

**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**October 16, 2012**

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 16, 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 Allen Altman, 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 Chairman Hurley, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence to reflect on using our own faith, love of freedom, intelligence and judgment as we elect our leaders.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of October 2, 2012 and workshop of October 2, 2012. There were none, and on motion by Member Luikart, seconded by Member Armstrong, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Dr. John Mann, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instructional Services, coordinated the special presentations as follows: (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

- Florida Healthy School District Silver Award
- Florida School Board Association - Video Contest Winner

The Chairman called a recess for pictures and the meeting came back to order at 6:18 p.m.

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

- Bill Bunting of Hudson thanked the Board for sending materials per his public record request regarding Organizing for America. He said the materials were given to Tallahassee for analysis. He suggested that upon conclusion of the investigation the six schools involved take depositions along with Lynne Webb of USEP. He expressed concern with a parent who reported that their son was in the cafeteria at Gulf High School and heard about female students being approached by volunteers regarding abortion comments.
- Bill Akins of Hudson questioned the Board regarding their decision to "move on" with the political situation. He expressed concerns about security breaches at schools and asked if there was collusion with school staff.
- Peter Hanzel of New Port Richey commended the Superintendent for her service and acknowledged her challenges while in office the past 8 years. He thanked her for treating staff and residents with fairness and kindness and wished her well as she leaves office.
- Tim Withers of Port Richey implored the Board to allow his son, Michael, to attend a mainstream high school. He reviewed his son's challenges in the past years and asked permission for him to attend Ridgewood High School, which is his zoned school. He said the school suggested his son attend one of the alternative schools, but Mr. Withers feels that would be putting him in an environment that could hinder his education. He was referred to Mrs. Alexander who spoke with him outside of the Board Room.
- Robert Marsh of Masaryktown and teacher at LOLHS, presented a petition from his students regarding the lack of textbooks. He said textbooks are needed for students to

be successful on the end of course exams. He commended the Superintendent on her handling of the Gulf High School political situation stating that this is a political misstep, not a crime.

- Anne Corcoran of Land O'Lakes spoke on behalf of Classical School Prep Charter School application, on the agenda for approval today. She stated the district's charter school staff, especially Nancy Scowcroft have been very helpful as they worked through the application process and she looks forward to continued good working relations with the District during the contract phase.
- Don Fletcher of Dade City spoke about the Organizing for America. He encouraged the Board to follow up with the investigation.

The Chairman asked if the United School Employees of Pasco had anything to present. Lynne Webb, President of the USEP:

- If called for a deposition, she said she would comply willingly.
- She asked the Board to pull the instructional suspension of Robert Fine, SSMS teacher from the Human Resources addendum packet. She feels the case falls far short of termination, remarking that suspension without pay and loss of insurance would be harmful for the employee.

Committee Reports:

Member Armstrong:

- Health & Wellness Committee – strategic plan ongoing

Chairman Hurley:

- Met with Olga Swinson, USEP and Kevin Shibley regarding financials

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments: (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.)

1.1 2011-2012 Promotion and Retention Report

1.2 Pasco Oversight Committee Annual Report

Superintendent Fiorentino:

- Invited Kevin Shibley to address the Board regarding current investigation on political activity. Mr. Shibley distributed and summarized the report regarding third-part political activities at several high schools, not sanctioned by the District and highlighted many inconsistencies among interviews. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) He noted that the report was completed and distributed late this afternoon and would be analyzed with the Superintendent. Superintendent Fiorentino stated that the attorney and staff have been working with the State on their investigation and it appears that Board policies were broken. Additional training and oversight will be applied in the future. She suggested that Brian Corley, Supervisor of Elections be allowed to go into affected classrooms for a non-partisan presentation to students. Attorney Alfonso will review the report and expects to send a copy to the general counsel for the state Division of Elections in Tallahassee. Board Members gave feedback on the issue. Member Altman said it appears there is an indication that information provided to schools regarding ambassadors were from the Supervisor of Elections office. Mr. Shibley responded that this information did not get to the schools prior to these activities. The Superintendent reiterated that sign in sheets are not used at open houses and the raptor system is not available in all secondary schools. These procedures will be looked at. Member Crumbley thanked Mr. Shibley for the thorough investigation. She defended the Board in taking this matter seriously and authorizing that the investigation be done. She noted that other than policy it is out of the Board's hands. The Superintendent received consensus of the Board to ask Brian Corley, Supervisor of Elections to come into the schools to speak. Mr. Shibley said on a different note, Mr. Ciadella, with USEP was notified that the Superintendent was keeping her original recommendation on Mr. Fine.

John Mann:

- Made note of the promotion and retention report on the agenda

Olga Swinson:

- Chris Williams, Director of Planning gave a brief presentation for the Penny for Pasco Oversight Committee. The committee was formed to supply accountability on how Penny dollars are spent and transparency of how funds are spent. He introduced Kathy Shram as a new member on the committee. Committee chairman Tom Skiratko reviewed the annual report and introduced several of the committee members in the audience. He referred to the summary in the board packet. He noted that the original plan is almost 100% completed or in the process of being completed.
- Mrs. Swinson made note of an addenda to item 7.9, bids adding Gulfside Elementary School chiller replacement

Tina Tiede:

- Many corrections were made to the TERMS system last week regarding class size. Corrections can still be made during the next couple of weeks, but she said we seem to be in good shape at this point.
- On question by Member Altman, Chris Williams said the FTE reports are still being generated and he will provide the net gains so far to the Board Members as soon as the reports are complete

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

2.1 School Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 6/11/1997) - Harry Schwettman Education Center

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:

19.1 First Reading of Revised DSBPC Policies

The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda, including all addenda. Member Crumbley so moved, seconded by Member Altman. 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

**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 2012-2013 Vended Meal Service Agreement

7.2 Disposition of Library Books from School Media Center - RBSMS

7.3 New Penny for Pasco Oversight Committee Members for 2012

7.4 Surplus Non-Capitalized Furniture and Equipment

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

7.6 Warrant Lists

7.7 Surplus Equipment

- 7.8 Request for Approval of Purchase Orders and Associated Contracts**  
**Contracts:** Holt McDougal; Contrax Furnishings, Inc.; Supplemental Educational Service Providers
- 7.9 Request for Approval of Bid Recommendations, Bid Renewals, and Contracts**  
**Contracts:** Bay Area Schools Purchasing Consortium (BASPC); Minnesota Life Insurance Company; New Tampa Psychological Services, Inc.; University of South Florida College of Education
- 8.0 Grant Proposals (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_)**
- 8.1 Florida Department of Agriculture Community Garden Grant - NRES**
- 8.2 Fuel Up To Play 60 Grant - NRES**
- 8.3 Title III, Part A Grant - 2012-2013**
- 9.0 Allocations (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_)**
- 9.1 AVID Tutors**
- 9.2 Gulf Middle School Detention Program**
- 9.3 J.W. Mitchell High School Saturday Extended Day Program**
- 10.0 Agreements/Contracts - None Submitted**
- 11.0 2012-2013 School Improvement Plans (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_)**
- 12.0 Head Start/Early Head Start Hiring and Termination of Employment Procedures for the 2012-2013 School Year (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_)**
- 13.0 Memorandum of Agreement between the District School Board of Pasco County Head Start Programs and the Early Learning Coalition of Pasco & Hernando Counties, Inc. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_)**
- 14.0 Secondary Course Adoption for 2012-2013 (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_)**
- 15.0 Waiver of Student Progression Plan Requirements – CLMS (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_)**
- 16.0 Waiver of Student Progression Plan Requirements – GMS (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_)**
- 17.0 Charter Schools (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_)**
- 17.1 Recommendation for Classical Preparatory School Charter Application**
- 18.0 Staff Travels (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_)**
- 18.1 Crews Lake Middle School Instructional Staff Members to attend the National Science Teachers Association Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.**
- 18.2 Marchman Technical Education Center Instructional Staff Members to attend the Council on Occupation Education Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia**
- 18.3 Zephyrhills High School Instructional Staff Member to attend the JEA/NSPA Fall National High School Journalism Conference in San Antonio, Texas**

(19.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the First Reading of Revised DSBPC Policies (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.) Member Armstrong moved that the Board approve the first reading, seconded by Member Crumbley. Attorney Alfonso remarked that some words were transposed on line 24 of policy 1590 and noted that it will be fixed in final draft. There was no further discussion and on vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

Member Crumbley:

- Toured Manatee County Schools career academy STEM program

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

- Daniel Hamm spoke regarding Fox news web report regarding elementary PLACE letters to President Obama. He said it was just a bad coincidence and if parents had gone to the principal first it would have been resolved quickly.

Attorney Alfonso stated that his contract is coming up for renewal for 3<sup>rd</sup> year of a 3 year cycle on the November 6, 2012 Board meeting. He is working with Mike Woodall, Purchasing Agent regarding small details concerning escrow.

The Chairman announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board is November 6, 2012 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 7:12 p.m.

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

**SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: October 16, 2012 4:00 p.m.**

**TOPICS: *Charter School Policy/Transportation***

The Board met for a workshop session 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, Paul Meeker and Nancy Alfonso, School Board Attorneys; Renalia DuBose, Assistant Superintendent for Administration; John Mann, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instructional Services; Tina Tiede, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Schools; Dave Scanga, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Schools; Kevin Shibley, Director of Employee Relations; Lynne Webb, USEP; Jeff Solocek, Tampa Bay Times and Ronnie Blair, Tampa Tribune

**Transportation**

Gary Sawyer, Director of Transportation gave a presentation on the operations, budget and training procedures for the Transportation Department. Discussion was held on GPS units, employee retention, alternative fuels and mandatory student programs that lead to inefficient bus routes. A demonstration was held on the number of students per seat on a bus. Most buses are 65-passenger buses, but they don't truly hold 65 students. Mr. Sawyer explained that the seats are designed for three people, but in reality three elementary students could fit per seat and only two middle or high school students. Member Luikart submitted a report generated during the four-day week task force earlier in the year. The report explores cost saving suggestions and making transportation more budget-friendly. He expressed some concern in consistency of reporting and wants to make sure all the numbers are accurate. It was suggested that a future board workshop be held after Board members had time to review the report.

**Charter School Policy**

Board Members reviewed the updated charter school policy for future Board approval. A question and answer session followed.

The workshop concluded at 5:35 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD  
IN OPEN SESSION

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
November 6, 2012

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent