

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA
September 13, 2011

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 13, 2011, in the Board Room, District Office Complex, Building 3, 7205 Land O' Lakes Boulevard, Land O' Lakes, Florida. Present were Chairman Joanne Hurley, Vice Chairman Allen Altman, and Board Members Cynthia Armstrong, Steve Luikart and Alison Crumbley. 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 Luikart and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in thoughts of those who had a part in responding during 911 tragedy and the families.

The Chairman announced that the minutes of September 6, 2011 would be submitted at the October 4, 2011 Board Meeting.

Attorney Alfonso opened the Final Public Hearing on the Proposed Annual Budget for 2011-2012. He stated that notice of this hearing has been posted on the District's web site and published in compliance with Florida Statute 1011.03. (See Budget Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

Superintendent Fiorentino stated that the staff is pleased that this is a balanced budget, however, it has been very challenging with the reductions of monies from the State. She detailed budget figures, highlighting the across-the-board reductions in all budget categories.

Attorney Alfonso asked if there was anyone in the audience that would like to speak to the budget at this time.

- Patrick Connolly of Zephyrhills spoke on behalf as his role of teacher and taxpayer. Previously he had asked for fairness and compassion from the Board as they tried to balance the budget. He is displeased to see new concrete signs installed on the district complex. He asked the Board to remember that this budget is not set in stone and changes can be made.

The Chairman stated at this final hearing on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2011-2012 the following approvals are requested:

1. The Chairman announced the statements listed below, as per Section 200.065(2)(d), Florida Statutes, prior to the adoption of the millage-levy resolution:

The District School Board of Pasco County

The rolled back rate is 8.0076 mills.

The millage rate to be levied for 2011-2012 is 7.6440 mills

2. **Adopt the Resolution Determining the Revenues and Millages Levied.**

Member Crumbley moved that the Board approve the resolution. Member Altman seconded the motion. On vote the motion carried unanimously.

3. **Adopt the Final Budget Resolution.**

Member Altman moved that the Board approve the resolution adopting the final budget for 2011-2012. Member Luikart seconded the motion. On vote the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman declared the final public hearing on the 2011-2012 annual budget closed.

The Chairman announced the public hearing on the Five-Year District Facilities Work Plan now open. Chris Williams, Director of Planning described Capital Outlay budget figures and plans, including one new elementary school and renovation projects. Attorney Alfonso explained that this hearing has been posted on the web site and invited persons wishing to speak to come forward. No one came forward. Member Luikart moved that the Board approve the Five-Year District Facilities Work Plan, seconded by Member Armstrong. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman declared the public hearing on the Five-Year District Facilities Work Plan closed.

Dr. John Mann, Director of Leadership Development, coordinated the special presentations as follows:

- 2011 PBS (Public Broadcasting System) Teachers' Innovation Award

- Penny for Pasco Video Recognition
- Recognition - Student Competes in Special Olympics World Games - Athens, Greece

The Chairman called a break for pictures and the meeting came back to order at 6:50 p.m.

The Chairman acknowledged University of South Florida students in the audience.

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

- Group – Bill Roth, Kim Vowel and Cynthia Good from the Winding Creek Homeowner Association spoke of their concern with Lago Verde Mine on US Hwy 41. The company has filed for an amendment to their mining permit, which would allow them to mine lime stone 24/7 for 20 years. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) The group expressed their concerns about the impact on the roads (bus routes) and safety of students and would like the support of the School Board to help stop it from going through. The current mining permit expires next January. Chris Williams will attend the DRC meeting and update the Board on this issue.
- Maryann Verdi, Sunlake High School teacher petitioned the Board to reconsider the Board action concerning her suspension without pay before them this evening. She disputed the District's version of events. She stated that she believes in the process and would like to meet with anyone, as unpaid leave status will be a great hardship for her. She is asking to stay in paid status.

The Chairman asked if the United School Employees of Pasco had anything to present. Ed Rhonda, Business Representative of the USEP, explained that Mrs. Webb is having an executive board meeting this evening and unable to attend. He spoke about furloughs, SRP negotiations and instructional negotiations, including teacher evaluations.

Committee Reports:

Member Crumbley:

- Career Academy Steering Committee

Member Armstrong:

- Health & Wellness Committee (new programs being implemented by Blue Cross/Blue Shield) and tobacco cessation

Chairman Hurley:

- FSBA Conference – good legislative update and overview of upcoming state budget
- Legislative committee day upcoming in Tampa
- Magna Award applications are due by October 31
- September 26 – Legislative delegation meeting at RRHS
- Upcoming Master Board workshop – November 7 (new time: 12:30-4:30 pm)

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:

Superintendent Fiorentino:

- The Superintendent announced Education Governing Board Networking Workshop invitation from Dr. Kathy Johnson, President of PHCC. Consensus of Board was to hold the workshop January 19, 2012 (not early morning) with second choice being January 26.

Ruth Reilly:

- Requested that the Board hold an executive session and workshop to give time to prepare for the SACS/CASI visit. Consensus was received for Friday, September 16, 2012 beginning with the executive session at 2:00 p.m., followed by the workshop.

Renalia DuBose:

- Preparing for fall NEOLA board policy update.

(2.0) The Chairman announced that there were 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:

3.0 Human Resources

- 3.1** Noninstructional Personnel Recommendations
- 3.2** Instructional and Administrative Personnel Recommendations

11.1 New Job Description - Orientation and Mobility Specialist

11.2 New Job Description - Testing Assistant

16.0 Resolutions

- 16.1** Proclamation to Observe Constitution Day and Celebrate Freedom Week 2011

(3.0 – 14.0) The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda. Member Armstrong moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda with the exceptions of 3.1, 3.2, 11.1, 11.2. Member Crumbley seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** as follows:

4.0 Students

- 4.1** Change of Placement
- 4.2** Requests for School Field Trips

5.0 Requests for use of Facilities

- 5.1** Requests for Use of Facilities

6.0 Construction Services and Code Compliance/Planning/Facility Maintenance Services and Transportation

- 6.1** Amendment to Agricultural Lease Agreement - Odessa Bus Garage Property

7.0 Business/Finance

- 7.1** Superintendent's Annual Financial Report
- 7.2** Surplus School Buses
- 7.3** Surplus Non-Capitalized Furniture and Equipment
- 7.4** Surplus Equipment
- 7.5** Warrant Lists
- 7.6** Request for Approval of Bid Recommendations, Bid Renewals, and Contracts
Contract: Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc.

8.0 Grant Proposals - None Submitted

9.0 Allocations

- 9.1** Allocation Change: Funding Change to Retired Senior Volunteer Program Grant
- 9.2** Ridgewood High School "Fast Forward" FCAT Preparation Program
- 9.3** T.E. Weightman Middle School Opportunity Hall Program
- 9.4** Wiregrass Ranch High School After School Detention Program

10.0 Agreements/Contracts - None Submitted

11.0 Job Descriptions

- 11.3** Revised Job Description - Behavior Specialist

12.0 Middle School Course Adoption - 2011-2012

13.0 Out of State Travel for Staff - COE Accreditation Team Review - Ogden-Weber Applied Technology College

14.0 Out-of-State Travel - AVID Director Leadership Trainings - Virginia and Georgia

(3.1 and 3.2) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Noninstructional Personnel Recommendations and Instructional and Administrative Personnel Recommendations (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Luikart expressed concern with not receiving the information on suspension of employee until just before the meeting. Therefore, there is no knowledge of incident. Superintendent Fiorentino explained the process of placing a staff member on paid status pending the next board meeting and the next step of unpaid status after the next meeting. Attorney Alfonso stated that legally the Board can approve the suspension with pay or without pay. He concurs that historically, according to Florida Statute, that if there is a full appeal before the Board, the Statute determines that any reinstated pay is paid back retroactively after any possible employee appeal hearing. Superintendent Fiorentino commented on the possibility of allowing the Board members to read background information, which would be the letter (charging document.) Employee has ten-day window before this letter is public record. Member Armstrong stated that there should be consistency across the board in treating all staff uniformly. Attorney Alfonso addressed Member Armstrong's concern, stating that a policy would have to be adopted, which cannot be done tonight. Chairman Hurley stated that she has concerns receiving any information the night of a Board meeting. There was no further discussion. Member Armstrong moved that the Board approve item 3.1, Noninstructional Personnel Recommendations, as submitted seconded by Member Crumbley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Member Altman moved that the Board approve item 3.2, Instructional and Administrative

Personnel Recommendations, as submitted seconded by Member Armstrong. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(11.1 and 11.2) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the New Job Description - Orientation and Mobility Specialist and New Job Description - Testing Assistant (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Luikart expressed his concern regarding the addition of two positions when the District is trying to reduce costs. Renalia DuBose explained that these are not new positions or allocations. The Testing position was a former secretarial position, which will not be filled. Member Luikart moved that the Board approve item 11.1 and 11.2, seconded by Member Crumbley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(16.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Proclamation to Observe Constitution Day and Celebrate Freedom Week 2011 (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Crumbley moved that the Board approve the proclamation, seconded by Member Armstrong. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

Member Crumbley:

- Attended many activities
- Commented on contract for copy machines (icon Office Solutions) that could possibly save the District 12% in printing work.
- Hopes the District will continue to pursue the Title VII capital grant regarding Native Americans

Member Armstrong:

- PEDC Recognition Dinner
- 9/11 ceremony in New Port Richey
- West Pasco Chamber of Commerce Governmental Affairs Committee

Member Altman:

- PEDC Recognition Dinner
- Announced the dedication of the newly renovated Pasco Middle School and Pasco High School event, which is taking place October 8, 2011. Alumni is invited

Chairman Hurley:

- 9/11 event
- She and Paula O'Neil were guests on Oldies 106 regarding breast cancer event

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

- Patrick Connolly of Zephyrhills spoke regarding the teacher evaluation process. Said that “needs improvement” is the new “satisfactory” and this new concept is a great concern to teachers. They are not afraid of being evaluated; however, they are afraid of losing their jobs if the intent of the law is followed.
- Nekkalapodi Subrahmanyeswara spoke regarding asked for a discounted fee for his use of facility request to use Wiregrass Ranch High School on November 4 and 5. Mrs. DuBose will meet with him after the meeting regarding his request.

The Chairman announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board is October 4, 2011 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 7:43 p.m.

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

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: September 13, 2011 4:10 p.m.

TOPIC: Career Academies/Vision Update

The Board met for workshop sessions at the District Office Complex, Building 3 Studio. Present were Board Members Allen Altman, Joanne Hurley, Cynthia Armstrong, Steve Luikart, Alison Crumbley; 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; Tina Tiede, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Schools; Dave

Scanga, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Schools; Rob Aguis, CTE and staff; Peggy Jones, Research; John Hagen, PEDC; Jeff Solocheck, St. Petersburg Times and Ronnie Blair, Tampa Tribune.

Dr. Scanga and district staff introduced the new vision plan being proposed and presented the results of the vision committee workshops involving the new web site, guiding principles and future timeline.

Rob Aguis, Director of CTE presented an overview of the progress of the career academies and how the District is interacting with the business community. Board Members heard a brief presentation from John Hagen with the Pasco Economic Development Council regarding the business side of the career academies and how we need to integrate education (vocational and academics)

The workshop concluded at 5:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: September 16, 2011 2:00 p.m.

The Board met in executive session on *negotiations*. The session was held in the Employee Relations Conference Room at the District Office Complex, Building 3. Present were Board Members Joanne Hurley, Cynthia Armstrong, Steve Luikart (2:45p.m.), Alison Crumbley; Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent; Dennis Alfonso, School Board Attorney; Renalia DuBose, Assistant Superintendent for Administration; Ruth Reilly, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instructional Services; Tina Tiede, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Schools; Peggy Jones, Research Department; Aimee Boltz, Staff Development; Mike Cloyd, CIS; and Betsy Kuhn, Employee Relations Department

The Executive Session concluded at 3:20 p.m.

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: September 16, 2011 3:25 p.m.

TOPIC: *SACS/CASI Information*

The Board met for a workshop session in the Employee Relations Conference Room at the District Office Complex, Building 3. Present were Board Members Joanne Hurley, Cynthia Armstrong, Steve Luikart, Alison Crumbley; Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent; Dennis Alfonso, Board Attorney; Renalia DuBose, Assistant Superintendent for Administration; Ruth Reilly, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instructional Services; Tina Tiede, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Schools; Peggy Jones, Research Department

Peggy Jones reviewed information with Board Members regarding questions which will be asked during their upcoming interviews with SACS/CASI.

The workshop concluded at 4:10 p.m.

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: September 21, 2011 - 2:30 p.m.

TOPIC: *SACS/CASI Exit Report*

The Board met for a workshop session in the Board Room at the District Office Complex, Building 3. Present were Board Members Joanne Hurley, Cynthia Armstrong, Steve Luikart, Alison Crumbley; Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent; Olga Swinson, Chief Finance Officer; Renalia DuBose, Assistant Superintendent for Administration; Ruth Reilly, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instructional Services; Dave Scanga, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Schools; Tom Barker, Executive Director for Elementary Schools; Beth Brown, Executive Director for Secondary Schools; Peggy Jones and Bryce Pride, Research Department; various school and district administrators and Ronnie Blair, Tampa Tribune

The SACS team introduced themselves to the Board. Michael Lodico, Chairman of the team gave a Power Point presentation on the major findings from the SACS/CASI visit. He reported that the District is being

recommended for accreditation for the next 5 years. A written report will be submitted within 30 business days to the District.

The workshop concluded at 2:58 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD
IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman

10-1-11

Superintendent