

Regular School Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 8, 2015 10:00 AM

School Administration Building

301 Fourth Street SW
Largo, FL 33770

~ Minutes ~

<https://www.pcsb.org>

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 8, 2015, at the School Board Administration Building, 301 Fourth Street SW, Largo, Florida.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Rene Flowers	Board Member	Present	
Ken Peluso	Board Member	Present	
Carol J. Cook	Board Member	Present	
Janet R. Clark	Board Member	Present	
Terry Krassner	Vice Chairperson	Present	
Linda S. Lerner	Board Member	Present	
Peggy O' Shea	Chairperson	Present	
David Koperski	Board Attorney	Present	
Michael A. Grego	Superintendent	Present	
William Corbett	Deputy Superintendent	Present	
Clinton Herbic	Associate Superintendent/Operations	Present	
Kevin Smith	Associate Superintendent/Finance Business Services	Present	
Ann Simonetti	Clerk to the Board and Administrative Assistant	Present	

II. Amendments to the Agenda

At this time, Dr. Grego shared the following additions or changes made to the agenda subsequent to its publication seven days ago:

Updated: Consent Agenda Item #2: Request Approval of Personnel Recommendations

- On page 36 of the online agenda, the only retirement listed was removed
- On page 65 of the online agenda, the only job abandonment listed was removed

Mrs. O'Shea stated that, as Chairperson, she found good cause to amend the agenda.

III. Invocation: Rabbi Daniel Treiser, Temple B'nai Israel, 1685 South Belcher Road, Clearwater, Florida 33764

The Invocation was delivered by Rabbi Treiser.

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance followed the Invocation.

National Anthem

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the National Anthem was sung by a vocal ensemble from Clearwater High School, under the direction of Dustin Hinzman.

Video: Business leaders on tour: Pinellas Education Foundation organizes school visits

The video highlighted an event in November which was organized by the Pinellas Education Foundation. More than 30 business leaders were invited to tour two schools in St. Petersburg. They boarded a Pinellas County School bus and headed to Campbell Park Elementary and Maximo Elementary to tour the campuses, meet school leaders, teachers, parents, and students. The video showcased what they learned during their visits.

V. Introduction of Professional and Community Organization Reps

Lisa M. Wolf, Public Information Officer

Ms. Lisa M. Wolf, Public Information Officer, introduced the following individuals: Nelly Henjes, PESPA; Maria Cantonis, Pinellas Arts for a Complete Education Coalition; and, Colleen Wright, Tampa Bay Times.

VI. Presentation by Student Rights and Responsibilities: Clearwater High School

Jincy Biju, Savanna Howard, Elliott Gray, and Khalil Jones, Students Rights and Responsibilities representatives from Clearwater High School, addressed the Board to share information regarding programs and achievements taking place at their school.

VII. Adoption of Agenda

The action taken by the Board to adopt the agenda reflects the amendments or changes provided by the Superintendent during Item II. Amendments to the Agenda.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Janet R. Clark, Board Member
SECONDER:	Carol J. Cook, Board Member
AYES:	Flowers, Peluso, Cook, Clark, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

VIII. Special Order Agenda

1. Recognition of Center for Advanced Technologies, Lakewood High School, Selected as a 2015 2016 Microsoft Showcase School, Presented by Mark Hunt, Executive Director, Career, Technical and Adult Education

Dr. Grego introduced Mr. Mark Hunt, Executive Director, Career, Technical, and Adult Education.

Mr. Hunt recognized Lakewood High School principal, Erin Savage, and assistant principal, Pete Oberg for their role in the CAT program becoming a national model as a Microsoft Showcase School.

Ms. Savage and Mr. Oberg were greeted and congratulated by the Board.

2. Introduction of Newly Appointed Administrators

Dr. Grego introduced the following newly appointed administrators:

- Susan M. Mance, Principal, Mc-Mullen Booth Elementary
- Leza M. Fatolitis, Principal, Tarpon Springs High School
- John Russo, Grant-Funded Program Specialist
- Michael R. Cowley, Managing Officer, Psychological Services

The administrators were greeted and congratulated by the Board.

IX. Public Comments on Agenda Items

The following individuals addressed the Board to offer their comments on selected agenda items:

1. Mark Klutho

Consent Agenda Item # 7: Request Approval of the Total Project Cost for the Curlew Creek Elementary School Ceiling and Light Project, No. 9031 in the Amount of \$850,000, and the Agreement With Lyle Engineering Group for Engineering and Contract Administration Services

Consent Agenda Item # 8: Request Approval of the Total Project Cost for the Lakewood High School Roofing Project, No. 9012 in the Amount of \$1,400,000, and the Agreement With Williamson Dacar Associates for Architectural and Contract Administration Services

Consent Agenda Item # 9: Request Approval for the Total Project Cost for the Seminole Elementary School Electrical Project, No. 9021 in the Amount of \$700,000, and the Agreement With Anston Greenlees, Inc. for Engineering and Contract Administration Services

Consent Agenda Item #10: Request Approval of the Total Project Cost for the St. Petersburg High School Electrical Project, No. 9043 in the Amount of \$1,500,000, and the Agreement With Phoenix Engineering Group for Engineering and Contract Administration Service

Consent Agenda Item #12. Request Approval of Substantial Completion for Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning and Lighting Renovations (Building 6) as of October 28, 2015, Which is a Portion of the Project at Sawgrass Lake Elementary, Project No. 9183

Nonconsent Item # 3: Request Approval of a Fifteen Year Charter Renewal for Plato Academy Tarpon Springs Charter School

Nonconsent Agenda Item #4: Request Approval of an Amendment to the Current Charter for Academie Da Vinci Charter School to Include Students in Grades 6-8

Mr. Klutho shared his opinion about our Strategic Direction: Learning in a Safe Environment, environmental concerns, and referenced Plato and DaVinci.

X. Unfinished Business

XI. Consent

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Janet R. Clark, Board Member
SECONDER:	Carol J. Cook, Board Member
AYES:	Flowers, Peluso, Cook, Clark, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

1. Request Approval of Minutes: To Approve the Minutes of the School Board Workshop of November 10, 2015; the Regular School Board Meeting of November 17, 2015; the School Board Organization Meeting of November 17, 2015; and the School Board Workshop of November 17, 2015
Approved as submitted
2. Request Approval of Personnel Recommendations
Approved as submitted (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)
3. Request Approval of the Administrative Appointment of the Executive Director, Elementary Education
Appointment approved- Shana H. Rafalski (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)
4. Request Approval of the Administrative Appointment of the Director, School Leadership
Appointment approved - Antonio M. Burt (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)

5. Request Approval of the Administrative Appointment of the Director, Title I
Appointment approved - Felita D. Grant (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)

6. Request Approval of the Renewal of the Lease, Management & Operation Agreement Permitting Belle of the Ball, Inc. to Lease the Media Center (the "Premises") Located on the Former Curtis Fundamental School Property
Approved as submitted (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)

7. Request Approval of the Total Project Cost for the Curlew Creek Elementary School Ceiling and Light Project, No. 9031 in the Amount of \$850,000, and the Agreement With Lyle Engineering Group for Engineering and Contract Administration Services
Approved as submitted (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)

8. Request Approval of the Total Project Cost for the Lakewood High School Roofing Project, No. 9012 in the Amount of \$1,400,000, and the Agreement With Williamson Dacar Associates for Architectural and Contract Administration Services
Approved as submitted (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)

9. Request Approval for the Total Project Cost for the Seminole Elementary School Electrical Project, No. 9021 in the Amount of \$700,000, and the Agreement With Anston Greenlees, Inc. for Engineering and Contract Administration Services
Approved as submitted (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)

10. Request Approval of the Total Project Cost for the St. Petersburg High School Electrical Project, No. 9043 in the Amount of \$1,500,000, and the Agreement With Phoenix Engineering Group for Engineering and Contract Administration Services
Approved as submitted (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)

11. Request Approval of the Interlocal Agreement With the City of Largo for Design and Construction Services for Road Improvements in the Area of Largo High School on 1st Avenue N.E., 2nd Street, and 4th Street N.E. in the Amount of \$542,566.50 at Largo High School, Project No 4511
Approved as submitted (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)

12. Request Approval of Substantial Completion for Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning and Lighting Renovations (Building 6) as of October 28, 2015, Which is a Portion of the Project at Sawgrass Lake Elementary, Project No. 9183
Approved as submitted (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)

13. Request Approval of Vehicle Use Agreements to Non-Profit Organizations for a Period of one Year
Approved as submitted (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)
14. Request Approval to Recycle, Cannibalize, and/or Scrap Obsolete Fixed Assets
Approved as submitted
15. Request Approval of Selling the District's Surplus Equipment on the PublicSurplus.com Internet Auction Site
Approved as submitted
16. Request Approval of Bids to Vendors at Prices in Bid Documents in Accordance with Bid Policies and Statutes
Approved as submitted (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)

XII. Nonconsent

1. Request Approval of the Agreement with the School Board of Pasco County and the School Board of Pinellas County
Mr. Mark Hunt, Executive Director, Career, Technical and Adult Education, stated that this agreement is a continuation of the partnership begun in 2014-15 to facilitate the tri-county (Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas) Tampa Bay regional aviation academies.
Principal Keith Mastorides and Assistant Principal Taylor Henderson, from Clearwater High School, shared the high level of engagement students exhibit in this program at their school.
Mrs. Krassner thanked them for their leadership.
(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Janet R. Clark, Board Member
SECONDER:	Carol J. Cook, Board Member
AYES:	Flowers, Peluso, Cook, Clark, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

2. Request Approval for Submittal of the 2015 Florida Safe Schools Self-Assessment
Mr. Clint Herbic, Associate Superintendent, Operational Services, stated that this is an annual safety assessment tool required by the state. Due to the nature of the information contained in these documents across the state, the Department of Education has required they be confidential.

Mrs. Lerner asked that our document be reviewed and non-confidential information be shared with the public so they are aware of some of what is being done to keep our schools safe.

RESULT: **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: Terry Krassner, Vice Chairperson
SECONDER: Rene Flowers, Board Member
AYES: Flowers, Peluso, Cook, Clark, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

3. Request Approval of a Fifteen Year Charter Renewal for Plato Academy Tarpon Springs Charter School

Mr. Rick Wolfe, Director, Charter Schools and Home Education, reviewed the request from Plato Academy Tarpon Springs. (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)

RESULT: **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: Ken Peluso, Board Member
SECONDER: Rene Flowers, Board Member
AYES: Flowers, Peluso, Cook, Clark, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

4. Request Approval of an Amendment to the Current Charter for Academie Da Vinci Charter School to Include Students in Grades 6-8

Mr. Rick Wolfe, Director, Charter Schools and Home Education, reviewed the request from Academie Da Vinci. (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #162.)

RESULT: **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: Ken Peluso, Board Member
SECONDER: Terry Krassner, Vice Chairperson
AYES: Flowers, Peluso, Cook, Clark, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

XIII. New Business

A. *Items Introduced by Superintendent*

Dr. Grego's report included the following:

1. He thanked board members for attending a variety of events across the district; including the Pinellas Education Foundation's Ties and Tennis Shoes events that occurred last weekend. There was an increase in participation this year. The fundraising for Take Stock in Children scholarship program was very successful: \$1.2 million raised. He also thanked the Tampa Bay Rays for use of Tropicana Field.

2. He shared the names of the ten finalists for the Outstanding Educator of the Year award. They are: Deanna Barthel, Countryside HS; Wendy Bruce, Ponce de Leon ES; Sarah Dobes, East Lake MS; Alicia Isaac, Boca Ciega HS; Marissa McCarthy, Thurgood Marshall MS; Randy McGonegal, Palm Harbor UHS; Jennifer Raffaele, Bardmoor ES; Christine

Rose, Fairmount Park ES; Denise Steele, Frontier ES; and Jennifer Velez, Sexton ES. He said the winner will be honored at the Evening of Excellence, February 2, 2016, at Ruth Eckerd Hall.

3. He said the six Support Employee of the Year finalists have been named. This year there are new categories and here are the nominees: Classroom Support: Haydee Marrero-Valdes, ESE Associate, Boca Ciega HS; Clerical: Valerie Jones, Library Media Assistant / Clerical Assistant, Jamerson ES; Food Service: Michelle Ondick, Food Service Assistant, Cross Bayou ES; Maintenance/Safety/Health: Gerald Niles, Police Officer, Sanders Exceptional Student Education Center; Plant Operations: Jeffrey Redett, Head Plant Operator II, Ponce de Leon ES; Bus Driver: Barbara Gieselman, Bus Driver, Transportation - Lealman Compound. The winner will be named on January 4, 2016, at the Support Employee of the Year breakfast, held at the Feather Sound Country Club.

4. He shared information about the College Board SAT and Advanced Placement scores. He said our overall mean SAT scores for students surpassed the state and national mean scores. There was an increase in SAT participation by African American and Hispanic students in our district; with their scores also exceeding state and national in several areas. He said the district saw an increase of 11.4% in the number of African-American students earning passing scores of 3-5 on the Advanced Placement exams compared to 5.5% in the state and 6.1% increase in the nation. He thanked Ms. Vigue and the AP teachers for their hard work. He will meet with the College Board's Superintendents Advisory Committee next week.

5. He thanked all the participants in the Great American Teach-In, held November 18th. It was a fully engaged community event.

6. He stated that a group of 5th grade students from Fairmount Park ES visited the campus of USF St. Petersburg. During the tour, students participated in activities at a science station, a multicultural station, and a kindness station. He said this is part of an ongoing partnership between the school and university.

7. He thanked Mrs. Lerner for her leadership as Board Chairperson this last year and welcomed Mrs. O'Shea in her new role as Board Chair.

7. He wished all staff, students, and parents an enjoyable holiday break.

B. *Items Introduced by School Board Attorney*

Mr. Koperski stated that he had no report.

C. *Items Introduced by the Board*

Ms. Flowers-1) **She asked for a letter of support for HB 147 which is being co-sponsored by Representatives Chris Latvala and Chris Sprowls. She made a motion to move forward with sending a letter of support for HB 147 to legislators who represent Pinellas County. Mrs. Krassner seconded the motion. Dr. Grego consented to this proposed action being added to the agenda. Mrs. O'Shea called for a vote. The vote was 7-0.**

2) She stated that she wanted to make a clarification regarding the FAST Organization's request for board members to attend a meeting at Tropicana Field. It was determined that the FAST Organization would only permit yes or no answers with a brief one minute response. She said that based on that she declined their invitation. She said that at the

event there was a chair set out for her with her name listed which made it appear that she no-showed the event; when, in fact she declined their invitation. 3) She stated that she wished to address the FAST Organization's request for a discipline matrix. She said that she clearly told them that if it included any consequences which did not follow the state statute regarding drugs on campus, that she could not support it. She said that Broward County Public Schools chose a matrix, but it has since been revised three times. Broward County Public Schools has a Code of Student Conduct similar to ours; but, they have their matrix as an appendix to the document. On page 8 of their document is speaks of the process for school suspensions; which is the same process used by Principal Hepburn at Gibbs HS for which he was criticized. She stated that she believes that students need to be held accountable for their behavior in schools; and that discipline is handled at the school level because they know the students background and extenuating circumstances which may contribute to discipline issues. A matrix does not accommodate that judgment piece. 4) She said that the district is moving forward but this will not occur in one day; she supports money for alternative programs. We are making progress with discipline issues. She attended the Florida School Boards Association joint conference earlier this month and all districts are working on the same concerns. 5) She said that she supports the civil citation which was discussed at the Florida School-Justice Partnership meeting in Tampa in November that she attended. 6) She referenced the Tampa Bay Times article, "Failure Factories" and said that it is not representative of the way things have occurred. Children are not failures and she will not use that reference. She will support what will move student achievement forward and said the public can volunteer and join us in action.

Mrs. Lerner- 1) She referenced the Tampa Bay Times article, "Failure Factories" and said it is not representative of what is occurring at our schools now. There is progress being made under Dr. Grego's leadership in student achievement and discipline. She said the district is working on a data dashboard to share that information. She said that there are alternatives to out of school suspension being used. She wants to examine the data for students who are two years or more overage or behind in a grade level and determine what resources will best assist these students. She said that the district has alternative education programs and personalized learning models which concentrate on students who are not working up to their potential; these education models help students move forward. She said the data on suspensions can be misleading; often times it is a small number of students who have repeated misconduct account for the majority of out of school suspensions. 2) She thanked all educators and the community for their help with this effort to assist students; it is the best time to be in Pinellas County Schools.

Mrs. Krassner-She asked for clarification from Dr. Grego regarding Chief Stelljes work with law enforcement with the many municipalities in Pinellas County. She said that the district is looking at best practices across the state.

Dr. Grego responded that all municipalities that signed on to the MOU reported a 30% decrease in arrests, followed by a 50% decrease. This practice began in January 2015. He thanked the committees who met to draft the MOU and that discipline and alternative programs will be a topic of discussion at future school board workshops.

Mrs. Cook- 1) She said that we put professional development first and foremost and that we don't just ask staff to attend; board members get training also, many attended three or four days of training recently. She said the public needs to know that we continue being educated. 2) She wished everyone a happy holiday.

Mrs. O'Shea- 1) She shared proposed workshop dates for 2016. She asked that board members review the dates for any conflicts as it will be reviewed at the workshop January 19, 2016. 2) She wished everyone in the district a happy and healthy holiday season.

D. Review of Board Requests

Dr. Corbett offered the following summary of the request presented during this meeting:

- he will review the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Report to allow for non-confidential PCS information to be published

E. School Board Meeting Evaluation

The evaluation of the meeting followed the adjournment of the meeting; and, the results are as follows:

Pluses:

-positive last speaker

-SR&R presentation was great!

-Clarifying board and superintendent reports

Opportunities:

-fix all mics

XIV. Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the School Board, this meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Chairperson

Superintendent and Ex Officio Secretary

XV. Public Speakers

Following the adjournment of the meeting, the following individuals presented their comments:

1. Lenore Faulkner

Ms. Faulkner spoke of Veteran's Day and personal concerns.

2. Mark Klutho

Mr. Klutho spoke of the Constitution and environmental concerns.

3. Joe Marteski

Mr. Marteski, COO, Belle of the Ball, thanked the board for providing the facility on Holt Avenue in Clearwater for their organization which assists local students with attire for homecoming and proms.