

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA
November 5, 2013

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, November 5, 2013, in the Board Room, District Office Complex, Building 3, 7205 Land O' Lakes Boulevard, Land O' Lakes, Florida. Present were Chairman Cynthia Armstrong, Vice Chairman Alison Crumbley, and Board Members Allen Altman, Steve Luikart and Joanne Hurley. Also present were Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent and ex officio Secretary to the Board, 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 Luikart and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Portia Diedrich, Food and Nutrition Assistant at Connerton Elementary School, and David Garside, Bus Driver, both who passed away recently.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of October 15, 2013 and workshop of October 15, 2013. There were none, and on motion by Member Crumbley, seconded by Member Hurley, the minutes were approved unanimously.

The Chairman opened the First Public Hearing on the Revised DSBPC Policy 2450 – Adult and Community Education (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.*) Attorney Alfonso stated that notice of this hearing has been posted on the District's web site and published in compliance with Florida Statute 1011.03. Chairman Armstrong asked if there was anyone in the audience who would like to speak on this item. No one came forward. Member Luikart stated that the policy revision did not take into account retirees and dropouts who would like to continue their education and he would like more discussion to fine-tune the policy. Superintendent Browning said that since this was the first reading for the policy revision, questions could be addressed prior to the second reading or during the policy revisions that will be coming up due to legislative changes. Member Luikart agreed to this suggestion and moved that the Board approve the first reading of Revised DSBPC Policy 2450 – Adult and Community Education, seconded by Member Altman. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Linda Cobbe, Director of Communications, coordinated the special presentations as follows: (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.*)

- Donation to ABC Fund Programs at Rodney B. Cox and San Antonio Elementary Schools
- Contest Winners - Constitution Essay

The Chairman called a break for pictures and the meeting came back to order at 9:53 a.m.

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

- Andrew Lewandowski, Hudson – Representing USEP-R. He said the group shares issues of both USEP and the School Board. They do not have a contract with USEP or the Board. They continue to offer the Board their expertise and historical knowledge and are willing to assist. Members have volunteered over 3000 hours in the last year on education issues. He invited Board members to attend their next meeting. Mike Fasano will be the guest speaker.
- Ashley McIntosh, Land O'Lakes – Spoke on behalf of Pepin Academy. Her autistic son has had many school changes due to his disability. The Academy, if approved, will offer stability to him and other students with special needs.
- Barbara Wilhite, New Port Richey – Representing Pepin Academy. Her comments were deferred to a later time during the consent agenda.

The Chairman asked if the United School Employees of Pasco had anything to present. Lynne Webb, President of the USEP, welcomed Attorney Dennis Alfonso. She said that the district has recently undergone a number of processing changes, particularly payroll and open enrollment, which have gone well compared to other counties. USEP is pleased with the way the issues have been prioritized and handled.

Committee Reports:

Member Luikart:

- Energy and Conservation Committee – electric monitoring over the last six weeks has shown a 20% decrease in expenditures. He said the Board may want to consider rolling funds back to the department to upgrade equipment and congratulated the group on their work.

Member Altman:

- Pasco Education Foundation – They are working on initiatives to increase financial contributions, business partnerships and career academy support.

Chairman Armstrong:

- Health and Wellness Incentive Committee – The group received updated data on how well they met their goals and will be updating the strategic plan at the next meeting. She gave kudos to Connie Gee at Med-Vision for her help with the data. They have seen improvement but have areas for improvement to reach their goals.
- She, Superintendent Browning and Olga Swinson, along with representatives from Raymond James & Associates and The PFM Group, Inc., travelled to New York to visit bond rating companies. They have not heard the results yet but she is certain that groundwork was made for the future. She thanked the partners for an organized and productive trip.

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:

Superintendent Browning:

- Asked that Item 3B2 – Pepin Academies Charter School Application – be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion.
- He, Mrs. Larson and district staff met with USEP and elementary and secondary staff members regarding workload issues and the implementation of Common Core State Standards (CCSS). There has been great dialogue between both levels of instructional staff and district staff.
- The recent “Lights On After School” program held at Sims Park highlighted the value of the PLACE Program and the role they play in preparing students to be successful in the classroom. He gave kudos to Mary Grey and her team for a great event, attended by many students and parents.
- Repeated information about the bond rating trip to New York. Representatives from Raymond James & Associates and The PFM Group, Inc., will provide a briefing later in the meeting and answer questions before the Board is asked to approve a proposed resolution.
- He participated in Red Ribbon Week at Thomas E. Weightman Middle School and Chasco Middle School and was impressed with the well-behaved students, who asked good questions.
- The district hosted a luncheon for the Pasco legislative delegation last week to discuss legislative concerns. The delegation was receptive to the issues and challenges faced by the district. We are at a cross road regarding education reform. The message to the delegation was to make sure that we get it right.

Ray Gadd:

- He will be meeting with the Zephyrhills City Council later this month to discuss the Hercules property (county park property that reverted back to the district) regarding co-use issues and possible rezoning.
- He is working with Attorney Alfonso on the developer agreements with Starkey Ranch, hoping to submit them for Board approval in December. This is new territory on how to put these shared use agreements together.
- An agreement for an Embry Riddle Aerospace Academy will be submitted to the Board for approval soon.
- Ray Bonti continues to work with the Transportation Department on efficiencies, with good progress being made.
- He is attending the Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Symposium in Tallahassee tomorrow. There is discussion with the County about sharing filling stations and working together related to CNG.
- He echoed Member Luikart’s comments regarding savings based on the energy plan put together by Mark Fox and his team. He is very optimistic about how the program is progressing and sees potential for greater savings as equipment is updated.
- Pasco Education Foundation is holding a fundraiser this week at Tampa Bay Sporting Clays and all are invited.

Amelia Van Name Larson:

- She spoke about the positive press on the use of social media, it is being used to inform and engage our stakeholders; even the CEO of Twitter has referenced our activity.
- Town Hall meetings will be held this week on the Professional Growth Systems. She encouraged Board members to attend.
- The regional support teams report positive feedback. Schools are asking for more involvement.
- She reviewed several agenda items:
 - Out-of-state travel request for English Language learners as Florida does not offer such trainings for high schools.
 - 3D – Promotion Retention Report – the data is troubling. This year’s plan is for teachers to identify kindergarten students that are behind and develop a plan and intervene earlier.
 - Addenda to Item 4A – new job description for Senior Grant Writer. As a part of the transformation that was reviewed with the Board, the district is now ready to advertise for an

experienced person to fill the position. Member Hurley stated that other districts have a team of grant writers. Supt. Browning is interested in obtaining additional grant writer allocations in order to provide continuing support for students and teachers and be competitive with other counties vying for grants.

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

- A. School Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 9/26/1995) Wiregrass Ranch High School
- B. School Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 4/19/1996) Land O' Lakes High School
- C. Expulsion Cumulative Report - School Year 2013-2014 (Information)

Member Luikart moved that the Board approve the expulsions as recommended in items 2A and 2B. Member Hurley 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:

3B2. Pepin Academies Charter School Application

9. Resolutions

- A. Resolution Supporting Common Core State Standards
- B. Resolution - Great American Teach-In Day
- C. Proclamation - Parent Involvement in Education Month

10. Property Acquisitions - None Submitted

11. Miscellaneous Action Items

- A. Change of Board Meeting Dates - January 2014
- B. 2012-2013 Safety and Security Self-Assessment
- C. Audit of School Internal Accounts for the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2012 & June 30, 2013 for Gulf High School and for the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2010 through June 30, 2013 for T. E. Weightman Middle School
- E. Sales Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2013
- F. Amending Penny for Pasco Resolutions

The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda. Member Hurley moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda, including addenda, with the exception of Item 3B2 (*Pepin Academies Charter School Application*). Member Crumbley seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** as follows:

3. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.*)

A. Learning Communities

- 1. Out-of-State Travel - NCTE Annual Conference - Boston, Massachusetts

B. Teaching and Learning

- 1. School Choice Change of Placement

C. Professional Development and School Supports - None Submitted

D. Accountability Research and Measurement

- 1. Promotion Retention Report

E. Student Support Programs and Services

- 1. Change of Placement

F. School Field Trips

- 1. Requests for School Field Trips

4. ADMINISTRATION (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.*)

A. Human Resources and Educator Quality

- 1. Revised 2013-2014 Instructional Work Calendars
- 2. New Job Descriptions – Human Resources Analyst
- 3. Administrative, Instructional, Non-Instructional, and Professional Technical Personnel Recommendations (*See Personnel Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.*)

B. Employee Relations - None Submitted

C. Technology and Information Services - None Submitted

5. SUPPORT SERVICES (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.*)

A. Planning Services

- 1. Requests for Use of Facilities

B. Construction Services - None Submitted

C. Food and Nutrition Services - None Submitted

- D. Maintenance Services**
 - 1. Surplus Equipment
- E. Purchasing Services**
 - 1. Request for Approval of Bid Recommendations, Bid Renewals, and Contracts
CONTRACTS: *BayCare Behavioral Health, Inc.; Bear Creek Nursing and Rehabilitation Center; Consulate Health Care of New Port Richey; LP New Port Richey, LLC d/b/a Southern Pines Healthcare Center; Minnesota Life Insurance Company; St. Petersburg College*
- 6. FINANCE SERVICES** *(See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)*
 - A. 2013-2014 Budget Amendments for July and August 2013
 - B. Interim Financial Statements for All Fund Types 07/01/2013-08/31/13
 - C. Warrant Lists
 - D. Disposition of Library Materials from School Media Centers
 - E. Disposition of Obsolete Dual Enrollment Textbooks
- 7. GRANT PROPOSALS** *(See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)*
 - A. Southwest Florida Water Management District Water Resources Education Programs and Splash Mini-grant Funding 2013-14
 - B. Pasco Education Foundation - Principal's Grant for iPads
- 8. ALLOCATIONS** *(See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)*
 - A. Allocation Changes (2013/2014) - *PRSMS Additional Duty Extended Day – Title I; Add Facility Inspector, Proj. Coord. and Maint. Contract Coord.; LLES Additional Custodial Hours; ARM Supervisor Funding Revision; TEWMS Additional Duty Detention Program-SAC Funds; TEWMS Additional Duty Opportunity Hall Program - SAC Funds; CENES Additional Duty Extended Day-SAC & Title I Funds; GMS Funding Revision School Media/Tech Asst.; RRHS Additional Duty Detention Program-SAC Funds; Funding Revision-HR Senior Asst./HR Analyst; Funding Revision-EBARM Senior HR Asst.; Return to Work Program Addition-Work Comp. Funded*

(3B2) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Pepin Academies Charter School Application. *(See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)* Attorney Barbara Wilhite, New Port Richey, who represents Pepin Academy, was invited back for public comment. She said that the Superintendent followed policy and state law regarding Pepin's application, both of which provide for clarification. The application reflects a budget based on conservative enrollment, which meets statutory requirements for approval. She asked that the Board approve the Superintendent's recommendation.

Superintendent Browning stated that Pepin was treated differently – not outside the policy or law – but because of the approach on how charter applications are reviewed and evaluated. His role is to ensure that charter schools are financially and academically viable. He summarized the timeline and steps of the charter school application process. The old process did not provide timely feedback to applicants prior to denial. His process is different than that of the previous administration. He asked for clarification of Pepin's application. A meeting was held with Pepin, after which they were given written notice to provide clarification within seven days. The application was not changed, amended or altered in any way. The application and clarification went back to staff for additional review and recommendation. He and staff believe that Pepin is academically and financially viable and recommend approval of their application.

Member Altman moved that the Board approve the Pepin Academies Charter School Application, seconded by Member Crumbley. Board members discussed their positive views of Pepin Academy. They are displeased with the change in procedures regarding the charter school approval process and requested more time in the future to review late documents. They were appreciative of the Superintendent's openness when dealing with charter school applicants.

Attorney Alfonso agreed that the Superintendent stated the law accurately. The philosophical difference with the prior administration represents a procedural issue rather than a policy issue. The statute has also changed. He clarified for the record that his office did not approve staff's denial of the charter application; the application was only reviewed for sufficiency. From a legal perspective, there is no clarity as to "technical or non-substantive corrections and clarifications". Supt. Browning's interpretation is a departure from the previous administration's interpretation, but is consistent with the law. Attorney Alfonso is comfortable that the recommendation is consistent with statute and Board policy.

With regard to the timing issue mentioned by Member Luikart, the Pepin charter application was received timely, an extension for recommendations was agreed upon and it was initially submitted for approval at the October 15, 2013, Board meeting. There was an agreement to move the item to today's Board meeting and the Board will need to take action today. If the application is approved, the process goes forward into contract negotiations, allowing other concerns and details to be reviewed and worked out. There being no further discussion, Chairman Armstrong called for the vote. On vote, the motion carried 4-1, with Member Hurley being the nay vote.

(9A) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Resolution Supporting Common Core State Standards (CCSS). *(See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)* Member Luikart moved that the Board approve the Resolution Supporting Common Core State Standards, seconded by Member Hurley. The Resolution will be sent to the Department of Education, Governor Scott, and the Pasco County legislative delegation. Member Luikart, a strong supporter of CCSS, reminded Board members about FCAT and the challenges it created, and urged using caution when proceeding forward with Common Core State Standards. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(9B) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Resolution - Great American Teach-In Day. *(See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)* Member Altman moved that the Board approve the Resolution - Great American Teach-In Day, seconded by Member Luikart. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(9C) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Proclamation - Parent Involvement in Education Month. *(See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)* Member Crumbley moved that the Board approve the Proclamation - Parent Involvement in Education Month, seconded by Member Altman. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(11A) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Change of Board Meeting Dates - January 2014. *(See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)* Member Hurley moved that the Board approve the Change of Board Meeting Dates - January 2014, seconded by Member Crumbley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(11B) The Chairman presented the request for approval of 2012-2013 Safety and Security Self-Assessment. *(See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)* Member Luikart moved that the Board approve the 2012-2013 Safety and Security Self-Assessment, seconded by Member Altman. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(11C) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Audit of School Internal Accounts for the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2012 & June 30, 2013 for Gulf High School and for the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2010 through June 30, 2013 for T. E. Weightman Middle School. *(See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)* Member Crumbley moved that the Board approve the Audit of School Internal Accounts for the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2012 & June 30, 2013 for Gulf High School and for the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2010 through June 30, 2013 for T. E. Weightman Middle School, seconded by Member Hurley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Olga Swinson introduced representatives from the Public Financial Management Group, Inc., financial advisors, Raymond James & Associates, underwriter/senior manager, and Bryant Miller & Olive, P.A., bond counsel. Brent Wilder from The PFM Group gave an overview of the general market, stating that economists predict rates will rise over the next year and a half. The Penny for Pasco renewal is estimated to generate over \$226 million for Pasco schools between 2015-2024. The Investment Oversight Committee recommended issuance of Sales Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2013, not to exceed \$135,000,000.00, proceeds of which would finance identified projects, including campus renovations at four schools, major remodeling at three schools, partial funding for new Elementary W, and the Student Information System (QUEST). If approved, the bonds will be issued in December 2013, with a fixed interest rate until maturity. A portion of the current Penny for Pasco collections will be set aside to pay interest until the new sales tax begins. There would be no debt service on the issue paid from sales taxes until after the old bonds mature on October 1, 2014. Once the Board determines the amount to borrow, the bond rating agencies will finalize the rating analysis and rating results will be received within a few days. Member Altman asked for clarification regarding the maximum cap figure on the existing bonds, which is 1.25. The question was related to the Certificates of Participation Issues and not the Sales Tax Bonds. The Sales Tax Bonds do have a minimum coverage of 1.25 times as required under the existing bond documents. He thanked staff, the Investment Oversight Committee and the Penny for Pasco Oversight Committee for their assistance.

(11E) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Sales Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2013. *(See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)* Member Altman moved that the Board approve the Sales Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2013, seconded by Member Crumbley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(11F) The Chairman presented the request for approval of Amending Penny for Pasco Resolutions. *(See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book _____, Page _____.)* Member Altman moved that the Board approve Amending Penny for Pasco Resolutions, seconded by Member Crumbley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items.

Member Luikart:

- He has requests for two Board workshops – re-visit the new policy regarding student transfers for athletic clarification and district procedures as it relates to F.S.1012.335. Chairman Armstrong asked that the topics be added to the workshop list. She also asked if the policy workshops on legislative changes and the advertising policy could be held without NEOLA. The marketing and advertising workshop will be held on December 3, 2013, immediately following the School Board meeting.

Member Hurley:

- She also attended the Lights On After School event in New Port Richey. The resolution was presented to the PLACE program that evening recognizing their work in serving the whole child. She thanked Dave Scanga for her recent visit to J. W. Mitchell High School and Longleaf Elementary School to see the ICT Coaches in action. It was a wonderful opportunity to see the use of technology in the classrooms. She said it is still important to provide adequate technology for the schools.

Member Altman:

- He attended the Pasco High School Red Ribbon Week celebration at the historic Courthouse in Dade City and another event in Zephyrhills. He is hearing positive things wherever he goes.

Member Crumbley:

- She attended the Lake Myrtle Elementary School Turtle Celebration, the quarterly award ceremony for students. She attended the SAC meeting at Sun Lake High School with Principal Steve Williams, which also happened to be the same day that ABC and Twitter came to the school to tape Mr. Williams. Mr. Williams is actively engaged in changing the culture of the school in a positive way. She is very supportive of additional out-of-state trainings and anything else that we can do to help students succeed, especially those at the secondary level.

Chairman Armstrong:

- She attended a New Port Richey Rotary meeting with Member Luikart, Member Hurley, Superintendent Browning and Asst. Supt. Larson where Ken Miesner, principal of Richey Elementary School, was presented with a service award. She attended the legislative luncheon. She gave kudos to Andy Dunn and his team for their videos that are on the website.
- She noted that the next Board meeting will be the Reorganization of the Board, including appointment of committees. She emailed a list of the committees to all Board members last week, noting that names were changed on several committees to better identify the committee and its mission, the addition of two committees and deletion of one committee. She asked members to contact Attorney Alfonso regarding changes.
- She noted that the Legislative Committee needs a member and alternate. FSBA also needs a Board member to serve on their Legislative Committee. She suggested that the same person serve on both committees. Member Hurley said that Pasco County is paired with Sumter County on the FSBA Committee, alternating years to attend meetings. This is Pasco County's year to attend meetings. Chairman Armstrong asked that committee changes or suggestions be addressed to Attorney Alfonso. The Board was in consensus regarding the committees as presented.

Superintendent Browning:

- He asked Apple staff for feedback on how our district is utilizing technology and purchasing needs.

Attorney Alfonso:

- Information was published in the media today regarding a lawsuit involving Board policy for transfer students and participation in sports. In compliance with F.S. 286.011, he requests that the Board proceed with a closed session to discuss the litigation issues since he expects to attend a hearing before the next Board meeting. To fully comply with Florida statute, he has arranged for a court reporter to attend. After the closed session, the Board meeting will reconvene and adjourn the Board meeting.

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 November 19, 2013, at 9:30 a.m.

The meeting was recessed for the Board members to attend a closed executive session.

There was no further business to come before the Board, and upon motion by Member Altman, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION: November 5, 2013 – 11:30 a.m.

The Board met in executive session on November 5, 2013. The session was held in the Employee Relations Conference Room at the District Office Complex, Building 3. Present were Board Members Allen Altman, Joanne Hurley, Cynthia Armstrong, Steve Luikart, Alison Crumbley; Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent; Dennis Alfonso, School Board Attorney; Ray Gadd, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Operations; Ray Bonti, Executive Director for Support Services; and Molly Blair, Program Coordinator, Student Support Programs and Services.

The Executive Session concluded at 12:15 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD
IN OPEN SESSION

Chairman

November 19, 2013

Superintendent of Schools