

SCHOOL BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA

WORKSHOP – June 27, 2013

The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida, conducted a workshop on Thursday, June 27, 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; Dr. William Corbett, Deputy Superintendent; and, Mr. David Koperski, School Board Attorney.

The following topics were discussed:

- **Budget Updates – State and Federal** – Mr. Kevin Smith and Ms. Karen Coffey presented the information utilizing a notebook copied and distributed to each of the School Board Members that contained details on the following: Overview of Fiscal Trends; Operating Fund (General Fund) Budget; Capital Outlay Fund Budget; Debt Service Fund; Contracted Program Fund Budget; ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act); School Food Service Fund Budget; Internal Service Fund Budget; and Charter School Projections. Mrs. Lerner requested that the School Board budget on page 14 include more details as to whom those dollars are actually allocated. Mrs. Wikle requested additional information as to whom is covered under the Parental Involvement dollars. Mrs. Lerner requested that the Board Members receive an email that contains further details regarding the 60/40 split (63/37). Mrs. Cook requested that the information also include the 2007 details. Mr. Smith will send the information from the 11/12 year to the Board. Mrs. Wikle requested more detailed data to demonstrate the success rate of the STARS program. Ms. Clark requested the same for the Read 180 program. Mrs. O'Shea requested that schools are well informed that they are allowed to carry forward any operation dollars that they do not spend within a fiscal year. Mrs. Krassner, referring to page 78, questioned the absence of the "school board family" option: Dr. Grego stated that he will check on that. Mr. Smith will follow up with providing responses to the questions presented by the Board. Dr. Grego requested that further discussion on the budget be placed on the July 16th workshop. In response to a question presented by Mrs. Wikle, it was clarified that we have a total of 22 charter schools, as of August 2013.
- **Strategic Plan – Initial Review** – Dr. Grego and Dr. Mary Beth Corace presented the Strategic Plan for discussion. The Board Members were asked to review the document further between now and the July 16th workshop; and, to be prepared to discuss any changes or improvements they wish to have considered for the Plan. Board Members were asked to submit their clarifying questions to Dr. Corace no later than July 9th. Dr. Corace will provide the Board Members, at the July 16th workshop, with input being received from the principals.
- **Savings for Classrooms** - Mr. Jim Myers, Pinellas Education Foundation, presented the Savings for Classrooms recommendations for the following areas: Food Services, Management/Labor Relations, Management/Organizational Structure, and Technology.

Dr. Grego stated that staff will review the recommendations further; and, that their input will be recorded and brought to the Board for consideration at the August workshop. Ms. Flowers requested further clarification on the fifth bulleted item on page 16 of the Savings for Classrooms 2013 document.

- **Operational Efficiency** – 1) Proposal from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office - Mr. Michael Bessette stated that he has received a proposal from the Sheriff's Office to provide the services to the district now provided by the Pinellas County Schools Police, clarifying that this would not change the agreements between the district and different municipalities that provide School Resource Officers. Mrs. Krassner and Mrs. Lerner expressed their concern that the proposal from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office had come to a workshop, specifically because it had not come through the board-approved decision-making process. Mrs. Lerner distributed copies of the Board's decision-making process. Mr. Bessette stated that he had received the proposal from the Sheriff's Office; that a draft contract was then received from the same; and, that this came to the Board in the same manner that the transportation option was brought to them a few months ago. Discussion followed by Board Members. Sheriff Gualtieri stated that he has agreed to give the district a three-year contract for the services needed by the district. Discussion followed by Board Members, Mr. Bessette and Schools Police Acting Chief Richard Stelljes. Mrs. Cook requested direction from the Board as to whether Dr. Grego and his staff were to pursue this proposal any further. Mrs. Krassner, Mrs. Lerner and Ms. Flowers stated that they were not interested; and, Ms. Clark, stated that this was outsourcing and that she was not interested, at this time. Mrs. Wikle stated that she believes the Board would be remiss not to pursue this option. Dr. Grego stated that he has the direction of the Board; and, that he will be moving forward with increasing efficiency and closing any potential gaps in the intelligence that needs to be accessible throughout Schools Police, as well as accessible by other law enforcement agencies. Mr. Bessette stated that he will move forward with discussion with the Sheriff regarding schools that are located in the middle of his control. Dr. Grego will provide the Board with any recommendations that come from these discussions. 2) Update on sale of property – Mr. Bessette shared an update on the actions taken thus far on the following pieces of property: Southside Fundamental, Euclid, Fisher Road and North Ward Secondary. Mr. Bessette requested agreement from the Board to hand the North Ward property over to the broker representing the district in such matters: Board Members, through consensus, indicated their agreement with that direction. 3) Review of Plant Operations Staffing to ensure we are equitably meeting the needs of schools – Mr. Bessette presented the Board with the document, Pinellas County Schools Plant Operations Core Mission; and, stated that he is in the middle of comparing our staffing with that of other similar districts. 4) Review of Maintenance Warehouse Operations, establishment of satellite zones, RFP addressing our maintenance, repair and operations procurement process and inventory management systems – Mr. Bessette shared with the Board the document, Consulting Services Project Proposal by Grainger Consulting Services, as an example. Mr. Bessette stated that he will be issuing an RFP for this service. 5) Repurposing some functions of the District Warehouse – Mr. Bessette shared that he is looking at options for delivering the services to school, including more efficiency regarding office supplies considering that the district has a contract for those provisions. 6) Review program to reduce energy consumption – Mr. Bessette stated that the district dismissed the energy coaches that had been employed; that he and staff will be

bringing back for discussion by the Board the potential of either contracting with an outside service or returning to employing individuals to perform those duties. Dr. Grego, receiving direction from the Board, stated that he will bring back for Board discussion options to be considered to include a performance evaluation process. 7) Share reduction in leased portables and plan moving forward to eliminate all leases – Mr. Bessette briefly shared the direction being taken. 8) RFP for vending sale of beverages and snacks – Mr. Bessette stated that an RFP is being issued.

- **Organization Chart Modifications and Updated Job Descriptions** – Dr. William Corbett and Mrs. Pam Moore presented an overview of the revised organization charts for Teaching and Learning, led by Mrs. Pam Moore, and for Student and Community Services, led by Ms. Lori Matway. Dr. Ron Ciranna presented job descriptions for the following positions: 21st Century iClass Community Learning Advisor; 21st Century iClass Community Learning Liaison; Managing Officer, Adult Education; Manager, FACE IT Program; Grants Developer; Coordinator, Other – Adult Testing; and, Network Administration Apprentice.
- **Evaluation of Board Attorney** – Mr. David Koperski stated that Board Members had received the results of his evaluation via email; shared that he will continue to improve; and, thanked the Board for the results of this process. Dr. Grego stated that though he was not an evaluator of Mr. Koperski, he wished to add that it has been an absolute joy to work with him.
- **Leadership Discussion:**
 - **Superintendent's Update** –
 - 1) Updated the Board on the many summer learning opportunities that are being provided to students, i.e., Summer Bridge, as well as the reading enhancement programs such as In Sync, Ticket to Read, Scholastic's Summer Challenge, etc. Dr. Grego stated that there is a link to these programs on the district's website.
 - 2) Thanked Dr. Ciranna and the human resource team who orchestrated the teach-in recently held at Countryside High School. Dr. Grego shared that there were 312 interviews conducted; that this resulted in 117 new hires; and, that a "call list" has been created of those remaining applicants.
 - 3) Shared that School Improvement training was recently held at Largo High School and Common Core training took place at Boca Ciega High School.
 - 4) Updated the Board on the training that is taking place over the summer for teachers and the numbers who are participating in these opportunities. Dr. Grego stated that more than 500 teachers completed the K-8 Math Institute, with over 1000 teachers registered for this institute during the months of July and August. Dr. Grego shared that over 500 K-5 teachers completed the Common Core Connection in Reading and Writing, with another 832 teachers are registered for this opportunity in the months of July and August. Dr. Grego also shared that teachers have the availability to online components.
 - 5) Shared that on June 18th, he spoke to the State Board of Education regarding the changes for dual enrollment. Dr. Grego stated that Dr. Law (SPC) and he will be drafting a related agreement to be brought to the School Board.
 - 6) Thanked Mrs. O'Shea for her comments regarding dual enrollment and other education topics at the recent breakfast held by Senator Jack Latvala. Dr. Grego shared that he and others will be working on improved legislation.
 - 7) Shared that a committee has been formed to work on school grading; and, that this committee will begin their work on Monday. Dr. Grego stated that he will keep the Board apprised of the progress.
 - 8) Shared information on the recognitions received by various departments in our district.

- **Mrs. Cook** – Shared that the Board’s Master Board Onsite Training will take place at Stavros Institute on July 16th, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.. It was agreed that the team will go to lunch together before returning to the Administration Building for the afternoon workshop.
- **Mrs. Cook** - Shared that there is a Value Adjustment Board meeting scheduled for July 3rd and that she, as the School Board’s representative, will be unable to attend. The Board, through consensus, determined that Mrs. Krassner will serve as the Board’s alternate to the Value Adjustment Board (VAB) meeting on July 23rd.
- **Mrs. Wikle** – Stated that she has submitted a Workshop Topic Request Form but will present it to the Board at their next workshop for their consideration.

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 3:29 p.m. A Special Board Meeting was conducted immediately following the closure of this workshop.

Chairperson

Secretary

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