwriters for the upcoming bond process

Amelia Van Name Larson:

- Recognized Melissa Musselwhite as proposed new Director for Student Support Services and Lizette Alexander as proposed Director on Assignment overseeing the Choice Programs
- Administrative transfers were noted by Monica Ilse and Dave Scanga

- Climate Survey information will be released tomorrow with the full report following next week
- Information forthcoming relating to bullying

(2.) Lizette Alexander presented the following expulsion recommendations. Board members have been provided with detailed information on which to base their decision.

- A. Bus Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 4/16/1998) - Sunlake High School
- B. School Expulsion of Female Student (DOB 11/15/1995) - J W Mitchell High School

Member Luikart moved that the Board approve the expulsions as recommended in items 2A and 2B. Member Crumbley seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

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:

17. Property Acquisitions

- A. Purchase of Property on Handcart Road in East Pasco

The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda. Member Crumbley moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda, including addenda. Member Altman seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** as follows:

3. Human Resources (See Personnel Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

- A. Instructional, Administrative Personnel Recommendations
- B. Noninstructional Personnel Recommendations

4. Student Achievement (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

- A. Change of Placement
- B. Requests for School Field Trips

5. Requests for Use of Facilities (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

- A. Requests for Use of Facilities

6. Construction Services and Code Compliance/Planning/Facility

Maintenance Services and Transportation - None Submitted

7. Finance Services (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

- A. Surplus Non-Capitalized Furniture and Equipment
- B. Surplus Equipment
- C. Audit of School Internal Accounts for the Years Ended June 30, 2010 and June 30, 2011 - Gulfside Elementary School & Seven Oaks Elementary School
- D. Interim Financial Statements for All Fund Types 07/01/2012-12/31/2012
- E. Warrant Lists
- F. 2012-2013 Budget Amendments #30 through #34 - December 2012 (See **Budget Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.**)
- G. Request for Approval of Bid Recommendations, Bid Renewals, and Contracts
Contracts: Florida Department of Children and Families, Suncoast Region; Eckerd Alternatives, Inc.; Pasco-Hernando Workforce Board, Inc.; The Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities, Suncoast Region; School District of Collier County; University of Houston

8. Grant Proposals - None Submitted

9. Allocations (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

- A. Allocation Changes (2012-2013) - Health Occupations Teacher funded by RTTT funds

10. Agreements/Contracts - None Submitted

11. Staff Travel (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

- A. Hudson High School Administrative and Instructional Staff Members to attend the College Board Southern Regional Conference in Atlanta, Georgia – AMENDED

12. High School Course Adoption for 2013-2014 (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

13. Middle School Course Adoption for 2013-2014 (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

14. Waiver of Student Progression Plan Requirements (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

(17A) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Purchase of Property on Handcart Road in East Pasco (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Chris Williams reported on the details of the proposed purchase, which is 10 ½ acres adjacent to future high school site. Mr. Gadd added that a former veterinary clinic is located on the site, which would make a wonderful agriculture facility in the future and could possibly be used as a maintenance facility for the east side of the county. Member Altman moved

that the Board approve the purchase of the property as submitted, seconded by Member Hurley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

Member Luikart:

- RSVP Luncheon

Member Hurley:

- Spoke to Leadership Pasco Class of 2013
- Wiregrass Ranch High School Black History Month living museum
- Special Olympics - WCHS

Member Altman:

- Special Olympics - WCHS
- Met with East Pasco County business group planning upcoming fundraisers for our children who have inadequate food when not on campus

Member Crumbley:

- Progress Energy Breakfast
- Special Olympics – RRHS
- SAC Meeting at RRHS – ESE Programs

Chairman Armstrong:

- Community Transformation Meeting – AHS
- Special Olympics – RRHS
- Anclote High School visit
- RSVP Luncheon

Attorney Alfonso:

- Recognized law firm partner Paul Meeker and introduced Clint Roberson as a new lawyer in his office
- K-12 Virtual Charter application, which was denied by the Board was appealed and the Commission overturned the District's decision and now the appeal goes to the State. He asked for the Board's direction to re-evaluate or accept the decision. It was stated that the Board's concerns could be addressed and reasonable provisions be offered. Member Hurley said she believes that the Board had very valid concerns but if prolonged, our time and taxpayer money would be ill spent. Mr. Alfonso asked that the Board take this as an **off agenda item** for action to direct the Attorney to withdraw the challenge. Member Hurley moved that the Board take the off agenda item, seconded by Member Altman. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. **Member Hurley moved that the Board not proceed any further with the appeal.** Member Luikart seconded the motion. It was noted that contract negotiations will begin and final document information will be provided to the Board. The model contract update may be forthcoming from the legislature. Superintendent Browning referenced situation in Seminole County, which is in appeal with K-12 Virtual. Member Crumbley expressed her concern about performance. **There was no further discussion and on vote, the motion carried unanimously to not proceed with the appeal.**

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 19, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

There was no further business to come before the Board, and upon motion by Member Altman, the meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS: March 5, 2013 11:15 a.m.

The Board met in executive session regarding *Contract Negotiations*. The session was held in the Employee Relations Conference Room at the District Office Complex, Building 3. Present were Board Members Allen Altman, Joanne Hurley, Cynthia Armstrong, Steve Luikart, Alison Crumbley; Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent; Dennis Alfonso, Paul Meeker and Clint Roberson, School Board Attorneys; Ray Gadd, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Operations; Amelia Van Name Larson, Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement. Olga Swinson, Chief Finance Officer; Renalia DuBose, Executive Director for Administration; Tina Tiede, Assistant Superintendent on assignment; Dave Scanga, Learning

Community Executive Director; Beth Brown, Learning Community Executive Director; Monica Ilse, Learning Community Executive Director; Linda Cobbe, Director of Communications and Government Relations; Kevin Shibley, Employee Relations Department.

This session concluded at 12:30 p.m.

The Board then convened in closed session pursuant to F.S. 286.011(8) regarding *Pending Litigation*. The sessions were held in the Employee Relations Conference Room at the District Office Complex, Building 3, with a Court reporter present. Present were Board Members Allen Altman, Joanne Hurley, Cynthia Armstrong, Steve Luikart, Alison Crumbley; Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent; Dennis Alfonso, Paul Meeker and Clint Roberson, School Board Attorneys; Ray Gadd, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Operations; Amelia Van Name Larson, Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement. A court reporter from Accuscript Reporting Services was present to take minutes.

The Executive Session concluded at 1:45 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD
IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman

3-19-13

Superintendent of Schools