

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA

October 2, 2012

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, October 2, 2012, 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 Cynthia Armstrong, and Board Members Steve Luikart and Alison Crumbley. Member Allen Altman was out of town. 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 Armstrong, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence to reflect on individual positive change across the District.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of September 18, 2012. There were none, and on motion by Member Luikart, seconded by Member Armstrong, the minutes were approved unanimously.

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

- Bill Bunting, Republican Party of Pasco spoke on situation regarding student-voting registration and the Obama for America organization being allowed entrance into Gulf High School. He reviewed the timeline and details of the situation, noting that he was rejected two times to speak at Gulf High School. He feels this is a serious situation regarding an individual who got access into the school and remarked that a public records request has been submitted to the District.
- Danielle Alexandre, treasurer of the Libertarian Party of Pasco spoke on behalf of their intent to have a fair representation at Gulf High School. She reviewed the history of their party and asked that the error be made right.
- Michael Malterer, New Port Richey, Libertarian Party wants the situation to be made right and wants an inclusive community.
- Daniel Hamm, Hudson spoke on Gulf High School political situation remarking that an outside investigation for this issue is needed. He said that partisan politics have no business in the classroom.

The Chairman asked if the United School Employees of Pasco had anything to present. Lynne Webb, President of the USEP, spoke on Senate Bill 736. Negotiation teams are working to sort out information and are trying to finish the teacher evaluation issue. During a recent flood at the USEP office they lost many notes of issues for discussion; however, the policy book was left intact. Ms. Webb asked the Board to discuss a few policies at today's workshop that remain of concern by employees, such as Board/staff communication policies – what are proper means to communicate with the Board; policies regarding freedom of speech – feels is too restrictive and concerned that staff members can be “insubordinate” if they are not aware of the policy. Ms. Webb also remarked that she is appreciative of the Board's position to be careful when speakers want to talk with classes, as students are a captive audience.

Committee Reports:

Member Crumbley:

- Architectural Review Committee for Schrader Elementary School

Member Armstrong:

- Health & Wellness Committee

Chairman Hurley:

- ERP Meeting (unable to attend)

1.0 Reports, Information and Comments:

Superintendent Fiorentino:

- Received letter from DOE stating that students will not have to make up the Hurricane Day during the Thanksgiving Holiday week
- Initiated discussion on Gulf High School political issue. She stated that the district is in the process of doing a thorough investigation and a system is in place to monitor visitors coming into the schools. She feels the GHS staff was misled to believe the people coming in were from the Supervisor of Elections Office. A full report will be given to the Board upon completion. She affirmed that Mr. Bunting was uninvited to represent the Republican Party, on advice of counsel. Attorney Alfonso remarked that by federal law it is okay to register students on our campuses; however there is an understanding that the program is to educate students on the eligibility of voting to those few students eligible to vote and was never intended to have a partisan debate. He referred to two district policies that prohibit political activities on school grounds and noted that allowing any other partisans to give similar talks would constitute another violation. He said two wrongs don't make a right and if everyone is given access students would not have adequate education time. Superintendent Fiorentino said the civic responsibility is paramount that students become active in their government and feels the Supervisor of Elections office should still be utilized for student voter registration. Board Member commented: Member Crumbley said the policy should be more specific. Member Armstrong said Board policy should be followed not allowing partisan politics into the classroom. Member Luikart said if policy was violated, he wants the Superintendent to follow through with possible disciplinary action. Chairman Hurley felt the procedures need to be reevaluated, but not change board policy at this time. She hoped that the district cooperates with the external investigation and does an internal investigation and hold persons responsible accountable. On question by the Superintendent she responded that any outside people should also be held accountable.

John Mann:

- Meeting with USEP regarding the digital textbook issue and a resolution is anticipated with two weeks

Dave Scanga:

- Recognized extraordinary efforts of school staff who mainstream disabled students
- Updated Board on efforts being made to meet class size requirements. Cited mobility as a big factor. Shuffling of students should settle down soon

Olga Swinson:

- Noted addenda to items 7.1 and 7.3
- Health Centers made National news
- District is serving meals differently due to federal regulations prompting parent and student concerns. Julie Hedine, Supervisor of Food and Nutrition Services, reviewed some of the new nutrition guidelines caused by the new federal law and noted that there has been a decrease in participation as a result of the new program. Member Crumbley expressed concern about the students who do not have access to meals at home and Ms. Hedine highlighted the snack program

Renalia DuBose:

- Lydia Ray, Human Resources Department is working on Mr. Bunting's public records request

Beth Brown:

- Gave secondary perspective on class size, noting that they are very level specific with different strategies due to uniqueness of middle and high school teams. Staff will

continue to monitor and feel that we will make class size with hiring of a few new teachers. Out-of-field issues will be increased. Parents are being notified of changes

- Introduced Maria Brady, being recommended as new assistant principal at Hudson Middle School

(2.0) Lizette Alexander, Director of Student Services, presented the following expulsion recommendation. Board members have been provided with detailed information on which to base their decision.

2.1 School Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 5/18/1999) - Pasco Middle School

Member Luikart moved that the Board approve the expulsion as recommended in item 2.1. Member Crumbley seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

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:

7.3 Surplus Equipment

11.2 Florida Virtual Academy at Pasco County Virtual Charter Application Recommendation

13.1 Resolution for Disability History and Awareness Weeks

The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda including addenda. Member Armstrong moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda. Member Crumbley 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 Noninstructional Personnel Recommendations

3.2 Instructional and Administrative Personnel Recommendations

3.3 Out-of-Field Personnel Recommendations

4.0 Students (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

4.1 Change of Placement

4.2 Requests for School Field Trips

5.0 Requests for use of Facilities (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

5.1 Requests for Use of Facilities

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 Non-Capitalized Furniture and Equipment

7.2 Request for Approval of Payroll Expenditures for August 2012 and Authorization to Expend Funds for September and October 2012

7.4 Warrant Lists

7.5 Request for Approval of Bid Recommendations, Bid Renewals, and Contracts

Contracts: Lifespan Services, Inc.; The Red Apple Adult Training Center

8.0 Grant Proposals - None Submitted

9.0 Allocations (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

9.1 Teacher Physical Education Elementary (COES); Parent Involvement Assistant (HSEC) (Correction); Instructional Trainer Coach (CAES); Instructional Technology Specialist (PES); Additional Duty Instructional Migrant Recruiter (Title I); Additional Duty Non-Instructional Migrant Recruiter (Title I); Summer Hours - GTES (Title I); Teacher Basic Education (To meet Class Size)

10.0 Agreements/Contracts - None Submitted

11.0 Charter Schools (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

11.1 2012-2013 SY Charter School Transportation Contracts

(7.3) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Surplus Equipment. Member Luikart moved that the Board **table** the request, as he would like to have discussions with staff before acting on the item. Member Armstrong seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously to **table** Surplus Equipment.

(11.2) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Florida Virtual Academy at Pasco County Virtual Charter Application Recommendation (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Crumbley moved that the Board deny the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the charter application. Member Armstrong seconded. On discussion Board Members expressed concern with several areas. Member Crumbley noted weak academic results at other schools the company operates. Member Armstrong said there is just cause to deny, although all criteria was met for the application stage and pointed out that concerns could be addressed during the contract negotiation phase with the Board. Member Luikart noted that accepting the application and dealing with the concerns during contract negotiations might prevent a possible legal battle. Chairman Hurley said that while the application itself may be sufficient she believes that events outside the application itself give her cause, citing pending DOE investigation into the uncertified teachers, security fraud lawsuit, NCAA ruling that many of their courses are unacceptable, investigation into whether students have been chronically under performing compared to students at traditional schools, problems with student retention, high rates of withdrawal, and inflating student rosters. She therefore doesn't feel the application should be approved. Attorney Alfonso summarized the Board's discussion stating that their position is to deny for good cause. There was no further discussion and on vote the **motion carried unanimously to deny** the application recommendation of Florida Virtual Academy at Pasco County Virtual Charter. Nancy Scowcroft, Director of Charter Schools will draft a letter of denial expressing good cause articulated today with assistance of Attorney Alfonso.

(13.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the resolution for Disability History and Awareness Weeks (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Crumbley moved that the Board approve the resolution, seconded by Member Armstrong. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

Member Crumbley:

- MOSI DEA exhibit and recommended everyone should take their children to experience

Attorney Alfonso:

- Presented the final proposed order denying untimely bid protest by Don Lee Farms (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- Present the final order regarding Angelica Cruikshank employee appeal (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- Guided the Board on questions regarding IEP and sent article from Melissa Musslewhite, Director of ESE explaining the manifestation process

Superintendent Fiorentino informed everyone that this is Summer Robertson, Program Specialist for Communication Government Relation last Board meeting as she is leaving the District. She was given well wishes.

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 October 16, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

There was no further business to come before the Board, and upon motion by Member Luikart, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

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

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: October 2, 2012 11:00 a.m.

TOPICS: *Policy Discussion/ERP Update*

The Board met for workshop sessions at the District Office Complex, Building 3 Studio. Present were Board Members Joanne Hurley, Cynthia Armstrong, Steve Luikart, and Alison Crumbley. Member Allen Altman was out of town. Also in attendance were Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent; Dennis Alfonso, School Board Attorney; Olga Swinson, Chief Finance Officer; Renalia DuBose, Assistant Superintendent for Administration; John Mann, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instructional Services; Beth Brown, Executive Director for Secondary Schools; Dave Scanga, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Schools; Kevin Shibley, Director of Employee Relations; Lynne Webb, USEP; Jeff Solochek, Tampa Bay Times and Ronnie Blair, Tampa Tribune. Bright House Network filmed a portion of the workshop.

Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) UPDATE

Ann Altman, Program Director presented a historical background along with a time line and activities on-going with the ERP project. Board Members were given a schedule of the phases for going live with the system, with phase 1 beginning December 3, 2012.

Policy Discussion

Board Members reviewed policies being revised by NEOLA and changes made by staff, for upcoming Board approval.

The workshop concluded at 12:15 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD
IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman

October 16, 2012

Superintendent