

## DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA

December 17, 2013

The District School Board of Pasco County met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 17, 2013, in the Board Room, District Office Complex, Building 3, 7205 Land O' Lakes Boulevard, Land O' Lakes, Florida. Present were Chairman Alison Crumbley, Vice Chairman Steve Luikart, and Board Members Allen Altman, Cynthia Armstrong 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 Armstrong and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Tu'Varrion Sirmons, 9th grade student at Zephyrhills High School.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of December 3, 2013, and workshop of December 3, 2013. There were none, and on motion by Member Hurley, seconded by Member Armstrong, the minutes were approved unanimously.

- The Chairman opened the Second and Final Reading of Revised DSBPC Policy 2450 - Adult and Community Education (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_.*) Chairman Crumbley asked if there was anyone in the audience who would like to speak on this item. No one came forward. Member Luikart requested a workshop on this particular policy. Member Armstrong moved that the Board approve the Second and Final Reading of Revised DSBPC Policy 2450 - Adult and Community Education, seconded by Member Hurley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Linda Cobbe, Director of Communications, coordinated the special presentations as follows: (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_.*)

- Special Presentation - Florida Council for Social Studies – Outstanding Social Studies Teachers of the Year – Erin Greco (Denham Oaks Elementary School), Karen Schmidt (River Ridge Middle School), and Connie Hines (Wiregrass Ranch High School)
- Withlacoochee River Electric Co-op Capital Refund Check

The Chairman called a break for pictures and the meeting came back to order at 6:21 p.m.

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

- Emerson Parks, Sanela Dzanan, Jim Berry, Nereida McGrath, Valerie Sercu, Elvin Dzanan, Jaxon Pardon, Dan Reyes, Kristi Ramos, Edwin Rios, Brian Wade, Robb Sercu, and Tonya Sax – all from Wesley Chapel – voiced concerns about the proposed cell tower at Seven Oaks Elementary School.
- Patrick Connelly, Zephyrhills – thanked Board members for listening to reason during recent negotiations and suggested that they continue to find funds to improve compensation. He appreciates the change in opening hours for the district to 7:30 a.m., but it still hinders schools that start at 7:00 a.m.

The Chairman asked if the United School Employees of Pasco had anything to present. Jim Ciadella spoke on behalf of USEP. He stated that the first semester was very challenging for schools, teachers and SRP's, and there continue to be struggles. He wished everyone a safe and happy holiday season and winter break.

Committee Reports:

Member Luikart:

- Completed four hours of Ethics training
- Attended the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Conference (FSBA) in Tampa
- Participated in a joint workshop with the Board of County Commissioners

Member Hurley:

- Completed four hours of Ethics training
- Attended the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Conference (FSBA) in Tampa
- Participated in a joint workshop with the Board of County Commissioners

Member Altman:

- Completed four hours of Ethics training
- Participated in a joint workshop with the Board of County Commissioners

Member Crumbley:

- Completed four hours of Ethics training

- Attended the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Conference (FSBA) in Tampa
- Participated in a joint workshop with the Board of County Commissioners
- QUEST Committee – committee members have visited other districts that use the student information system and will submit a vendor recommendation in January

Chairman Armstrong:

- Completed four hours of Ethics training
- Attended the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Conference (FSBA) in Tampa
- Participated in a joint workshop with the Board of County Commissioners
- Health and Wellness Incentive Committee – reviewed goals and strategic plan for the upcoming year. The district has been nominated for the top healthiest 100 employers in the United States. The committee suggests using the award designations in recruiting trips. Weight loss goals are up; a report on the mobile heart screenings shows 38% were found to have abnormalities.

(1.0) Reports, Information and Comments:

Superintendent Browning:

- Addenda to item 3A regarding an out-of-state travel request has been provided to each Board member. Staff has been invited by the Apple Corporation to participate in a strategic review of the district's technology plan, including discussion of resources and assistance that Apple can provide related to achieving the district's educational mission.
- The Board has also been provided with a revised Ground Lease Agreement related to a cell phone tower at Seven Oaks Elementary School. Attorney Alfonso advised the Board that revisions made to the agreement were to clarify language only.
- A series of Common Core State Standards community meetings will begin on January 14, 2014. He encouraged Board members to attend a meeting and said that a copy of the schedule would be sent to them.

Ray Gadd:

- Olga Swinson reported that each Board member has received information for an **OFF AGENDA** item regarding Investor Advisor Services & Bond Proceeds.
- Ray Bonti updated Board members about a recent visit by staff members to Miami iPrep, advising that the Board will hear more about this in the future.
- Kevin Shibley reminded Board members that a workshop would be held on January 21, 2014, regarding NEOLA policies, with policy 2450 being reviewed as requested by Member Luikart. Paper or electronic copies will be provided to Board members after winter break.
- Mr. Gadd recognized several individuals in the audience who have been working on the Starkey Ranch Development and Park site - Matt Paul (project manager), Joel Tew (attorney for the developer), Pat Gassaway (Heidt Design), Suzanne Salichs (Asst. County Administrator), Rick Buckman (Director of Parks and Recreation).
- He, Supt. Browning, and Asst. Supt. Van Name Larson are working with Mark Aesch to develop a comprehensive business plan for the district. The plan will begin at the classroom level and end at the top in terms of looking for a strategic plan model that is tied to budget, operations, and planning. The Board will be hearing more information about this project.

Amelia Van Name Larson:

- She updated Board members about the recent trip to Miami iPrep. The site was very attractive and "out-of-the-box", but she thinks that the Infinity Academy at Paul R. Smith Middle School is a more impressive model than what she saw in Miami. She encouraged Board members to visit the school to see the program. Our goal is to learn from outside visits to make ourselves better and expand options for students.
- She reported that the crisis team did a tremendous job supporting 8 schools after the recent crisis at Zephyrhills High School. She recognized Carrie Morris and Melissa Musselwhite (Office for Student Support Programs and Services) for their work with the crisis teams.
- Graduation rates were released and Pasco County rates remain higher than the state and other bay area districts. Several schools had significant improvements, specifically Gulf High School, Ridgewood High School and Sunlake High School. The progress is good but we want to see more students graduating.
- Beth Brown recognized Kim Davis, principal of Gulf High School, who was in the audience. She encouraged Board members to visit Paul R. Smith Middle School and the Infinity Academy. She introduced Robert Strasser, new assistant principal at Gulf High School.
- Monica Ilse introduced Samantha Del Valle, new assistant principal at Pasco High School. She reviewed details from the recent visit to the Bartow Academy, a public school that was transformed into a STEM magnet academy. The Pasco group visited classrooms and spoke with students. The school is accessing grants to fund the program. In answer to Member Altman's question about transportation, she said that the school used the lottery system for enrollment and transportation was not provided.

(2.0) Melissa Musselwhite, 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 09/12/95) Anclote High School
- B. School Expulsion of Male Student (DOB 09/09/98) Fivay High School

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

- 5A2. Cell Tower Ground Lease Agreement for Seven Oaks Elementary
- 5A3. Starkey Ranch School and Park Site
- 10. Resolutions - None Submitted
- 11. Property Acquisitions - None Submitted
- 12. Miscellaneous Action Items
  - A. Gymnasium/Naming Dedication - Centennial Middle School
  - B. 2014-2015 Student/Teacher Calendar

The Chairman asked for a motion to approve all other items on the consent agenda. Member Altman moved that the Board approve all items on the consent agenda, including addenda, with the exception of items 5A2 and 5A3. Member Armstrong seconded the motion, and on vote the motion carried unanimously to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA** as follows:

### 3. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

- A. Learning Communities (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_.*)
  - 1. Out-of-State Travel - National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Annual Conference – New Orleans, Louisiana
  - 2. Out-of-State Travel – Apple Executive Briefing – Cupertino, CA
- B. Teaching and Learning (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_.*)
  - 1. School Choice Change of Placement
- C. Professional Development and School Supports - None Submitted
- D. Accountability Research and Measurement - None Submitted
- E. Student Support Programs and Services (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_.*)
  - 1. Change of Placement
- F. School Field Trips (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_.*)
  - 1. Requests for School Field Trips Board Action

### 4. ADMINISTRATION

- A. Human Resources and Educator Quality
  - 1. Administrative, Instructional, Non-Instructional, and Professional Technical Personnel Recommendations (*See Personnel Supplemental Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_, Page \_\_\_\_\_.*)
  - 2. New Job Descriptions – Contract Coordinator (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_.*)
  - 3. New Job Descriptions – Manager, Human Resources (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_.*)
  - 4. Winter/Spring Athletic Supplement Recommendations (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_.*)
- B. Employee Relations - None Submitted
- C. Technology and Information Services - None Submitted

### 5. SUPPORT SERVICES

- A. Planning Services (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_.*)
  - 1. Requests for Use of Facilities
  - 4. Northwood DRI Letter Regarding Elementary School "U" Site
- B. Construction Services - None Submitted
- C. Food and Nutrition Services - None Submitted
- D. Maintenance Services (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_.*)
  - 1. Surplus Equipment
- E. Purchasing Services (*See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_.*)
  - 1. Request for Approval of Bid Recommendations, Bid Renewals, and Contracts  
**CONTRACTS:** *All Children's Outpatient Care Pasco; Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, Inc. d/b/a Florida Blue; Board of Trustees, St. Petersburg College; Checkcare*

*Systems; Consulate Health Care – New Port Richey; Dr. Krishna Ravi; Florida Department of Health; Juli Dixon; New Port Richey Police Department; Orchard Ridge Care and Rehabilitation Center; Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point*

6. **FINANCE SERVICES** (See *Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_*.)
  - A. Request for Approval of Payroll Expenditures for November 2013 and Authorization to Expend Funds for December 2013
  - B. Warrant Lists
7. **GRANT PROPOSALS** (See *Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_*.)
  - A. Lowe's Tool Box Grant
  - B. Title III, Part A, Enhanced Instructional Opportunities For Recently Arrived Immigrant Children And Youth
8. **ALLOCATIONS** (See *Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_*.)
  - A. Allocation Changes (2013/2014) - *SSPS Admin Asst; OTL Bookkeeper/Secretary; SOES Tchr Basic (Math Extend Day Pgm); PRSMS Inst Trainer Coach (Title I); Addl Duty - Title III*
9. **INTERNAL AUDIT** (See *Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_*.)
  - A. Audit of Double Branch Elementary School Internal Accounts - Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2012 and June 30, 2013
  - B. Audit of Connerton Elementary School Internal Accounts – Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2010 through June 30, 2013
  - C. Audit of Charles S. Rushe Middle School Internal Accounts – Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2010 through June 30, 2013

(5A2) The Chairman presented the request for approval of *Cell Tower Ground Lease Agreement for Seven Oaks Elementary* (See *Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_*). Asst. Supt. Gadd presented additional information and research findings to the Board. The presentation included two slides - one showing the location of the proposed cell phone tower at Seven Oaks and another showing the number of cell phone towers in Pasco County. Research is clear that cell phone use exposes a person to more electromagnetic radiation than when a cell tower is operating. He said that the Verizon website shows cell phone coverage in all Pasco County except the “Green Swamp”. Regardless of whether the cell tower is approved or not, all students in Pasco County are exposed to radio frequency (RF) waves. RF waves were measured before and after a cell phone tower was erected at John Long Middle School. The variation in RF waves was 1.2%, below the base FCC maximum standard of 1.5%. If the tower is not installed at Seven Oaks, it will be erected down the street on another landowner’s property. Member Luikart asked about the financial aspect. Mr. Gadd said the amount of money is minimal. We have a cost-sharing agreement with the schools but the amount earned will be beneficial to the school. Member Armstrong moved that the Board approve the *Cell Tower Ground Lease Agreement for Seven Oaks Elementary*, seconded by Member Altman. Having conducted their own research, the Board members agreed that this was a tough decision. Each member stated that they value the opinions of parents and others who have contacted them and understand their concern, but they supported the district’s recommendation. There being no further discussion, on vote the motion carried 4-1, with Chairmen Crumbley casting the nay vote.

(5A3) The Chairman presented the request for approval of *Starkey Ranch School and Park Site* (See *Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_*). Asst. Supt. Gadd said this was a momentous occasion and that much time has been spent on this new project. It was approved unanimously by the County earlier today. Member Luikart thanked Mr. Gadd for his work. Member Armstrong moved that the Board approve the *Starkey Ranch School and Park Site*, seconded by Member Luikart. The Board members were extremely complimentary and excited about the Starkey Ranch project, which will include a co-located park, elementary school and middle school, and shared-use of a county library and community black box theatre. They thanked the Superintendent and developer for making it possible. Many details remain to be worked out, but it is a shining example of government working together. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(5A4) With regard to the *Northwood DRI Letter Regarding Elementary School "U" Site*, Member Altman asked who would be responsible for the traffic signal. Chris Williams, Director of Planning Services, explained the process and future design of traffic flow.

(12A) The Chairman presented the request for approval of *Gymnasium/Naming Dedication - Centennial Middle School*. (See *Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_*). Member Altman moved that the Board approve the *Gymnasium/Naming Dedication - Centennial Middle School*, seconded by Member Luikart. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(12B) The Chairman presented the request for approval of *2014-2015 Student/Teacher Calendar* (See *Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_*). Supt. Browning spoke about the calendar – it proposes that schools will be open on Veterans Day, allowing for Thanksgiving week, and allows the semester to end at the winter break. He said that principals will be strongly encouraged to use Veterans Day as an

opportunity to educate students about our veterans and their sacrifices. He said that students do not honor Veterans Day now, but they can be taught if they are in school and he is committed that the day's focus will be on veterans. Local veterans organizations are not pleased with this change. Member Luikart supports the national holiday and suggested adding 3 minutes to the beginning and end of each day to help alleviate this situation, understanding that it would need to be negotiated by USEP. Member Armstrong said this decision was made with input from many stakeholders and can be changed the following year if it doesn't work out. Member Armstrong moved that the Board approve the *2014-2015 Student/Teacher Calendar*, seconded by Member Hurley. On vote, the motion carried 4-1, with Member Luikart casting the nay vote.

Individual Board members presented and discussed items:

Member Luikart:

- Extended holiday wishes to everyone.

Member Hurley:

- Wished Lynne Webb well in her upcoming retirement. Thanked Rebecca Musselman for her assistance at the "Traditions on the Green", an annual Land O'Lakes community event, which was attended by families to hear the Pine View Middle School band, Land O'Lakes High School jazz band, Odessa Elementary School chorus, and see student artwork.

Member Altman:

- Attended a recent performance at the Wesley Chapel High School Performing Arts Center and is proud of the Center and its events.

Chairman Crumbley:

- Extended holiday wishes to everyone.

Member Armstrong:

- Was recently interviewed by Paul R. Smith Middle School students for a civics class project regarding standardized testing.
- Gave kudos to the recent Holiday Parade that was attended by many people. She gave a shout-out to River Ridge High School for their float.

Attorney Alfonso:

- Attorney Alfonso asked the Board to consider an **OFF AGENDA** item regarding the Athenian Academy charter school contract renewal issue. Athenian Academy renegotiated the renewal of its contract in 2011, being awarded a 15-year contract as it was a high-performing school. Attorney Alfonso said that 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school grades caused Athenian Academy to lose their high-performing status, which reduced the term of the contract. His office worked with the charter school to amend the contract from 15 years to three years. Member Armstrong moved to accept an **OFF AGENDA** item – *Athenian Academy of Pasco, Inc. Charter Contract Amendment (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_)*, seconded by Member Luikart, and on vote, the motion carried unanimously. There being no further discussion, Member Armstrong made a motion to approve the *Athenian Academy of Pasco, Inc. Charter Contract Amendment* as presented, seconded by Member Hurley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.
- Attorney Alfonso also asked the Board to consider an **OFF AGENDA** item regarding the upcoming expiration of a contract with investment advisor, PFM Asset Management, and the receipt of bond proceeds totaling \$105 million. Member Armstrong moved to accept an **OFF AGENDA** item – *Investor Advisor Services and Bond Proceeds (See Miscellaneous Supplemental Minute Book 32, Page \_\_\_\_\_)*, seconded by Member Altman, and on vote, the motion carried unanimously. The Investment Oversight Committee has recommended (1) extension of a contract with PFM Asset Management until June 21, 2014, and (2) investing \$105 million using a piggyback contract through the Lee County School District with Davidson Fixed Income Management. Member Altman made a motion to accept the *Investor Advisor Services and Bond Proceeds* as presented, seconded by Member Hurley. On vote, the motion carried unanimously.
- He reviewed possible hearing dates for the Pamela St. Mary employee appeal hearing. After discussion, by consensus of the Board, February 4, 2014, was established as a new hearing date. The start time is 1:00 p.m., following the scheduled School Board meeting and workshop on that date.
- The grievance argument scheduled for tonight regarding the Melinda Bulp matter is not required since district administration and USEP have resolved their issue.
- Extended holiday wishes to everyone.

The Chairman asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to address the Board. No one came forward. Kris Kringle (a/k/a Patrick Connelly) arrived to share his holiday greetings with the Board members.

The Chairman announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board is January 21, 2014, 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 8:14 p.m.

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

APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD  
IN OPEN SESSION

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
January 21, 2014

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Superintendent of Schools