

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA

April 16, 2013

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 16, 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 followed with the thought for the day by Member Hurley and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Virginia Lee (Teacher at Pasco Elementary School).

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of March 19, 2013, workshop on March 19, 2013 and workshop on April 2, 2013. There were none, and on motion by Member Crumbley, seconded by Member Hurley, the minutes were approved unanimously.

The Chairman opened the First Public Hearing on the Revised DSBPC Policies(See **Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.**) After stating that notice of this hearing has been posted on the District's web site and published in compliance with Florida Statute 1011.03, Chairman Armstrong asked if there was anyone in the audience who would like to speak on this item. No one came forward. Member Hurley moved that the Board approve the first reading of revised district policies, seconded by Member Luikart. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

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

- National PASS Student of the Year (PHS)
- Tropicana Speech First Place Winners (Grades 7, 8, HS)
- Regional & State Level Odyssey of the Mind Teams from Pasco County Schools

The Chairman called a recess for pictures and the meeting came back to order at 6:24 pm.

Persons Not Heretofore Scheduled on the Agenda:

Attorney Alfonso reviewed the public speaking guidelines and procedures, noting that there would be a time limit of three minutes per speaker and the Board limits public participation at the meeting to sixty minutes total. Speakers were called in groups of three in order to save time and could choose to waive their right to speak. Speaking began at 6:25 pm. The order of speakers has been divided into categories for the purpose of the minutes and does not represent the actual order in which they spoke. (See **Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.**)

Several speakers addressed the Board regarding the proposed removal of Media Specialists and K-12 Literacy Coaches from school media centers. Remarks included: Media Specialists make direct impact on students; support of Common Core; online resource assistance; identifying credible sources of online information; building relationships between teachers, student and community; outdated image of librarians; support of student reading scores; student research support; FCAT scores supported; college preparation; difference between school grades with part time and full time Media Specialists.

- Mary Bathy, Media Specialist
- Casey Einsburger, Former Student, Tampa
- Michele Martinez, Media Specialist at LES
- Marcia Pringle – waived right to speak
- Leslie Ruttle – waived right to speak
- Christi Carroll, Media Specialist, Wesley Chapel
- Amy Parker, Media volunteer, Wesley Chapel
- Morgan Powers, Student, Wesley Chapel
- Kathleen Powers, Volunteer, Wesley Chapel
- Kathleen Witowski – waived right to speak

Several speakers addressed the Board regarding the proposed termination of Connerton Elementary School Principal, Anna Falcone. Remarks included: Letter from COES student on her behalf; unjust removal by Superintendent’s staff; disagreed with charges; supportive of Superintendent’s proposal to remove Ms. Falcone; reading history of Ms. Falcone’s tenure at DSBPC; commended for successful transition from Sanders to Connerton Elementary Schools; believes small group of disgruntled former staff contributes to this situation; positive job performance; innovative leader; commended Aimee Boltze as new interim principal; disturbing email being circulated; detrimental to the District. Ms. Falcone spoke on her own behalf and denied being insubordinate.

- Kathy Zappe, Land O’Lakes – supports Ms. Falcone
- Bob McCracken, Land O’Lakes – supports Ms. Falcone
- Lori McCandrew, Spring Hill – supports Ms. Falcone
- Dennis Liberatore, Wesley Chapel – supports Ms. Falcone
- Meredith Williamson, Land O’Lakes - supports Ms. Falcone
- Heather Snyder, Land O’Lakes - supports Ms. Falcone
- Anita McCracken, Land O’Lakes - supports Ms. Falcone
- Jenna Henry, Land O’Lakes – happy with interim principal
- Crissie Boles, Land O’Lakes - supports Ms. Falcone
- Maureen Boles, Land O’Lakes - supports Ms. Falcone
- Brian Gifford, Land O’Lakes – supports termination of Ms. Falcone. Also had a bullying issue with his son. (Melissa Musselwhite will follow up on his bullying issue)

Several speakers addressed the Board regarding the plan to relocate Shady Hills Elementary School students to Crews Lake Middle School. Remarks included: successful and happy students on SHES campus (high performers, climate surveys, school grades); use of portables on existing campus; student safety concerns with mixed ages; arrival and departure concerns; petitions submitted from parents; non productive town hall meeting; bullying concerns.

- Rosemary Rogers, SHES PTO President – against the closing
- Craig Rogers, Hudson - against the closing

Speakers on various issues:

- Teri Kujak, New Port Richey. Daughter, Mary is a student at Ridgewood High School and 2013 valedictorian. She highlighted her daughter’s accomplishments and reviewed the history of her academic classwork, including AP classes. She expressed concerns with the current AP test requirement and asked the Board to readdress the Student Progression Plan and make changes needed to assist her daughter. Vanessa Hilton, Director of Office for Teaching and Learning spoke to Ms. Kujak privately.
- Daniel Hamm, Hudson. Spoke on a variety of topics, including wife’s employment issues, public records procedures and Board Member town hall meetings regarding technology upgrades.

Attorney Alfonso remarked that the sixty-minute speaking time limit has been met and Board action will be required to continue. After discussion, Member Crumbly moved that people wishing to speak on different issues other than above would be allowed three minutes at this time. People speaking on the three main topics would be allowed one minute each during the public speaking time at the end of the meeting. Member Luikart seconded the motion and on vote, the motion carried unanimously.

- Jay Fluke, Fivay High School parent. Accused FHS staff of lying regarding his son being placed back on the varsity baseball team. He detailed timeline of his conversations with the principal and athletic director of FHS.

Jim Ciadella, Business Representative of the USEP, spoke on behalf of the Union:

- Contract ratification is before the Board tonight for approval. Union members voted in favor on April 4, with instructional receiving 84% yes votes and SRP receiving 89% yes votes. Staff wants to move forward and looking forward to new contract. Pasco finances have been poor and it is hoped that upcoming finances from the State will be better, leading to raises for all staff members
- An agreement has been reached on the elementary grievance issues. He said the willingness of the Superintendent and Amelia Van Name Larson in helping to bring those issues to a positive outcome was much appreciated
- USEP held one meeting on the restructuring within the District, which included repurposing of several groups of staff members. They still have questions and continue to receive concerns from staff regarding the media specialist changes. USEP is concerned regarding the impact on SRP staff assuming all remaining duties in the media centers. He asked the Board to consider reviewing the instructional allocations. Suggested moving teachers who do not have direct contact with students back into classrooms, excluding media specialists from that group, however.

Committee Reports:

Member Hurley:

- Vision Committee

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:

Superintendent Browning:

- Thanked staff for a smooth start to FCAT testing, which started yesterday
- Referenced the Elementary Class Action Grievance and thanked USEP for their involvement, along with his staff.
- Ratification of the Instructional and Non-instructional (SRP) contract will be presented as an off agenda item tonight
- Distributed information on the Fitch Ratings, announcing good rating for the District
- Washington Post ranks the top schools and Land O'Lakes High School is 108 in the United States and 26 in Florida

Ray Gadd:

- Betsy Kuhn was introduced as the new Director of Employee Relations and Ray Bonti as the new Executive Director of Support Services, with the approval of the Board tonight

Amelia Van Name Larson:

- Elementary principals need to have time to collaborate on the merging of key functions of media and technology
- Aimee Boltze was introduced as being recommended for promotion to Interim Principal at Connerton Elementary School

- Thomas Osmun was introduced as being recommended for Assistant Principal at Chasco Middle School

The Chairman announced that there would be a delay in the expulsion recommendation portion of the meeting.

The Chairman asked for a motion to accept an off agenda item pertaining to the ratification of the 2012-2013 Instructional and Non-instructional (SRP) contracts. Member Crumbley so moved, seconded by Member Hurley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Member Hurley motioned that the Board approve the ratification of the above contracts (**See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.**) Member Luikart 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:

8B. 2013-2014 Allocation Formulas

The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda. Member Hurley moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda with the exception of 8A and including any addenda. Member Crumbley seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** as follows:

3. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

A. Learning Communities

1. Land O'Lakes High School Instructional Staff Member to attend the 2013 American Culinary Federation Central Regional Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas

B. Teaching and Learning

1. Waiver of Student Progression Plan Requirements
2. High School Course Adoption for 2013-2014
3. Middle School Course Adoption for 2013-2014
4. Extended School Year Services 2012-2013

C. Professional Development and School Supports - None Submitted

D. Accountability Research and Measurement - None Submitted

E. Student Support Programs and Services

1. Change of Placement

F. School Field Trips

1. Requests for School Field Trips

G. Additional Student Achievement Items

1. Place Program - Increase in Fall/Summer Weekly Rates
2. 2012-2013 Head Start/Early Head Start Self-Assessment Report and Related Findings

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

A. Human Resources and Educator Quality

1. 2013-2014 Work Calendars
2. Noninstructional Personnel Recommendations (including addenda) (**See Personnel Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.**)
3. Instructional, Administrative Personnel Recommendations (including addenda) (**See Personnel Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.**)

B. Employee Relations - None Submitted

C. Technology and Information Services - None Submitted

D. Requests for Use of Facilities

1. Requests for Use of Facilities (including addenda)

5. SUPPORT SERVICES (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

A. Planning Services - None Submitted

B. Construction Services - None Submitted

C. Food and Nutrition Services - None Submitted

D. Maintenance Services

1. Surplus Non-Capitalized Furniture and Equipment
2. Surplus Equipment

E. Purchasing Services

1. Request for Approval of Bid Recommendations, Bid Renewals, and Contracts

Contracts: CareHere, LLC; Faithful Friends Cremation; Pasco County Board of County Commissioners

6. FINANCE SERVICES (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

- A. Request for Approval of Payroll Expenditures for March 2013 and Authorization to Expend Funds for April 2013
- B. Warrant Lists
- C. Audit of School Internal Accounts for the Years Ended June 30, 2010 and June 30, 2011 - Gulf Middle School & Anclote Elementary School
- D. 2012-2013 Budget Amendments #35 through #39- January 2013 (See Budget Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- E. Obsolete Inventory Water Sewer Repair Parts and Electrical Parts
- F. Interim Financial Statements for All Fund Types 07/01/2012-1/31/2013
- G. Transportation Petty Cash Account - Designated Account Signers and Staff Change in Transportation Department

7. GRANT PROPOSALS - None Submitted

8. ALLOCATIONS (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

- A. Allocation Changes (2012-2013) - MMEC Salary Funding Source Change – Grant; Add Allocation for 90050 - Preventative Equipment Maintenance; GHS Additional Duty; Correct Cost Center for Employees at Sunray Place Program; FNS Maintenance IA; School Nurse & Early Head Start LPN Change; Information Services Allocation Conversion; Staff Changes for Quest Planning Project

(8B) The Chairman presented the request for approval of 2013-2014 Allocation Formulas (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Hurley asked the Superintendent to relook at the plan to remove the K-12 Literacy Coaches and Media Specialists and come back with an alternative plan. Member Altman expressed concerns how this delay could adversely affect other staff. Superintendent Browning explained that the plan would need to be in place for the May 7 Board Meeting and this would limit the flexible time to finish decisions for the budget. Member Hurley moved that the Board table the allocation formula and bring back to the Board on May 7 time certain. Member Luikart seconded the motion. Member Hurley then amended her motion and moved that the Board approve the allocations with the exception of media specialists and literacy coaches and to be brought back to the Board on May 7, time certain, to allow time to address the positions. Member Luikart seconded the motion. Member Altman asked that staff meet with Board members to present the plan before the May 7 board meeting as there is no longer any flex time. Superintendent Browning said the plan is to come back on May 7 with a plan to plug the 19.5 million dollar deficit and to address the K-12 issues and other positions. There was no further discussion and on vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(2.0) Expulsion Recommendations/Hearings

2A Open Appeal Hearing - School Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 8/30/1995) – Sunlake High School

Attorney Alfonso explained that this is a request for a public appeal hearing on the recommendation of school expulsion of William Alvarez, 10th grade student at SLHS. Mr. Alvarez is being represented by counsel, Christopher D. Codling of Givens Givens Sparks, PLLC.

Melissa Musselwhite, Director of Student Support Programs and Services presented information describing the history of events leading up to and including the final incident. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Attorney Codling presented the case for William Alvarez. Board Members viewed a redacted video of the incident taken by a student on their phone. After hearing both sides, viewing the video and discussing, Member Hurley motioned to accept the recommendation by the Superintendent for expulsion. Member Altman seconded the motion and on vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Melissa Musselwhite, Director of Student Support Programs and Services, presented the following expulsion recommendation. Board members have been provided with detailed information on which to base their decision.

2B. School Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 6/23/1995) – Fivay High School

Member Luikart moved that the Board approve the expulsion as recommended in item 2B. Member Altman seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

Member Hurley:

- Attending PLACE conference this Saturday at River Ridge High School

The Chairman asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to address the Board.
Continuance of speakers against the deletion of K-12 Literacy Coaches and Media Specialists from the allocations: (allowed 1 minute each)

- Lorey Tinti – waived right to speak
- Rachel Harbour, IB Senior at LOLHS
- Lindsey Conte, Odessa
- Brooks Marshall – waived right to speak
- MyKensizie Robertson – Port Richey
- Frances Schulz, taxpayer – did not speak
- Jane DePagter, Odessa
- William McEachern – did not speak
- Carl Waldron, Dade City
- Colton Paige, Odessa

Continuance of speakers on the recommendation to terminate Anna Falcone, Principal of Connerton Elementary School: (allowed 1 minute each)

- Stephanie Diaz, COES parent – support of Ms. Falcone
- Chris Joyal, Spring Hill
- Jessica Russo, Wesley Chapel – support of Ms. Falcone
- Monica Joiner, retired principal – support of Ms. Falcone
- Olga Hines, Hudson – supports termination of Ms. Falcone
- Anna Falcone, Principal Connerton Elementary School – Thanked her supporters and stated she has not been insubordinate
- Colleen Nalette, Land O’Lakes – support of Ms. Falcone
- Margaret McDonald, New Port Richey – support of Ms. Falcone
- Sheila Nero, Land O’Lakes – support of Ms. Falcone
- Alecia Auvil, Land O’Lakes

Continuance of speakers on the merging of Shady Hills Elementary School with Crews Lake Middle School: (allowed 1 minute each)

- Jessie Barnett, Spring Hill – opposed to merger
- Larry Walters, Hudson – opposed to merger
- Chris – wants the truth
- Sandra Archer, Spring Hill – opposed to merger
- Daniel Cond – did not speak
- Linda Hails, Shady Hills – did not speak

Additional speakers: (allowed 3 minutes each)

- Ryan Reis, SLHS student. He spoke on behalf of William Alvarez.

- Dante Johnson, student. Spoke on behalf of William Alvarez.
- Kalon Gipson, teammate of William Alvarez. Asked the Board to reconsider expelling him.
- Esteban Lenaken, SLHS student and quarterback for football team. Spoke on behalf of William Alvarez.

The Chairman announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board is May 7, 2013 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 9:17 p.m.

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

CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION: April 16, 2013 3:00 p.m.

The Board met in executive session on *Negotiations*. The session was held in the T.V. Studio 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, School Board Attorney; Ray Gadd, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Operations; Amelia Van Name Larson, Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement; Olga Swinson, Chief Finance Officer; Kevin Shibley, Employee Relations Department

The Executive Session concluded at 3:50 p.m.

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: April 16, 2013 4:00 p.m.

TOPICS: *Cenergistic (Energy Saving Program) and Budget*

The Board met for a workshop session at the District Office Complex, Building 3 Board Room. Present were Board Members Allen Altman, Joanne Hurley, Cynthia Armstrong, Steve Luikart, Alison Crumbley; Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent; Dennis Alfonso, School Board Attorney; Ray Gadd, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Operations; Amelia Van Name Larson, Assistant Superintendent for Student Achievement; Olga Swinson, Chief Finance Officer; Tina Tiede, Assistant Superintendent on Assignment; Dave Scanga, Beth Brown and Monica Ilse, Learning Community Executive Directors; Kevin Shibley, Employee Relations Department; Linda Cobbe, Communications Director; Jeff Solocheck, Tampa Bay Times and Ronnie Blair, Tampa Tribune

Cenergistic

Gary Clark, Regional President for Cenergistic presented a PowerPoint and Video on their energy conservation program. Information was sent previously to the Superintendent and Board Members via email. He explained the savings projected and how the five-year agreement would work. Question and answer session followed.

Budget

Board Members were given a draft schedule of non-recurring funds and proposed cuts for fiscal year 2013-2014. The Superintendent reviewed the proposed cuts and explained that the district faces a projected shortfall of \$19.5 million. Member Hurley was not comfortable with media specialists and literacy coaches' cuts and asked that staff look at an alternative plan. It was explained that if those were removed at least an additional \$5 million in "hard" cuts would be needed. The Board was not in favor of using non-recurring dollars, as was done in the past. Mrs. Swinson explained that the District would not be meeting Class Size this year. Mr.

Browning said the goal is to not impact students and student achievement and to repurpose people and bring about higher student achievement.

The workshop concluded at 5:15 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD
IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman

May 7, 2013

Superintendent of Schools