

**SCHOOL BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA
WORKSHOP – February 16, 2016**

The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida, conducted a workshop on Tuesday, February 16, 2016, at 9:00 a.m., in the Cabinet Conference Room, Administration Building, 301 4th Street SW, Largo, Florida.

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

Absent: Ms. Rene Flowers, school board member

Late: Dr. Ken Peluso, school board member, arrived at 9:03 a.m.

Review of Agenda: no changes

- **Budget Update/Legislative Update:** Mr. Kevin Smith, associate superintendent, finance and business services, reviewed the following documents: *The Florida House of Representatives Public School Funding The Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) Fiscal Year 2016-2017; The Florida Senate Public School Funding The Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) Fiscal Year 2016-2017; Pinellas County Schools 2016/17 House and Senate FEFP Proposal Comparison to 2015/16 3rd FEFP Calculation; and , the School Board of Pinellas County, Florida Certificates of Participation, Series 2016 Draft Financing Schedule January 21, 2016.* Mr. Smith shared that both the House and Senate are not recommending any increase to the Safe Schools Funding; both are recommending increases to Supplemental Academic Instruction which are funds for the Low 300 schools. The House is recommending an increase for Digital Classrooms Allocation, but the Senate is not. Both the House and Senate are proposing fairly consistent dollar amounts, but the overall increase in state funding for education is minimal. State committees will need to come together and draft their final budget proposal. Mr. Smith reviewed the COP financing schedule. He referenced the approval of the Creation of the Pinellas School Board Leasing Corporation and the Reimbursement Resolution at the February 9 school board meeting. At the April 12 school board meeting, the approval for the financing will come before the board. Dr. Grego asked Mr. Smith to present those details at the March 8 school board workshop.
- **Health Update-Urgent Care Options:** Mr. Ted Pafundi, director, risk management, Ann Gebhard, AON representative, and April Paul, managing officer, employee benefits, health, and wellness reviewed the document: *Health Plan Tools-Telemedicine, Expert Second Opinion, Urgent Care and Wellness Centers.* Ms. Gebhard spoke of the benefit of Centers of Excellence (page 1). These facilities are typically listed for specific medical conditions and include nationally renowned providers for care; not currently available but a future opportunity for PCS employees. Telemedicine would provide greater access and scheduling flexibility providing consultation with a board certified physician; though fee based would typically be less expensive than an office visit. Expert Second Opinion offers patient and provider the opportunity to review diagnosis and treatment options; this would be a plan paid service. The use of Urgent Care Centers was discussed and the possibility of contracting directly with these providers for competitive fee or rates would benefit employees and encourage them to use the facilities that offer a more varied schedule. Mr. Pafundi spoke of Wellness Centers stating that it would be a large investment due to the size of the county and they have been found to not be successful overall. Dr. Grego

suggested we negotiate fees with urgent care centers and chose providers that are strategically located across the county. It would be best not to go into the health care business; Dr. Peluso agreed that is an increased liability. April Paul shared that we currently have contracts with several urgent care centers including MedExpress Urgent Care.

- **Charter School Requests:** Mr. Rick Wolfe, director, charter schools and home education, shared two proposed agenda items: *Request Approval of the Amendment to the Charter School Contract for Athenian Academy to Increase Enrollment and Request Approval of a Five-Year Charter Renewal for Discovery Academy of Science Charter School and add a Second Location.*
 - **Athenian Academy:** Athenian Academy's new location (2289 N. Hercules Ave., Clearwater) has an increased enrollment capacity of 600 from their previous 400. This agenda item to increase enrollment will come before the board at the February 23, 2016 school board meeting.
 - **Discovery Academy:** Discovery Academy's request has been postponed because they are still in negotiations.
- **Cenergistic Update:** Mr. Clint Herbic, associate superintendent, operational services reviewed the document: *Energy Conservation Program Initial Board Report, February 16, 2016, Review of Period March 2015-November 2015.* Mr. Herbic shared that an important component of the success of the program is due to the cooperation between all parties (i.e. energy specialists, head plant operators, teachers and staff) and promoting an "energy conservation culture". Based on data from utility expenditures from March 2014-February 2015, electricity accounts for 81% of utility expenditures. Energy specialists being on site has helped with reduction in water/sewer usage because repairs to leaky faucets and the like are addressed more quickly. To date, over an eight month period, the district has realized energy savings of \$1,757.059. Mr. Herbic shared that teamwork and communication is essential. When there is an interruption in energy service, he notifies Mike Gandolfo, Pinellas Classroom Teachers Association, because often the teachers will contact PCTA about lack of air conditioning and other concerns. Dr. Grego stated that the board will continue to be updated on the progress of this program.
- **Real Estate/Facility:** Mr. Clint Herbic, associate superintendent, operational services shared two documents: *Melrose Elementary School Capital Renewal Project-Staff, Parent, and Community Forum Analysis February 15, 2016 and Fall 2015 North Ward Survey Government Employees.*
 - **North Ward:** Mr. Bill Lawrence, director, student demographics, capacity and assignment, spoke of the potential redevelopment by the city of Clearwater for the North Marina District. Mayor Cretokos attended the November 10, 2015, school board workshop and communicated this idea. At that time, Dr. Grego asked that a survey of city and county staff who work in that area be surveyed. Mr. Lawrence stated that survey monkey was utilized from December 14-18, 2015. There were 456 responses; 38% of those have children within the age range that could potentially utilize North Ward. Mrs. O'Shea asked what the actual capacity is of this property and if the model includes zoned students that were previously zoned for this site, including beach residents. Mr. Lawrence said there will be capacity for 346 students and they will look at students near this location to increase diversity in the student population. Mrs. Lerner asked how the reopening of this site would impact surrounding schools. Mr. Lawrence replied that there would be no impact on Sandy Lane, Dunedin, Skycrest, or Plumb; some students now zoned for Belleair could be considered. Mrs. O'Shea believes opening the school would be good for the community. Mrs. Lerner asked if this would include addresses in the Greenwood area. Dr. Grego asked Mr. Lawrence to look at a possible zone that would feed into

the school to include diversity and bring that information back to the board at another workshop. Dr. Peluso asked about the feedback received from the city. Mr. Herbic shared that they seem to be excited at the prospect of a school reopening. Mr. Lawrence shared that he will be meeting with the mayor and the county very soon.

- **Melrose:** Mr. Clint Herbic, associate superintendent, operational services, advised the board that there were three meetings held regarding the Melrose project; one with Melrose staff, one after school at Melrose for parents and community, and one at Gibbs High for anyone in the community. Feedback forms were provided and have been distributed in some locations throughout the community. The school was built in 1962. In 1995, soil issues were discovered and addressed, but if the property is razed, the soil uncovered would need to be treated. Based on the input received, respondents prefer a new facility, embracing the African American history rich to the area, and designated space for the existing journalism magnet program. Additionally, a green space on the property and after-school care in close proximity, possibly at the existing Women's Center (Melrose Clubhouse). Mrs. Krassner asked what can be done to have more economic diversity within the population. Mrs. O'Shea stated that Melrose has become a special cause; we could create an environment at the site including extended day and extended year to address the many challenges. There are a high number of students in the neighborhood eligible for free VPK who are not taking advantage of it. This VPK program could be staffed by our own certified teachers and make it exclusive for those in the Melrose zone. The kindergarten readiness rates are lower and having four year olds at the school would help with this issue. Create a community feeling, build something different and exciting; perhaps a partnership with the city for a joint-use playground. Mrs. Lerner added that she believes the extended day/year is a separate issue, but the VPK needs to be built into the plan. She asked about the Women's Center. Mr. Herbic said they recently located the owners and plan to speak with them. After some discussion, Dr. Grego asked that they continue to go out and speak with parents; this is the first of many conversations; we want to help the community and build a point of pride. Dr. Peluso asked if some monies had been set aside for Melrose in the five year capital outlay plan. Mr. Herbic shared that 4.5 million had been projected for repairs. Mrs. O'Shea asked the number of zoned and non-zoned students in attendance. Mr. Lawrence will get the data and share it with the board. Mrs. O'Shea asked what year the new school would open. Mr. Herbic said if construction is started in the summer of 2017, it could open for the start of school year 2018-2019.
- **Policy Change Updates/Immunization:** Dr. Mary Beth Corace, director, strategic planning and policy and Ms. Sara O'Toole, managing officer, school health services, shared two agenda items: *Setting a Public Hearing and Authorizing the Advertisement of the Public Hearing to Consider the Amendment to Policy 5112-ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS (This is the first reading)* and *Setting a Public Hearing and Authorizing the Advertisement of the Public Hearing to Consider the Amendment to Policy 5320-IMMUNIZATION (This is the first reading)*. Ms. O'Toole shared that we are making a more robust policy to include the citing of Florida Statutes and to update the language from physical examination to health examination. Regarding school entrance requirements, the law allows thirty days for compliance and schools follow this practice. Mrs. Lerner asked that this wording be added to the policy. Dr. Corace advised the board that the first reading of these policies will come before the board on February 23, 2016.
- **Enterprise Resource Plan Procurement Process:** Mr. Tom Lechner, associate superintendent, technology information systems and Mr. Norm Kelton, administrator,

technology information systems, reviewed a PowerPoint presentation: *Enterprise Resource Planning Product Search ERP*. TERMS is currently utilized across the district for a variety of functions, installed in 1993, it is outdated. ELKE is used by maintenance and transportation, installed in 1992, it is also outdated. Manatee Accounting Software, utilized by schools to manage internal accounts, installed in 1992, is costly and difficult to maintain. The district needs a system that is more efficient, compatible with existing systems, and has the ability to comply with current Department of Education and Federal reporting requirements. In searching for this new ERP there are numerous features needed to manage the specific needs of an educational entity. The process utilized to search for this product included establishing a steering and working team; developing a questionnaire; issuing a request for information (RFI); reviewing responses to the RFI; reviewing initial presentations by five vendors narrowing it down to three products. Following vendor meetings, review of cost, sustainability; the team reached consensus to consider two products. Next step will be on-site visits with districts using these products. Pasco County and the state of Kentucky are two users. Ms. Clark asked about the cost of the product and Kevin Smith shared that the cost is related to the size of the district. Ms. Clark asked if FOCUS would change; it would not. Dr. Grego shared that the change will ultimately provide tremendous efficiency and initially systems would run parallel; the entire process may take two years. Mr. Kevin Smith, associate superintendent, finance and business services, has been setting aside funds since 2011/12 to assist with the cost of this change; \$ 8 million to date with another \$1 million in 2016/17. Mrs. Cook commended Kevin Smith for an outstanding audit based on the information learned today; that much of our reporting requires manual processes to work around the limited abilities of our current system.

- **2015-2016 District Strategic Plan Update:** Dr. Mary Beth Corace, director, strategic planning and policy, shared the document: *District Strategic Plan 2015-2016*. Dr. Corace stated that the board is updated four times a year and owners of the action items update on an ongoing basis. It is a cascading action plan: District→School Improvement Plans→Implementation. Dr. Grego pointed out specific action items to the board.
 - Goal 1/ Action 8: The Ford NGL partnership has increased industry certifications. This week is the winter conference that we are hosting at the Tradewinds.
 - Goal 1/ Action 15: Principals have been advised to address this item.
 - Goal 2/ Action 4: Summer Bridge is continuing to be successful.
 - Goal 2/ Action 6: The district is working on this item.
 - Goal 2/ Action 11: There are 60 science labs; which exceeded the goal.
 - Goal 2/ Action 15: There has been an increase in STEM competitions and clubs.
 - Goal 3/ Action 10: The district received National Healthy Schools recognition.
 - Goal 3/ Action 22: The importance of PMAC is embraced across the district.
 - Goal 3/ Action 23-24: This is happening in our district.
 - Goal 3/ Action 26: A full review of emergency plans was done.
 - Goal 4/ Action 5: There are 20 fewer portables since July.
 - Goal 4/ Action 17: The district has greater than 5% contingency.
 - Goal 5/ Action 11: Schoolwires district website had 18 million hits in one year.

In May/June the board will be updated again. In September 2016, the budget and District Strategic Plan will come before the board for approval. Mrs. Lerner asked about Goal 2/ Action 8, requesting K-2 data to monitor improvement. She said the board needs data related to what is happening in schools and asked for the five elementary schools data to be shared first. Dr. Grego stated that the SAT 10 scores have increased; which is a good sign.

- **Leadership Discussion:**
 - Dr. Grego: He said the Data Snapshot, Facts at a Glance 2016, and the District Strategic Plan, that were distributed to the board today are all great sources of

information. He said the Ford NGL Winter Conference this week has a full agenda. Buses will bring visitors to schools for site visits. Thirteen states will be represented at the conference. He thanked the Education Foundation and the board for their support. He shared that the district will be using a new method of distributing flyers through Peachjar. It is an electronic backpack tool; flyers can be sent electronically to parents' smartphone instead of sending home paper flyers. Flyers would still need approval through the Office of Strategic Partnerships. Training on this new program will begin this week.

- Linda Lerner: She visited Lealman Innovation Academy and saw students engaged in personalized learning. She stated that principals should be given a chance to identify and work with our most struggling students. Suggested utilizing Title I dollars for the five hour certified teachers to work with these students; we need to do something different in elementary to help them.
- Dr. Corbett: He stated that our .5 class numbers have been reduced.

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 1:55 p.m.

Chairperson
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Secretary