

SCHOOL BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA
WORKSHOP – February 18, 2014

The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida, conducted a workshop on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 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. Linda S. Lerner, Vice Chairperson; Ms. Janet R. Clark, Ms. Rene Flowers, Mrs. Terry Krassner, Mrs. Peggy L. O’Shea, 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 Update** - Mr. Kevin Smith and Ms. Karen Coffey presented an update on the proposed Governor’s budget, demonstrating the implications it could have on Pinellas. The information provided in hard copy to the Board included a funding comparison for the 2007-08 and 2013-14 calculations to the proposed Governor’s budget for the fiscal year 2014-2015. Mrs. Lerner requested that the Board receive some talking points to share as they speak to members of the community on matters related to the budget. Dr. Grego stated that this material will be prepared and forwarded to the Board.
- **Health Plan Update** – Mr. Ted Pafundi and Mr. Ken Perry, AON, presented the Board with a comparison of health insurance coverage and costs between Pinellas County and five other Florida districts, as well as benchmarking Pinellas County Schools with the Kaiser Foundation. Mr. Pafundi and Mr. Perry also provided data related to our costs of providing health insurance to retirees from the district; and, information on the 2014 marketplace plans verses the 2014 Pinellas County Schools NPOS (National Point of Service) option. The districts were listed as districts A, B, C, D and E; and, Mrs. Lerner requested that the Board receive information identifying them by name. Mr. Pafundi stated that this information will be sent to the Board. Ms. Flowers questioned when the list of scripts that would be included in the added fourth tier would be available. Mr. Pafundi stated that this information would be provided once this goes into the negotiations process. Mrs. Wikle emphasized the need to have a healthy timeline that would provide sufficient time for employees to make educated decisions. Mrs. Krassner requested that a presentation of the information be provided to the retiree group, PEER. Dr. Corbett stated that today’s presentation will be made to the bargaining leadership group.
- **Advanced Placement Capstone Pilot Program** – Mrs. Judith Vigue presented information on the Advanced Placement Capstone Pilot Program being implemented in Boca Ciega, Northeast, and Countryside high schools.
- **District Administrator Evaluation for 2014-2015** – Dr. Ron Ciranna, Dr. Lisa Grant and Mr. Tom Topping presented an update on the revised District-Level Administrator Evaluation System.
- **Organizational Charts** – Dr. Corbett stated that there are no charts available at this time. Mr. Bessette and Dr. Ciranna presented to the Board job descriptions for the

following three positions that will appear in the March 11th Board meeting agenda – Director, Facilities Planning, Design, and Construction; Coordinator, Emergency Management, Safety, and Security; and, Managing Officer, Psychological Services. Dr. Corbett stated that he will bring additional job descriptions to the Board’s next workshop and subsequent Board meeting.

- **Counselor Connect Update** – Mr. Andrew Weatherill, along with Brook Pair and Lisa Farragut, presented to the Board an update on the Counselor Connect Program. Mr. Weatherill stated that this program allows students and their families to plan courses and track credits; that the program has a built-in tutorial for users; and, that the use by students and families will be tracked by school.
- **Law Williams Center MOU** – Dr. Corbett presented an overview of the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the School Board, JWB, Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas County, Lutheran Services Florida, Inc., and R’Club Child Care, Inc. for the Law Williams Center for Early Learning. Ms. Flowers requested information as to where the teachers will come from: Dr. Corbett will provide that information. Mrs. O’Shea requested that those teachers that are a part of Pinellas staff be included as bargaining begins. Mrs. Wikle questioned whether the district will have a backup plan to continue should one or more of the agencies have a shortfall in finances. Dr. Corbett stated that this item will be brought to the Board at their March meeting; that the agencies will also be seeking approval from their boards during that timeframe; and, that hiring should begin in May and June.
- **Engaging Speakers League** – Ms. Amie Hornbaker presented information on the development of a cadre of district speakers who may be used at various community events. Dr. Grego stated that these speakers will also be available to principals and school groups; and, that the speakers will specialize in areas of interest. Dr. Grego invited Board Members, as they are out in the community, to share information regarding the speakers’ league. Mrs. Lerner suggested that presentations given to civic groups be of a broader nature.
- **Standard Charter School Contract** – Mr. Koperski provided an update on the potential of a standardized charter school contract being implemented by the state. Mr. Koperski shared that he has spoken with other school board attorneys; that only Miami Dade has taken any sort of action but that it did not authorize their attorney to pursue legal action, only to perform further research; that the attorneys agree that lack of action by the DOE doesn’t warrant action by districts at this time; and, that the proposed standard contract will not be used until the DOE takes action to adopt the contract.
- **Property Usage Update** – Mr. Michael Bessette provided the Board with an update on the following pieces of property: Clearview Avenue and Palm Harbor elementary sites – both sites are being reviewed for use as potential training sites for the district, i.e., plant operators, etc. Curtis Fundamental site – contact was made with the district by Barbara Green to discuss the potential of converting that building into housing for homeless. Mrs. Lerner suggested that Mr. Bessette pursue the concept for Curtis Fundamental site and return to the Board with further information. Harris TIPS site – discussions are taking place with a representative from Tampa Bay Rays to possibly convert this site into a dormitory for homeless students, similar to a project already in place in Hillsborough County. Dr. Grego stated that the proposal by the Tampa Bay Rays is in its preliminary stages; that they would like to have the program operational by next year; that he has committed his time to serve on their board; and, that he will continue to update the Board

on this possibility. Dr. Grego encouraged the Board to provide him input. South Ward site – proposed lease between the district and the Clearwater Historical Society, Inc. was presented to the Board. Mrs. Wikle expressed concern with the provision within the lease for a fifteen year lease for this group, suggesting that it not exceed ten years. Mrs. Lerner requested that the lease contain a clause to say that should finances not support their venture, that the lease becomes null and void. Dr. Grego stated that wording can be added that will address the monies that are spent by the lessee should the agreement be voided. Mr. Bessette stated that his office will work toward adding wording to allow for the district to reclaim for educational use and include an amortization table to address the funds spent by leasee for refurbishing/repairs.

➤ **Leadership Discussion:**

● **Superintendent's Update –**

- Shared that tonight's event will highlight outstanding educators and business partnerships.
- Shared a draft of the 2014 Summer Bridge Program List. Dr. Grego stated that the cost for this summer's program will be less than that of the first year.
- Shared briefly on the district's accreditation initiative. Dr. Grego stated that Mrs. Cook represented that Board at this meeting; and, complimented both Dr. Mary Beth Corace and Mrs. Judith Vigue for leadership in this exercise. Dr. Grego stated that he will continue to update the Board on the process for accreditation.
- Requested that Ms. Donna Winchester and Ms. Amie Hornbaker provide the Board with an update on the district's social media launch coming up on February 24th. Ms. Winchester and Ms. Hornbaker presented an update to the Board on the launch.
- **Mrs. Lerner** – Requested that the Board receive an update on the efforts to address chronic absences and repeated acts of misconduct by students. Dr. Grego stated that an update will be provided to the Board.
- **Mrs. Wikle** – Stated that every topic today was progressive and proactive.
- **Mrs. Wikle** – Shared with the Board and Dr. Grego that she will be leaving the Board at the end of this year, November; and, that her departure will open her board seat for a two-year election.
- **Mrs. Lerner** – Expressed her concern regarding the need for transportation to the Summer Bridge program for certain pockets of the population. Dr. Grego stated that he will be looking at that.
- **Mrs. Cook** – Stated that the Board has a Master Board Training scheduled to follow the March 11th meeting; that the training will take place at Stavros Institute; and, that lunch will be ordered.

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 12:52 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary

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