

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA
July 29, 2008

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 29, 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 declared the public portion of the meeting closed to hold a closed litigation session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation at the request of the School Board Attorney. She asked that everyone leave the room with the exception of Board members, Superintendent, Board attorneys, Risk Management department representative and court reporter.

The Chairman declared the litigation session closed and reopened the regular meeting of the Board at 6:16 p.m. It was duly noted that the minutes should reflect that all Board Members are still in attendance, together with the Superintendent and Board Attorney.

The Chairman called the regular meeting of the School Board closed and announced the public hearing on the tentative school budget for the 2008-2009 school year. Board Members viewed a video presentation on the proposed tentative budget, prepared by the Finance Department.

PROPOSED TENTATIVE BUDGET 2008-2009

Listed below is the proposed tentative budget for the 2008-2009 fiscal year:

	<u>Proposed Tentative</u>	<u>Last Year</u>	<u>Increase/ (Decrease)</u>	
General Operating Fund:				
* State Required Local Effort	4.969	4.781	0.188	mills
** Basic Discretionary Effort	0.498	0.510	(0.012)	mills
** Supplemental Discretionary Local Effort	<u>0.241</u>	<u>0.231</u>	<u>0.010</u>	mills
Sub-Total General Operating Fund	5.708	5.522	0.186	mills
Debt Service Funds:				
General Obligation Bonds	0.000	0.186	(0.186)	mills
Capital Project Funds				
** Local Capital Improvements (1)	1.500	1.500	0.000	mills
TOTAL MILLAGE DECREASE			0.000	mills

* The Commissioner of Education certified the State Required Local Effort at 4.969 mills on July 16, 2008.

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

(1) 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.

The Chairman stated that the hearing on the budget is open to the public and asked if there was anyone present who would like to speak on the budget.

Matthew Ross, ESE mainstreamed student and senior at Mitchell High School, expressed concern for his fellow students with disabilities and suggested that the Board could save money by placing more students with disabilities in mainstream classrooms.

Dennis Smith of Wesley Chapel asked the Board to lower the local capital improvement portion of the tax rate to 1.25 mills from 1.50 mills where it stands now. He noted that the millage used to be 2.00 mills, but the Board agreed to lower it a few years ago to 1.50 to honor its commitment to the taxpayers for their support of the Penny for Pasco Sales Tax. The state legislature reduced the maximum millage to 1.75 mills this year and he stated that we would have gotten this decrease even if the sales tax had not passed. To honor the Board's commitment this year, he said the millage should be set at 1.25 mills instead of the proposed 1.50 mills.

Kenny Blankenship, Land O'Lakes High School teacher urged the Board to do what is right for students, teachers and other school employees and fund the educational system appropriately. He noted that legislators are requesting that people ask their Board to look into using reserve funds to pay for employee raises.

The Chairman stated at this first public hearing on the proposed tentative budget for fiscal year 2008-2009 the following approvals are requested: (See Budget Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

1. Adopt the tentative millage rate resolution. The Chairman asked for a motion to adopt the tentative millage rate resolution. Member Whaley so moved, seconded by Member Parker. On vote the motion carried unanimously.
2. Adopt the tentative budget resolution. The Chairman asked for a motion to adopt the tentative budget resolution. Member Parker moved that the Board approve the resolution. Member Martin seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.
3. Set the Final Public Hearing date on Tuesday, September 16, 2008 at 6:00 pm in the School Board Meeting Room at the Administrative Complex. The Chairman asked for a motion to set the Final Public Hearing date. Member Altman moved that the Board approve to set the Final Public Hearing date on Tuesday, September 16, 2008 at 6:00 pm. Member Whaley seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman announced the first public hearing on the 2008-2009 annual budget closed and reopened the regular meeting of the Board at 6:50 p.m.

The Chairman announced that the minutes of the regular meeting and workshop of July 22, 2008 would be submitted at the August 5, 2008 meeting.

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

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. Lynne Webb, President of the USEP, is hoping that negotiations will conclude before the September 16 final budget hearing. She remarked that the Union continues to wait for a response on information they requested. They understand that insurance is a big issue with a lot of information to consider and is taking longer than originally anticipated. They are hopeful that a final recommendation will be brought to the Board soon. Although the Union has previously agreed to continue the postponement of the step increases she said it doesn't mean that they have given up on step increases or raises. She made note of new P.E. legislation which they feel will have a big impact with elementary P.E. teachers having to increase instructional time to 150 minutes a week from 90 minutes now.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

Member Altman said everyone seemed very excited at the Chinese Culture Learning camp being held at Pasco Middle School. Instructors from China are working with the students this week.

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:

Mr. Davis introduced Maribeth Caldwell as the new Assistant Principal at River Ridge High School.

Mrs. Tiede recognized Rebecca Musselman who will be recommended for the Assistant Principal position at Seven Springs Middle School at the next Board Meeting.

(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. There are no items on the action agenda this evening.

(3.0 – 10.0) The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda. Member Whaley moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda. 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 – None Submitted
 - 4.2 Wiregrass Ranch High School Students to Travel to the University of Central Florida in Orlando from July 28-31, 2008 to Attend Cheer Camp – Funded by Students
 - 4.3 J.W. Mitchell High School Students to Attend a Yearbook Workshop in Orlando, Florida August 5-8, 2008 – Funded by Students and School’s Internal Account for Yearbooks
- 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 Automated Clearing House (ACH) Agreement
 - 7.2 Surplus Equipment
 - 7.3 Cafeteria Change Fund 2008-2009
 - 7.4 Food and Nutrition Services Meal Contracts for Charter School Programs – 2008-2009
 - 7.5 Student Fees & Athletic Participation Fees for 2008-2009
 - 7.6 Warrant Lists
 - 7.7 Requisitions and Related Contracts
 - 7.8 Bids and Related Contracts

Contracts: Pasco County Sheriff’s Office; The Princeton Review, Inc.; State of Florida, Department of Health
- 8.0 Grant Proposals** – None Submitted
- 9.0 Allocations** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
 - 9.1 Kinder Camp Programs at Anclote Elementary School (Title I Funds) and Seven Springs Elementary School (Pasco Education Foundation Funds)
 - 9.2 Woodland Elementary School - Allocation Change - Para (ESE) or Inst Asst (ESE) – IDEA Funds
 - 9.3 Charles S. Rushe Middle School – Allocation Change (Varying Exceptionalities)– IDEA Part B Funds
- 10.0 Agreements/Contracts** – None Submitted

The Chairman asked for Board member committee reports.

Member Whaley reported that the Wellness Committee is developing a new lunch and learn program for bus drivers and are trying to increase participation in the health assessment program. They will also be continuing the smoking cessation program.

Chairman Starkey reported that the Landscape Committee is looking at xeriscape schools.

Attorney Alfonso asked the Board to accept an off agenda item for action on the Indemnity Agreement with SunTrust Bank for the Language Academy. Member Whaley moved that the Board accept the off agenda item, seconded by Member Parker. On vote the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Alfonso reported that SunTrust bank has agreed to release funds left in Language Academy’s account to the District. He presented an indemnity agreement with SunTrust Bank for Board approval. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Whaley moved that the Board approve the agreement, seconded by Member Parker. On discussion Chairman Starkey requested that the minister of the church that housed the school be kept apprised. There being no further discussion, and vote the motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Alfonso learned of new legislation concerning Value Adjustment Boards, which will have a financial impact on the district. The School Board will now be required to have one Board Member, instead of two, and a member from the public, selected by the school board, to sit on the Value Adjustment Board by September 1, 2008. He said the County is no longer general counsel to the Value Adjustment Board and that Board will be required to hire their own counsel. As the County and School Board share the costs associated with the

administration of the Value Adjustment Board they will see an increase to fund the process. Mr. Alfonso said he would work with the Superintendent and Chief Finance Officer throughout the process.

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 5, 2008 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 7:05 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: July 29, 2008 4:00 p.m.

TOPIC: Bargaining Strategies

The Board met in executive session on *Bargaining Strategies*. The session was held in the Employee Relations Conference 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; 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 for Elementary Schools and Terry Rhum, Kevin Shibley and Bryan Jack, Employee Relations Department; and Mary Tillman, Director of Employee Benefits and Risk Department.

The Executive Session concluded at 5:10 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD
IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman

8/26/08

Superintendent