

**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**October 4, 2011**

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, October 4, 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 Crumbley and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence for children with disabilities and those with financial and family challenges.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the following meetings:

- Regular meeting of September 6, 2011, workshop of September 6, 2011 and executive session of September 6. Motion by Member Crumbley to approve, seconded by Member Armstrong. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.
- Regular meeting and final hearing on the 2011-2012 annual budget on September 13, 2011 and workshop on September 13, 2011. Motion to approve by Member Luikart, seconded by Member Armstrong. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.
- Executive session on September 16, 2011 and workshop of September 16, 2011. Motion to approve by Member Altman, seconded by Member Crumbley. On vote the motion carried unanimously.
- Workshop of September 21, 2011. Motion to approve by Member Armstrong, seconded by Member Altman. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman announced there were no special presentations today.

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, recognized the visit of Vice President of the United States, Joe Biden to Pasco County. She remarked on the significance of his visit, due to the federal assistance programs (stimulus, Edujobs, upcoming jobs bill) which enabled the district to minimize recent cuts to our operating budget.

Mrs. Webb spoke on the new teacher evaluations, noting that USEP and the district has collaborated well with the team and an agreement was reached on what information to submit. She has attended trainings and is concerned of the possibility of implementing this in just one year. She implored the Board to contact our legislators to extend the timeline, which would include a pilot, fine-tuning and extended time to field-test this new system.

Mrs. Webb asked that the Non-Instructional suspension of Robert Megee, Bus Driver, before the Board today be pulled for two weeks.

**Committee Reports:**

**Member Luikart:**

- Four-Day Task Force Meeting
- SACS/CASI Report
- Legislative delegation meeting

**Member Crumbley:**

- Career Academy Steering Committee

**Member Altman:**

- Take Stock in Children Meeting

**Chairman Hurley:**

- ERP Steering Committee
- Charter School TASK Force
- SACS/CASI – commended staff for all their work
- Legislative delegation meeting

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:

1.1 Annual Grants Summary, 2010-2011

1.2 Pasco Education Foundation Monthly Report

Superintendent Fiorentino:

- Acknowledged Vice President Biden's visit to Oakstead Elementary School stating that this is an exciting time for our district. The Vice President will be touring the school and explaining the JOBS Bill proposed by President Obama's Administration.
- In regards to Mr. McGee's suspension she noted that he missed the window of appealing and only way at this point is grievance. Kevin Shibley, Director of Employee Relations stated that Mr. McGee has exhausted the discipline appeal steps and is not at the grievance level. Attorney Alfonso explained the appeal process v/s grievance process. He cautioned the Board that grievance process is not designed to add additional time. The two processes should not be mixed.

Renalia DuBose:

- David Key, Chairman of the Pasco Education Foundation presented their monthly report.

Tina Tiede:

- Explained the addenda added to item 13.0 –Out of State Travel, for Anclote High School ROTC Staff Travel to Georgia.

(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 10/8/1994) - James W. Mitchell High School

Member Altman moved that the Board approve the expulsion as recommended in item 2.1. Member Luikart 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:

**14.1** Recommendation for the Bay Area Charter School Foundation, LLC Charter Application

**15.0** Policies

15.1 2011-2012 Elementary and Secondary Student Codes of Conduct Revision –  
Second and Final Reading

15.2 Revision - Student Progression Plan 2011-2012 - Second Reading

**16.0** Resolutions

16.1 Resolution for Disability History and Awareness Weeks

(3.0 – 14.1) The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda with the exception 14.1 and including addenda presented. Member Crumbley so moved, seconded by Member Armstrong. 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

**4.2** Waiver of Student Progression Plan Requirements

**4.3** 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** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

**6.1** Demolition of House on Elementary "O" Property (Hicks Rd)

**7.0 Business/Finance** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

**7.1** Request for Approval of Payroll Expenditures for August 2011, and Authorization to Expend Funds for September 2011

**7.2** Surplus Equipment

**7.3** Surplus Non-Capitalized Furniture and Equipment

**7.4** Warrant Lists

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

**CONTRACTS:** Department of Juvenile Justice; Pasco County Sheriff's Office; Pasco-Hernando Workforce Board, Inc.; Scholastic, Inc.

**8.0 Grant Proposals - None Submitted**

**9.0 Allocations** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

**9.1** After School Tutoring Program at Denham Oaks Elementary School

**9.2** Allocation Changes: Instructional (MTEC); Instructional Trainer Coach (Title I, Part A); Additional Duty-NI (Child Care Asst.); Additional Duty (Facilitators - TOOLS); SES On-Site Facilitators (Title I, Part A)

**9.3** Anclote High School AAA After Hours Tutoring Program

**9.4** Anclote High School ACT Prep Courses

**9.5** Anclote High School Advanced Placement Boot Camp Programs

**9.6** Anclote High School FCAT Boot Camp Programs

**9.7** River Ridge High School After School Detention Program

**10.0 Agreements/Contracts - None Submitted**

**11.0 Approval of Pasco Education Foundation Board of Directors 2011-2012** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

**12.0 Change in Board Meeting Date** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

**13.0 Out-of-State Travel for Staff - RTI Innovations Conference 2011** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

(14.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Recommendation for the Bay Area Charter School Foundation, LLC Charter Application (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Superintendent Fiorentino initiated discussion stating that although the recommendation is for approval, staff has many concerns with the application. She remarked that the District was not granted an extension by the company; consequently if the Board approves the application, there is a lot of information that requires clarification and questions to be answered before a contract is written.

Among the concerns raised by the Superintendent and Board Members were:

- The for-profit status of the management company Charter Schools USA.
- The financial staff will handle all of the aspects of the school's business.
- It appears that the governing board will relinquish its judiciary responsibilities to Charter Schools USA Management Company, which will also have control of hiring and firing school employees.
- No one on the governing board lives in Pasco County or has ties to the community.
- Charter Schools USA has selected and appointed 22 Bay Area Charter School Foundation, LLC board members who will serve on the charter school board and there is no evidence of an arm's length relationship between the board and the management company.
- Charter school board members also serve on 22 other Charter Schools USA boards.
- It is unclear who will own the school's furniture, fixtures, equipment and instructional materials.
- No location of the charter school has been given.

In regards to the management company's for-profit status, Attorney Alfonso commented that State law requires the Board to negotiate a charter school contract with a not-for-profit entity.

Board Members expressed concern with the short time they were given to review a staff report on the charter application. It was noted that copies of the staff's review were emailed to the Board at 9:16 p.m. on Monday, however Member Altman said he did not see his copy until he arrived at the meeting this morning, and he is not prepared to vote on the matter, with all the questions and concerns. Attorney Alfonso noted that charter applications had to be submitted by August 1 with a 60 day time period for action. He stated that the Board would need to take action on the application today as the deadline has arrived. If the Board takes no action it would be deemed approved regardless, as there was no extension granted by the applicant.

Board Members noted that they would like to see all of the issues resolved before a contract is signed.

Member Crumbley noted that there was no transportation plan. She also felt legalities needed to be addressed regarding the parental agreement as there seems to be items in the application that our district either doesn't do or isn't allowed to do in our traditional schools.

Member Armstrong questioned the replication of charter schools as Statute allows only one replication a year. Nancy Scowcroft, Director of Charter Schools explained that Keys Gate in Homestead, Florida does have a charter high school, but this is not the replicated model. The high school is separate from this application and is not in any way aligned with this request. Attorney Alfonso clarified that there are two separate charters, the K-8 and the high school.

Ms. Scowcroft said it is not a request by the Bay Area Charter Foundation, it is only the K-8 school for Keys Gate.

Member Luikart was concerned with no designated location of the school and questioned why the School Board was not granted an extension to give more time to review the application. He was informed that representatives of the proposed charter school were in attendance, but they did not address the Board.

Member Altman commented that the most successful charter schools in our district are the ones that were started by people in our community and where the board members consist entirely of community members. The most difficult challenges have come with those outside management companies that do not have Pasco County residents on the board.

Attorney Alfonso reminded the Board that this is a hard deadline and they are required today to accept or reject the application, which has been scored by the committee. It was Member Armstrong's understanding that the only way to deny the application is if it did not meet the qualification criteria in State Statute. Mr. Alfonso explained the appeal process and possible monies spent through an appeal. He stated that if the application is approved, concerns could still be addressed during the time when the contract is being negotiated. The school plans to open for the 2012-13 school year, with a projected enrollment of 862 for the first year. The Superintendent said the Board would be kept up to date on the contract process and timeline.

Chairman Hurley expressed a great deal of anxiety as she reviewed the application noting that the weaknesses far out-way the positives.

There was no further discussion and Chairman Hurley called for a motion. Member Crumbley moved that the Board approve the Superintendent's recommendation to approve Bay Area Charter School Foundation, LLC charter application. Member Armstrong seconded the motion. On vote, the motion carried 4-1, with Member Altman being the nay vote.

(15.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the 2011-2012 Elementary and Secondary Student Codes of Conduct Revision – Second and Final Reading (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Armstrong moved that the Board approve the second reading of the Codes of Conduct. Member Luikart seconded the motion and on vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(15.2) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Revision - Student Progression Plan 2011-2012 - Second Reading (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Armstrong moved that the Board approve the second reading of the revised student progression plan. Member Crumbley seconded the motion and on vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(16.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Resolution for Disability History and Awareness Weeks (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Luikart moved that the Board approve the resolution, seconded by Member Altman. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman announced that the remainder of today's agenda would need to be delayed until the next regular meeting of the Board as time was needed to travel to Oakstead Elementary School for Vice President Biden's visit.

The Chairman announced that the workshops scheduled immediately following today's meeting would be rescheduled for a later date.

The Chairman announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board is October 18, 2011 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 10:30 a.m.

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

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD  
IN OPEN SESSION

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Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
October 18, 2011

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Superintendent