

SCHOOL BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA
WORKSHOP – November 13, 2012

The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida, conducted a workshop on Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at 1:30 p.m., in the Cabinet Conference Room, Administration Building, 301 4th Street S.W., Largo, Florida.

Present: Mrs. Robin L. Wikle, Chairperson; Mrs. Carol J. Cook, Vice Chairperson; Ms. Janet R. Clark, Mr. Glenton Gilzean, Mrs. Terry Krassner, Mrs. Linda S. Lerner, Mrs. Peggy L. O’Shea, 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:

- **Budget Update** – Mr. Kevin Smith presented an update on the district’s budget and information demonstrating the FTE trends and the Tax Roll trends. Dr. Grego shared that he will be bringing to the Board in December a question as to the direction the School Board wishes to take on the FSBA Resolution on Sequestration. Mrs. Cook questioned whether data could be compiled to demonstrate the effect that the sequestration provision contained in the Budget Control Act of 2011 will have on students. Dr. Grego and Mr. Swartzel responded that this could be accomplished and that a draft will be sent to the Board. Mrs. Wikle suggested, and Board Members agreed, that thank you notes be sent to the various groups who actively supported the passing of the referendum, i.e., Pinellas Education Foundation, PCTA, etc. Dr. Grego and Mrs. Beaty will collaborate to accomplish this task. Mrs. Krassner suggested that a thank you statement be placed on our webpage.
- **Pupil Progression Plan** – Mr. Bill Lawrence and Dr. Mary Beth Corace presented the proposed Pupil Progression Plan to the Board for their discussion and input. Mrs. Wikle requested that the Board receive a list of actions mandated by the state and those required by the district. Mrs. Lerner requested the Board receive data that shows the number of retained students by school. Mrs. O’Shea, referring to page 22, requested clarification be made as to which board the language speaks to, our Board or the State Board of Education. Mrs. Lerner, referring to language on end-of-year tests, requested that language be added to clarify that this refers to the state test. Mrs. Lerner, also, requested that the language be clarified on page 58 when it speaks to the requirement of a transferring senior to take the end-of-year test. Dr. Grego stated that this document will be used internally; that students and families will receive any necessary counseling time; and, that these policies will be incorporated into communications pieces, i.e., parent guides, that are provided to families in a more student/family-friendly language.
- **Student/Staff Calendar 2013/14** – Dr. Ron Ciranna and Mr. Dave Richmond presented to the Board the proposed Staff/Student Calendar for 2013/14 school year. This proposal will be brought to the Board at their December meeting for their approval.

➤ **Leadership Discussion:**

- **Superintendent's Update –**
 - 1) Mr. Michael Bessette shared with the Board that offers are being received by the district for the Euclid site; and, that an item related to this property will be brought to the Board at their December meeting for their action.
 - 2) Dr. Grego updated the Board on the efforts to revise the existing teacher appraisal instrument, stating a main direction will be to have teachers evaluated on students that are actually in front of that teacher. Dr. Grego stated that every district designed their own appraisal plan; that a plan needs to be developed that will bring teachers together and not make one school more attractive than another; and, that systems have to be built to demonstrate how all can improve. Dr. Grego shared that a team comprised of Mr. Koperski, Ms. Winchester, himself and others are drafting a statement that could be placed in the personnel file of any teacher who wishes to have it accompany their evaluation, not to disregard the evaluation but only to clarify that this was the first year for this appraisal plan. Dr. Grego will provide the Board with a copy of the proposed statement. Dr. Grego stated that teachers will be made aware of all of their options; and, that the appeal time has been extended for those wishing to appeal their results. Dr. Grego stated that the data requested by Mrs. Lerner for the Board seems to be taking longer than necessary; and, that he will follow up on that.
 - 3) Dr. Grego, referencing the discussion on the Strategic Plan held at the recent retreat, updated the Board on the efforts being made by departments to improve their operations in order to meet the goals contained in that plan. Dr. Grego thanked Dr. Mary Beth Corace for her work during that retreat.
- **Mrs. Cook** – Discussed the plans for the reception to follow the Organization Meeting of the Board on November 20th.
- **Ms. Clark** – Shared that the Legislative Subcommittee continues to meet to plan the Legislative Breakfast; and, that the date now looks like December 11th.
- **Mrs. Wikle** – Questioned whether the Board wished to have a workshop scheduled for December 4th. Board Members agreed that there will be no workshop scheduled for that day.
- **Mrs. Wikle** – Shared that Mr. Gilzean had served as the Board's representative to the Pinellas Community Foundation; and, that this group will be requesting a new appointment from the Board for that position.
- **Mrs. Wikle** – Stated that in a recent Friday or Monday Update, there was a report from the Governor's committee of superintendents formed to study possible methods of reducing paperwork required by the government. Mrs. Wikle stated that since Dr. Grego had worked at the state level, she would like to have his input regarding this report.
- **Mrs. Cook** - Requested that the Board schedule a workshop for January. A workshop was scheduled for January 22, 2013.
- **Mrs. Wikle** – Shared that the Board had presented Mr. Gilzean with a card and a plaque in appreciation for his service on the Board. Mrs. Wikle stated that Mrs. Krassner received a card in recognition of her birthday. Mrs. Wikle reminded the Board of their joint meeting with Students Rights & Responsibilities Committee on Thursday of this week.

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 3:12 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary

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