

**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**March 16, 2009**

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 16, 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 and Kathryn Starkey. Also present were Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent, and Dennis Alfonso, Attorney for the Board. Attorney Alfonso reported that Member Cathi Martin is in the process of submitting her resignation and is not present.

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 in remembrance of Richard Seufzer, senior at Zephyrhills High School and the men and women in uniform.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of March 3, 2009. There were none, and on motion by Member Starkey, seconded by Member Altman, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Maureen Moore, Director of Communications and Governmental Relations, coordinated the special presentations as follows:

- Recognition of the Outstanding School Volunteers: *Tara Lukasik* (Youth), *Juanita Pagan* (Adult) & *Stanley Rubin* (Senior)

A brief recess was taken for pictures and the meeting resumed at 9:48 a.m.

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

Kenneth Urbuteit of San Antonio spoke on behalf of the Coaches Camp held at San Antonio Elementary School as a before and after school program. He stated that this program is working and not costing the District any monies and is concerned that if the program is denied the coaches will relocate the camp. He said he doesn't believe a new PLACE program would be supported.

The Chairman asked if the United School Employees of Pasco had anything to present. Robert Benjamin, representative of the USEP, spoke of a concern that new language in the Student Code of Conduct turns the code into a staff code of conduct. He also stated that USEP is concerned about the large amount of monies needed to staff Sign Language Interpreter positions with outside people.

Board Member Committee reports:

Member Hurley attended the Charter School Committee and made several school visits.

Member Starkey attended the Executive Director Meeting of the Pasco Education Foundation.

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:

- 1.1 Monthly Report of the Pasco Education Foundation (PEF) & Teacher Quest Program - Chip Wichmanowski, Executive Director of the PEF reported on the Cinderella Ball, Excellence in Academics program and coupon sales for department stores. Rob Aguis, Director of CCTE reported on the Teacher Quest program in collaboration with the Pasco Economic Development Council in linking technical, math and science teachers and aligning with career academies.

The Superintendent attended a revenue estimating conference and reported that revenues are down and they are working with Tallahassee as we work on budget.

Mrs. Reilly has gathered information regarding science fair expenses and budget. It was reported that \$8,000 in donations were received from Corporate Partners Bright House Networks and Crystal Springs Foundation and a large number of business partners contributed awards for the science fair winners.

The Superintendent commented on the San Antonio Elementary School Coaching Camp. She stated that the district is losing money and it is in conflict with the PLACE program currently in place in the district. Dr. Scanga added that district has always planned to add the PLACE program at the school as long as the numbers supported it. He noted that a survey has gone out to see what the interest is. Member Altman stated that he

was not aware that the camp was losing money. Parent have communicated to him their concern with PLACE personnel not being certified teachers and he asked if there was the possibility of an enhanced PLACE program so as not to reduce the level of service to students. The Superintendent detailed the costs associated with employing certified teachers through the PLACE program. Member Altman said the coaching program seems to be working for the students and maybe should be used as a model for other schools. The Superintendent expressed her concern with an educational tutoring program that is not free. Mr. Alfonso stated that he would research the legal ramifications. It was determined that more information would be gathered on the issue and discussed at a later time.

Dr. Scanga remarked that FCAT went well last week in the elementary schools. Anclote Elementary School had a loss of power, which caused the reschedule of one day.

Mr. Davis said FCAT testing at Zephyrhills High School was delayed by one day due to the death of a student. He noted that the Florida High School Athletic Association has made a recommendation to reduce the number of all athletic contests next year due to budget concerns.

Mrs. Swinson pulled Bid # 10-001-AZ, Metal Shelving from section 7.6.

(2.0) The Chairman stated that there were no expulsion hearings before the Board today.

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:

- 4.8 Students to Travel to Reno, Nevada May 10-16, 2009 to Participate in the 2009 International Science and Engineering Fair – Funding: District Science Fair Budget
- 5.0 Requests for Use of Facilities
- 7.3 Letter of Credit Renewal – Certificates of Participation, Series 2008A
- 15.1 First Reading – *2009-2010 Elementary and Secondary Codes of Student Conduct*
- 16.0 Proclamation Recognizing March as National Purchasing Month
- 17.0 Reschedule Date for Jeffrey Bush Termination of Employment Hearing
- 18.0 Superintendent’s Recommendation for Termination of Deane DeLoach

(3.0 – 14.0) The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda. Member Starkey moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda with the exception of items 4.8, 5.0, 7.3 and Bid #10-001-AZ from 7.6. Member Hurley seconded the motion. Member Starkey questioned the sign language bid. The Superintendent explained that there are not enough interpreters on staff to meet all the needs of the district. Mrs. Reilly said that we always start with available staff before using outside vendors. There was no further discussion, 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 Dr. John Long Middle School FBLA Students to Travel to Orlando April 13-16, 2009 to Participate in the FBLA State Leadership Conference and Competition – Funding: Donations, Fundraisers and Student Contributions
- 4.3 Pasco Middle School and Gulf High School FBLA Students to Travel to Orlando April 14-16, 2009 to Attend the FBLA State Leadership Conference and Competition – Funding: Fundraisers and Student Contributions
- 4.4 Wesley Chapel High School FBLA Students to Travel to Orlando April 13-16, 2009 to Participate in the FBLA State Leadership Conference and Competition – Funding: Student Donations and Fundraisers
- 4.5 Wiregrass Ranch High School FBLA Students to Travel to Orlando April 13-16, 2009 to Participate in the FBLA State Leadership Conference and Competition – Funding: Student Donations and Fundraisers
- 4.6 Hudson Middle School Jazz Band to Perform in Orlando April 24-26, 2009 – Funding: Fundraisers and Student Contributions
- 4.7 Seven Springs Middle School Lead The Pack Class to Travel to Tallahassee March 25-26, 2009 to Attend Raising Youth Voices for Service Learning Conference – Funding: Florida Learn and Serve Grant and Student Contributions
- 4.9 Odyssey of the Mind Teams to Travel to the University of Central Florida, Orlando April 3-6, 2009 to Participate in World Competition – Funding: Personal Contributions and Fundraising

4.10 Zephyrhills High School HOSA Members to Travel to State Leadership Conference in Orlando April 2-5, 2009, Funding: HOSA Chapter and District CCTE Travel Funds

**ADDENDA:** 1) Dr. John Long Middle School and J.W. Mitchell High School HOSA Members to Travel to State Leadership Conference in Orlando April 2-5, 2009, Funding: HOSA Chapter, District CCTE Travel Funds and Internal Funds  
2) Students to Travel to Lakeland to Participate in the State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida April 15-17, 2009, Funding: Science Fair Funds

**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 Surplus Equipment
- 7.2 Independent Auditors' Management Letter
- 7.4 Warrant Lists
- 7.5 Requisitions and Related Contracts

**Contracts:** Rapid Solutions Group, Inc.

7.6 Bids and Related Contracts – **(Bid#10-001-AZ Metal Shelving - Pulled)**

**Contracts:** Prometric, Inc. and Pasco High School Allied Health Students; Raptor Technologies, Inc.; Morton Plant Mease Health Services d/b/a Trinity Outpatient Center

**8.0 Grant Proposals**

- 8.1 Title I, Part A Grant Budget Amendment
- 8.2 Jordan Fundamental Inspiration Grant – Wilson Youth Academy
- 8.3 Best Buy Teach Award 2009 Grant – Pasco High School
- 8.4 Best Buy Teach Award 2009 Grant – Schwettman Education Center
- 8.5 Jordan Fundamentals Innovation Grant – Gulf Middle School
- 8.6 Adult with Disabilities Grant Budget Amendment
- 8.7 Carl D. Perkins Grant – Section 131 for 2008-09 – Amendment #4
- 8.8 Sprint Character Education Grant

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

- 9.1 ESOL Allocation Changes at Various Elementary, Middle and High Schools
- 9.2 2009 Summer Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) Education Program Calendar and Allocations
- 9.3 2009-2010 Allocation Formulas

**10.0 Agreements/Contracts** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

- 10.1 Library Services and Technology Act Grant Partnership Agreement
- 10.2 Amendment (#002) to the Consulting Agreement with the Pasco County Health Department
- 10.3 Extended School Year Services – General Guidelines Pending Agreement of a Memorandum of Understanding with USEP

**ADDENDA:** Interagency Agreement for the Operation of the Pasco Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC)

11.0 2009-2010 Employee Work Calendars (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

12.0 High School “Major Areas of Interest” for 2009-2010 (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

13.0 Updated Early Head Start/Head Start Recruitment and Selection Procedures, 2009-2010 (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

14.0 Changes to List of Foreign Exchange Sponsoring Organizations for 2009-2010 School Year (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

(4.8) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Students to Travel to Reno, Nevada May 10-16, 2009 to Participate in the 2009 International Science and Engineering Fair – Funding: District Science Fair Budget (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Starkey moved that the Board approve the travel request, seconded by Member Hurley. Member Hurley questioned the funding source for the travel needed and whether this is the best use of our funds due to travel restrictions. She suggested the possibility of securing outside donations. Mrs. Reilly explained that business partners have made significant donations to apply to cost of the trip. There was no further discussion and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

(5.0) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Requests for Use of Facilities (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Starkey moved that the Board approve the Use of Facilities requests, seconded by Member Altman. On discussion, Member Altman expressed concern with requiring a fee from the County for parks and recreation programs and asked for clarification of past practices. The Superintendent explained that she has spoken to John Gallagher, County Administrator regarding the hardship that the district faces by not charging for services in the past. Member Altman remarked that he has concerns with charging the County when they have never charged us for several facility usages and requested that a formal and fair agreement be made so we have confidence that the issue does not come back to the Board again in a few months. He asked that information be shared with the Board on the communication between the

Superintendent and Mr. Gallagher. Member Hurley agreed with Member Altman in seeking a formal agreement. The Superintendent said cost information will be provided by Finance in order for the Board to make good decisions and she will go back to Mr. Gallagher for a more detailed agreement. There was no further discussion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

(7.3) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Letter of Credit Renewal – Certificates of Participation, Series 2008A (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Hurley moved that the Board approve the letter of credit renewal, seconded by Member Altman. Discussion was held and financial advisor Jerry Ford explained that the letter of credit from Wachovia Bank is essential to keep the district's construction bonds in the market and the Board really doesn't have a choice. He noted that letters of credit have become increasingly hard to come by with liquidity tight and banks in trouble. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman called a break and the meeting came back to order at 11:03 a.m.

The Chairman called a member of the audience forward who wished to address the board on the Coaches Camp at San Antonio Elementary School. Sean Vanatier of San Antonio spoke on the benefits of the camp and presented a signed petition listing people supporting the program. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Mr. Vanatier stated that he feels that PLACE fails students and would like the Board to reconsider closing down the camp.

(15.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the First Reading – *2009-2010 Elementary and Secondary Codes of Student Conduct* (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Altman moved that the Board approve the first reading, seconded by Member Starkey. On discussion Member Altman voiced his concerns regarding destruction of school property being a Level II VS Level III offense. For further consideration: Consequences and recommendation for change of placement. Members Altman and Hurley stated their concern that a student must receive 6 offenses before bus expulsion, which they feel is too permissive. Member Hurley also expressed concern with allowing a student convicted of a felony to return to an athletic team. Mr. Davis explained that these are minimal standards only. Member Parker feels that the appeal procedures should be the same for both elementary and secondary areas before the second reading and noted some needed grammatical changes. Mr. Alfonso suggested the issue of judicial no-contact orders be reviewed. Member Starkey asked that a firm stand be taken against bullying in schools. There was no further discussion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

(16.0) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Proclamation Recognizing March as National Purchasing Month (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Altman moved that the Board approve the proclamation. Member Starkey seconded the motion and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

(17.0) The Chairman presented the request to reschedule date for Jeffrey Bush Termination of Employment Hearing (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Chairman Parker suggested with Member Altman having recused himself previously and in the absence of a fourth board member to hear the case that the Board choose to send the case to DOAH. Attorney Alfonso noted that it would be the Board's decision whether the case is heard by a three or four-member board, as long as there is a quorum. Member Hurley was not in agreement to send the case to DOAH. She motioned that the Board would hear the case and find a date at the end of May. Member Starkey seconded the motion. On discussion, the Board offered the dates of May 18 or 19 to hear the case. Attorney Alfonso responded that he would get with counsel on the suggested dates and report back to Board members. There was no further discussion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

(18.0) The regular meeting was closed and the quasi-judicial hearing reconvened by Attorney Alfonso to hold deliberations on the Superintendent's Recommendation for Termination of Deane DeLoach. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Present were Chairman Frank Parker, Vice Chairman Allen Altman and Board Members Kathryn Starkey and Joanne Hurley. Member Cathi Martin was not present. Also present were Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent, Dennis Alfonso, Attorney for the Board and a court reporter for recording purposes. Member Altman moved that the Board uphold the Superintendent's recommendation, seconded by Member Starkey. Member Altman stated that the evidence was overwhelming with the video and witness reports. Member Starkey said the video was very compelling and she did not see any evidence of an altercation or change of behavior. Member Hurley remarked that all evidence confirms that Mr. DeLoach did indeed participate in the alleged incident. Chairman Parker said the video evidence showed that nothing happened to Mr. DeLoach. There was no further discussion and on vote the motion carried unanimously to uphold the Superintendent's recommendation of termination. Member Hurley moved that Attorney Alfonso prepare an order of action taken and findings of fact. Member Parker seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman called the regular meeting back to order at 11:42 and individual Board members presented and discussed items:

Member Hurley attended the Volunteer Luncheon and will be traveling to Tallahassee later this week for training.

Member Starkey attended the Pasco Economic Summit and will also be traveling to Tallahassee for the Annual Days in the Legislature. She noted that Karen Bryant, the District's Recycling Coordinator would be attending the National School Board Conference in San Diego in April and would be accepting a national award for the District.

Member Altman questioned whether we have ever requested that the Department of Education to look into rescheduling the FCAT testing during another week instead of immediately following the daylight savings time change. The Superintendent responded that all requests have been forwarded to the Commissioner of Education.

Attorney Alfonso updated the Board on the Susan Gozo hearing and noted that he is working on findings to give to the Board. He also discussed the possibility of combining the codes of student conduct.

The Superintendent noted that the date of the Teacher Quest has been changed to March 25 at 1:00 p.m.

The Chairman announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board is April 21, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

There was no further business to come before the Board, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

**SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: March 16, 2009 12:15 p.m.**

**TOPIC: Response to Intervention (RtI)/Disciplines & Expulsions**

The Board met for a workshop session in the DIMC Studio, Building #3 of the District School Board Complex. Present were Board Members Kathryn Starkey, Frank Parker, Allen Altman and Joanne Hurley. Member Cathi Martin was not present. Also present were Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent; Dennis Alfonso, School Board Attorney; Olga Swinson, Chief Finance Officer; Ruth Reilly, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instructional Services; 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, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Schools; Members of the ESE and Student Services Department; Tammy Berryhill, Principal, Mittye P. Locke Elementary School; Vanessa Hilton, Principal, San Antonio Elementary School; Jose Castillo, USF; USEP and Ronnie Blair, Tampa Tribune.

Amelia Van Name Larson, Supervisor of Student Services presented an overview and explanation of the Response to Intervention (RtI) program. It was explained that RtI is a process that provides intervention and educational support services to all students at increasing levels of intensity based on their individual needs. Principals of Mittye P. Locke and San Antonio Elementary schools shared how the program is working in their schools.

Lizette Alexander, Director of Student Services explained the discipline and expulsion process. Discussion was held on levels of support and applying a new way of teaching. She said the goal is setting clear expectations and it is critical that teachers get training and consistent coaching to see the process through.

The workshop concluded at 1:25 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD  
IN OPEN SESSION

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Chairman

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4/21/09

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Superintendent