

SCHOOL BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA

WORKSHOP – January 22, 2013

The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida, conducted a workshop on Tuesday, January 22, 2013 at 9:00 a.m., in the Cabinet Conference Room, Administration Building, 301 4th Street S.W., Largo, Florida.

Present: Mrs. Carol J. Cook, Chairperson; Mrs. Peggy L. O'Shea, Vice Chairperson; Ms. Janet R. Clark, Ms. Rene Flowers, Mrs. Terry Krassner, Mrs. Linda S. Lerner, Mrs. Robin L. Wikle, Members; Dr. Michael Grego, Superintendent; Mr. Michael Bessette, Associate Superintendent for Operational Services; and, Mr. David Koperski, School Board Attorney.

The following topics were discussed:

- **Informal Hearing – Imagine Charter** – An informal hearing was provided to the Imagine St. Petersburg Charter during which time those speaking on behalf of the Charter and Ms. Laurie Dart, Staff Attorney, representing the district, were allocated up to fifteen minutes to present their arguments. Those speaking on behalf of the Charter requested additional time and, through consensus of the Board, they were allocated an additional five minutes for their presentation. Those representing the Imagine St. Petersburg Charter and seated at the table were, as follows: Archbishop Clarence Davis, Ms. Carolyn Wilson (Principal), Ms. Beckie Britto (Assistant Principal and Curriculum Coordinator), Ms. Chris Watson (Imagine corporate representative) and Bishop Dunston (Board Member and parent). An action item will be brought to the Board at their January 29, 2013 meeting.
- **Update on Bradley MOU – DMAC (District Monitoring and Advisory Committee)** – Mr. Roger Plata, Attorney for the Plaintiff, joined the Board Members, Dr. Grego and Mr. Koperski at the table. Mr. Plata presented comments in support of the proposed MOU. Discussion followed by Board Members, Mr. Koperski and Mr. Plata. Mr. Koperski will provide the Board with written confirmation from DMAC that they, too, are in favor of the proposed MOU. This document will be presented to the Board for their formal action at one of the February meetings.
- **Real Property Proposals** – Mr. Bessette and Ms. Deborah Forster presented updated information on the following properties: 1) South Ward Elementary – Clearwater Historical Society wants to use this site; site has been closed since 2008; since it is a multi-level building, it cannot be used for preschool programs; and, a lease proposal will be brought to the Board for their action. 2) Palm Harbor Elementary - The White family has expressed an interest in this site; this family also owns property in Tarpon that could possibly be included in the discussion and that might better meet some needs of the district; and, this site will not be considered for reopening and reuse by the district. 3) Fisher Road site – Twenty-one wooded acres; two developers have approached staff expressing interest in this property; this site is not a good location for a school; the sale of this would help meet the Superintendent's goal of building reserves; and, the Real Estate Department will order an appraisal and bring that back to the Board for further discussion. 4) Vacant piece of property across from Palm Harbor University High – Mr. Bessette will bring this piece back to the Board with additional information. 5)

Gulf Beaches Elementary – Mr. Bessette has been approached by several interested parties; this site would not make a good preschool site; and, no use of the facility has been identified by staff at this time.

- **Secondary Programs of Study** – Dr. Grego and Ms. Rita Vasquez presented an update to the Board on the development of secondary programs of study. Discussion followed by Board Members, Ms. Vasquez and Dr. Grego. Mrs. O'Shea suggested that the information include all programs that students will choose from in order to make this guide for parents complete; and, requested that staff take a close look at programs being offered to ensure they are programs that students will attend. Ms. Flowers requested that the names of the colleges and universities be spelled out; and, that this document be placed on our website once it is finalized. Dr. Grego agreed that other programs could be referenced in this guide; that the role of the guidance counselor needs to be reviewed; and, that parents and students will soon have on-line access to a well-informed guidance counselor. Mrs. Lerner requested that printable copies also be available for parents and students. Mrs. Wikle requested that the community liaisons have this information to share with mentors.
- **Budget Update & Human Resources Timeline** – Mr. Kevin Smith distributed a handout to the Board to demonstrate the three specific areas that will be analyzed during the budget process: Unit Analysis, Department/Functional Analysis and Capital Budget Analysis. Mr. Smith provided a brief overview as to how those analyses will be performed. Dr. Ron Ciranna distributed a handout to share information on the proposed timeline for appraisal and reappointment of instructional and non-instructional personnel for the 2013-14 school year.
- **Early Childhood Programs** – Dr. Grego and Mr. Jim Madden, retired administrator, provided the Board with an update regarding the district's efforts to implement early childhood learning programs.
- **Policies 1140.01, 3140.01, 4140.01-** Dr. Grego and Ms. Laurie Dart presented an overview of the policies that will be proposed for Board action that deal with discipline actions for employees for the length of three days or less. These will be brought to the Board for formal action.
- **Update on Superintendent's Action Plan** – Dr. Grego, with Dr. Mary Beth Corace, presented an update to the Board on specific areas contained within the Superintendent's action plan. Dr. Grego presented written materials to the Board titled Goals and Actions for Challenging Schools and 2012-13 District Strategic Plan Goals. Discussion followed by Board Members. Dr. Grego stated that he will be providing the Board with an update quarterly and encouraged Board Members to call him should they have questions between those reports.
- **Leadership Discussion:**
 - **Superintendent's Update** –
 - 1) Provided the Board with an update on the efforts being taken by the district to review safety and security measures in the district and address areas that may need improvement.
 - 2) Shared that he will be attending the Robotics Competition this Saturday at Seminole High School.
 - 3) Shared that a formal presentation on the trip recently taken to Germany will take place at the Education Foundation. Dr. Grego shared that the main purpose of this trip was to gain education as to how to improve and enhance our dual enrollment programs. Dr. Grego shared that he will be meeting with Dave Barnes to discuss the forming of stronger partnerships with businesses. Mrs. Lerner requested that the Superintendent provide the Board during the February workshop an overview of the changes that have taken place with pTEC.

- **Ms. Flowers** – Presented her workshop topic request form and stated that she would like the Board to look at mental health issues and how those issues could affect how a student behaves on campus. Ms. Flowers suggested that some of our local mental health services providers be invited into this conversation. Board Members agreed that this topic will be scheduled for the April workshop. Information will also be provided to the Board as to what is already in place to address those concerns
 - **Mrs. Cook** – Stated that Mrs. Lerner, earlier in this workshop, requested that the Board receive an update on pTEC. Board Members agreed this will be scheduled for a future workshop discussion.
 - **Mrs. Cook** – Suggested that the Board consider changing the following dates: May Board meetings will each be moved one week earlier in the month in order to allow attendance by the Board at the Sterling Conference the end of that month; and, the November meeting will be moved to a day meeting with the Organization Meeting immediately following. It was also determined that there will be no workshop scheduled for the month of March; and, that workshops will be scheduled for April 2nd and 16th and for May 14th.
 - **Mrs. Cook** - Presented the Board's Committee Assignment list for review and update. This list was updated; and, Mrs. Beaty will forward the updated list to appropriate individuals. Mrs. Cook shared that it is her understanding that the Selection Committee meetings are not to be placed on the Board Members' common calendar since these are not open to the public. Mr. Koperski will research this and provide the Board Members with clarification.
 - **Mrs. Cook** – Asked the Board how they wished to proceed regarding student recognitions. Board Members agreed to stay with holding the special event and formed a subcommittee of the Board to work with Mrs. Beaty and Ms. Christie, Teaching & Learning, in order to schedule the upcoming recognition events. The committee members are, as follows: Mrs. Cook, Ms. Flowers and Mrs. Wikle.
 - **Mrs. Cook** – Provided a brief overview regarding the purpose of the Workshop Topic Request Form. Mrs. Wikle suggested that the form be reviewed by the committee.
- **Board's Operating Manual – Review** – Mrs. Cook facilitated a conversation of the Board to review the contents of the manual. Due to time, the discussion and review ended on page 9 of the manual. Dr. Grego agreed that it will be good to review the job descriptions and expectations contained in the manual.

No official actions were taken by the Board at this workshop. An audio recording of this workshop is filed in the Board Office archives. This workshop adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary

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