

# **INDEPENDENT CITIZENS REFERENDUM OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (ICROC)**

**2006-07 Annual Report to the Pinellas County School Board  
and the Citizens of Pinellas County**

**July 1, 2006 — June 30, 2007**

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# Executive Summary

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Referendum money has allowed Pinellas County Schools to increase teacher salaries and initiate or expand programs in reading, the arts and technology.

Because of the support of Pinellas County taxpayers through approval of the referendum, the school system has been able to allocate nearly \$31-million in school year 2006-07 to focus on retaining and recruiting great teachers.

More than \$3-million was budgeted for reading through the second year of the referendum. The funds enabled the office of elementary reading and language arts to enhance several key programs throughout the district through the purchase of research-based materials and the expansion of teacher training. Materials and training have been provided to Literacy Success for small group instruction, Extended Learning Programs for vocabulary and oral language instruction, and all teachers for running record assessment books/program. Classroom library collections have been purchased for 42 schools and have impacted students in 681 classrooms in grades K-5. Teachers have received extensive training in the development and implementation of those libraries as a tool for instruction. The referendum also will support teachers seeking to increase their knowledge of best practices in reading through the Florida Reading Endorsement.

Struggling readers in middle school now have access to more readable books in classrooms that currently use the Scholastic Read XL series. All 7<sup>th</sup>- and 8<sup>th</sup>-grade reading classrooms received a Lora Robb Classroom Library from Scholastic. These collections are designed to engage struggling readers from all interest levels. Additional purchases included 10 more class sets of novels that engage the struggling reader; SourceBooks, reading material that provides step-by-step reading strategies for struggling readers, and classroom sets of magazines for Read 180 giving students access to current events.

Referendum funds have provided approximately 50,000 books, exciting reading software, high-interest magazines, summer newspaper subscriptions and teacher support. Struggling readers at the high school level need access to teachers who are highly skilled and materials that are relevant and engaging. Referendum funds have allowed the district to expand high school reading programs and introduce new classes for students who need extra reading instruction and practice. This year, Reading II for 10<sup>th</sup>-grade students was added as well as FCAT Focus classes for students who are fluent readers but have not yet passed the FCAT. For the first time, nearly all Level 1 and 2 readers in high school have access to formal reading instruction and engaging materials.

Visual arts programs across all grade levels received more than \$1.7-million during the second year of the referendum. The visual arts plan focused on the enhancement of K-12 visual arts programs in Pinellas County Schools by providing funds for supplies, materials, furniture, equipment, technology, field trips, training and district support. All elementary, middle and high school art teachers received extra money to use according to their needs. All middle and high school art students received art magazines. Eighty schools received art equipment and/or furniture. Five high schools received a 33-station computer lab for visual arts. Sixty-two field

trips to local art museums and galleries were funded. A new art mobile was purchased to bring the Salvador Dali Museum to all elementary schools. Sixty-one art teachers completed Level 1 CReating Independence through Student-owned Strategies (CRISS) training for art teachers, and 34 art teachers attended the Florida Art Education Association annual conference in October 2006. Fifty-three art teachers completed training through Beginning ArtTIP, 21 art teachers completed Intermediate ArtTIP training, and 21 art teachers completed Computer Graphics for High School.

In the performing arts area, which received \$1.9-million in the referendum's second year, elementary schools received funding for instruments and supplies. All elementary schools now have received referendum funding. Training was provided for Florida Music Educators Association literacy and diversity training.

All instrumental programs in middle and high school that responded have been reimbursed for rental fees waived for students on free and reduced lunch. Funds are being used to repair and replace instruments, purchase uniforms and pay off loans or bank funds for the purchase of uniforms. The band uniform budget plan was adjusted so all band loans have been retired. Funds were allocated to schools for supplies and equipment for theatre, choral and middle school band programs based on student enrollment.

A choral instructor was hired for Palm Harbor University High in Year 1. This position was continued in Year 2, and plans are being made for the third and fourth years of the referendum to support additional choral programs.

Additional funding was provided to 23 schools to purchase furniture, risers and uniforms, items not funded through other sources. Nineteen teachers were trained for Music Technology Integration Project (MusicTIP). The initiative to rebuild strings programs that were cut in the early 1990s has been established at 11 elementary schools and one middle school. Additional funding and support to the strings programs was offered to 14 other schools.

In the technology area, which had \$1.7-million budgeted, 23 middle schools, 64 elementary schools and three ESE centers serving both middle school and elementary school students received wireless mobile labs consisting of 16 Dell Laptop computers, a projector, an access point for wireless connection and a mobile security storage care for charging. The laptops are being used with a variety of software and students are exploring webquests, researching a specific concept in various curriculum areas, Riverdeep, Harcourt Math, Holt Online Writing Assessment and other textbook software.

The Osceola Middle School one-to-one laptop project provided a wireless laptop computer for every 6<sup>th</sup>-grade student. The focus of the project is technology integration into the curriculum with an emphasis on enhancing the delivery of instruction to students.

It is the unanimous conclusion of the members of the Independent Citizens Referendum Oversight Committee (ICROC) that referendum funds are being expended consistently with the intent of the referendum language, the implementing ordinance and the voters of Pinellas County.

# Background

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On Nov. 2, 2004, the citizens of Pinellas County voted to increase the ad valorem millage one-half mill for necessary operating expenses including funds to recruit and retain quality teachers, preserve reading programs, supplement music and art classes, and provide up-to-date textbooks and technology, July 1, 2005-June 30, 2009.

The school board established specific target areas for the expenditure of these funds and a process for allocating the referendum dollars, outlining clear parameters for both monitoring and reporting expenditures to the public.

An oversight committee of seven community members was formed to meet the requirements of the ballot language. The committee's purpose is to monitor the expenditure of referendum dollars over the four-year implementation period. The committee reviews quarterly expenditures reports that detail the items purchased by the specific program areas of teacher compensation, reading, visual arts, music and technology. In addition, narratives are examined that further specify the use of the items in each of the program areas and the schools benefiting from the expenditure of these funds.

The additional funding provided by the referendum is intended to enhance program initiatives, update equipment and update classroom materials that will enhance student learning. These funds will not be used as replacement dollars for existing department budgets.

The Independent Citizens Referendum Oversight Committee functions as an advisory body to the school board.

Pinellas County Schools has expended the first two years of tax referendum money by increasing teacher pay, increasing the number of reading programs, enhancing music and art class materials, and by providing up-to-date textbooks and technology services.

# Budget

## REFERENDUM Overview of Revenues and Expenditures July 1, 2006-June 30, 2007

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Collected</u>		<u>Balance to be Collected</u>
<b>Revenues</b>	<u>\$36,627,738</u>	<u>\$36,627,738</u>		
			<b>Committed/ Encumbered</b>	<b>Budget Balance</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Salary Supplement (2660)				
Salary	\$26,184,733	\$24,676,960		\$1,507,773
Benefits	4,792,298	4,427,408		364,890
Total Salary Supplement	\$30,977,031	\$29,104,368		\$1,872,663
Programs				
Visual Arts (2310)				
Salary	96,951	96,951		0
Benefits	23,571	23,571		0
Purchased Services	226,328	196,537	24,400	5,391
Material & Supplies	256,412	208,303	298	47,811
Capital Outlay	1,128,316	1,000,723	110,612	16,981
Other Expenses	3,671	3,671		0
Total Visual Arts	\$1,735,249	\$1,529,756	\$135,310	\$70,183
Music (Performing Arts) (2320)				
Salary	220,377	220,377		0
Benefits	53,159	53,005		154
Purchased Services	102,041	71,588	26,834	3,619
Material & Supplies	815,498	266,522	30,631	518,345
Capital Outlay	725,981	649,975	13,141	62,865
Other Expenses	110	110		0
Total Music	\$1,917,166	\$1,261,577	\$70,606	\$584,983
Technology (2330)				
Salary	135,095	132,290		2,805
Benefits	37,444	36,606		838
Purchased Services	6,620	6,620		0
Material & Supplies	409,592	10,411	14,588	384,593
Capital Outlay	286,665	275,073	5,162	6,430
Other Expenses	855,214	837,816	15,597	1,801
Total Technology	\$1,730,630	\$1,298,816	\$35,347	\$396,467

Reading				
Elementary Reading (2341)				
Salary	6,006	6,006		0
Benefits	1,093	1,093		0
Purchased Services	3,000	3,000		0
Material & Supplies	318,173	313,658		4,515
Capital Outlay	706,989	706,989		0
Total Elementary Reading	<u>\$1,035,261</u>	<u>\$1,030,746</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$4,515</u>
Secondary Reading (2342)				
Salary	89,670	87,842		1,828
Benefits	9,323	9,323		0
Purchased Services	32,970	32,970		0
Material & Supplies	102,711	77,451	2,050	23,210
Capital Outlay	1,264,290	1,206,878	57,025	387
Total Secondary Reading	<u>\$1,498,964</u>	<u>\$1,414,464</u>	<u>\$59,075</u>	<u>\$25,425</u>
Library Media (2343)				
Material & Supplies	701	701		0
Capital Outlay	526,732	514,981	11,484	267
Total Library Media	<u>\$527,433</u>	<u>\$515,682</u>	<u>\$11,484</u>	<u>\$267</u>
Total Reading	<u>\$3,061,658</u>	<u>\$2,960,892</u>	<u>\$70,559</u>	<u>\$30,207</u>
Total Programs	\$8,444,703	\$7,051,041	\$311,822	\$1,081,840
Unallocated (2350)	1,083,868	0	0	1,083,868
Total Programs and Unallocated	<u>\$9,528,571</u>	<u>\$7,051,041</u>	<u>\$311,822</u>	<u>\$2,165,708</u>
Grand Total	<u>\$40,505,602</u>	<u>\$36,155,409</u>	<u>\$311,822</u>	<u>\$4,038,371</u>

# Salary Supplement

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	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>Committed/ Encumbered</b>	<b>Budget Balance</b>
Salary Supplement (2660)				
Salary	\$26,184,733	\$24,676,960		\$1,507,773
Benefits	4,792,298	4,427,408		364,890
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Total Salary Supplement	\$30,977,031	\$29,104,368		\$1,872,663

Pinellas County Schools has allocated nearly \$31-million to focus on retaining and recruiting great teachers.

# Reading

For the second year of the referendum, more than \$3-million was budgeted for reading throughout the district. Specifically, \$1-million was expended or committed to support elementary reading, almost \$1.5-million to secondary reading programs and \$527,433 for library/media services.

Reading	Budgeted	Collected	Committed/ Encumbered	Balance to be Collected
Elementary Reading (2341)				
Salary	6,006	6,006		0
Benefits	1,093	1,093		0
Purchased Services	3,000	3,000		0
Material & Supplies	318,173	313,658		4,515
Capital Outlay	706,989	706,989		0
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Secondary Reading (2342)				
Salary	89,670	87,842		1,828
Benefits	9,323	9,323		0
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Total Library Media	\$527,433	\$515,682	\$11,484	\$267
Total Reading	\$3,061,658	\$2,960,892	\$70,559	\$30,207

## Elementary Reading

The Pinellas County referendum has enabled the office of elementary reading and language arts to enhance several key programs throughout the district through the purchase of research-based materials and the expansion of teacher training. Materials and training have been provided to Literacy Success for small group instruction, the Extended Learning Program for vocabulary and oral language instruction, and all teachers for running record assessment books/program. Classroom library collections have been purchased for 42 schools and have impacted students in 681 classrooms in grades kindergarten through 5. Teachers have received training in the development and implementation of those libraries as a tool for instruction. The Destination Reading Course III technology program was purchased for 17 schools for use with 4<sup>th</sup>- and 5<sup>th</sup>-grade students. The referendum also will support

teachers seeking to increase their knowledge of best practices in reading through the Florida Reading Endorsement.

### **Literacy Success Program**

The Literacy Success Program is designed to provide intensive and explicit small-group instruction for elementary students who currently are working below grade level in reading. This intensive intervention is in addition to the regular classroom reading instruction and is designed to complement and support the work of the classroom teacher. Literacy Success programs are in place at the 28 elementary schools that do not receive Title I services. All Literacy Success programs received materials purchased through the referendum.

#### Rationale for Referendum Support of the Literacy Success Program:

- Continued replacement is needed of Literacy Success materials that are at least 10 years old.
- Literacy Success budget does not provide sufficient funds to replace materials at all 28 schools.
- Supplementary materials are needed to support instruction that is differentiated for all student needs.

#### Literacy Success Schools Impacted:

Anona, Bauder, Bay Point, Bay Vista Fundamental, Brooker Creek, Curlew Creek, Curtis Fundamental, Cypress Woods, Forest Lakes, Garrison-Jones, Highland Lakes, Lake St. George, Lakeview Fundamental, Leila Davis, McMullen-Booth, Oakhurst, Oldsmar, Ozona, Palm Harbor, Pasadena Fundamental, Perkins, Plumb, Ridgecrest, Safety Harbor, Seminole, Sunset Hills, Sutherland, Tarpon Springs Fundamental.

#### Materials Purchased:

Rigby PM Readers were purchased from Harcourt Achieve for small-group differentiated instruction or below-level students being served by Literacy Success. These leveled reading texts have controlled sight word vocabulary that is introduced at various levels to help students become fluent readers. These books also use the same characters in many stories and at different levels so the students become familiar with them and can analyze character traits.

Rigby PM Silver Fiction Complete Kit

Rigby PM Gold Fiction Complete Kit

Rigby PM Purple Fiction Complete Kit

Rigby PM Turquoise Fiction Comp. Kit

#### Impact of Literacy Success Program Materials Purchase:

- All Literacy Success programs have consistent materials.
- Materials purchased support students at a variety of levels.
- Monthly in-depth training is provided to assist Literacy Success teachers to match materials with student needs.

#### Budget Information:

Cost of materials: \$76,544.16. All materials have been received and are in use.

## **Extended Learning Program**

The Extended Learning Program provides intensive remediation for struggling students in reading and math. This program may occur before school, after school or during the school day as an extension of the work done in the classroom. Extended Learning Programs are in place at all public elementary schools in Pinellas County.

### Rationale for Referendum Support of the Extended Learning Program:

- Extended Learning materials and instruction are not consistent throughout the district.
- Schools have widely varying levels of program materials.
- Research data affirms the need for strong oral language development as well as systematic and explicit vocabulary instruction to enable students to become proficient readers and writers.

### Materials Purchased:

Elements of Reading – Vocabulary program was purchased through Harcourt Achieve. Each school selected the grade-level material that would best meet its needs. This systematic and explicit oral vocabulary program is based on the many years of research conducted by Dr. Isabel L. Beck and Dr. Margaret G. McKeown. The goal of the program is to help children learn, discuss and use new vocabulary words through a variety of activities. Components of the program include a read-aloud anthology, photo cards, word watcher chart, student texts and teacher guide.

Let’s Talk About It program was purchased through Mondo Publishing. Each school received two kits. Let’s Talk About It introduces standard oral English sentence structures; develops oral comprehension; links thought, talk and print; builds vocabulary; demonstrates print concepts, and increases oral and reading fluency.

### Impact of Extended Learning Program Materials Purchase:

- All Extended Learning Programs in Pinellas County Schools have research-based, consistent materials at grades selected by the individual school that address one of the five key areas of reading instruction (vocabulary).
- The importance of children acquiring a large and sophisticated vocabulary is strongly correlated to student success in reading.
- Schools were able to select the specific grade level of Elements of Reading – Vocabulary program that met their needs.

### Budget Information:

Cost of materials: \$143,208.10 (Let’s Talk About It), \$37,938.00 (Elements of Reading – Vocabulary). The Let’s Talk About It kits have been received and are in use. The Elements of Reading – Vocabulary kits are ordered and waiting for board approval.

## **Running Record Assessment Books/Program – Developmental Reading Assessment**

The Developmental Reading Assessment Program (DRA) was ordered through Pearson Learning Group. DRA provides teachers with a method for assessing and documenting students' development as readers over time. The assessments are conducted during one-on-one reading conferences as children read specially selected assessment texts. DRA evaluates

two major aspects of reading: accuracy of oral reading and comprehension through reading and retelling of narrative stories. Both aspects of reading are critical to independence as a reader.

Rational for Referendum Support of the Assessment Program:

- Both the Pinellas Instructional Assessment Review Committee and the Elementary Reading Referendum Advisory Committee strongly encouraged the use of a running record assessment in the intermediate grades as a diagnostic tool to assess reading strengths and weaknesses.
- Schools do not have quality running record assessment books at higher levels.
- DRA provides a comprehension check along with running record information.
- Staff development is necessary for the successful implementation of the DRA.

Schools Impacted:

All 85 elementary schools and the three ESE centers received these materials.

Materials Purchased:

The DRA kits were purchased from Pearson Learning Group. Three kits were ordered for each school.

Impact of Assessment Program Materials Purchase:

- Running record materials are now available for teachers to assess students in grades K-3 and below-level students in grades 4-5.
- Information from the running record will help guide instruction for struggling readers in grades 4-5.

Budget Information:

Cost of materials: \$55,051.10. Materials are arriving in the schools. Training will be provided to the learning specialist at each school.

## **Classroom Library Development and Training**

Reading Workshop is at the heart of reading instruction in Pinellas County Schools. An essential component of reading workshop is independent and partner reading time. During this time, students are engaged in reading books that are at their “just right” level. Independent reading is crucial in helping children practice the reading skills and strategies learned in class. Reading stamina is also built through a strong independent reading time. Just as children cannot learn to swim without actually swimming, children cannot become efficient readers without having time to practice in appropriate texts. In order to implement a meaningful reading workshop, children must have access to a wide variety of genres and levels of books so the needs of all readers can be met.

Rationale for Support of Classroom Library Development and Training:

- Research details the importance of having a well-stocked classroom library.
- Teachers need extensive training in the design and implementation of an effective classroom library.
- Size and scope of classroom libraries vary greatly throughout the district.

Schools Impacted:

The following 42 schools have received classroom library materials: Anona, Azalea, Bauder, Bay Point, Belcher, Belleair, Blanton, Brooker Creek, Calvin Hunsinger, Clearwater Intermediate, Curlew Creek, Curtis Fundamental, Douglas Jamerson, Dunedin, Forest Lakes, Fuguitt, Gulf Beaches, Hamilton Disston, Lakewood, Largo Central, Lynch, Madeira Beach, North Ward, Northwest, Oakhurst, Oldsmar, Orange Grove, Ozona, Pasadena Fundamental, Ponce de Leon, Rawlings, Ridgecrest, Sandy Lane, Sawgrass Lake, Seminole, Skycrest, South Ward, Starkey, Sutherland, Walsingham, Westgate, Woodlawn.

Six hundred eighty-one classroom libraries were purchased. The number of libraries purchased for each site varies based on the needs identified by the Reading Leadership Team at each school. Six hours of site-based training in the use and organization of these materials is in process. It was our intent to assist a minimum of 20 new schools each year in the purchase of libraries for the duration of the referendum. Due to an increase in the funds available and the commitment of this project by the Elementary Reading Referendum Committee, we have been able to make these libraries available to more classrooms than anticipated.

Materials Purchased:

Classroom Libraries by Schoolwide have been purchased. These leveled libraries include baskets for the organization of books by level. The number of libraries purchased for each school site varies according to school need. The number of books in each classroom library collection varies by grade level.

Kindergarten – 200 books	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> grades – 200 books
1 <sup>st</sup> grade – 300 books	5 <sup>th</sup> grade – 150 books

Therefore, a total of 148,600 classroom library books were purchased for use by the Pinellas County Schools’ students in the 42 schools.

Impact of Classroom Library Materials Purchase:

- Teachers are receiving extensive training in the set up and implementation of classroom libraries.
- Training in understanding the features of text at each level is also included as part of the classroom library training. Understanding text features helps teachers plan for explicit and targeted instruction for students based on identified need.
- Students have access to books at their “just right” level for independent practice.
- A wide variety of genres are available in each classroom to meet student interest.

Budget Information:

Cost of materials: \$534,689.25. Cost of training: \$13,104 (projected). Materials have been ordered and are arriving daily. Six hours of teacher training is being provided at each site.

**Destination Reading**

Destination Reading Courses I and II have been used extensively throughout the public elementary schools in Pinellas County. Destination Reading Course III is now available

for grades 4 through 6 and will provide the on-grade-level materials for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades as well as enrichment activities for above-grade-level students.

Rational for Referendum Support of Destination Reading Course III:

- Prescriptive technology programs are a vital tool in providing differentiated instruction to meet the needs of all students.
- Course III provides accelerated practice and enrichment for students in grades 4-6.
- Research-based and evaluated by the Florida Center for Reading Research.
- Students can access the program and their assignments through the Internet from school or home.

Schools Impacted:

The following schools have received the Destination Success Course III: Anona, Bauder, Brooker Creek, Cross Bayou, Curtis Fundamental, Cypress Woods, Fairmount Park, Gulfport, Lynch, McMullen-Booth, Oakhurst, Palm Harbor, Pasadena Fundamental, Perkins, Skycrest, Starkey and Tarpon Springs Fundamental.

Materials Purchased:

Course III of Destination Reading was purchased for the identified 17 schools.

Impact of Destination Success Purchase:

- Students in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade are able to access online reading instruction either at school or at home.
- Students reading above grade level in 5<sup>th</sup> grade are able to access materials at the 6<sup>th</sup>-grade level either at school or at home.

Budget Information:

Total Cost of Destination Reading Course III: \$102,000.

Students are able to access the Destination Reading Course III online.

## **Reading Endorsement Training**

The State of Florida requires all secondary teachers of reading to obtain the reading endorsement. The endorsement is comprised of 300 hours of professional development across six competencies including a supervised practicum. Each district was required to develop a detailed training plan and submit this plan for state approval. The Pinellas Endorsement Plan uses a combination of online professional development with traditional training. This funding will support teachers interested in obtaining their reading endorsement.

Rationale for Support of the Reading Endorsement:

- Provides extensive training for teachers in four key areas of reading: Foundations of Language and Cognition, Research-Based Practices, Assessment and Differentiated Instruction.
- Required for secondary teachers of reading.
- Highly recommended for elementary reading teachers.

Schools/Staff Impacted:

All secondary teachers of reading in Pinellas County are impacted by the endorsement requirement. In addition, interest from elementary reading teachers is increasing.

Materials/Training Purchased:

During the first semester of the 2006-2007 school year, funding from the K-12 Comprehensive Reading Plan covered the cost of the reading endorsement. Referendum money will be used to support second semester costs and will be used to purchase training materials and resources, online courses and contracted services for endorsement trainers.

Impact of Endorsement Support:

- Any teacher interested in obtaining the reading endorsement may receive the training at no cost.
- Teachers are receiving in-depth training on all aspects of reading instruction.

Budget Information:

Total budget available for reading endorsement training and materials: \$80,000.

Materials, contracted services and online training will be purchased throughout the second semester.

## **Secondary Reading**

The Pinellas County referendum has enabled our school district to continue to enhance critical reading initiatives. We have expanded our secondary reading course offerings and have been afforded the opportunity to provide these classrooms interesting and motivating materials. Our middle schools and high schools have been in need of two things in order to continue reading growth: materials and teacher training. The referendum funds this year have provided approximately 50,000 books, exciting reading software, high-interest magazines, summer newspaper subscriptions and teacher support.

## **High Schools**

Struggling readers at this level need access to teachers who are highly skilled and materials that are relevant and engaging. In previous years, our only reading intervention has been Read 180, and only a few seats were available in those classrooms for students who needed access to skilled reading teachers and engaging materials. Referendum funds have allowed us to expand high school reading programs and introduce new classes for students who need extra reading instruction and practice. During Year 1, we added Reading I for 9<sup>th</sup>-grade students. This year we added Reading II for 10<sup>th</sup>-grade students. In addition, we have added FCAT Focus classes for students who are fluent readers but have not yet passed the FCAT. For the first time, nearly all Level 1 and 2 readers in high school have access to formal reading instruction and engaging materials.

Purchased for High School Reading and English Classrooms:

- Classroom library collections from Book Source and Scholastic that are designed to engage struggling readers from all interest levels. These books are “easy reads” and have plot designs and characters that appeal to a variety of students. (Reading I, Reading II and English RD)
- Five class sets of new novels that are easy to read and engaging for struggling readers. These books allow our teachers to model a skill or strategy with the class and/or provide “whole class” practice as needed. (Reading I and Reading II)
- *Access Critical Thinking Skills* and *Access Reading* from Steck-Vaugh. These texts are helpful tools for Reading II teachers as they lead students to become stronger in their ability to comprehend, apply, analyze, synthesize and evaluate new information.
- *SourceBooks* from Great Source. These consumable texts provide step-by-step reading strategies for struggling readers. (Reading I and Reading II)
- Classroom sets of magazines for Read 180 (*Scholastic Scope*) and Reading I and II (*Newsweek*) classes. In addition, *Health* magazine (*Weekly Reader*) was purchased for middle and high school health classes. These magazines give students access to current events to help make reading relevant.
- Last year, most high schools have received reading software called Reading Plus for Reading I courses. This year the remaining high schools, including dropout prevention and alternative schools, received this program. This software builds fluency (speed and accuracy).
- MySkillsTutor reading software was purchased for all Reading II classes.
- Jamestown Navigator from McGraw-Hill is a reading intervention designed specifically for students in grades 6-12 who are reading two or more reading levels below their grade. Two hundred licenses were purchased as a pilot for use in high school FCAT retake classes.
- Northeast High School received \$20,000 to supplement grant funds toward the purchase of Achieve 3000, a web-based application that allows teachers to provide leveled informational text on a variety of topics. Northeast High career and technical teachers who have incorporated the program into their curriculum will pilot the program for possible expansion in other schools.
- Consumable books for Read 180 9<sup>th</sup>- and 10<sup>th</sup>-grade reading classes have been purchased for the start of the 2007-08 school year. The ability to use these quality materials as designed is a true enhancement to our reading programs.
- The secondary reading high school staff developers partnered with *The St. Petersburg Times* to create high-interest, real-world FCAT preparation strategies for students in our FCAT Reading for Retakers classes. FCAT Level 1 and 2 students were provided subscriptions to the Sunday edition of the newspaper. Lesson plans were developed for the following week using the *Parade* magazine.

**Middle Schools**

Struggling readers in middle schools have had greater access to reading classes and materials than high school students because reading has been required in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades. Still, outside of Read 180, middle schools have been lacking in classroom library collections that engage students and encourage them to read independently. To this end, our primary focus has been adding more readable books to the middle school reading classrooms that currently use the Scholastic Read XL series.

Purchased for All Middle School Reading Classrooms:

- All 7<sup>th</sup>- and 8<sup>th</sup>-grade reading classrooms received a Lora Robb Classroom Library from Scholastic. These collections are designed to engage struggling readers from all interest levels. These books are “easy reads” and have plot designs and characters that appeal to a variety of students.
- All middle school reading programs received 10 additional class sets of novels that are both easy to read and engaging for struggling readers. These books allow our teachers to model a skill or strategy with the class and/or provide “whole class” practice as needed.
- *SourceBooks* from Great Source. These consumable texts provide step-by-step reading strategies for struggling readers. (8<sup>th</sup>-grade reading)
- Classroom sets of magazines for Read 180 (*Scholastic Action*). These magazines give students access to current events to help make reading relevant.
- REACH materials for our lowest-level middle school reading classrooms.

The purchases outlined above included all of hospital/homebound, dropout prevention and exceptional student education centers.

During the summer of 2006, the *St. Petersburg Times* Summer Reading program provided 13 weeks of home subscriptions over the summer for 2,200 of our FCAT Level 1 students and their families. Through a partnership with the *Times*, students were given discounts and passes to area attractions and completed daily reading log. One student won an essay contest and was given a new computer setup for her home. All participating students received a backpack.

The reading website, developed last year, continues to evolve as an opportunity to communicate important information related to secondary reading.

Math, health and social studies classrooms received content-related classroom libraries.

Secondary media centers were provided badly need circulation upgrades.

Five additional elementary schools received licenses for Destination Reading.

“Book It,” a middle school summer reading camp, expanded for the summer of 2007 by adding an additional site. Meadowlawn Middle has hosted this camp for the past three years with money available through Extended Learning Program funds. This year, with

the support of referendum money, the program expanded to Azalea Middle. These camps were available to all FCAT level 1 and 2 middle school students. A total of 250 students participated. Transportation was provided for students in Attendance Area A.

Reading Endorsement Summer Institute: Teachers in the Book It Reading Camp earned reading endorsement competencies through their participation in the program. These teachers attended professional development in the afternoons and applied what they learned by teaching at the Book It camp during the mornings. Additional endorsement classes were presented, allowing teachers to earn up to 120 hours of the required 300 before June 30, 2007.

At the start of the 2007-08 school year, Pinellas County Schools will need approximately 500 reading endorsed or certified teachers. At the end of 2006, the district had approximately 128 reading-endorsed teachers and 60 reading-certified teachers with many more teachers in progress toward the endorsement. Teachers teaching classes that require the reading endorsement or certification who do not yet have the requirement must take at least 120 hours toward the endorsement or two college courses each year in order to continue in their assignment for next school year. To support and retain our current reading teachers and encourage the completion of the endorsement, referendum funds provided a \$500 fixed stipend to each teacher who has completed the endorsement. This stipend applies to any teacher teaching a class that requires the endorsement.

# Visual Arts

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During the second year of the referendum collections, \$1.7-million was budgeted for visual arts programs across all grade levels. The district spent or encumbered \$1.5-million and the remaining \$70,000 balance was allocated to the 2006-07 budget. The Visual Arts 2006-07 plan focused on the enhancement of K-12 visual arts programs in Pinellas County by providing funds for supplies, materials, furniture, equipment, technology, field trips, training and district support.

Visual Arts (2310)	Budgeted	Collected	Committed/ Encumbered	Balance to be Collected
Salary	96,951	96,951		0
Benefits	23,571	23,571		0
Purchased Services	226,328	196,537	24,400	5,391
Material & Supplies	256,412	208,303	298	47,811
Capital Outlay	1,128,316	1,000,723	110,612	16,981
Other Expenses	3,671	3,671		0
<b>Total Visual Arts</b>	<b>\$1,735,249</b>	<b>\$1,529,756</b>	<b>\$135,310</b>	<b>\$70,183</b>

## Budget

*All elementary, middle and high school art teachers received discretionary budget assistance.*

- Elementary – \$2 per student based on the total elementary school population.
- Middle – \$3 per student enrolled in art courses at the school.
- High – \$5 per student enrolled in art courses at the school.

*All middle and high school art students received art magazines-Scholastic Art. All schools received 40 subscriptions (six issues per year) per art teacher.*

*All elementary, middle and high school art teachers received \$300 for the purchase of books for an art classroom library.*

*Eighty art rooms at the following schools received art equipment and/or furniture. The specific equipment and supplies is based on the district “Specifications for Art” guidelines and individual school needs.*

- |                     |                 |                    |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| • 74th Street       | • Bauder        | • Calvin Hunsinger |
| • Anona             | • Bay Vista     | • Campbell Park    |
| • Azalea Middle     | • Blanton       | • Carwise          |
| • Azalea Elementary | • Boca Ciega    | • Clearwater High  |
| • Bardmoor          | • Brooker Creek | • Countryside High |

- Cross Bayou
- Curlew Creek
- Dixie Hollins
- Dunedin Middle
- Forest Lakes
- Gulf Beaches
- Gulfport
- Kennedy
- Kings Highway
- Lake St George
- Largo High
- Lealman Avenue
- Leila Davis
- Lynch
- Madeira Beach Elementary
- Madeira Beach Middle
- McMullen-Booth
- Meadowlawn
- Melrose
- Mildred Helms
- Morgan Fitzgerald
- North Shore
- North Ward
- Northeast High
- Northwest
- Oakhurst
- Oldsmar
- Orange Grove
- Osceola Middle
- Osceola High
- Palm Harbor Elementary
- Palm Harbor Middle
- Palm Harbor University High
- Paul B. Stephens
- Pinellas Central
- Pinellas Park High
- Ponce de Leon
- Rawlings
- Ridgecrest
- Rio Vista
- Riviera
- Safety Harbor Elementary
- Safety Harbor Middle
- Safety Harbor Secondary
- Sandy Lane
- Sawgrass Lake
- Seminole High
- Seminole Middle
- Seminole Elementary
- Skycrest
- Skyview
- Southern Oak
- Southside
- St. Petersburg High
- Starkey
- Sutherland
- Tarpon Springs High
- Thurgood Marshall
- Tyrone Middle
- Walsingham
- Woodlawn

***Five high schools received a 33-station computer lab for visual arts.*** Expenses such as furniture and wiring also were funded as needed.

- Dixie Hollins High
- Lakewood High
- Osceola High
- Palm Harbor University High
- Pinellas County Center for the Arts at Gibbs High

***Two middle schools received a 20-station computer lab for visual arts.*** Expenses such as furniture and wiring also were funded as needed.

- John Hopkins Middle
- Palm Harbor Middle

***One middle school received a 30-station computer lab for visual arts.*** Expenses such as furniture and wiring also were funded as needed.

- Tyrone Middle

*Sixty-two field trips to local art museums and galleries* were funded for the following schools:

- Bardmoor
- Bear Creek
- Belcher
- Blanton
- Boca Ciega
- Calvin Hunsinger
- Carwise Middle
- Clearwater High
- Curlew Creek
- Cypress Woods
- Dixie Hollins High
- East Lake High
- Frontier
- High Point
- Kennedy Middle
- Madeira Beach Middle
- McMullen-Booth
- Oldsmar
- Orange Grove Osceola High
- Osceola Middle
- Palm Harbor Middle
- Safety Harbor Middle
- Safety Harbor Secondary
- Sawgrass Lake
- Seventy-Fourth St.
- Thurgood Marshall Fundamental
- Westgate
- Woodlawn

*Four elementary schools received the new art mobile, “It’s Dali Time,” in partnership with the Salvador Dali Museum.* This art mobile will travel to all elementary schools over a four-year period.

- Bay Point
- Bay Vista
- Lakewood
- Maximo

*Sixty-one art teachers from the following schools completed Level 1 CRISS training for art teachers:*

- Anona
- Azalea Middle
- Bardmoor
- Bauder
- Bay Point
- Bay Vista Fundamental
- Bayside High
- Belleair
- Blanton
- Blanton
- Boca Ciega High
- Brooker Creek
- Cross Bayou
- Curtis Fundamental
- Cypress Woods
- Douglas Jamerson
- Eisenhower
- Forest Lakes
- Gulf Beaches
- High Point
- Highland Lakes
- James Sanderlin
- John Sexton
- Kings Highway
- Lake St. George
- Lakeview Fundamental
- Lakewood Elementary
- Lealman Avenue
- Leila Davis
- Lynch
- Madeira Beach Elementary
- Madeira Beach Middle
- Maximo
- McMullen-Booth
- Melrose
- Mildred Helms
- Nina Harris
- North Ward
- Oldsmar
- Orange Grove
- Ozona
- Palm Harbor Elementary
- Pasadena Fundamental
- Pinellas Central
- Richard L. Sanders
- Rio Vista
- San Jose
- Sawgrass Lake
- Seminole Middle
- Seventy-Fourth St.

- Shore Acres
- Skyview
- South Ward
- Starkey
- Sunset Hills
- Sutherland
- Tarpon Springs  
Fundamental
- Tyrone
- Walsingham
- Westgate
- Woodlawn

*Thirty-four art teachers attended the Florida Art Education Association annual conference in October 2006.*

- Bardmoor
- Bear Creek
- Belcher
- Blanton
- Boca Ciega High
- Calvin Hunsinger
- Carwise Middle
- Clearwater High
- Curlew Creek
- Cypress Woods
- Dixie Hollins High
- East Lake High
- Frontier
- High Point
- Kennedy Middle
- Madeira Beach  
Middle
- McMullen-Booth
- Oldsmar
- Orange Grove
- Osceola High
- Osceola Middle
- Palm Harbor Middle
- Safety Harbor  
Middle
- Safety Harbor  
Secondary
- Sawgrass Lake
- Seventy-Fourth St.
- Thurgood Marshall  
Fundamental
- Westgate
- Woodlawn

*Fifty-three art teachers from the schools below completed Beginning ArtTIP, four days of classroom training followed by online training and monthly assignments. Each teacher in the training received a laptop, a digital camera, a video projector and software.*

- Azalea
- Azalea Middle
- Bay Point Middle
- Bay Point  
Elementary
- Bay Vista
- Blanton
- Boca Ciega High
- Brooker Creek
- Campbell Park
- Carwise Middle
- Clearwater  
Intermediate
- Countryside High
- Curtis  
Fundamental
- Cypress Woods
- Dunedin Middle
- Dunedin High
- Fairmount Park
- Forest Lakes
- Fuguitt
- Garrison-Jones
- Gulf Beaches
- Highland Lakes
- John Hopkins  
Middle
- John Sexton
- Kennedy Middle
- Kings Highway
- Lake St. George
- Largo High
- Lealman  
Intermediate
- Melrose
- Morgan Fitzgerald  
Middle
- Mount Vernon
- North Shore
- North Ward
- Northeast High
- Oakhurst
- Osceola High
- Pasadena Fundamental
- PCCA @ Gibbs High
- Pinellas Park  
Elementary
- Sandy Lane
- Seminole High
- Shore Acres
- Skycrest
- Skyview
- Southern Oak
- St. Petersburg High
- Starkey
- Sutherland
- Tyrone

***Twenty-one art teachers from the schools below completed Intermediate ArtTIP***, four days of training followed by online projects and sharing. These teachers selected a course of study to improve their skills independently and/or in groups. Courses of study included digital photography, web quests, pod casting presentations and web design.

- 74th Street
- Bay Point Middle
- Blanton
- Clearwater High
- Fairmount Park
- High Point
- Lealman Avenue
- Leila Davis
- Lynch
- Maderia Beach Middle
- Maximo
- Meadowlawn
- Northeast High
- Northwest
- Palm Harbor Elementary
- Palm Harbor University High
- Pinellas Central
- Saftey Harbor
- San Jose
- Westgate

***Twenty-one art teachers completed Computer Graphics for High School*** four days of training followed by work in their computer graphics lab with students and online sharing. This class was designed for high and middle school teachers who are teaching or will be teaching computer graphics, multimedia design, or digital photography.

- Bay Point Middle
- Clearwater High
- Countryside High
- Dixie Hollins High
- Dunedin High
- East Lake High
- John Hopkins Middle
- Lakewood High
- Largo High
- Maderia Beach
- Osceola High
- Palm Harbor University High
- Safety Harbor Middle
- Safety Harbor Secondary
- St. Petersburg High
- Thurgood Marshall Middle

# Performing Arts

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Through the second year of the referendum collections, nearly \$2-million was budgeted for performing arts programs across all grade levels.

	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Collected</b>	<b>Committed/ Encumbered</b>	<b>Balance to be Collected</b>
Music (Performing Arts) (2320)				
Salary	220,377	220,377		0
Benefits	53,159	53,005		154
Purchased Services	102,041	71,588	26,834	3,619
Material & Supplies	815,498	266,522	30,631	518,345
Capital Outlay	725,981	649,975	13,141	62,865
Other Expenses	110	110		0
<b>Total Music</b>	<b>\$1,917,166</b>	<b>\$1,261,577</b>	<b>\$70,606</b>	<b>\$584,983</b>

## Elementary Support

- The second wave of elementary schools received funding for instruments and supplies. At the end of Year 2, all elementary schools have received referendum funding.

Bardmoor	James Sanderlin	Pinellas Park
Bay Point	John Sexton	Rawlings
Bay Vista	Lake St. George	Rio Vista
Fundamental	Lakewood	Safety Harbor
Belcher	Leila Davis	Sandy Lane
Cypress Woods	Maximo	Sawgrass Lake
Douglas Jamerson	McMullen-Booth	Shore Acres
Dunedin	Mount Vernon	Southern Oak
Eisenhower	Nina Harris	Starkey
Fairmount Park	North Shore	Sunset Hills
Forest Lakes	Northwest	Tarpon Spgs. Fund.
Frontier	Ozona	Walsingham
Fuguitt	Palm Harbor	Woodlawn
Garrison-Jones	Pasadena Funda.	
Hamilton Disston	Perkins	
Highland Lakes	Pinellas Central	

- Additional funds were allocated to the following high-need programs and/or schools with requests for unfunded items such as microphones, sound equipment.

Bauder	Curlew Creek	Oakhurst
Blanton	Garrison-Jones	Pinellas Park
Belleair	Gulf Beaches	San Jose

Sawgrass Lake  
Skycrest

Southern Oak  
Tarpon Spgs Fund.

Walsingham

- Training funds were provided for 28 elementary teachers to attend the Florida Music Educators Association (FMEA) literacy and diversity training.

### Secondary Equity

- All instrumental programs were reimbursed (schools listed below) for rental fees that are waived for students on free and reduced lunch. This helps to level the playing field among schools of various socioeconomic levels. Funds are being used to repair and replace instruments.

Boca Ciega High  
Dixie Hollins High  
Dunedin High  
Gibbs High  
Largo High  
Northeast High  
Seminole High  
Azalea Middle  
Carwise Middle

Dunedin Middle  
Fitzgerald Middle  
Hopkins Middle  
Kennedy Middle  
Largo Middle  
Madeira Beach Mid  
Meadowlawn Mid.  
Oak Grove Middle  
Osceola Middle

Palm Harbor Mid.  
Safety Harbor Mid.  
Seminole Middle  
Southside Funda.  
Thurgood Marshall  
Tyrone Middle  
Pinellas Park Mid.

- **Band Uniforms** – Prior to the referendum, the district did not fund high school band uniforms. Funds are being provided to purchase uniforms, pay off loans or bank funds for the purchase of uniforms four or five years from now. During the 06-07 school year, the band uniform budget plan was adjusted in order to pay off all band loans. New uniforms have been purchased for Pinellas Park High and Clearwater High. Dunedin, Countryside and Seminole will have funds roll over past the referendum period to insure equity among all schools for the duration of the referendum. High schools that received these funds for the 2006-07 school year are:

Boca Ciega  
Countryside  
Dunedin  
East Lake

Gibbs  
Lakewood  
Largo  
Northeast

Pinellas Park  
Seminole  
Tarpon Springs

- **Auxiliary staff** – All high school band programs received a stipend to offset the cost of auxiliary staff such as percussion instructors and guard instructors
- **Supplies and Equipment** – Funds were put in schools for music, supplies and equipment for theatre, choral and middle school band programs, based on student enrollment. See list that follows. Additionally, each band program was provided with an instrument repair tool kit and general tool kit. Keeping instruments in good repair extends the life of the instrument.

Azalea Middle  
 Bay Point Middle  
 Bayside High  
 Boca Ciega High  
 Carwise Middle  
 Clearwater High  
 Coachman Funda.  
 Countryside High  
 Dixie Hollins High  
 Dunedin High  
 Dunedin Middle  
 East Lake High  
 Fitzgerald Middle  
 Gibbs High

Hopkins Middle  
 Kennedy Middle  
 Largo High  
 Largo Middle  
 Lealman Inter.  
 Madeira Beach Mid  
 Meadowlawn Mid.  
 Northeast High  
 Oak Grove Middle  
 Osceola High  
 Osceola Middle  
 Palm Harbor Mid.  
 Palm Harbor Univ.  
 Pinellas Park High

Pinellas Park Mid.  
 Safety Harbor Mid  
 Seminole High  
 Seminole Middle  
 Southside Funda.  
 St. Petersburg High  
 Tarpon Springs  
 High  
 Tarpon Springs  
 Middle  
 Thurgood Marshall  
 Tyrone Middle

- **Additional funding** – Additional funding was provided to 23 schools to purchase large items such as posture chairs and risers, items not funded through other sources.

Bay Point Middle  
 Carwise Middle  
 Clearwater High  
 Dixie Hollins  
 Dunedin High  
 East Lake High  
 Gibbs High

John Hopkins Mid.  
 Largo Middle  
 Meadowlawn Mid  
 Oak Grove Middle  
 Osceola High  
 Osceola Middle  
 Palm Harbor Mid.  
 Pinellas Park High

Pinellas Park Mid.  
 Safety Harbor Mid  
 Seminole High  
 Seminole Middle  
 Southside Funda.  
 St. Petersburg High  
 Tyrone Middle

- **Auditorium Upgrades** – During the 2006-07 school year, data were collected in order to develop a plan to upgrade all high school auditorium sound systems with funding in the third and fourth years of the referendum.
- **Training** – Funds were provided for four teachers to attend the Florida Association of Theatre Educators conference focused on literacy. Funds were provided for 60 teachers to attend the Florida Music Educators Association (FMEA) literacy and diversity training.
- **Choral Support** – A choral instructor was hired for Palm Harbor University High. Plans are being made for the third and fourth years of the referendum to support additional choral programs. The choral program at Palm Harbor University has grown dramatically during the referendum period. The position is expected to be self-sustaining by the end of the referendum period.

### Future Focus

- The Performing Arts Advisory Committee has recommended that supplements be paid for secondary teachers who do not currently receive supplements. We are continuing to work through the process to get this addressed. The item will be budgeted for 2007-08.

### **Performing Arts Technology**

- Nineteen teachers were trained for Music Technology Integration Project (MusicTIP) in the summer of 2006. The program was extremely successful. Twenty additional teachers were trained in the summer of 2007. Demand for the training exceeded budget and programs plans. This was considered in budget planning for 2007-08.
- New performing arts technology lab equipment was installed at Seminole High and Tarpon Springs High labs, and staff members were trained on the equipment.
- Video iPods, JBL On Stage Players and Tune Talk recording adapters were purchased for **ALL** performing arts teachers in the district.
- The performing arts technology teacher hired with referendum funds continues very successfully supporting schools and programs

### **Future focus**

- Carry over funds will be used in Year 3 of the referendum to upgrade selected student stations that have been allocated with refresh funds. This will include purchasing student Sibelius licenses. Additional remaining funds will be used to provide laptop computers for itinerant music teachers.

### **String Equity Support**

- The initiative was to rebuild strings programs that were cut in the early 1990s. After some difficulties with the strings vendor, new programs are being offered at the following schools:

Blanton	James Sanderlin	Lealman Avenue
Curlew Creek	John Sexton	Lynch
Cypress Woods	Lake St. George	Sutherland
Douglas Jamerson	Lakewood	Riviera Middle

Additional funding and support are being offered to the following programs:

Bauder	Skycrest	Largo Middle
Garrison-Jones	Tarpon Spgs. Fund.	Palm Harbor Mid.
Perkins	Carwise Middle	Seminole Middle
Plumb	Dunedin Middle	Tarpon Spgs. Mid.
Shore Acres	John Hopkins Mid.	

Plans for 2007-08 will be based on 2006-07 feedback. Data continue to suggest that additional personnel resources will be needed to insure the success of the program. This was taken into account in 2007-08 budget planning.

### **School and Community Support**

- The Intergenerational Band Project was a partnership summer program among Pinellas County Schools, the Mahaffey Theater at the Progress Energy Center and

FloriMezzo culminating in two very successful performances on June 23 and July 4.

- The Artists in Residence program bringing VoicExperience singers into four high schools was very well received.

### **Misc./Carry Over**

The strings carry over will be continued to be used for support of the program. Each year the program is more costly than the previous year.

Unspent funds will be allocated for the following (Suggestions based on the recommendations of the Performing Arts Advisory Committee.):

1. Equipment equity for high school auditoriums – approximately \$150,000.  
Research now suggests this is a very low estimate.  
***Work has begun on items 2-5 below. Initiatives have been very successful and will be expanded and reflected in the 2007-08 budget plan.***
2. Contracting personnel to boost the overall quality of the performing arts programs, particularly in low-performing schools.
3. Continued support for unfunded needs, such as choral uniforms, music furniture, etc.
4. Summer performing arts programs – music camps, for example.
5. Partnering with community organizations to provide private instruction.
6. Support of future focused music initiatives (for example, addressing the new high school fine arts credit requirement).

# Technology Expenditures

Technology (2330)	Budgeted	Collected	Committed/ Encumbered	Balance to be Collected
Salary	135,095	132,290		2,805
Benefits	37,444	36,606		838
Purchased Services	6,620	6,620		0
Material & Supplies	409,592	10,411	14,588	384,593
Capital Outlay	286,665	275,073	5,162	6,430
Other Expenses	855,214	837,816	15,597	1,801
<b>Total Technology</b>	<b>\$1,730,630</b>	<b>\$1,298,816</b>	<b>\$35,347</b>	<b>\$396,467</b>

A balance of \$396,467.00 is rolled over after June 30, 2007, to cover the second installment of the lease payments for the Osceola Middle School teacher and student stations along with the second installment for the elementary and middle school wireless mobile labs. These payments are scheduled during the months of July 2007 and September 2007. The total amount for the second installment leases for these two projects totals \$357,496.00, leaving a balance of \$38,971.00 for carry over to Year 3 for future projects.

During the 2006-07 school, there were two referendum projects implemented. They are the wireless mobile lab project and the Osceola Middle School one-to-one laptop project. The wireless mobile labs consisted of 16 Dell Laptop computers, a projector, an access point for wireless connection and a mobile security storage cart for charging. These labs were delivered to 23 middle schools, 64 elementary schools and three ESE centers serving both middle school and elementary school students. Along with the mobile lab each school received support and training from the two project managers by modeling and coaching in the classroom to enhance the curriculum using technology as a tool. At Osceola Middle each sixth-grader received a Dell Latitude L120 laptop and a flash drive assigned only to them to carry the entire school day.

## Wireless Mobile Labs

Each school has chosen a group of teachers and the content area for using the mobile labs. The two project coordinators are collecting data on the impact these labs have had in the classroom for a final report. The laptops are being used with a variety of software and students are exploring webquests, researching a specific concept in various curriculum areas, Riverdeep, Harcourt Math, Holt Online Writing Assessment and other textbook software.

The following middle schools received a mobile lab in October 2006:

- Azalea Middle
- Bay Point Middle
- Carwise Middle
- Clearwater Intermediate
- Coachman Fundamental
- Dunedin Highland Middle

- John Hopkins Middle
- Kennedy Middle
- Largo Middle
- Lealman Intermediate
- Madeira Beach Middle
- Meadowlawn Middle
- Morgan Fitzgerald Middle
- Oak Grove Middle
- Palm Harbor Middle
- Pinellas Park Middle
- Riveria Middle
- Safety Harbor Middle
- Seminole Middle
- Southside Fundamental
- Tarpon Springs Middle
- Thurgood Marshall Fundamental
- Tyrone Middle

The following elementary schools received a mobile lab in October 2006:

- Anona
- Azalea
- Bardmoor
- Bauder
- Bay Point
- Bay Vista Fundamental
- Bear Creek
- Belcher
- Belleair
- Brooker Creek
- Curtis Fundamental
- Cypress Woods
- Forest Lakes
- Fuguitt
- Garrison-Jones
- Highland Lakes
- John Sexton
- Lakeview Fundamental
- Largo Central
- Leila Davis
- Lynch
- Madeira Beach
- McMullen-Booth
- Mildred Helms
- Mount Vernon
- North Shore
- North Ward
- Northwest
- Oakhurst
- Oldsmar
- Ozona
- Pasadena Fundamental
- Pinellas Central
- Plumb
- Rawlings
- Ridgecrest
- Safety Harbor
- San Jose
- Seminole
- Skycrest
- Southern Oak
- Sunset Hills
- Sutherland
- Tarpon Springs Fundamental
- Westgate

The following elementary schools received a mobile lab in May 2006:

- Campbell Park
- Cross Bayou
- Curlew Creek
- Douglas Jamerson
- Dunedin
- Fairmount Park
- Frontier
- Gulf Beaches
- High Point
- James Sanderlin
- Lake St. George
- Orange Grove

- Palm Harbor
- Perkins
- Ponce de Leon
- Sawgrass Lake
- Starkey
- Tarpon Springs

Three exceptional education centers that serve middle school students each received a 16-station mobile lab for their middle school population in May 2006:

- Calvin Hunsinger
- Hamilton Disston
- Richard L. Sanders

This initiative addresses student achievement by providing more access to technology in a mobile lab setting for student use on a regular basis to support the curriculum in the classroom. Each school developed a plan for implementation in specific classrooms. These teachers received training and support for effective technology integration in their classroom. The impact this lab has had is evident when visiting classrooms and in discussions with teachers using the lab. The lab is allowing teachers to differentiate instruction and spend time conferencing with and assisting students.

In the middle schools the students are using the computers to access textbook software online, create multimedia presentations and access the Internet for research and additional reference materials. In the elementary schools students are using the mobile labs for units of study that correlate with content in the science, social studies, math and reading curriculum. These labs give teachers the tools to challenge all students to master the skills and concepts at their grade level, work ahead once mastery has been accomplished and increase independent reading by using websites like FCAT Explorer and Riverdeep Destination Success.

### **Osceola Middle School One-to-One Laptop Project**

This initiative addresses student achievement. The project provided a wireless laptop computer for every 6<sup>th</sup>-grade student at Osceola Middle for the 2006-07 school year. In May 2006, a laptop was purchased for each new 6<sup>th</sup>-grade student for the 2007-08 school year. The focus of this project is technology integration into the curriculum with an emphasis on enhancing the delivery of instruction to students. During the school year students will produce various projects using applications such as PowerPoint, Excel, PhotoStory and Word. Students will be carrying their assigned laptop for each period of the day and using them in the classroom.