

**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**July 27, 2010**

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 27, 2010, in the Board Room, District Office Complex, Building 3, 7205 Land O' Lakes Boulevard, Land O' Lakes, Florida. Present were Chairman Allen Altman, Vice Chairman Joanne Hurley, and Board Members Frank Parker, 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 Martin and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of John Gaylord (8<sup>th</sup> grader at Marine Institute); Sandra Prescott (Bus Driver); Daniel Brown and Steven Villarreal (recent graduates of Pasco High School) and former School Board Member Marge Whaley's mother.

The Chairman announced that the minutes of the regular meeting and workshop of July 20, 2010 would be submitted at the August 3, 2010 meeting.

Superintendent Fiorentino gave a Power Point presentation on the District's successes and financial challenges. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

The Chairman opened the public hearing on class size. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Superintendent Fiorentino summarized all procedures and initiatives put in place to become class size compliant since the amendment was voted into place in 2002 and remarked that the District will meet class size this year. Citizens will have the opportunity to reconsider the class size on the November ballot with another constitutional amendment that would allow districts to revert to the school wide average to meet the requirements. The Chairman asked if there was anyone present who wished to speak.

- Lyndra Watson, a campaign volunteer for School Board candidate Mark Swartzel, expressed Mr. Swartzel's disappointment that the Florida Education Association filed a lawsuit in an effort to remove the class size amendment from the November ballot and he was surprised the teachers union was not supporting the amendment. She noted that he is requesting that the Board consider filing a brief in support of the language on the ballot.
- Kenny Blankenship of Land O'Lakes said a new constitutional amendment is not needed as the Florida Supreme Court has held that the original amendment already gives the Legislature flexibility in meeting class size requirements and places the responsibility on the Legislature, not local school boards.
- Jim Ciadella of Holiday commended the District for doing a good job in trying to comply with the law. Since 2002 when the original amendment passed, he remarked that the state has invested \$16 billion in education that would not have come to schools otherwise. Although he said there are fines involved for non-compliance they are small, unless District's totally disagree, and he feels the amendment has worked and should be kept where it is.

The Chairman closed the public hearing on class size.

The Chairman announced that the public hearing on the 2010-2011 tentative annual budget was now open.

**PROPOSED TENTATIVE MILLAGES 2010-2011**

		Proposed <u>Tentative</u>	Last <u>Year</u>	Increase/ <u>(Decrease)</u>	
<b>General Operating Fund:</b>					
*	State Required Local Effort	5.269	5.092	0.177	mills
**	Discretionary Local Effort	0.748	0.748	0.000	mills
**	Critical Operating Millage (1)	<u>0.250</u>	<u>0.000</u>	<u>0.250</u>	mills
	Sub-Total General Operating Fund	6.267	5.840	0.427	mills
<b>Capital Project Funds</b>					
**	Local Capital Improvements (2)	1.500	1.500	0.000	mills
<b>TOTAL MILLAGE INCREASE</b>				<b>0.427</b>	<b>mills</b>

\* The Commissioner of Education certified the State Required Local Effort at 5.269 mills on July 16, 2009.

\*\* The only millage rates the District School Board has control and authority to change.

(1) Critical Operating Millage requires a Supermajority vote by the School Board.

(2) Please note that in accordance with the sales tax referendum passed in March, 2004, the two mill local capital improvement has been reduced by 1/2 mill.

(See Budget Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

The Chairman asked if there was anyone who wished to speak on the budget.

- Daniel Hamm of Hudson commented on a St. Petersburg Times article regarding a town hall meeting hosted by Board Member Kathryn Starkey. He referenced comments made by Ms. Starkey during the meeting regarding the need for a super majority vote for the .25 millage increase to move forward and they would not get her vote.
- Robert Marsh of Masaryktown asked again that the Board rescind policy 2113-A. He encouraged the Board to vote for the .25 millage increase stating that the more students we educate the fewer we will have to incarcerate.

The Chairman stated at this first public hearing on the proposed tentative budget for fiscal year 2010-2011 the following approvals are requested:

1. Adopt the critical operating millage (supermajority vote). Member Martin moved that the Board approve the adoption of the .25 Critical Operating Millage, seconded by Member Parker. Member Martin said that although no one likes a tax increase, including herself, she is concerned about the possibility of laying off more employees and feels teachers should be paid more, not have their salaries cut. Member Parker said that by the Legislature not providing the necessary education funding, school boards are being required to impose the .25 millage increase. Member Starkey remarked that she does not feel it is a good time to raise property taxes and suggested looking to the community for more support of teachers and asking businesses to contribute to the Pasco Education Foundation to help provide scholarships. Member Hurley said she has come to appreciate the effort the Board makes to be fiscally responsible and after reviewing both alternatives, with or without the increase she is in favor of the tax rate. Chairman Altman said this is the second most difficult decision he has had to make as a Board member and there are no good options. He said he realizes that people have struggled during the recession, but at the same time state funding for education has been stagnant over the years even with thousands of more students entering our county. He said the tax rate increase is lower than the rate the school board levied in 2003-04. He stated that after weighing all the options he feels it is the right thing to do and will support it. On vote the motion carried with 4 ayes (Parker, Martin, Hurley and Altman) and 1 nay vote (Starkey).

2. Adopt the tentative millage rate resolution. Member Parker moved that the Board adopt the tentative millage rate resolution, seconded by Member Hurley. Superintendent Fiorentino gave a brief explanation of the resolution. On vote the motion carried with 4 ayes (Parker, Martin, Hurley and Altman) and 1 nay vote (Starkey).

3. Adopt the tentative budget resolution. Member Parker moved that the Board adopt the tentative budget resolution, seconded by Member Martin. On vote the motion carried with 4 ayes (Parker, Martin, Hurley and Altman) and 1 nay vote (Starkey).

4. Set the Final Public Hearing date on Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at 6:00 pm in the School Board Meeting Room at the Administrative Complex. Member Martin moved that the Board set the Final Public Hearing date on Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at 6:00 pm. Member Hurley seconded the motion and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman announced the first public hearing on the 2010-2011 annual budget closed and reopened the regular meeting of the Board.

The Chairman announced that there were no special presentations this evening.

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

- Kathy Helean, introduced herself as the new principal of Imagine Charter School. She encouraged the Board to vote for their request of enrollment expansion on the agenda tonight. She noted that the Pasco County Commissioners have passed the expansion.

The Chairman asked if the United School Employees of Pasco had anything to present. Jim Ciadella, Business Representative of the USEP, said that negotiations are underway and praised the Board for its action on the budget.

Committee Reports:

Member Parker:

- New School retreat at Fivay High School.

Member Hurley:

- New School retreat at Fivay High School

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:

- 1.1 Pasco Education Foundation Monthly Report by Chip Wichmanowski, Executive Director of the Foundation

Superintendent Fiorentino:

- Reminded Board members that their Legislative Platform is due before August 15.

Olga Swinson:

- Commended John Simon, Director of Finance and his staff for all their efforts in getting the budget information in place.

Renalia DuBose:

- On August 4 will begin receiving vendor questions responding to proposals for the Enterprise Wide Planning (ERP) committee. Chairman Altman appointed Member Hurley to serve on the ERP committee.

Tina Tiede:

- Introduced Kathryn Ciokajlo as the new Assistant Principal at Bayonet Point Middle School and Jennifer Hull as the new Assistant Principal at Charles S. Rushe Middle School. She commended everyone involved in making Connerton Elementary School a beautiful campus.

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

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:

11.1 Imagine School at Land O'Lakes - 2010-2011 SY Charter School Student Enrollment

(3.0 – 13.0) 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 11.1. Member Hurley 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 Change of Placement – **None Submitted**
  - 4.2 Pasco High School Future Farmers of America Students to Travel to Indianapolis, Indiana to Participate in the Future Farmers of America National Convention October 19-24, 2010, Funding: Student Contributions and Future Farmers of America Club Internal 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**– None Submitted
- 7.0 Business/Finance** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)
  - 7.1 Surplus Equipment
  - 7.2 Approval of Payroll Expenditures for June 2010 and Authorization to Expend Funds for July, 2010
  - 7.3 Warrant Lists
  - 7.4 Requisitions and Related Contracts – **None Submitted**
  - 7.5 Bids and Related Contracts  
**Contract:** School Insurance of Florida
- 8.0 Grant Proposals**
  - 8.1 Title III, Part A – English Language Acquisition Grant Application
- 9.0 Allocations** – None Submitted

**10.0 Agreements/Contracts** – None Submitted

**12.0 Adult Education Fees for 2010-2011** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

**13.0 Policies** – None Submitted

(11.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Imagine School at Land O'Lakes - 2010-2011 SY Charter School Student Enrollment (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Discussion was held regarding the request for increase in enrollment from 548 to 624 students. Concerns were expressed with safety and traffic issues. The Superintendent reminded the Board of insufficient information received in the past and said she recommends the numbers remain the same. The question arose of possibly delaying a decision until a later Board meeting, but due to time restraints it was decided that it was not possible to do so. Member Parker stated that decisions of this kind should be made earlier in the year. Member Hurley moved that the Board uphold the Superintendent's recommendation to limit the student enrollment to 548. Member Parker seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

Member Starkey:

- Commended the Superintendent on a great presentation tonight.
- Suggested that accomplishments of the District be placed on the reverse side of the Pasco Highlights flyer.
- Reminded staff of her recommendation to change the Pasco web site and suggested "DSBPC.com" as a new web address.

Member Martin:

- Introduced family members from Texas in the audience.

Chairman Altman:

- Distributed copies of constitutions to possibly be used for seventh grade classes.

Attorney Alfonso requested the acceptance of an off agenda item for Board action. (See Budget Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Martin so moved, seconded by Member Parker. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Alfonso explained that the County Supervisor of Elections has concerns with the language in the resolution for the extension of the .25 Millage for Critical Needs. Mr. Alfonso prepared an amended draft with revised language to meet other statutory requirements, which now requires Board approval. Member Parker moved that the Board approve the adjusted language and give the Superintendent and Attorney authority to change final language. Member Hurley seconded the motion. On vote the motion carried with 4-ayes (Parker, Martin, Hurley and Altman) and 1-nay (Starkey).

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 August 3, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.

There was no further business to come before the Board, and the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

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

**SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: July 27, 2010 4:30 p.m.**

**TOPICS: Five-Year Capital Plan and Instructional Technology**

The Board met for workshop sessions at the District Office Complex, Building 3 Studio. 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; Dave Scanga, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Schools; Kevin Shibley, Director of Employee Relations; Wendy Spriggs, Director of Instructional Media Services; Construction Services and Planning Department staff; Jeff Solocheck, St. Petersburg Times and Ronnie Blair, Tampa Tribune.

Ms. Spriggs gave a Power Point presentation on instructional technology in our schools. She reviewed the National Educational Technology Standard for Students: The Next Generation and a chart showing the student/computer ratio in individual schools.

Ms. Swinson gave an overview of the 5-Year District Facilities Work Program. She asked the Board to review and give feedback as soon as possible.

Chris Williams, Director of Planning discussed land acquisition and John Petrashek, Director of Construction Services and Code Compliance reviewed the status of upcoming capital outlay construction projects.

The workshop concluded at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD  
IN OPEN SESSION

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

8/17/10

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent