

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA
May 20, 2008

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 20, 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 Chairman Starkey and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Tula Leazott (ESE Instructional Assistant at Zephyrhills High School) and Carl Roll (Retired Assistant Principal and Supervisor of Career & Technical Education).

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of May 20, 2008 and budget workshop of May 20, 2008. There being none, and on motion by Member Martin, seconded by Member Parker the minutes were approved unanimously.

Maureen Moore, Director, Communications, coordinated the special presentations as follows:

- Recognition of *Fox Hollow Elementary School's Food Service Staff* as Recipients of the Nutrition Award for Elementary Schools
- Recognition of *Lisa Peake*, WCHS Teacher as Recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching
- Recognition of *Kimetta Ortiz*, NWES Teacher as Recipient of the ATSS Fulbright-Hays Project Abroad Award
- Recognition of *Jayne Hanson*, TEWMS as the Career and Technical Education Teacher of the Year
- Recognition of *Alyssa Coppersmith*, TEWMS as the Career and Technical Education Middle School Student of the Year
- Recognition of *Kirsten Joyer, TEWMS; Nicole Schuler, RHS; Tori Hofstra, DPES; Agnes Albanese, SSES; Joseph Koehler, JWMHS; Michelle Campbell, RHS and Elayna Barrison, TEWMS* as Recipients of the Council for Exceptional Children, Chapter 944 Awards

A break was held for pictures and the Chairman called the Board meeting back to order at 6:40 p.m.

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

Student Apologies:

Robert – Simple Battery at River Ridge High School

Clayton – Battery at Mitchell High School

Zach – Misdemeanor at River Ridge Middle School

Attorney Alfonso explained that board policy provides for up to 3 minutes for an individual to speak on a topic and with the large number of speakers present this evening they would be held to that time limit. It was suggested that everyone put their thoughts together and make points as effectively.

David Key of Land O'Lakes, spoke on behalf of the Pasco Education Foundation in regards to the possibility of cutting \$88,000 from the District's support of the Foundation. He commented that the Foundation has been the direct support organization for the school district since 1991 and has received outstanding support from the school district during the tremendous growth since that time throughout the County. He remarked that the Foundation has been there for the employees and students, as evidenced by the awarding of many creative teaching classroom grants and administering the Take Stock in Children program and college scholarships awarded to seniors. The Foundation Board feels that while they are prepared to share the burden, the cut will have an immediate adverse impact on the Foundation's ability to provide support to students and employees and they request that the Superintendent and staff meet with them to develop a plan of reduced funding for the Foundation that is mutually acceptable.

The following Pasco County employees addressed the Board regarding budget cuts affecting staff. Many emphasized the need to retain step increases and encouraged Board members to give much thought to all of the suggested cost saving ideas before making a final decision.

- Kenny Blankenship, Land O'Lakes – Teacher
- Kimberly Middleton, Port Richey - Teacher

- Kathleen Taylor, Lutz - Teacher
- Jeanette Luman, Odessa – Teacher
- Pakethia Harris, Zephyrhills - Teacher
- Glenda McCallister, Zephyrhills – Teacher
- Vivian Garner, Hudson – Teacher
- Robert Moore, Hudson – Non-instructional Employee
- Robert Marsh, Masaryktown – Teacher
- Peggy Belrose, Land O’Lakes – Teacher
- Jerome Leavy, Lutz – Teacher
- Christine Stockelman, Valrico – Teacher
- Tameka Bradley, Tampa – Teacher
- Christina Page, Dade City – Teacher
- Sharon Pelchat, Holiday - Teacher
- Georgiann Jones, Clearwater – Teacher
- Cole Duffy, Zephyrhills – Teacher
- Phil Altshuler, Dade City – Teacher
- Yvonne Perkins, Wesley Chapel – Sign Language Interpreter

The Chairman asked if the United School Employees of Pasco had anything to present. Lynne Webb, President of the USEP, addressed the issue of budget cuts. She stated that USEP feels the District should do what it has to get through this year and not hold back for the future. She noted that a major part of the school system is personnel, but without them there would be no schools, and she asked that the Board explore other options before deciding to hold pay increases.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

Member Whaley – Appreciated all the time given by employees in coming. She gave positive reinforcement stating that “we are a family and families take care of one another.” She was pleased that the Superintendent has said she would like to go back to staff to get their feelings on the changes.

Member Altman – Appreciated the attitude of the employees and remarked that he has spoken with staff on employee suggestions.

Member Martin – Appreciated everyone coming and commented that we will work together to get through this.

Member Parker – Commented that knowing the difficulties the District will be facing the Board will take what everyone has said to heart. He appreciated everyone’s input and said the Board will do what they can as they move forward.

Member Starkey – Appreciated all the comments and said they will be looking at every idea. She noted that the budget is a very complex issue with a lot of categorical funding items that cannot be spent any other way. They will do their best to help.

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:

Superintendent Fiorentino thanked everyone for their comments. She commended the Board for agreeing to fully fund health benefits and remarked that staff has priorities which include maintaining all employees. She asked for everyone’s help in working together during these difficult times.

Mrs. Swinson asked that the Board pull bid #09-004 from item 7.6 on the consent agenda.

The Chairman called a break and the meeting came back to order at 8:05 p.m.

(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:

16.0 Policies (including any addenda)

16.1 First Reading – *2008-2000 Student Progression Plan*

17.0 Contract for Purchase of Property for High School “III” (Pasadena Hills Area) Property

(3.0 – 15.0) The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda. Member Parker moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda with the exception of bid #09-004 of item 7.6. 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
- 4.0 Students** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
 - 4.1 Student Transfer Requests
 - 4.2 Odyssey of the Mind Teams to Travel to University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland May 30-June 4, 2008 to Participate in World Competition – 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 High School “EEE” Modular Home – New User Designation for Prior Surplus Equipment/Intergovernmental Transfer
 - 6.2 Elementary School “V” Construction Manager Agreement
- 7.0 Business/Finance** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
 - 7.1 Request for Approval of Payroll Expenditures April 2008 and Authorization to Expend Funds for May 2008
 - 7.2 Surplus Equipment
 - 7.3 Surplus Transportation Motor Vehicle
 - 7.4 Warrant Lists
 - 7.5 Requisitions and Related Contracts
 - 7.6 Bids and Related Contracts (**Pull Bid #09-004**)
Contracts: Pasco County Health Department; Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) Gulfcoast Center, and West Central Early Steps All Children's Hospital; Apple Computer Inc.; Caring Pediatrics; Wee Wisdom Preschool; (ESOL) Services and PreKindergarten Services and Curriculum and Instructional Services; PreKindergarten Services, Exceptional Student Education Services and Student Services for Head Start/Early Head Start; PreKindergarten Services and Pasco Learning and Activity Centers for Enrichment (PLACE); PreKindergarten Services and Food and Nutrition Services for Head Start/Early Head Start; Moore Mickens Education Program and the Early Head Start Program; Robert Dorn Consultants of Bayonet Point
- 8.0 Grant Proposals**
 - 8.1 Carl D. Perkins Grant – Section 132 for 2007-08 Amendment #1
 - 8.2 Title I, Part C, Migrant - Budget Amendment
 - 8.3 Title II, Part D Enhancing Education Through Technology Amendment Request
 - 8.4 Marchman Technical Education Center/Ridgewood High School - SUCCEED Grant Project – Budget Amendment
 - 8.5 Head Start One Time Supplemental Training and Technical Assistance Funding Request
 - 8.6 Adult Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Program Grant Application 2008-2009
- 9.0 Allocations** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
 - 9.1 Title I Before and After School Programs for the 2008-2009 School Year
 - 9.2 Changes to 2008-2009 Allocations – Gulf High School; James Irvin Education Center; Pre-K Head Start
 - 9.3 2008 Extended School Year and Reading Camp Allocations
 - 9.4 Additional Summer Work Days
 - 9.5 Increase in Teacher-Pre-Kindergarten and Para (Pre-K) Allocations
- 10.0 Agreements/Contracts** – None Submitted
- 11.0 Job Descriptions** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
 - 11.1 Revised Job Description: *Mapping Specialist*
 - 11.2 New Job Description: *Plant Manager*
- 12.0 Head Start** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
 - 12.1 Updated Head Start/Early Head Start Volunteer and Visitor Procedures
 - 12.2 Updated Head Start/Early Head Start Procedures for Shared Decision-Making
 - 12.3 Updated Head Start/Early Head Start Hiring and Termination of Employment Procedures
 - 12.4 Amendments to the Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Council By-Laws
 - 12.5 Head Start and Voluntary Pre-K Attendance and Discipline Policies
- 13.0 2008-2009 Start and End Times for Shady Hills Elementary School** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

14.0 2008-2009 Employee Work Calendars (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

15.0 Approval of Advertising on Athletic Fields and in Gymnasiums (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

(16.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the First Reading – *2008-2000 Student Progression Plan* (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Whaley moved that the Board approve the first reading. Member Martin seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

(17.0) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Contract for Purchase of Property for High School “III” (Pasadena Hills Area) Property (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Whaley moved that the Board approve the purchase of property. Member Parker seconded the motion. On question by Member Altman, Mr. Gadd remarked that there does not seem to be any problems with access to the property and explained that this property would be banked for future schools. Signs will be posted alerting future residents that a future high school is to be built on the property.

The Chairman asked for Board member committee reports.

Member Altman commented that Veterans Elementary School is ahead of schedule and looks great.

Member Martin attended the High School Task Force Committee meeting.

Member Parker attended the Project Turn Around luncheon and the New Port Richey Rotary Banquet.

Member Starkey also attended the Project Turn Around luncheon and plans to attend the Pasco County High School Coaches Foundation Celebration this coming weekend. She will also be attending the Florida School Boards Association joint conference June 11-13 where the Board and Superintendent will be presented with a plaque for completing the Master Board program.

Attorney Alfonso informed the Board that no action has been taken on the charter schools exclusivity issue and he will keep the Board updated as things develop. He stated that the closing times on the Deerwood Academy Charter School issue have been extended and we are waiting on the judge’s ruling.

Mr. Alfonso informed the Board of a Union Level IV grievance disposition for Victoria Mudry and asked that an off agenda item be accepted to determine a date for the appeal to the Board. Member Parker moved that the Board accept the off agenda item, seconded by Member Martin. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Member Whaley moved to set the date to hear the Level IV grievance with Victoria Mudry for Tuesday, June 3, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. Member Parker seconded the motion and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

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 June 3, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.

There was no further business to come before the Board, and the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET WORKSHOP: May 20, 2008 3:00 p.m.

TOPIC: Budget

The Board met for a workshop session on the District’s 2008-2009 Budget, held in the Board Room at the District Office Complex, Building 3. 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; Renalia DuBose, Assistant Superintendent for Administration; Olga Swinson, Chief Finance Officer; 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 of Elementary Schools; Members of USEP; Various District staff; Kurt Conover, Joanne Hurley and Peter Hanzel, School Board Candidates; Steve Donaldson, Superintendent Candidate; Geoff Fox, Tampa Tribune; Jeff Solochek, St. Petersburg Times; Ashley Reams, The Laker and C.T. Bowen, St. Petersburg Times.

Mrs. Swinson presented an overview of the district's budget process and timeline. She explained the recommended budget cuts for 2008-2009 due to an anticipated \$16 million shortfall, some of which include saving by using flexibility in class-size reduction requirements, freezing positions in district departments, reducing school and district budgets and the use of substitute teachers. Holding step increases to employees was another recommendation. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Discussion continued with board members realizing there are hard decisions to make as they look towards not eliminating jobs and keeping health benefits fully paid. They requested that another budget workshop be held in July before the first public hearing on the budget, which would allow time for review of the recommended cuts and suggestions. Member Whaley submitted a list of suggested ways to save money without taking step increases away and Board members asked that dollar values be added to her suggestions and brought back to the next workshop.

The workshop concluded at 5:15 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD
IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman

6/3/08

Superintendent