

**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**May 5, 2009**

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 5, 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, Kathryn Starkey 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 Hurley and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Terry Doyle, teacher at Paul R. Smith Middle School, Judy Voisine, guidance secretary at Northwest Elementary School, Kenneth Brown, food service staff member at Pasco Middle School and Nick Haskell, student at Schwettman Education Center.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of April 21, 2009 and workshop of April 21, 2009. There were none, and on motion by Member Martin, seconded by Member Starkey, the minutes were approved unanimously.

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

Patrick Connelly, Land O'Lakes High School teacher spoke regarding AP/IB course funding. He stated that longstanding Pasco board policy allows for lower student numbers in these programs. In determining allocations for next year, he feels the District has disregarded the extra FTE generated by these classes as they plan class numbers for next year. He explained that class sizes will be very large next year. Copies of his remarks were provided to Maureen Moore, Director of Communications and Governmental Relations.

Student: Andrew apologized for assaulting a teacher at Gulf High School

John Farrell of New Port Richey and J.W. Mitchell High School basketball parent requested that school facilities remain available to youth sports.

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

- Presentation of Disbursement Check to the School Board by Withlacoochee Division of Forestry
- Progress Energy Grant Presentation
- Presentation to the Food & Nutrition Services Department for the PETA Award

The Chairman called a break for pictures and the meeting came back to order at 10:10 a.m.

The Chairman asked if the United School Employees of Pasco had anything to present. Frank Roder, USEP Representative said he spoke at Double Branch Elementary School this morning regarding widespread rumors on teacher layoffs. He asked that communication happen between administration and school personnel to reassure the teachers that they will not be laid off. Chairman Parker stated that the Board's goal continues to be to avoid layoffs and maintain a benefit package.

**Committee Reports:**

Member Starkey attended a LPA meeting in Dade City. She traveled to Escambia County recently for a Career Academy visit. Rob Aguis, Director of Community Career and Technical Education spoke regarding their trip where they visited West Florida High School in Pensacola. They learned of the structure and curriculum of their academy and visited other academies while in the area. He noted that an energy academy will be opened at Anclote High School next year. A packet of information will be supplied to each Board Member.

Member Martin attended the Wellness Committee meeting

Chairman Parker attended the Energy Committee. Member Hurley commended schools on their energy saving measures throughout the District.

**(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:**

Superintendent Fiorentino reminded everyone that it is "Teacher Appreciation Week." She was pleased that USEP has sent email to staff regarding false rumors of job cuts. She announced that there will be an

emergency item which will be brought to the Board during the Action Agenda time regarding an allocation change allowing for moving a principal into a vacant Curriculum Department position as “Principal on Assignment”

Mrs. Reilly noted that there is an addendum to item 11.0 adding more students to the dual enrollment classes during the summer. She said that tomorrow is statewide School Nurses Day.

Mr. Gadd introduced Skanska staff who were present in the audience for their contract approval on the construction of Connerton Elementary School.

Mrs. Swinson pulled Bid #10-025-DR, USDA Commodities for/Peanut Butter from item 7.9. She asked that a Board workshop be held for a presentation on early retirement. There was consensus of the Board that the workshop be held May 14, 2009 at 1:30 p.m.

Mrs. DuBose remarked that a meeting will be held tomorrow regarding the differences with Athenian Academy Charter School contract. They have submitted a plan, which needs more clarification in order for the District to resolve differences.

Mr. Davis said the Boundary Committee met last week regarding high school “EEE”. They have begun to also look at other west side high school boundaries that will be affected with the opening of “EEE”. Mr. Davis responded to question by Member Starkey explaining that the boundary meetings are open to the public, but citizens must voice their concerns to principals who will relay them to the committee. There is not a public forum at the meetings. He noted that the FHSAA has passed proposals for maximum number of contests for next year, reducing the number of contests but keeping programs intact.

Mr. Davis explained the allocation procedure for AP and IP programs in the past and stated that it is not a policy, but a practice. Attorney Alfonso confirmed that he did not find a specific Board policy, noting that it has been a series of procedures. Mr. Davis stated that the allocation process allows for continued conversation regarding their needs. 2008-2009 was a unique school year, as some of the AP/IB funds were withheld. However, funds were released back to schools as needed. Member Starkey suggested that a workshop be held on AP, IB and gifted courses. Mr. Altman remarked on rumor on the east side of the county that the District is using AP funds for other programs and he would like assistance to dispel these rumors.

Mrs. Tiede congratulated schools on FCAT Writing. She noted that Seven Springs Middle School was highlighted as “Cool School” this week on Channel 13 news. Paul R. Smith Middle and Trinity Elementary have previously been highlighted in this program.

(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 Female Student (DOB 1/30/93) from Ridgewood High School - **TABLED**
- 2.2 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 11/21/91) from River Ridge High School - **APPROVED**
- 2.3 Expulsion of Female Student (DOB 8/24/94) from River Ridge Middle School - **TABLED**
- 2.4 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 10/13/92) from James W. Mitchell High School - **TABLED**
- 2.5 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 10/15/91) from James W. Mitchell High School - **TABLED**
- 2.6 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 1/5/91) from River Ridge High School – **TABLED**
- 2.7 Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 9/23/92) from James W. Mitchell High School - **TABLED**

Member Altman moved that the Board approve the expulsions as recommended in items 2.1 and 2.3-2.7. Member Martin seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

Member Hurley moved that the Board approve the tabling of expulsion as recommended in item 2.2. Member Altman seconded the motion. Member Altman questioned restitution. Mrs. Alexander said the State Attorney Office has not spoken to this issue. She will request that restitution be made to the District. Attorney Alfonso spoke on the limitations of restitution. Chairman Parker remarked on the serious nature of these offenses. There was no further discussion, 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:

- 7.5 Uncollectible Accounts Receivable
- 12.0 PLACE Program Expansion to San Antonio Elementary School (Continued from April 21, 2009 board meeting)
- 13.1 Second Reading: 2009-2010 Code of Student Conduct

(3.0 – 11.0) The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda with the exception of 7.9, Bid # 10-025-DR. Member Starkey moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda as noted. Member Martin 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
- 4.0 Students** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 4.1 Student Transfer Requests
  - 4.2 Dual Enrollment Request for Byron Turner to Attend Hillsborough Community College for the Summer 2009 Session
  - 4.3 River Ridge High School Girls Tennis Team to Travel to FHSAA State Tennis Finals in Altamonte Springs, Florida April 26-29, 2009, Funding: Internal Athletic Funds
  - 4.4 Pasco High School NJROTC to Travel to Newport, Rhode Island to participate in Basic Leadership Training June 7-9, 2009, Funding: Students and NJROTC Unit Contributions
  - 4.5 Wiregrass Ranch High School Basketball Team to Attend Holiday Basketball Tournament in Tempe, Arizona December 27-31, 2009, Funding: Basketball Camp Fundraising
  - 4.6 Special Olympics Teams to Participate in the 2009 State Summer Games at Disney's All-Star Sport and Disney's All-Star Music Resort, Orlando May 15-17, 2009, Funding: IDEA and Special Olympics County and State Funds
  - 4.7 Wiregrass Ranch High School Cross Country Team to Attend Warrior Running Camp in Babson Park, Florida August 2-7, 2009, Funding:
  - 4.8 Odyssey of the Mind Teams from River Ridge High, J.W. Mitchell High, Mittye P. Locke Elementary and Wesley Chapel Elementary Schools to Attend World Competition at Iowa State University, Ames, IA May 26-31, 2009, Funding: Personal Contributions, Fundraising, and District Funds
- 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 Amendment #1 for Connerton Elementary School
- 7.0 Business/Finance** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 7.1 2008-2009 Budget Amendments #43-48 (See Budget Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 7.2 Surplus Equipment
  - 7.3 Approval of Payroll Expenditures for February and March, 2009 and Authorization to Expend Funds for April and May, 2009
  - 7.4 Interim Financial Statement for All Fund Types 7/1/08-3/31/09
  - 7.6 3rd Quarter Lottery Report for 2008-2009
  - 7.7 Warrant Lists
  - 7.8 Requisitions and Related Contracts
  - 7.9 Bids and Related Contracts – **(Bid 10-025 DR - Pulled)**  
**Contracts:** Pasco County Early Head Start and Moore Mickens Education Program; Pasco County Early Head Start and Marchman Technical Education; G4S Youth Services, LLC; ABA Solutions, Inc.; Healthy Families Pasco-Hernando; Haberman Educational Foundation, Inc.; Pasco County Health Department; Medicaid Administration Claiming Agreement between ESE Department and the School Board of Seminole County; Interagency Agreement between Early Head Start, Head Start, ESE Programs, and Student Services Programs and Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) Gulfcoast Center, and West Central Early Steps at All Children's Hospital; Horizon Behavioral Services (Horizon)
- 8.0 Grant Proposals**
  - 8.1 Title I, Part C, Migrant Grant Budget Amendment
- 9.0 Allocations** (including any addenda) – None Submitted
- 10.0 Agreements/Contracts** (including any addenda) – None Submitted
- 11.0 Summer Dual Enrollment Requests** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

(7.5) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Uncollectible Accounts Receivable (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Starkey moved that the Board approve the Uncollectible Accounts Receivable, seconded by Member Martin. On discussion the question was asked how the District collects restitution on the uncollectible accounts. Mrs. Swinson explained that we send a letter and utilize collection agencies. After students graduate the issue becomes more difficult. Member

Starkey asked about PLACE fees, which have not been paid. Chairman Parker noted that there could be several weeks of NSF and then the family disappears. Mrs. Swinson explained that we are getting a better handle on this situation than in prior years. Member Altman asked if there is a procedure in place for habitual offenders at the school level. Mrs. Swinson stated that it should be corrected somewhat due to the acquisition of a collection agency. There was no further discussion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

(12.0) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the PLACE Program Expansion to San Antonio Elementary School (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Attorney Alfonso noted that no motion was needed as this was continued from the previous board meeting. Member Hurley reported that an internal meeting with Mrs. Swinson, Mr. Alfonso, Mr. Rhum, Dr. Scanga and herself was held regarding the Coaches Camp. Issues regarding the summer plans for the camp were discussed. Mr. Alfonso explained that this motion regards on the expansion of PLACE at San Antonio Elementary School. He suggested that the motion maker from the previous meeting withdraw the motion allowing the issue to come later. Member Hurley said she would like to give a full report at the next Board meeting. Dr. Scanga will contact coaches and hold a meeting prior to the next Board meeting. Member Starkey moved to table item 12.0 to be heard at the May 19, 2009 Board meeting. Member Altman seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

(13.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Second Reading: 2009-2010 Code of Student Conduct (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Altman moved that the Board approve the second reading, seconded by Member Martin. On discussion Member Starkey stated that she would like the school uniform issue brought before the Board at some time. Member Hurley requested clarification on school suspension times and students not being able to be on school campus between the hours of 9:00 am-2:00 pm. Mrs. Alexander quoted a County ordinance so parents are aware of this rule. Member Hurley feels we are allowing too many offenses before suspension. Mr. Alfonso explained that the Elementary Code of Conduct will be easier to read for parents. Member Hurley spoke on school bus rules pertaining to bus drivers reporting ability to go to administration. Mrs. Alexander reassured her that the support is not being taken away from the driver. Member Starkey questioned the district's responsibility in regards to bus stops. The response was that our responsibility only falls during the time the bus is present at the bus stop. There was no further discussion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

Member Altman moved that the Board hear an emergency item for an unfilled position in CIS. Member Martin seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Altman moved that the Board approve to convert one (1) CIS supervisor allocation to one (1) CIS Principal on Assignment allocation. Member Hurley seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

Member Hurley visited several schools and attended the Excellence in Academics event.

Member Starkey visited East Lake High School Career Academy, attended the Project Lead the Way in Tallahassee and will be traveling to Okaloosa on Friday to tour their career academy. She helped facilitate Karen Bryant's trip to San Diego to attend the Florida School Boards Association conference where she picked up the District's Magna Award.

Member Altman attended the Excellence in Academics event, Gulf Ridge Boy Scouts function on east side and a Pasco Hernando Community College function.

Chairman Parker attended the Boundary meeting for EEE high school.

Superintendent Fiorentino gave an update on the Swine Flu. She stated that we are not closing any schools and have no confirmed cases.

The Chairman called a brief break and the meeting resumed at 11:19 a.m.

Attorney Alfonso explained that the student expulsion hearing that was scheduled at the last board meeting for today has been moved. A written request from the student's attorney was received requesting that the hearing be held during the May 19 Board meeting and that it be closed.

Attorney Alfonso remarked that the closed session for litigation update originally scheduled for today has been cancelled due to NEOLA workshop schedule. He has received correspondence from the Office of the Attorney General regarding a possible class action lawsuit regarding a transportation issue. He noted that he has a calendar conflict with the May 14 informational workshop regarding early retirement. No legal representation is requested.

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 19, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.

There was no further business to come before the Board, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

**SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: May 5, 2009 11:30 a.m.**  
**TOPIC: NEOLA**

The Board met for a workshop session on *NEOLA board policies*. Present were Board Members Kathryn Starkey, Frank Parker, Allen Altman, Cathi Martin and Joanne Hurley; Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent; Dennis Alfonso, School Board Attorney; Olga Swinson, Chief Finance Officer; Renalia DuBose, Assistant Superintendent for Administration; 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; NEOLA staff; various district department representatives and Jeff Solocheck, St. Petersburg Times.

Board members were informed that this was a “clean up session” and they reviewed several policy sections that had changes. A hard copy will be provided to every member and it will also be on the website for use in searching. It was noted that one more workshop will be held in case there are other changes before the final handbook is presented for Board approval, hopefully by the end of the fiscal year.

The workshop concluded at 12:00 Noon

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD  
IN OPEN SESSION

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Chairman

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5/19/09

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Superintendent