

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA
November 1, 2011

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, November 1, 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 Altman and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of friends and families suffering from serious illnesses.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of October 18, 2011 and workshops of October 18, 2011. There were none, and on motion by Member Armstrong, seconded by Member Altman, the minutes were approved unanimously.

The Chairman opened the public hearing redefining the boundaries of the five School Board Member Districts. Attorney Alfonso stated that notice of this hearing has been posted on the District website and published in compliance with Florida Statute 1011.03. He asked if there was anyone present who wished to speak on the redistricting. No one came forward. The Chairman announced that the public hearing was now closed and continued with the regular board meeting.

The Chairman moved item **16.2 Resolution Redefining The Boundaries of The Five School Board Member Districts**, forward from the action agenda to be acted on at this time. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book ____, Page ____.) Attorney Alfonso made a small correction to the target numbers prepared by the Board of County Commissioners, noting there would be a small adjustment to those actual numbers. Member Crumbley moved that the board approve the resolution, as amended by Attorney Alfonso. Member Luikart seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

Summer Romagnoli, Communications and Government Relations Department, coordinated the special presentations as follows:

- Suncoast for Kids Foundation Contributes \$20,000 for AVID Program
- Verizon Contributes \$15,000 for Grants and Learning Resources

The Chairman moved item **16.1 Proclamation Recognizing the History of James W. Mitchell High School** from the action agenda forward to be acted on at this time. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book ____, Page ____.) Member Altman moved that the Board approve the Proclamation, seconded by Member Crumbley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman called a break for pictures and the meeting came back to order at 9:48 a.m.

The Chairman asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to address the Board. No one came forward.

Lynne Webb, President of the USEP:

- Updated the Board on finalizing negotiations on new teacher evaluations.
- Reported that the transportation class action grievance is rescinded. She was appreciative of the Superintendent's prompt attention to this issue.
- Media and Technology Specialist allocations were split last year and many details were left up in the air. Meeting was recently held with 35-50 people affected by this change. Information was gathered and a meeting will be scheduled next week to address these concerns.

Committee Reports:

Member Luikart:

- Energy Committee

Member Crumbley:

- Career Academy Steering Committee (Marketing)

Member Armstrong:

- Value Adjustment Board
- Substitute Task Force Meeting

Chairman Hurley:

- Unable to attend ERP Steering Committee
- Master Board Workshop to be held November 7
- Reorganization of the Board will be at the November 22 Board Meeting

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:

Superintendent Fiorentino:

- Pulled the termination recommendation of Joe Primavera from item 3.2 - Non-Instructional Recommendations. He has requested a Board hearing.

Ruth Reilly:

- Second phase of teacher evaluation plan has been accepted by the State. The District is releasing a November podcast regarding the value added model. A Board Workshop will be held at the next meeting regarding this topic. Regional school meetings have been held with good feedback from teachers.

Dave Scanga:

- Pine View Elementary School submitted and won a national competition for an Art Room Makeover by HGTV worth \$25,000.

Renalia DuBose:

- Asked the Board to accept an off agenda item regarding a use of facilities request. Member Armstrong moved that the Board accept the off agenda item, seconded by Member Crumbley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Mrs. DuBose explained that the request is for West Pasco Prowlers to use the Ridgewood High School facility for play-off games. Member Armstrong moved that the Board approve the facility use request (with same rate). Member Crumbley seconded the motion and on vote, the motion carried unanimously.
- Noted for the record that IGeneration Charter School withdrew their application for board action.

Tina Tiede:

- Travel requests for schools making the play-offs will be forthcoming. Winter regional and state play-offs will be brought to the Board prior to the games.

(2.0) The Chairman announced that there were no expulsion recommendations today.

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:

11.0 School Improvement Plans

13.0 Charter Schools

13.1 2011 -2012 SY Charter School Transportation Contracts

13.2 Recommendation to Deny the Center for Independence Pasco Community Campus Charter Application

13.3 Recommendation to Deny the Freedom Academy Elementary Charter Application

(3.0 – 14.1) The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda. Member Luikart moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda with the exception of items 11.0 and 13.0 and the pulling of Joe Primavera from item 3.2. Member Altman seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** as follows:

3.0 Human Resources (See Personnel Supplemental Book _____, Page _____.)

3.1 Instructional and Administrative Personnel Recommendations

3.2 Noninstructional Personnel Recommendations – (Termination of Joseph Primavera PULLED)

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

4.1 Change of Placement

4.2 Requests for School Field Trips

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

7.1 Interim Financial Statements for All Fund Types 08/01/2011-8/31/2011

7.2 Interim Financial Statements for All Fund Types 07/01/2011-7/31/2011

7.3 2011-2012 Budget Amendments #1 through #7 for July 2011(See Budget Supplemental Book _____, Page _____.)

7.4 2011-2012 Budget Amendments #8 through #12 for August 2011 (See Budget Supplemental Book _____, Page _____.)

7.5 Request for Approval of Payroll Expenditures for September 2011, and Authorization to Expend Funds for October 2011

7.6 Surplus Equipment

7.7 Surplus Non-Capitalized Furniture and Equipment

7.8 Warrant Lists

7.9 Request for Approval of Purchase Orders and Associated Contracts

CONTRACTS: Advanced Placement Program

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

CONTRACTS: Envision Pharmaceutical Services, Inc.; Rapid Solutions Group; Sun Automotive, Inc.

8.0 Grant Proposals - None Submitted

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

9.1 Allocation Changes: School Psychologist on Assignment - (Tier III)/Additional Duty - GED Proctor – JDC/Programmer-Analyst - Race to the Top

9.2 Bayonet Point Middle School Homework Help Title 1 After School Program

9.3 Paul R. Smith Middle School Alternative to Suspension Program

9.4 Paul R. Smith Middle School Saturday Tutoring Program.

10.0 Agreements/Contracts - None Submitted

12.0 Secondary Course Code Changes 2011-2012 (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Book _____, Page _____.)

14.0 Staff Travels (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Book _____, Page _____.)

14.1 Thomas E. Weightman Middle School Staff Member to Attend the National Council for the Social Studies Conference in Washington, D.C.

(11.0) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the School Improvement Plans (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Crumbley questioned whether an extension could be allowed to give Board Members more time to review the reports given the size of the documents. Ms. Reilly described the state timeline necessary for submission and the need for approval today. Superintendent Fiorentino explained that it has gone through many levels of approval by the time it comes before the Board. Member Luikart suggested an earlier submission to the Board next year. There was no further discussion. Member Altman moved that the Board approve the School Improvement Plans as submitted. Member Armstrong seconded the motion. On vote the motion carried unanimously.

(13.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the 2011-2012 SY Charter School Transportation Contracts (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Luikart moved that the Board approve the contracts, seconded by Member Altman. On vote the motion carried unanimously.

(13.2) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Recommendation to Deny the Center for Independence Pasco Community Campus Charter Application (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) The Chairman asked for public comment on the recommendation.

- Emile Laurino spoke before the Board, reading the school's mission statement. He explained the history of the organization, board members, positive programs and trainings, accreditation, financial background, and quality staff members. He feels they have met all of the requirements. Grades could vary from K-12, ages 18-22. Explained that parents have come to the center for many years, asking for education assistance with their children. Feels that focus of school should be life schools, not sunshine state standards and prepare students to have necessary skills and vocational rehabilitation to function after graduation. Transportation concerns were addressed, that their population should have some of these restrictions eased. He implored the Board to support this charter school application.

Board Members recognized the contribution that the organization has made to the community. Nancy Scowcroft, Director of Charter School and Liz Cooper, Supervisor of Student Services addressed the Board. Ms. Scowcroft stated that this is a wonderful organization and it was a difficult decision to deny. Reasons for denial of their charter were summarized. Budget was predicated on the school meeting its enrollment targets with no contingency plan provided; budget depended on funding from Federal Charter School Program Grant but no guarantee the school would be awarded the grant; application did not state the school's goals and objectives for improving student achievement and they did not provide an operating budget to ensure the school's financial. Some board members expressed concern that maybe charter applicants are not receiving enough information from the district early enough in the process. Ms. Scowcroft explained that information can be found on the District's web site and applicants are always encouraged to call her. Board Members encouraged the applicant to keep working on it and try again. Member Armstrong said this is the type of charter school she would like to see, as it will meet the needs of the community.

There was no further discussion and Member Luikart moved that the Board approve the denial as recommended. Member Armstrong seconded the motion. On vote the motion carried unanimously.

(13.3) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Recommendation to Deny the Freedom Academy Elementary Charter Application (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) The Chairman asked for public comment on the recommendation:

- Mark Jordan, Freedom Schools stated that he understands their application is deficient in several areas. He appreciates the District's assistance to correct deficiencies and hopes to be back next year with a perfect application.

Nancy Scowcroft summarized areas of concern for this application. Areas of deficiency include concerns with finances, common core standards (math and science emphasis), visual arts and technology and music in curriculum (no money budgeted for these areas), Florida Statute required goals for student progression in core areas, and interviewees could not answer many of the questions posed by the committee. Member Altman asked if there is a difference between the Board denying an application or the school pulling an application. Ms. Scowcroft answered that this is no difference. Chairman Hurley stated that the school submitted information this week; however, the deadline has passed and it could not be accepted.

There was no further discussion and Member Armstrong moved that the Board approve the denial of the Freedom Academy Elementary Charter Application as recommended. Member Altman seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

Member Luikart:

- Florida School Boards Association (FSBA) training in Gainesville
- 4-Day Task Force Meetings
- Volunteered to serve on a committee for the Student Progression Plan over the summer

Member Crumbley:

- Toured the new Medical Center of Trinity
- STEM Summit at MOSI in Tampa
- FSBA training

Member Armstrong:

- American Cancer Society Walk at Wiregrass Mall. Would like to have one of the biggest teams next year and encouraged everyone to join in.
- Spoke at Allen Outreach Foundation regarding charter schools (Doc Allen)
- FSBA training

Member Altman:

- Initiated discussion on the charter school application process. He expressed frustration and suggested ideas that may help the Board feel more comfortable. Schedule meetings where the applicant can present application and back up materials prior to a denial. Allow return applicants to apply earlier. Superintendent Fiorentino commented on a short timeline implemented by the State. Extensions, which must be approved by the State, have been necessary to get through the current eleven applications. A committee of experts looks at the applications. She stated that the job of the Board is to look at this but not be the committee. Member Altman said that he feels it is his job and that of the Board to do what is best for the students. Attorney Alfonso stated it would not be appropriate for the Board to have a hearing, but a workshop could be held for staff to update the Board prior to the vote. Member Luikart liked the idea of allowing local applicants going through the process early on in June or July. Superintendent Fiorentino clarified that ANY group can start early. Attorney Alfonso added an idea that the application process include a workshop and this be conveyed to all of the applicants. Member Armstrong offered to come in on a non-board day to hold these workshops. Chairman Hurley asked that the Superintendent, Mr. Alfonso, Ms. DuBose and Ms. Scowcroft discuss this and come back to the Board.

Chairman Hurley:

- MOSI event
- Two applications have been submitted for the upcoming MAGNA Awards
- Requested that the Superintendent include a Board Member assignment when the Pupil Progression Plan meeting is held and when changes are made.
- Attending United Way Kick-off Breakfast. United Way is not doing full campaign this year, but they have been encouraged to come in and make presentations to schools on Stuff the Bus and explain what the agencies do for our community. Member Altman stated that he would like the Pasco Education Foundation to work cooperatively with these presentations.

Attorney Alfonso:

- Requested an off agenda for approval of the 2nd year renewal of the Board Attorney contract with his law firm. Member Armstrong moved that the Board accept the off agenda item, seconded by Member Crumbley. On vote the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Alfonso stated that procedural items were discussed during a recent Board workshop regarding postage, fax and copy billing. In trying to minimize these issues for the District it was agreed that his firm would budget \$100 per month and bill that into their retainer payments. He is working with the Purchasing Department to finalize the language on this change. He requested that the Board approve his firm's 2nd year contract renewal today as the current contract expires November 16. Member Luikart moved that the Board approve the 2nd year renewal of the three-year contract with the Law Firm of McClain Alfonso Meeker Dunn to include new language on procedures for postage, fax and copies. Member Crumbley seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously.
- Stated that there was discussion at a recent Board workshop on issues that may require special counsel. This would include areas such as charter school application denials. The District would consult with Board counsel and request Board consensus to engage in outside specialty counsel. Mr. Alfonso urged the Board to use the Gonzalez firm for the charter school application denials. Member Armstrong questioned the fees associated with this anticipated need. Mr. Alfonso responded that it would go through the Purchasing Department and would come before the Board for their review before consensus was sought.

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

- Lynne Webb, President of USEP said she has seen many charter schools throughout her years in Pasco. There is a movement in Tallahassee to make it easier for charter schools to move into communities. This movement causes financial challenges for the district. She is very concerned that the increasing number of charter schools is removing resources from our district and she does not feel the district should be "holding the hands" of these applicants. She appreciates comments of the Board but feels it is the applicant's responsibility to create good applications, not the District's.

The Chairman announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting and reorganization of the Board is November 22, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

There was no further business to come before the Board, and upon motion by Member Altman, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

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

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP: Nov. 1, 2011 12:00 p.m.

TOPICS: *Discipline/Attendance/Alternative Schools/Student Engagement*

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; District Staff from ESE, CIS and Student Services Departments; Chis Christoff, Principal of Crew Lake Middle School; Tammy Berryhill, Principal of Schrader Elementary School; Jeff Solochek, St. Petersburg Times and Ronnie Blair, Tampa Tribune.

Don Kincaid, FL Positive Behavior Support Project at U.S.F. gave an in-depth overview of the Tier 1, 2, 3 levels of Positive Behavior Support and how it is being implemented across the system. Principals Chis Christoff and Tammy Berryhill explained how they have integrated the multi-tiered system of support at their schools and how it has impacted the students and community.

Question and answer session followed.

The workshop concluded at 1:40 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD
IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman

11-22-11

Superintendent