

**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**March 18, 2008**

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 18, 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, Allen Altman 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 Member Whaley and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of two students Joshua Choi and Meghan Grey.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting and workshops of March 4, 2008. There being none, and on motion by Member Altman seconded by Member Parker the minutes were approved unanimously.

Chip Wichmanowski, Director, Pasco Education Foundation, coordinated the special presentations as follows:

- Recognition of Tara Foote, Language Arts Teacher at River Ridge Middle School for Organizing a Fundraising Campaign for St. Jude Children's Hospital

There was a brief break for a picture and the Chairman called the meeting back to order at 6:08 p.m.

The Chairman acknowledged students in the audience who were in the Educational Leadership program at University of South Florida.

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, reported on legislative news and communicated concerns regarding the impact the loss of revenue will have on the district. Due to the decreased budget projections for the coming year, Ms. Webb stressed it is imperative that our salaries return to a competitive track with surrounding counties in order to recruit needed staff.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:

- 1.1 Workforce Education 2007-08 Budget Reductions - **Information**
- 1.2 Utility Consumption Review – 2nd Quarter, SY2007-2008 - **Information**
- 1.3 Pasco Education Foundation Monthly Report - **Information**

The Superintendent said FCAT testing this week is going well. Mrs. Ramos remarked that testing timelines are very tight this year and they hope scores will be in by the last week of school. Chairman Starkey raised a concern with FCAT testing being done during the first week of Daylight Savings Time when everyone is trying to adjust to the time change.

The Superintendent pulled item 4.2 from consent to action for discussion before a vote.

The Superintendent stated that the Legislature has announced that our budget for this year is being cut an additional \$7.753 million., which is in addition to the \$7 million cut in October of 2007. She informed the Board that we should be able to get through the remainder of this fiscal year because of cost-saving efforts that were put into effect in the fall, including temporarily freezing job openings. Next year could be different and she expressed concern that state funding in 2008-09 will be even tighter. As our county continues to grow, we will be dealing with more students with less money and the Superintendent is seeking ideas from administrators and employees on potential ways to cut spending. The Superintendent also has requested that the Union go to their board and ask them to forgo the automatic step increases for employees. For the good of the economy overall, she expressed her hope in avoiding layoffs, if at all possible.

The Superintendent attended the Florida Investment Pool Advisory Committee recently. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) She distributed information on the current status of district

investments including loss of interest revenue, and concerns regarding the lack of responsibility by the Board of Trustees for the State Board of Administration (SBA).

Mrs. Swinson pulled item 7.14 and updated the Board on Bond Refinancing. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) The Chairman asked that the update be given at this point in the meeting rather than during the action agenda. Mrs. Swinson said proposals have been received from Wachovia, Bank of America and SunTrust for the 1996 bond series, and they are being evaluated to see which will give the best rate. No quotes have been received on the 2005 series. We have a five-year commitment from Bank of America and Citigroup to do the swap for the 2007 series, but we are looking for a possible better deal so we do not have to go through this again in five years. She will continue to keep the Board updated on this issue and hopes final documents will be available soon for submittal to the Board.

Mrs. DuBose recognized Chip Wichmanowski, Director of the Pasco Education Foundation, who gave the monthly report to the Board, including information on the new Prince Charming project that is working well with the successful Cinderella project where young men and women are afforded the opportunity receive formal wear to attend their prom.

(2.0) The Chairman announced that there were no expulsion recommendations this evening.

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:

- 4.2 Revision to Overnight Field Trip Procedures
- 7.14 Bond Refinancing (Report given by Mrs. Swinson, no approval required)

(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 with the exception of 4.2 and 7.14. Member Parker seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** as follows:

- 3.0 Human Resources** (See Personnel Supplementary 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
  - 4.3 Wiregrass Ranch High School Odyssey of the Mind Teams to Travel to University of Central Florida in Orlando April 4-6, 2008 to Participate in State Level Competition, Funding: Personal Contributions
  - 4.4 Wiregrass Ranch High School – Officers of the Class of 2009 to Attend Grad Bash Preview in Orlando April 19-20, 2008, Funding: No Cost to District
  - 4.5 Wiregrass Ranch High School 1) Model UN Students to Travel to Orlando March 28-31, 2008 to attend the Florida High School MUN Conference, Funding: Fundraisers; 2) Students to Participate in Special Olympics in Orlando March 7-8, 2008, Funding: Special Olympics
  - 4.6 Pasco High School Students to Travel to Orlando April 10-13, 2008 to Participate in HOSA State Competition, Funded through Personal Contributions
  - 4.7 F.K. Marchman Technical Education Center Students to Travel to Bradenton, Florida April 28-30, 2008 to Compete in the Skills USA State Competition, Funding: Fundraisers
  - 4.8 Ridgewood High School Students to Travel to Orlando March 7-8, 2008 to Participate in Special Olympics Basketball, Funding: Special Olympics
  - 4.9 Gulf High School Students to Travel to Ocala March 28-29, 2008 to Participate in FHSA Softball Tournament, Funding: Student Fundraisers
  - 4.10 Two Students and Chaperones to Travel to Atlanta, Georgia May 11-16, 2008 to Participate in the 2008 International Science and Engineering Fair - Funding: District Science Fair Budget
  - 4.11 Sunlake High School JSA Debate Club Students to Attend the JSA Debate Club Convention in Orlando April 12-13, 2008, Funding Student Contributions
  - 4.12 Wesley Chapel High School Officers of the Class of 2009 to Attend Grad Bash Preview in Orlando April 25-26, 2008. Funding: Fundraisers
  - 4.13 J.W. Mitchell High School Students to Attend the State Conference for the Florida Scholastic Press Association in Tampa April 17-19, 2008, Funding: Fundraiser Activities and Self-Contribution
  - 4.14 J.W. Mitchell High School Students to Travel to Orlando March 7-8, 2008 to Participate in Special Olympics, Funding: Special Olympics
  - 4.15 Hudson Middle School Jazz Band Students to Travel to Atlanta, Georgia May 8-11, 2008, Funding: Fundraisers

- 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 High School “FFF” – Electric Utility Easement
  - 6.2 2008-2009 School Starting and Ending Times
- 7.0 Business/Finance** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 7.1 Approval of Payroll Expenditures from February, 2008, Authorization to Expend Funds for March, 2008 and Authorization to Expend Funds for April, 2008
  - 7.2 Surplus Equipment
  - 7.3 Interim Financial Statements for All Fund Types 7/1/07-1/31/08
  - 7.4 2006-2007 Tangible Personal Property Inventories
  - 7.5 1st Quarter Lottery Report for 2007-2008
  - 7.6 2nd Quarter Lottery Report for 2007-2008
  - 7.7 2007-2008 Budget Amendments #1 through #7 – July 2007 (See Budget Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 7.8 2007-2008 Budget Amendments #8 through #12 – August 2007 (See Budget Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 7.9 2007-2008 Budget Amendments #13 through #16 – September 2007 (See Budget Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 7.10 2007-2008 Budget Amendments #17 through #120 #20– October 2007 (See Budget Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 7.11 2007-2008 Budget Amendments #21 through #25 – November 2007 (See Budget Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 7.12 2007-2008 Budget Amendments #26 through #29 – December 2007(See Budget Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 7.13 2007-2008 Budget Amendments #30 through #34 – January 2008 (See Budget Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 7.15 Warrant Lists
  - 7.16 Requisitions and Related Contracts
  - 7.17 Bids and Related Contracts
    - Contracts:** Amendment #1 to Contract with Verizon Florida
- 8.0 Grant Proposals**
- 9.0 Allocations** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 9.1 Land O’ Lakes High School – Teachers to Work in the Alternative to Suspension Program, Funding: IDEA Part B
  - 9.2 Allocation Changes at Lacooshee Elementary, R.B. Cox Elementary, San Antonio Elementary, T.E. Weightman Middle and Wesley Chapel High Schools, Funding: Title I Part C Migrant and Title I Part A
- 10.0 Agreements/Contracts** – None Submitted
- 11.0 Charter Schools** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 11.1 Athenian Academy of Pasco Charter School – Contract Extension
- 12.0 Addendum to ESOL Add-On Plan** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

(4.2) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Revision to Overnight Field Trip Procedures (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Mr. Davis reported that the request is for permission to waive the overnight field trip procedure when schools are participating in sanctioned Florida High School Athletic Association state series events. Due to time constraints and schedule of events, this may mean that the requests could come before the Board after the event has taken place. Attorney Alfonso felt this could be incorporated in during the ongoing policy revisions with NEOLA. Member Altman moved that the Board approve the revision to the procedure, seconded by Member Martin. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman asked for Board member committee reports.

Chairman Starkey reported that the some great ideas should be coming soon from the Landscape Committee. She heard speeches on how businesses and education can work together at a recent Tampa Bay Partnership quarterly meeting. She attended a luncheon with Progress Energy where discussion on business and education working together was also heard.

Attorney Alfonso explained that we are now in the rule making part of concurrency. The concurrency plan is in the DCA office waiting approval. A meeting has been set to discuss the areas that remain unresolved and how

the district is going to deal with on and off-site infrastructure improvements. He noted that he might recommend engaging in outside legal counsel to assist in the rule making procedure on the mitigation portion.

Attorney Alfonso informed the Board the four-year-old lawsuit with Deerwood Academy Charter School is set for trial April 14 and 15.

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 April 1, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.

There was no further business to come before the Board, and upon motion by Member Altman seconded by Member Martin, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: March 18, 2008 12:15 p.m.**

**TOPIC: *Negotiations***

The Board met in executive session on *negotiations*. The session was held in the Superintendent's Conference Room at the District Office Complex, Building 8. 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 and Terry Rhum, Director of Employee Relations.

The Executive Session concluded at 1:15 p.m.

**SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: March 18, 2008 1:30 p.m.**

**TOPIC: *Master Board Training***

The Board met for a Master Board session on *The Key Works of School Boards*. The session was held in the Superintendent's Conference Room at the District Office Complex, Building 8., and was facilitated by Sharon Hartsell, Consultant with Florida School Boards Association (FSBA). Present were Board Members Kathryn Starkey, Frank Parker, Allen Altman, Cathi Martin and Marge Whaley; and Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent.

In order to receive credit in the Master Board program, a majority of the Board Members and Superintendent must attend training sessions coordinated by FSBA. The leadership team has completed Steps 1, 2 and 3, and this training satisfies Step 4 (elective curriculum) of the program.

The session concluded at 5:15 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD  
IN OPEN SESSION

4/1/08

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Chairman

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Superintendent