

**SCHOOL BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA  
WORKSHOP – June 28, 2016**

The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida, conducted a workshop on Tuesday, June 28, 2016, at 11:25 a.m. (immediately following the school board meeting), in the Cabinet Conference Room, Administration Building, 301 4<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Largo, Florida.

Present: Mrs. Peggy L. O'Shea, Chairperson; Mrs. Terry Krassner, Vice-Chairperson; Ms. Janet Clark, Mrs. Carol J. Cook, Ms. Rene Flowers, Mrs. Linda Lerner, Dr. Ken Peluso, Members; Dr. Michael Grego, Superintendent, Dr. William Corbett, Deputy Superintendent, and Mr. David Koperski, School Board Attorney.

**Review of Agenda:** There were no changes to the agenda.

The following topics were discussed:

- **Budget Update:** Mr. Kevin Smith, associate superintendent, finance and business services, reviewed the 117 page *School Board Budget Workshop* document. The chapter divisions are: Overview of Fiscal Trends, Operating Fund (General Fund) Budget, Charter School Projections, Capital Outlay Fund Budget, Debt Service Fund Budget, Contracted Program Fund Budget, and Other Funds. Mr. Smith said the 2016-2017 budgets are estimates, and the 2015-2016 fiscal year budgets are not closed out yet. He stated that the first public budget hearing is scheduled for July 26; the final budget hearing is scheduled for September 13. Between 2008 and 2012 the tax roles declined and the funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act were no longer reflected in our 2011-12 fiscal year. This caused budget deficits. Since 2013, there has been an increase in the tax role. Components of FEFP are noted on page 6. The Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) formula was developed by the University of Florida. Over time more funds are designated categorical items by the state; this earmarks how the funds must be spent. Based on the projected 2015-16 calculations and the recommended 2016-17 budget, there is a \$17,600,000 increase in funding. As noted on page 2, Dr. Grego pointed out that in 2011-12 the budget reflected a \$32 million negative and at year end 2015-16 we anticipate a \$9 million positive. Additionally, the 5% contingency will be achieved by the end of this fiscal year (June 30, 2016). Karen Coffey, executive director, budget and resource allocation, reviewed the Supplemental Academic Instruction (SAI) funding and said about 5.5% of those funds go to charter schools in Pinellas County. Capital Outlay funds (pgs. 68-84) will include the anticipated issuance of \$85 million in Certificate of Participation bonds. Mrs. Cook asked if the bonding will negatively impact the district's credit rating. She was advised that is not likely. Mrs. Lerner thanked staff for delivering a very understandable presentation. Mr. Smith shared with the Board that as a result of taxable values increasing in our county, the Referendum Supplement for instructional staff will increase by \$410.00 to \$3,827.00.
- **Audit Report:** Mr. Kevin Smith, associate superintendent, finance and business services, reviewed the following document: *District School Board of Pinellas County Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs*. Mr. Smith stated that the district is audited annually. This is the audit for the 2014-2015 school year. The summary of audit results is noted on the first page of the document. There were two areas of findings: financial statement audit and capital asset reconciliation. Mr. Smith and his staff are reviewing new ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) software that will enhance the accuracy of reporting in these areas. Of the nineteen audit findings of the Florida Auditor General; seven continue to be relevant. Of the five prior audit finding on Federal Programs, only

one is unresolved. The audit was conducted by Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC in Miramar Beach, Florida. Mr. Smith reminded the board that he and his staff are available to respond to any questions/concerns.

- **District Strategic Plan:** Dr. Mary Beth Corace, director, strategic planning and policy, reviewed the document *PCS Strategic Plan 2016-17 Goals and Actions (draft)*. Dr. Corace stated that the district will be moving from three strategic directions to five. The five strategic directions are: (1) Student Achievement, (2) Learning in a Safe Environment, (3) Equity with Excellence for All, (4) College and Career Readiness, and (5) Effective and Efficient Use of Resources. The two new directions are numbers three and four. Within each of the five strategic directions are strategic goals with action goals that are monitored by district staff to track the progress on achieving those goals. To address the Bradley Agreement within the district strategic plan, strategic direction (3) Equity and Excellence for All, was added with strategic goal four. Dr. Corace maintains the progress monitoring data. Ms. Clark noted that Goal 3 #3 and Goal 4 #10 are almost the same. Dr. Corace agreed to limit it to one location. There was conversation about the definition of what constitutes a minority student. Dr. Corace stated that NCLB guidelines have been used. Approval of the Strategic Plan will come before the Board at the July 26 school board meeting. School Improvement Plans come before the Board for approval in September. School Improvement Plans are tied into the district goals by what is referred to as a “golden thread” which links the strategies to the execution of the plan.
- **School Wellness:** Ms. Peggy Johns, preK-12 health education specialist, Ms. Sara O’Toole, managing officer school health services, Ms. Lynn Geist, director, food services, and Dr. Ulyee Choe of the Florida Department of Health, Pinellas County, reviewed the following documents: *School Wellness Summary 2015-2016, Administration Guidelines-Wellness, Physical Activity, and Nutrition, and Summary Report 2015-2016 Wellness Policy and Administration Guidelines-Wellness, Physical Activity and Nutrition*. Ms. Johns spoke about the School Health Advisory Committee served by 43 district staff and community members. The committee reviews the Wellness Policy and Administration Guidelines and updates them to reflect changes in the law and regulations as well as health trends. The Alliance for a Healthier Generation, in which we participate, is comprised of approximately 30,000 schools. Our schools are making a concerted effort to incorporate health and wellness; 94% of our schools have a Healthy School Team and 71% established a School Wellness Goal in their school improvement plan. Pinellas County Schools has been recognized as a Well Workplace Gold Award Winner from the Wellness Council of America. We are the only district in Florida and one of three in the U.S. to receive this distinction. The District Strategic Plan includes Goal 3, Action 10, to continually improve school wellness.
- Dr. Choe spoke of the need to increase school nurses in response to the community input. He said more children today have illnesses such as asthma and diabetes. Mrs. O’Shea shared that the Pinellas County Health and Human Services Leadership Board has met to discuss supporting this idea through Pinellas County funds. The City of St. Petersburg was awarded the Communities Putting Prevention to Work Grant to promote wellness for their employees and in the community. Mrs. Lerner spoke of the need to assist students who are morbidly obese and how we might help them. Ms. Johns shared that there is a pilot program which promotes physical activity prior to challenging academic courses. Ms. O’Toole shared that in grades one, three, and six, if a student’s BMI is too high they must call the parents to inform them and offer assistance. Lakewood High school and Johns Hopkins All Children’s Hospital are promoting a program made possible through a grant. The Lakewood High Health Squad aims to curb childhood obesity by promoting healthier lifestyle choices.

- **Code of Student Conduct Update:** Mr. Ward Kennedy, area superintendent, reviewed the document: *Code of Student Conduct, Student Discipline Summary*. He thanked Ms. Patricia Wright, area superintendent, for her work with the Discipline Committee. The district has seen a 36.5% decrease in the number of out-of-school suspensions from 2014-2015 school year to 2015-2016 (August 2015-June 2016). The district is offering training on implicit bias and discipline disparity and has expanded delivery to assistant principals who routinely manage discipline issues at our schools. The School Public Accountability Report 2015-2016 (SPARS) can be accessed through the district website [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org) with a link under the Assessment, Accountability and Research Dept. which connects you to FLDOE. Mr. Kennedy reviewed updates/changes to the Code of Student Conduct as a result of recent legislation. Mrs. Lerner voiced her support for corrective/supportive actions instead of punitive. Mr. Kennedy advised the board that the Code of Student Conduct will be addressed again at the July school board workshop.
- **Leadership Discussion:**
  - Mrs. O'Shea: She reminded school board members of the Commission on Ethics, annual Full and Public Disclosure of Financial Interests, due July 1.

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 3:26 p.m.

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Chairperson  
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Secretary