

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA
November 2, 2010

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, November 2, 2010, in the Board Room, District Office Complex, Building 3, 7205 Land O' Lakes Boulevard, Land O' Lakes, Florida. Present were Chairman Allen Altman, Vice Chairman Joanne Hurley, and Board Members Frank Parker, Kathryn Starkey and Cathi Martin. 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 Altman and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of former School Board Member Dorothy Mitchell and the men and women serving in uniform around the world.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of October 19, 2010 and workshop of October 19, 2010. Member Hurley asked if the Board Attorney contract was being brought to this meeting for approval as was noted in these minutes. She was informed that it would be brought up as an off agenda item later in the meeting. On motion by Member Parker, seconded by Member Martin, the minutes were approved unanimously.

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

- Recognition of Ernie Morris Enterprises and The HON Company (Enterprise-wide Resource Planning Room Makeover)

The Chairman called a break for pictures and the meeting came back to order at 9:50 a.m.

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

- Fred Ferrer, Richey Elementary School parent stated that the Principal has been fair and supportive, however, he has an issue with his son's backpack. School told the parent that his son's backpack is inappropriate after receiving a parent complaint. Mr. Ferrer feels the backpack is artwork. The Superintendent reminded the Board that a kindergarten parent brought this issue to the principal's attention and Board policy states that this is the decision of the principal. She distributed the policy and image of the backpack to the Board. She added that the principal's discretion is dictated by community standards, which might differ due to the location of the school campus. Mr. Ferrer stressed that he feels there is nothing pornographic on the backpack, no drugs or violence, and referred to BRATZ, Betty Boop and Jessica Rabbit backpacks that are seen on the Richey campus. Chairman Altman responded that updated Board policy precludes the Board from taking action today. Mr. Ferrer asked that the backpack be used until the time of resolution. Attorney read policy, which states the principal's decision is final. He explained that the Board does not have anything before it for action unless it comes before the Board in another format. Mr. Ferrer stated that there must be more clarity on the policy, specifically details on what is appropriate and what is not. Chairman Altman explained that the ultimate decision rests with the principal, Mr. Miesner, due to the authority in which the Board has given to the principal. Mr. Ferrer closed with the comment that his son will continue to bring the backpack and that this issue will "turn into a circus." Mr. Alfonso advised Mr. Ferrer that nothing could be done at this time.

The Chairman asked if the United School Employees of Pasco had anything to present. Lynne Webb, President of the USEP, expressed her excitement that today is a Board meeting and election day. On behalf of USEP, she thanked Members Frank Parker, Cathi Martin and Kathryn Starkey for their service on the Board.

Committee Reports:

Member Parker:

- Energy Committee

Member Starkey:

- Engineering Academy Committee for River Ridge High School (remotely attended)
- Toured Volusia County Schools Career Academies
- Dedication of Odessa Elementary School

Member Hurley:

- Toured Volusia County Schools Career Academies
- Boundary Committee (noted upcoming parent meetings of Nov. 30 at WCHS, Dec. 7 at RBSMS)

Chairman Altman:

- Project Review Committee

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:

Superintendent Fiorentino:

- Wayne Blanton, Executive Director of the Florida School Boards Association has proposed several dates for a Board orientation workshop for new and current Board members. Email will be sent to Board members for their suggestions
- November 8 Connerton Elementary School dedication ceremony
- Requested that the Board pull GHS, Samantha Murchie suspension from the amended Human Resources packet. Attorney Alfonso explained that this situation is an appeal of the recommendation for suspension without pay, not termination. An appeal hearing date will need to be scheduled for resolution. The timeline is a challenge due to the 60-day statutory review period

Ruth Reilly:

- Introduced Lisa Kern as the recommended new Supervisor of School Nurses in Student Services Department
- Requested that the Board pull item 8.1, RTTT application from the agenda
- Brought an off agenda item for consideration of the Board for Out of State Travel by Staff. Member Parker moved that the Board accept the off agenda item for consideration, seconded by Member Hurley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously. Member Parker moved that the Board approve out-of-state travel for staff to CORE K12 Production. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Hurley seconded the motion. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Dave Scanga:

- Transferring Tammy Berryhill, Principal at MPLES to Schrader Elementary School principal position

Olga Swinson:

- Off Agenda item for Board Attorney contract will be presented later in meeting
- John Petrashek provided updates on Schrader Elementary School and Sanders Elementary School projects. Schrader Elementary does not meet current codes in several areas. Castaldi analysis indicates that the new construction approach is best for the facility. A citizens committee is reviewing analysis, which will be forwarded to the State for approval. Sanders Elementary asbestos and lead abatement work is being completed and demolition will proceed.

Jim Davis:

- Commended Planning Department on boundary process
- Introduced Nancy Guss as new Principal at James Irvin Education Center

Tina Tiede:

- Thanked Nancy Guss for her service at River Ridge Middle School and the Middle School Design Committee

(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 Charter Schools (including any addenda)

11.1 Annual Charter School Reviews for the 2009-2010 School Year

11.2 Request to Amend Insurance Requirements of Existing Charter Contracts

14.0 Resolutions

14.1 Resolution Declaring November 18, 2010 as *Great American Teach-In Day*

(3.0 – 13.0) The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda. Member Parker moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda with the exception of 8.1 and 3.1 (Samantha Murchie). Member Hurley seconded the motion. Member Hurley proposed that the Board hold a workshop prior to receiving the SIP plans (item 13.0). She would like to see if previous goals were met. There

was no further discussion 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 Instructional and Administrative Personnel Recommendations (**GHS - Samantha Murchie – Pulled**)
 - 3.2 Noninstructional Personnel Recommendations
- 4.0 Students** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
 - 4.1 Change of Placement
 - 4.2 Quail Hollow Elementary School Students to Participate in the “Night Tails” Sleepover Program at Busch Gardens in Tampa, Florida May 5-6, 2011, Funding: Fundraisers and Student Contributions
 - 4.3 Seven Springs Elementary School Students to Participate in the “Sleeping with the Fishes” Sleepover Program at The Florida Aquarium in Tampa, Florida May 20-21, 2011, Funding: Fundraisers
 - 4.4 Hudson Middle School Jazz Band to Attend Jazz Workshop and Performance in Orlando, Florida December 17-18, 2010, Funding: Fundraisers and Student Contributions
 - 4.5 Sunlake High School Varsity Basketball Student to Participate in a Christmas Basketball Tournament in Naples, Florida December 28-29, 2010, Funding: Student Contributions and Basketball Internal Funds
 - 4.6 Zephyrhills High School Future Business Leaders of America Students to Participate in the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Leadership Conference in West Palm Beach, Florida November 19-21, 2010, Funding: Student Contributions and FBLA Internal Funds
 - 4.7 Sunlake High School Band Students to Participate in the Disney Magic Music Days Parade in Orlando, Florida March 18-19, 2011, Funding: Student Contributions
 - 4.8 Land O’Lakes High School Culinary Arts Students to Participate in a Tour of Johnson & Wales University in Miami, Florida December 10-12, 2010, Funding: CCTE Department Funds and Johnson & Wales University
- 5.0 Requests for Use of Facilities** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- 6.0 Construction Services and Code Compliance/Planning/Facility Maintenance Services and Transportation** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
 - 6.1 Richey Elementary School – Pre Construction Services
- 7.0 Business/Finance** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
 - 7.1 Non-Capitalized Furniture and Equipment
 - 7.2 Surplus Equipment
 - 7.3 Warrant Lists
 - 7.4 Requisitions and Related Contracts
 - 7.5 Bids and Related Contracts

Contracts: Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC; Pasco County Health Department; Siver Insurance Consultants; Scientific Learning Corporation
- 8.0 Grant Proposals**
 - 8.1 ~~2010-2011 Race to the Top – Local Education Agency (LEA) Application~~ – **PULLED**
- 9.0 Allocations** – None Submitted
- 10.0 Agreements/Contracts**– None Submitted
- 12.0 Revised 2010-2011 Student/Teacher Calendar** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)
- 13.0 2010-2011 School Improvement Plan (SIP)** (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)

(11.0) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Annual Charter School Reviews for the 2009-2010 School Year and Request to Amend Insurance Requirements of Existing Charter Contracts (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Discussion was held on the reviews for charter schools. Countryside Montessori has governance problems and should be attended to. Athenian Academy is improving. Imagine School is still facing many challenges. Member Hurley commented that any parent should review these materials, to help them make decisions on charter school choices. Time and effort of our staff directed to charter schools, justifies funding we receive to administrate these charter schools. She reminded the Board that we are responsible when the charter schools do not make the grade. Member Parker stated that this is an ongoing battle and would like to place them on notice that they must comply. Superintendent Fiorentino reminded the Board that staff is continuing to work with Imagine, and with Board approval, a workshop can be scheduled. She feels they are jeopardizing their contract and is in agreement with the Board concerning this issue. Board’s preference is to have Member Hurley meet with staff and Imagine School administration. Member Starkey has concerns with lack of independent auditor report. Member Parker moved that the Board approve items 11.1 and 11.2, seconded by Member Hurley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(14.1) The Chairman presented the request for approval of the Resolution Declaring November 18, 2010 as *Great American Teach-In Day* (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) Member Parker moved that the Board approve the resolution, seconded by Member Martin. On vote the motion carried unanimously.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

Member Parker:

- Extended a thank you to his family, business partners, fellow Board Members, Superintendent and staff, employees of the District and taxpayers of Pasco County.
- Expressed his thoughts on the value and importance of the Master Board training and encouraged the current board members and new board members to participate

Member Starkey:

- Remarked that Career Academies and Co-Location of parks were highlights of her tenure on the Board
- Asked that the Board revisit attendance at the National School Board Conference.
- Thanked everyone for their support

Member Martin:

- Related history of how Dorothy Mitchell asked her to run for her Board seat
- Thanked everyone for their support

Member Hurley:

- Thanked Members Martin, Parker and Starkey for their guidance when she arrived on the Board
- Remarked how well five unique personalities were able to come together and make decisions in the best interest of the students

Chairman Altman:

- Expressed his gratitude to the out-going Board members and for the congenial relationships that they have all had with each other

Attorney Alfonso:

- Thanked out-going Board members and commented that the School Board Attorney Association recognizes how much harmony Pasco County School Board Members have with each other
- Employee appeal hearings need to be scheduled for two cases: Samantha Murchie and David Simpson. Mr. Simpson's counsel has agreed to waive the 60-day provision and have tentatively suggested scheduling the hearing before the new board in the first or second week in January but not the 13th. It will be a full day hearing. Members, new and current, will be emailed for possible dates for the hearings which will be considered at the November 16 Board meeting
- Was provided a copy of a subpoena regarding a student appeal hearing today, which he noted is highly unusual. He stated for the record that he is not aware that the Board has exercised any discretion in giving anyone authority to issue a subpoena, which usually is required to go through the court system. To the best of his knowledge the Board has never issued a subpoena to anyone

Attorney Alfonso asked that the Board proceed to take his firm's contract as an off agenda item for consideration. Member Parker moved that the Board take the contract as an off agenda item, seconded by Member Hurley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman called a brief recess and the meeting came back to order at 11:11 a.m.

Member Hurley moved that the Board approve the attorney contract with McClain, Alfonso, Meeker and Dunn, P.A. as submitted. Member Martin seconded the motion. (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.) On discussion Member Parker expressed his support of a one-year contract instead of three and allow the new Board to extend the contract at a later time. Member Hurley supported the three-year contract and expressed concern with the timing of the process. The timeline of the submission of the contract was discussed. Attorney Alfonso responded to the discussion regarding the contract process timeline and he suggested a workshop to clarify his firm's responsibilities and services. Ms. Swinson explained that this year a new three-year contract is required. There was no further discussion and on vote the motion carried with 4 ayes and 1 nay (Parker).

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 and reorganization of the Board is November 16, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

There was no further business to come before the Board, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

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

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD
IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman

11/16/10

Superintendent