

**SCHOOL BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA
WORKSHOP – December 4, 2018**

The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida, conducted a workshop on Tuesday, December 4, 2018, (immediately following the board meeting) at 11:45 a.m., in the Cabinet Conference Room, Administration Building, 301 4th Street SW, Largo, Florida.

Present: Ms. Rene Flowers, Chairperson; Mrs. Carol J. Cook, Vice-Chairperson, Mrs. Lisa Cane, Dr. Nicole Carr, Mr. Bill Dudley, Ms. Joanne Lentino, and Mrs. Eileen Long, Members; Dr. Michael Grego, Superintendent, Dr. William Corbett, Deputy Superintendent, and Mr. David Koperski, School Board Attorney.

Review of Agenda: The order of topics on the agenda was changed to accommodate a lunch break; AdvancED Accreditation was addressed first.

The following topics were discussed:

- **AdvancED Accreditation:** Ms. Jennifer Dull, director, strategic planning and policy, and Ms. Leanna Ison, senior coordinator, professional development achievement data analyst, reviewed the following documents: *AdvancED Engagement Review 2020*, *AdvancED Performance Standards for School Systems*, and *AdvancED System Quality Factors Diagnostic*. Dr. Grego began by stating that five years ago, the district moved from school based accreditation to district accreditation which we were awarded in February 2015. Accreditation is a five year cycle. Ms. Dull shared that the site visit from AdvancED will occur in February/March 2020. The process for this has begun with the 360 degree survey that will close on December 14, 2018. Preparation for accreditation will occur in 2019. Ms. Ison shared that there are three domains; leadership capacity, learning capacity, and resource capacity. There are seven Quality Factors and 31 Standards that are reviewed. Some Standards hit multiple Quality Factors. Ms. Dull added that they look for continuous quality improvement; AdvancED also updates their protocols every five years. A District Subcommittee is established for each of the seven Quality Factors; one board member is assigned to each of the seven committees (the chair must sit on the Clear Direction subcommittee). School leaders incorporate the accreditation standards and quality factors in their school improvement plans which support the goals outlined in our district strategic plan. Ms. Dull said that websites have been setup for each school that can be used as their workspace as they move through this process. Ms. Flowers asked why the change from quantitative to qualitative. Ms. Dull said it is due to the focus on continuous quality improvement. Dr. Grego said this process places value on everything we do; the relationship between the board and superintendent; and, integration of the district and schools. It elevates and examines our processes. Colleges and Universities will only accept diplomas from accredited schools and AdvancED is an internationally recognized accreditation. There is tremendous value in this process.
- **Legislative Briefing Book:** Dr. Grego and staff reviewed the contents of the packet for the legislative briefing scheduled for Friday, December 7, 2018 at the Stavros Institute. The documents included are: *PCS Legislative Session Briefing Book 2019*; *PCSB 2019 Legislative Platform*; *PCS District Strategic Plan 2018-19*; *We are Pinellas County*

Schools presentation; Advisory Committee to Commissioner of Education, Florida School Finance Council, Budget Priorities & Recommendations FY 2020; 2018-19 CTAE Middle School Courses; 2018-19 Career Technical Education High School Programs; Impact 2018 Pinellas Technical College; and, PCS 4 Pillars of School Security.

Dr. Grego shared that staff will speak to the topics during the briefing review and requested board members write down suggestions to be discussed at the conclusion of the presentation. He said the purpose of this legislative briefing is to let elected officials know what we are about. A video "We are Pinellas County Schools" was shown.

Mr. Kevin Smith, associate superintendent, finance and business services, spoke about district funds. He reviewed page 2 of the briefing book, Financial Stewardship, and noted opportunities for legislative support that are listed at the bottom of the page: (1) increase base student allocation 3% (2) increase required local effort to offset inflation (3) restore authority for local school boards to levy 2 mills for capital outlay projects, and (4) extend voter referendum period from the current four years to ten years. Mr. Kevin Hendrick, associate superintendent, teaching and learning services, reviewed page 3 of the briefing book, Keeping Students First. He pointed out that the district offers over 118 career, technical education programs for students in 60 interest areas. We blend academics and career readiness; our district is in the top 10 in Choice programs in the nation. We have a strong partnership with the Pinellas Education Foundation and they support these programs. The state needs to fund teacher bonuses, instructional materials and pay for testing. We are also asking that career-technical dual-enrolled students be part of the grading formula; as are academic dual-enrolled students. Mr. William Mark Hunt, executive director, career, technical and adult education, spoke about the opportunities at Pinellas Technical College, Clearwater and St. Petersburg. He shared that more than 60 programs are offered, with 3,500 students attending annually, which results in a \$51 million positive impact to our local economy. Our campuses provide "career in a year" programs. We invested over \$20 million at the PTC-Clearwater campus to ensure industry level experiences. The district also offers seven Adult Basic Education programs, with satellite locations around the county to increase student access. These programs rank at the top of the list in Florida. Ms. Paula Texel, assistant superintendent, human resources services, spoke about the importance of classroom teachers; they have the greatest impact on students' success. Pinellas County Schools was named a Great District for Great Teachers by the National Council for Teacher Quality in 2017. She reiterated the need for the legislature to increase the base student allocation (BSA) funding to support higher teacher salaries. Board members discussed the presentation as a whole and agreed there was a lot of great information; but, it was too lengthy. It was decided that staff would shorten the length of the presentation. Legislators will be provided the packet of materials and key contacts should they have any questions or concerns as to how they may best support education.

- **School Board Member Committee Assignments:** Ms. Rene Flowers, school board chairperson, reviewed the list of committee assignments and asked if the board member currently serving intended to continue to serve. There were also several open positions due to the election of new school board members in 2018. Here is the list of committees with the board member(s) that will serve:

- District Monitoring Advisory Committee (DMAC): all serve on a rotating basis
 - Health and Human Services Leadership Board: Ms. Lentino, Dr. Carr, Mrs. Cane
 - Homeless Leadership Board: Dr. Carr
 - Mental Health Steering Committee: Mr. Dudley
 - Pinellas County Council of PTA (PCCPTA): all serve on a rotating basis
 - Pinellas Community Alliance: Ms. Lentino
 - Pinellas Community Foundation: Ms. Flowers
 - Pinellas County Collaborative: Mrs. Cook, Mr. Dudley
 - Pinellas County Value Adjustment Board: Mrs. Cook
 - Pinellas Education Foundation: (board chair) Ms. Flowers
 - R 'Club, Louise Graham: Ms. Flowers
 - District Calendar Committee: Dr. Carr
 - District Safety & Security Committee: Mr. Dudley, Mrs. Long (alternating)
 - District Exceptional Student Education Advisory Committee: Mrs. Long
 - District Insurance Claims: Mrs. Cane
 - District Pro Ed Advisory Committee: Mr. Dudley
 - Florida School Boards Association Board of Directors (July 2017-June 2019): Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Long (alternate)
 - Florida School Boards Association Federal Relations & Legislative Committee Representative (July 2017-June 2018): Ms. Flowers
 - The Council of Great City Schools Board of Directors: Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Cane (alternate)
- **Evening Board Meeting Locations:** Ms. Flowers introduced the recommendation to hold two evening school board meetings this year at different locations in the county; one to be held in the south side of the county and one in the north. She shared that she contacted Gulfport and Oldsmar City Halls to secure their approval. The board reviewed the schedule of evening meetings and decided on Tuesday, January 29 and Tuesday, April 23, to begin at 5:00 pm. Staff will contact the city managers to determine the availability of their location. Once decided, the appropriate noticing will occur.
- **Leadership Discussion:** Ms. Flowers reviewed the purpose of the leadership discussion.
- **Mrs. Long:** She spoke of the City of Tarpon Springs plans for the MLK Day celebration. It will be on Saturday, January 19, 2019. It will begin with a breakfast at the United Methodist Church on Tarpon Avenue at 8:00 a.m., followed by the parade at 11:00 a.m. and celebration at the park.
 - **Mr. Dudley:** He requested information on the district's attendance policy.
 - **Dr. Carr:** 1) She requested information on the status of the school start time committee. 2) She asked about the Bridging the Gap plan updates. (She was advised by Dr. Corbett that the BTG plan is updated and distributed twice a year. In February or March it will be a topic on the board workshop.)
 - **Mrs. Cook:** She thanked the new school board members for attending the New School Board Member Academy at the Florida School Boards Association conference, November 27, 2018.

- **Mrs. Simonetti (administrative assistant):** She advised the board that their annual Student Recognition Event is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., in the auditorium at Pinellas Park High School.

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 3:25 p.m.

Chairperson
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Secretary