

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA
April 22, 2008

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 22, 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 Martin and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Glenn Ray, teacher at R.B. Stewart Middle School and Damon Smith, student at Pine View Middle School.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of April 1, 2008 and two workshops of April 1, 2008. There being none, and on motion by Member Altman seconded by Member Martin the minutes were approved unanimously.

The Chairman called a recess for pictures and the meeting resumed at 6:34 p.m.

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

- Recognition of the *Resource Recovery Department* as Recipient of the American School Board Journal's Magna Award
- Recognition of the *Resource Recovery Department* as Recipient of the American Forest and Paper Associations School-wide Recycling Award
- Recognition of *Lauren Olson* from North Bay Hospital for Her Outstanding Contribution to the Students of Pasco County
- Recognition of *Chasco Elementary School* as Recipient of the 2007 Expanding Breakfast Award

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. Frank Roder, Instructional Vice President of the USEP, said USEP has been sending employees each week to Tallahassee to address the Legislature on the budget and concerns with the National Board Certified Teacher program. He remarked that Pasco is second in the Nation in the number of Nationally Certified teachers and there is much concern with the program facing very large cuts.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

Member Altman attended the Pasco Hernando Community College Foundation meeting, the Leadership Pasco event at St. Leo University and the Take Stock in Children dinner. He also attended a community meeting with the county and others to discuss partnering in the future and the Urban Land Institute panel on growth management and county issues. He shared a cost saving idea that other districts are using where they lease their computers which allows them to save money, update equipment more frequently and have more current technology available. He thought this would be something for our district to consider.

Mr. Altman would like to begin setting dates for workshops at which priorities would be set for budget cuts. Member Whaley agreed and asked if the Superintendent could review the cost saving suggestions also during those workshops.

Member Altman said that he had been asked by the Chairman at the last meeting to compile and address issues with the board attorney contract. Board members were asked to email their issues and suggestions to the recording secretary. After he has received input from staff, the Superintendent and Board members, he will meet with the attorney and report back to the Board.

Chairman Starkey attended the Council for Education Change breakfast, where all the business partners involved in the mentoring program were recognized.

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:

- 1.1 Cotee River & Estuary Watershed Camps
- 1.2 Monthly Report of the Pasco Education Foundation – (Chip Wichmanowski)

The Superintendent shared that the Legislature is currently meeting to discuss education funding, so the district could get a clearer picture of the budget soon. She anticipates the state could cut our funding by \$20 million or more. A podcast is being prepared to educate employees on the budget and the cost saving suggestions received from employees are being compiled and will be distributed soon. The Superintendent stated that the district wants to avoid any cuts that would affect classrooms and avoid cutting jobs if possible, which would only hurt morale and have a negative impact on the local economy.

The Superintendent pulled items 7.4 and 7.5 to be brought back at a later date. She also pulled item 7.3 from the consent agenda to the action agenda for discussion.

Mr. Gadd introduced Gary Sawyer as the newly recommended Director of Transportation to replace Mike Park, who will be retiring soon.

Ms. DuBose introduced Maureen Moore as the new Director of Communications.

(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 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 2/15/94) from Charles S. Rushe Middle School - **TABLED**
- 2.2 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 6/8/95) from River Ridge Middle School - **TABLED**
- 2.3 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 3/2/92) from Sunlake High School - **TABLED**

Member Parker moved that the Board approve to table the expulsions as recommended in items 2.1-2.3. 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:

- 7.3 COPS 2008A – Refunding of all of the Outstanding Certificates of Participation Series 1996 and COPS 2008C – Refunding of All Certificates of Participation Series 2007B
- 13.0 Land O’Lakes High School - Naming of the Baseball Field**
- 16.0 Policies** (including any addenda)
 - 16.1 First Reading – 2008-2009 Elementary and Secondary Codes of Student Conduct
- 17.0 Resolutions** (including any addenda)
 - 17.1 Resolution Proclaiming April 26, 2008 as “Earth Day”
- 18.0 Property Purchase**
 - 18.1 Contract for Purchase of 36 Acres for Elementary School “O” (Hicks Road – Hudson Area)
 - 18.2 Contract for Purchase of Final Piece of Property (Wright) for High School “EEE” (Cricket Street and Canton Avenue)

(3.0 – 15.0) The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda. Member Altman moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda with the exception of 7.3, 7.4, 7.5 and 13.0. Member Whaley 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
 - 3.3 2008-2009 Administrative Personnel Reappointments
 - 3.4 2007-2008 Allocations, Salary Schedules, and Supplement Book
- 4.0 Students** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
 - 4.1 Student Transfer Requests
 - 4.2 Gulf High School Students to Travel to Orlando April 27-April 30, 2008 to Attend the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Conference – Funding: Student Contributions and Club Fundraising
 - 4.3 River Ridge High School Students to Travel to Daytona Beach April 30-May 3, 2008 to Perform and View Performances at the State Florida Vocal Associations – Funding: Fine Arts Account and Internal Funds
 - 4.4 River Ridge High School Students to Travel to Tampa April 30-May 3, 2008 to Participate in State Thespian Competition – Funding: Student Fundraisers
 - 4.5 Gulf High School Total Sound Choral Group to Travel to Daytona Beach April 23-25, 2008 to Participate in the Annual State Evaluation, Funding: Students and Choral Boosters

- 4.6 Pasco High School Envirothon Team to Travel to Sarasota April 11-12, 2008 to Participate in the Envirothon State Contest, Funding: District Funds
- 4.7 Girls State Summer Enrichment Program to High School Credit
ADDENDA: Pasco Middle School Gifted Social Studies/History Students to Travel to Tallahassee May 6-7, 2008, Funding: Fundraisers and Parents
- 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 School Siting Agreement for Elementary School “R” (Connerton)
 - 6.2 Architectural Agreement Modification for Geotechnical Services – Elementary School “R” (Connerton)
 - 6.3 Utility Easement for Hudson Elementary School
- 7.0 Business/Finance** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
 - 7.1 Surplus Equipment
 - 7.2 Surplus Transportation Motor Vehicles and Equipment
 - 7.6 Warrant Lists
 - 7.7 Requisitions and Related Contracts
 - 7.8 Bids and Related Contracts**Contracts:** Blackboard Connect Inc.; Apple Inc.
- 8.0 Grant Proposals**
 - 8.1 Learn and Serve Budget Amendment – Seven Springs Middle School
- 9.0 Allocations** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
 - 9.1 Teacher Dr. Marie Laurino to Provide Sign Language and Reading Instruction for Adults with Disabilities at F.K. Marchman Technical Education Center, Funding: Employee Relations Project #7102
 - 9.2 Zephyrhills High School – Approve for Teachers to Work in the Alternative to Suspension Program, Funding: IDEA Part B
 - 9.3 Change to the 2008-2009 Allocation Formulas
- 10.0 Agreements/Contracts** – None Submitted
- 11.0 New High School Course Requests 2008-2009 – Orchestra II, Orchestra III and Orchestra IV**(See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- 12.0 PLACE Program 2008-2009 Summer/Fall Fee Schedule** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- 14.0 Head Start 2008-09 Refunding Application** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- 15.0 Early Head Start 2008-09 Refunding Application** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

(7.3) The Chairman presented the request for approval of COPS 2008A – Refunding of all of the Outstanding Certificates of Participation Series 1996 and COPS 2008C – Refunding of All Certificates of Participation Series 2007B (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Whaley moved that the Board approve this request. Member Martin seconded the motion. Mrs. Swinson acknowledged Jerry Ford of Ford and Associates. Mr. Ford explained that the interest rates on these certificates have spiked and at the Board’s direction they have been working to restructure series 2008A and 2008C. The district currently has a variable rate and they are looking at obtaining a fixed rate, if possible. Bank of America and Wachovia are the banks working with the district on these financial documents. George Smith, with the Law Firm of Bryant, Miller and Olive, P.A., Bond Counsel for the School Board, explained that an additional revision has been added to the two resolutions before the Board to add the ability to issue certificates at a fixed rate not to exceed 5.25%, should the opportunity arise. He asked that the Board take action on the certificates individually, rather than together. Member Whaley amended her motion on the floor to approve COPS 2008A, as revised to include the allowance of a fixed rate of 5.25%, not to exceed \$93,000,000. Member Martin seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously. Member Parker moved that the Board approve COPS 2008C certificates, as explained and amended by Mr. Smith, adding similar language to COPS 2008A, not to exceed \$77,000,000 and the allowance of a fixed interest rate not to exceed 5.25%. Member Whaley seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

(13.0) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Land O’Lakes High School - Naming of the Baseball Field (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Whaley moved that the Board approve the naming of the field. Member Parker seconded the motion. Member Parker said that these issues are coming before the Board after the fact and he advised that administrators will need to follow board policy and bring these items to the board for approval before proceeding. Mr. Davis said he would review the policy with principals again. There being no further discussion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman called a recess of the School Board Meeting and the Pasco County School Board Leasing Corporation meeting came to order at 7:36 p.m. Present were President Kathryn Starkey and Board Members Frank Parker, Allen Altman, Marge Whaley and Cathi Martin. Also present were Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent and Dennis Alfonso, Attorney for the Board.

(19.0) President Starkey presented the COPS 2008A – Refunding of all of the Outstanding Certificates of Participation Series 1996 and COPS 2008C – Refunding of All Certificates of Participation Series 2007B for approval. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) It was noted that the two series would be taken as separate action items as previously done in the School Board Meeting. George Smith, with the Law Firm of Bryant, Miller and Olive, P.A., Bond Counsel for the School Board explained the two series and noted that they are companion resolutions to those just approved by the School Board. These resolutions contain the same revisions as stated in item 7.3 of the school board agenda. Member Parker moved that the Board approve the COPS 2008A Certificates Refunding of all of the outstanding certificates of participation Series 1996, as amended, to allow for a 5.25% fixed rate with the issue not exceeding \$93,000,000. Member Martin seconded the motion and with no further discussion, on vote the motion carried unanimously. Member Parker moved that the Board approve the COPS 2008C Refunding of all Certificates of Participation Series 2007B as amended, to allow for a 5.25% fixed rate and the issue is not to exceed \$77,000,000. Member Whaley seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

There was no further business to come before the Leasing Corporation, and upon motion by Member Whaley, seconded by Member Parker, the meeting was adjourned and the Pasco County School Board Meeting reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

Chairman Starkey stated that they would continue with the action agenda.

(16.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the First Reading – 2008-2009 Elementary and Secondary Codes of Student Conduct (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Whaley moved that the Board approve the first reading. Member Altman seconded the motion. On discussion, Member Altman expressed concern with students who have large numbers of referrals making it difficult for teachers to teach students that are in class to learn. He would like the district to look at ways to address this issue. There being no further discussion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

(17.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Resolution Proclaiming April 26, 2008 as “Earth Day” (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Parker moved that the Board approve the resolution. Member Martin seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

(18.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Contract for Purchase of 36 Acres for Elementary School “O” (Hicks Road – Hudson Area) (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Altman moved that the Board approve the contract. Member Parker seconded the motion. Mr. Gadd commented that this property was found to be the best value in the area. There being no further discussion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

(18.2) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Contract for Purchase of Final Piece of Property (Wright) for High School “EEE” (Cricket Street and Canton Avenue) (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute book _____, Page _____.) Member Altman moved that the Board approve the contract for purchase. Member Parker seconded the motion. On question by Member Starkey, Mr. Gadd explained that there is a process and timeline in place for the naming of schools. The next high school to be named will be “FFF”. There being no further discussion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman participated in the judging of senior projects at J.W. Mitchell High School. She commented that the Cinderella project for prom clothing is going well and they expect a lot of participation by girls and boys this year.

The Chairman acknowledged attorney Dennis Alfonso. Mr. Alfonso updated the Board on the Deerwood Charter School trial. After a two-day trial, the judge asked for submission of written closing arguments. When closing arguments are received from Deerwood’s counsel, Mr. Alfonso will have five days to respond and then it will go back before the judge for final judgment.

Mr. Alfonso informed the Board that The Language Academy Charter School is administratively dissolved and a final audit was never conducted. Mr. Alfonso received the Board’s permission to initiate a request and draft an indemnity agreement for the bank to transfer ownership of the active accounts to the District whereby a final audit can be conducted and the school closing can be finalized.

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 May 6, 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 Whaley, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: April 15, 2008 - 9:00 a.m.
TOPIC: NEOLA

The Board held a workshop session with *NEOLA* on policy revisions in the DIMC studio, building #3 of the district office complex. Present were Board Members Kathryn Starkey, Frank Parker, Allen Altman, Cathi Martin and Marge Whaley; Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent; Nancy Alfonso, School Board Attorney; 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; NEOLA staff, Dick Clapp, CEO and Tom Young.

Board Members reviewed the 0000/Governance policies with suggested changes from NEOLA and made revisions or approved each individual policy.

The workshop concluded at 11:15 a.m.

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: April 22, 2008 - 11:00 a.m.
TOPIC: Department Presentation – Employee Relations

The Board held a workshop session in the DIMC Studio of the of the district office complex where they heard a presentation from the department of *Employee Relations*. Present were Board Members Kathryn Starkey, Frank Parker, Allen Altman and Cathi Martin. Marge Whaley was not present. Also present were 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 Solocheck, St. Petersburg Times.

Terry Rhum, Director of Employee Relations explained that the Department of Employee Relations supports and advises all schools, departments and employees in matters related to collective bargaining, employment contracts, drug and alcohol testing, discipline, performance employment law and equity. There was a question and answer session following the presentation.

The workshop concluded at 5:00 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD
IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman

5/6/08

Superintendent