

**Regular School Board Meeting**

**August 15, 2006**

**Tuesday, 05:00 PM**

School Administration Building

301 Fourth Street SW

Largo, FL 33997

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**Attendees**

Lanse Johansen, Chief Business Officer	<i>non-voting</i>
Deborah Beaty, Adm. Assistant	<i>non-voting</i>
Linda S. Lerner, Board Member	
Jane Gallucci, Board Member	
Julie Janssen, Deputy Superintendent	<i>non-voting</i>
James Robinson, School Board Attorney	<i>non-voting</i>
Clayton Wilcox, Supt. & Ex- Officio Sec.	<i>non-voting</i>
Mary L. Russell, Board Member	
Mary L. Tyus Brown, Board Member	
Nancy N. Bostock, Chairman	
Carol J. Cook, Board Member	
Janet R. Clark, Board Member	

**Meeting Minutes**

**A. Invocation**

**1. Invocation by Pastor Bernie Blankenship, First Christian Church, Clearwater**

Minutes

The Invocation was delivered by Pastor Blankenship. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**1. National Anthem Project Video**

Minutes

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a video was shown of the All County High School Orchestra & Chorus performing the National Anthem.

**2. Celebrate Freedom - Pinellas County School Students**

Minutes

A video was shown highlighting a group of students celebrating the Declaration of Independence with their performance titled, "Celebrate Freedom."

**3. Kennedy Middle School Video**

Minutes

A video was shown to highlight the students, staff, and programs at Kennedy Middle School.

## **C. Introduction of Professional and Community Organization Reps**

### **1. Introductions of Representatives of Professional and Community Organizations by Dr. Ron Stone, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources and Public Affairs**

#### Minutes

Dr. Stone introduced the following representatives: Randy Dodds, PESPA; Michelle Dennard, PCTA; Derrick Hamilton, Brad Gonzales, and Ron Neimark, SEIU; Amy McAuley, PCCPTA; Murray Mintz, Pinellas Arts for a Complete Education Coalition; Dr. Barbara Hires and Michael Bessette, Operations Team; and, Donna Winchester, The St. Petersburg Times.

## **D. Explanation of Process for Signing up to Speak**

### **1. Meeting Procedures**

#### Minutes

Mrs. Brown reviewed the process to be followed by the audience for participation at School Board meetings and guidelines to be followed for all members of the audience during these proceedings.

## **E. Adoption of the Agenda**

It was moved by Mrs. Gallucci and seconded by Mrs. Brown to adopt the agenda.

PULL: CONSENT #2, #11, #32 - Bid 07-205-014-SS, page 469

Dr. Wilcox stated that the Board had received replacement pages for pages 34 and 37 that better clarify the job sharing positions for the Coordinator of the Bay Point Elementary Magnet Program.

Dr. Wilcox stated that the Board had also received the updated PTEC-IEC contract, Item #11, clarification of the non-union language. Dr. Wilcox stated that this contract aligns with our current policy (Policy 8.241 Prohibition of Harassment).

Mrs. Cook announced that the presenters for Item F.1 are running late and, therefore, that agenda item will be delayed until their arrival.

The motion to adopt the agenda, as amended, was carried with a 7-0 vote.

## **F. Special Order Agenda**

### **1. Presentation by Florida Developmental Disabilities Council**

#### Minutes

Ms. Bonito, representative from the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc., addressed the Board to present the "You Make a Difference Award (YMD) to Ms. Carol Simrell, teacher from Seminole Elementary School. Ms. Simrell was recognized for her dedicated work with students with disabilities. Dr. Wilcox commended Terry Ryan, a Behavior Analyst in the district, for recognizing the efforts of Ms. Simrell and nominating her for this award.

Ms. Simrell was greeted and congratulated by the School Board Members.

### **2. Introduction of Newly Appointed Administrators**

#### Minutes

Dr. Wilcox introduced the following Newly Appointed Administrators:

Dr. Julie M. Janssen, Deputy Superintendent, Superintendent's Office

Mr. John M. Leanes, Assistant to the Superintendent for Career, Technical & Vocational Education

Dr. Harry T. Brown, Associate Superintendent, Curriculum Services

Mr. Nickolas R. Grasso, Executive Director, Pre K-12 Physical Education, Drivers Education & Extracurricular Activities

Ms. Joan O. Minnis, Supervisor, Pre K-12 Curriculum & Applications

Mr. Dave Rosenberger, Principal, Coachman Fundamental Middle School

The administrators were greeted and congratulated by the Board Members.

## G. Unfinished Business

### **1. Request Approval of the Recommendation to Accept the Stipulation to Suspend Mr. Dustin Bengston, Teacher, Dunedin High School, for Eight (8) Days Without pay**

#### Minutes

It was moved by Mrs. Gallucci, seconded by Mrs. Brown, and carried with a 7-0 vote to Accept the Stipulation to Suspend Mr. Bengston for eight (8) days without pay. (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

### **2. Request Approval of the Recommendation to Accept the Stipulation to Suspend Mr. Patrick Grzegorzcyk, Plant Operator, Plumb Elementary School, for Thirty (30) Days Without pay**

#### Minutes

It was moved by Mrs. Bostock, seconded by Mrs. Gallucci, and carried with a 7-0 vote to Accept the Stipulation to Suspend Mr. Grzegorzcyk for thirty (30) days without pay. (Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

## H. Consent

It was moved by Mrs. Gallucci, seconded by Mrs. Brown, and carried with a 7-0 vote to approve the Consent Agenda, as amended.

### **1. Approval of Minutes: To Approve the Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of July 11, 2006; the School Board Workshops of June 13, 2006 and July 13, 2006; the Public Hearing for Capital Outlay Projects of August 1, 2006; and, the First Public Hearing on the 2006/07 Budget of August 1, 2006.**

#### Minutes

Approved as submitted.

### **2. Request Approval of Personnel Recommendations: Personnel Actions as Recommended by the superintendent**

#### Minutes

Pages 124, 134, and 139 were pulled by Ms. Clark.

Ms. Clark stated that she pulled these pages to voice her concern with the three job descriptions listed as new -- page 124 (Computer Support Analyst), page 134 (Application Specialist), and page 139 (Senior Application Specialist). Ms. Clark stated that these three positions are listed as new but that they are really a combination of existing positions. Ms. Clark requested that job histories be included in agenda items.

It was moved by Mrs. Bostock and seconded by Mrs. Gallucci to approve positions recommended on pages 124, 134, and 139 of the Personnel Recommendations.

Mrs. Russell, referring to page 124, questioned why a larger salary would be paid to the person responsible for the software more than the person who will be responsible for the hardware.

Mr. Al Swinyard, Assistant Superintendent for MIS, responded to Mrs. Russell by explaining that the individual who will deal with hardware does not have the responsibility of program applications.

Mrs. Brown questioned whether there is a written process to be followed when positions are merged and whether the process is different for positions at Walter Pownall. Mrs. Cook requested that the Board receive a memo that describes the process that is followed when jobs are changed or merged. Dr. Wilcox stated that he did not believe there is any difference in the process utilized and that he will ask Human Resources to forward to the Board the process.

Mrs. Bostock thanked Mr. Swinyard and his team for all the time spent with the Board going over the technology plan. Mrs. Bostock called the question. This was seconded by Mrs. Gallucci and carried with a 7-0 vote.

The motion to approve the job descriptions on pages 124, 134, and 139 was carried with a 6-1 vote, Mrs. Russell voting against.

Mrs. Russell pulled the remaining portions of the Personnel Recommendations.

It was moved by Mrs. Gallucci and seconded by Mrs. Bostock to approve the remaining portions of the Personnel Actions as Recommended by the Superintendent.

Mrs. Russell, referring to the position on page 42 - Director, Communications, congratulated Dr. Wilcox for this item stating that she believes this is now more in line with what the market bears.

The motion was carried with a 7-0 vote to approve the remaining portions of the Personnel Actions as Recommended by the Superintendent.(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

### **3. AGENDA ITEM: Request Approval of Agreement Between the School Board of Pinellas County and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement**

#### Minutes

Approved as submitted.(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

### **4. Request Approval of the Recommendation to Dismiss Mr. Mike Rentschler, Bus Driver, Transportation Department**

#### Minutes

Approved as submitted.(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

### **5. Request Approval of Special Projects**

#### Minutes

Approved as submitted.

- a) Renewal of Refugee Education Program: \$550,000
- b) Renewal of SUCCEED Florida – Career Paths Program (Secondary Continuation Project): \$109,605
- c) Renewal of Title III English Language Acquisition Project: \$428,431.29
- d) Renewal of Learning for Life Project: \$180,000
- e) Renewal of Agreement with Coordinated Child Care, Inc.: \$75,000
- f) Agreements with Various Providers of Supplemental Educational Services (SES): \$TBD (Maximum of approximately \$5,000,000)
- g) Agreement with Florida Learning Curve, Inc.: \$150,000
- h) Agreement with Pinellas County Health Department: \$20,000

- i) Tune into Reading Project: \$2,475
- j) American Academy of Dermatology Project: \$8,000
- k) SUCCEED Florida – Crucial Professions Program (Postsecondary – New Grants): \$700,350
- l) SUCCEED Florida – Career Paths Program (Secondary – New Grants): \$225,000
- m) 1-2-3 LEAD (Leaders Educated to Make a Difference) Project: \$ In-Kind
- n) Foreign Language Assistance Program: \$471,066  
(Copies/copy, as appropriate, to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

**6. Request Approval of Budget Amendment No. 9 (May 2006) to the District's 2005/2006 Budget**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.

**7. Request Approval of Financial Statements for the Month Ending May 31, 2006 for Fiscal Year 2005-2006**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.

**8. Request Approval of Renewal Agreements for Dropout Prevention Programs at Department of Juvenile Justice and Community Agency Facilities for 2006-2007**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

**9. Request Approval of the Master Inservice Plan for 2006-07**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.

**10. Request Approval of Agreement with Personal Enrichment Through Mental Health Services, Inc., (PEMHS) for a Dropout Prevention Program for 2006-2007**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

**11. Request Approval of the Agreement Between WorkNet Pinellas and the Pinellas County School Board/Pinellas Technical Education Centers (IEC)**

Minutes

Mrs. Lerner pulled this item.

The following individual addressed the Board regarding the proposed Agreement:

Rick Brant, SEIU -- Addressed the Board to state that he has several questions pertaining to the proposed agreement. Mr. Brant stated that he has a concern with the opening statement that includes the wording, "non-union" three times. Mr. Brant requested that the Board table this Agreement for further review.

Mr. David Barnes, Director for Workforce Education, clarified that the district offers both union and non-union apprenticeship programs and stated that they have co-existed well for many years. Mr. Barnes stated that the district does not get into the business between contractors and their employees.

Mrs. Lerner stated that she wants to be sure that a process for communication on both programs is in place to make students aware of their opportunities. Mrs. Lerner stated that she had also heard that if a student begins with a non-union program, they must remain non-union. Mr. Barnes responded.

It was moved by Ms. Clark and seconded by Mrs. Bostock to approve the Agreement Between WorkNet Pinellas and the Pinellas County School Board/Pinellas Technical Education Centers (IEC).

Mrs. Russell questioned why the district would enter into this contract and stated her concern that the district might be providing training schools for private businesses. Mr. Barnes responded and clarified what apprenticeship programs are and how they are originated.

Discussion continued by Board Members, Mr. Barnes, Dr. Wilcox. and Mr. Robinson. Mrs. Lerner requested that the Board consider tabling this item.

Mrs. Gallucci called for the question: This was seconded by Mrs. Bostock and carried with a 6-1 vote, Mrs. Russell voting against.

The main motion was carried with a 4-3 vote, Ms. Clark, Mrs. Lerner, and Mrs. Russell voting against, to approve the Agreement Between WorkNet Pinellas and the Pinellas County School Board/Pinellas Technical Education Centers (IEC).

(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

## **12. Request Renewal of the Agreement Between WorkNet Pinellas and the Pinellas County School Board/Pinellas Technical Education Centers**

### Minutes

Approved as submitted.(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

## **13. Request Renewal of the Agreement Between WorkNet Pinellas and the Pinellas County School Board/Pinellas Technical Education Centers (One Stop)**

### Minutes

Approved as submitted.(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

## **14. Request Approval of the Grant of a Drainage/Utility Easement to the City of Dunedin at the Dunedin Middle School Site**

### Minutes

Approved as submitted.(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

## **15. Report to the School Board of Facility Leases, Joint-Use Activities, and Other Community Uses Processed by the Real Property Management Department During the Second Quarter 2006**

### Minutes

Approved as submitted.

## **16. Request Approval of Supplemental Survey for Azalea Elementary School (00002)**

### Minutes

Approved as submitted.

## **17. Request Approval of Supplemental Survey for Frontier Elementary School (00154)**

### Minutes

Approved as submitted.

## **18. Request Approval of Supplemental Survey for Hamilton Disston SED Center (00026)**

### Minutes

Approved as submitted.

## **19. Request Approval of Supplemental Survey for James Sanderlin Elementary School (00158)**

### Minutes

Approved as submitted.

**20. Request Approval of Supplemental Survey for Largo Central Elementary School (00052)**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.

**21. Request Approval of Supplemental Survey for Lealman Avenue Elementary School (00054)**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.

**22. Approval of Supplemental Survey for Lynch Elementary School (00037)**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.

**23. Approval of Supplemental Survey for Perkins Elementary School (00038)**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.

**24. Request Approval of Supplemental Survey for Pinellas Vocational-Technical Institute (00119) aka PTEC Clearwater**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.

**25. Request Approval of Supplemental Survey for Safety Harbor Elementary School (00096)**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.

**26. Request Approval of Supplemental Survey for San Jose Elementary School (00102)**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.

**27. Request Approval of Agreement With Canerday Belfsky + Arroyo Architects for Architectural and Contract Administration Services in Connection With the Construction of a Replacement Facility for Tyrone Elementary School in the Amount of \$1,183,745**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

**28. Request Acceptance of Substantial Completion of Oak Park School as of April 6, 2006 (Building Exteriors and Sitework); February 9, 2006 (Buildings 1 & 3); and January 19, 2006 (Building 2)**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

**29. Request Approval of Change Order No. 1 for Restroom Repairs at Mount Vernon Elementary School in the Amount of \$32,000 With a Fourteen (14) day Time Extension**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

**30. Request Approval of Change Order No. 2 for the HVAC and Control Renovation at PTEC – St. Petersburg. This change order will increase the contract amount by \$39,375.60 with no time**

**extension.**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

**31. Request Approval of Vehicle Use Agreements**

Minutes

Approved as submitted.(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

**32. Request Approval of Bids to Vendors at Prices in Bid Documents in Accordance with Bid Policies and Statutes**

Minutes

Bid #07-205-014-SS - page 469 was pulled by Mrs. Lerner.

It was moved by Mrs. Gallucci and seconded by Mrs. Brown to approve Bid #07-205-014-SS.

Mrs. Lerner stated that she is still hearing of problems with the Read 180 software when she visits schools and that she has concern with the \$2000/day listed in this bid for trouble shooting and the \$9000/day for training. Mrs. Lerner stated that she believes that these items should be given to the district, based on the problems the district has experienced with the Read 180 program. Mrs. Gallucci and Ms. Clark voiced their agreement with Mrs. Lerner's concerns.

Discussion followed by Dr. Wilcox and Board Members.

Dr. Wilcox withdrew Bid ##07-205-014-SS to allow the opportunity to renegotiate better prices. Dr. Wilcox requested that Board Members forward to him via e-mail this week their concerns or questions regarding the Read 180 program. The Board Members agreed to extend the proposed schedule for the August 22, 2006 workshop and place this subject on that agenda for further discussion. A copy of the complete Read 180 evaluation will be forwarded to each of the Board Members prior to the workshop.

The remaining Bids to Vendors were approved with the action taken by the Board to approve the Consent Agenda.(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #113.)

**I. Nonconsent**

**1. Setting a Public Hearing and Authorizing the Advertisement of the Public Hearing to Consider the Amendment to Policy 2.23 DISTRICT SAFETY AND SECURITY**

Minutes

It was moved by Mrs. Bostock and seconded by Mrs. Brown to Set a Public Hearing and Authorize the Advertisement of the Public Hearing to Consider the Amendment to Policy 2.23 District Safety and Security.

Ms. Carol Madura, Project Coordinator for Emergency Response & Crisis Management, clarified that approval of this Amendment will bring the district into compliance with Florida requirements.

The following individual addressed the Board:

Mark Klutho -- Addressed the Board to state that "this homeland security stuff is a joke." Mr. Klutho stated that the district is making people less secure due to their misunderstanding of science and technology.

Mrs. Brown complimented Mrs. Madura for the job she is doing.

The motion was carried with a 7-0 vote to set a Public Hearing and Authorize the Advertisement of the Public Hearing to Consider the Amendment to Policy 2.23 District Safety and Security.

## **2. AGENDA ITEM: Request Ratification of Amendments to Labor Agreements and Salary Adjustments for Various Employee Groups for 2006-07.**

### Minutes

It was moved by Mrs. Bostock and seconded by Mrs. Brown to Ratify the Amendments to Labor Agreements and Salary Adjustments for Various Employee Groups for 2006-07.

Dr. Wilcox presented the agreements for ratification by the Board. Dr. Wilcox stated that 91% of the teachers and 94% of the support staff voted in favor of their respective contracts.

Michelle Dennard, PCTA -- Addressed the Board to thank them for setting a goal for teacher salaries and for their support of the Referendum. Ms. Dennard thanked the collective bargaining team and Dr. Wilcox for working with the employee groups on the agreements.

Randy Dodds, PESPA -- Addressed the Board to thank them for the opportunity to continue to use the collective bargaining process to reach these agreements. Mr. Dodds stated that his group will continue to study such issues as the ESE clerical hours and benefits issue.

Brad Gonzalez, SEIU -- Addressed the Board to report that 862 of their members voted to support the proposed agreement which sends a message that they did move forward. Mr. Gonzalez requested that the Board and the Superintendent consider including support staff in the next referendum effort. Mr. Gonzalez also requested that the Board continue to monitor any possible movement towards privatization.

Mark Klutho -- Addressed the Board to say that it is sad that the union president is so confused and doesn't understand that the cost of electricity wasted in the district is taking away from the salaries for teachers.

Discussion followed by Board Members and Dr. Ron Stone (Associate Superintendent for Human Resources and Public Affairs). Mrs. Lerner complimented the results but reiterated her concern with employees hired for five and three-quarter hours without receiving benefits. Mrs. Gallucci requested that the Board and Administration continue to look at the salary structure for Data Prep Clerks. Mrs. Gallucci requested the Administration look at ways of evening out the instructional salary schedule in an effort to retain more teachers and voiced her agreement with including the support staff on the next referendum effort. Mrs. Brown stated that she shares the concern regarding the Data Prep Clerks and the five and three-quarter hour ESE employees. Mrs. Brown requested clarification from Mr. Gonzalez regarding his concerns. That will be sent to the Board in writing by Mr. Gonzalez. Mrs. Russell expressed her agreement with Mrs. Gallucci's request for a more even and across-the-board increases for teachers and requested that the Board receive an update on reasons teachers are leaving the district. Mrs. Bostock stated that someone had said that the raise was as low as two percent and requested that Dr. Stone clarify the percentages.

Dr. Stone responded by saying that the minimum increase for all employees is four percent. Mrs. Cook thanked all who were involved in this process.

The motion was carried with a 7-0 vote to Ratify the Amendments to Labor Agreements and Salary Adjustments for Various Employee Groups for 2006-07.

Following this action taken by the Board, the meeting recessed at 7:25 p.m. and reconvened at 7:49 p.m.

## **J. Presentations from the Audience**

The following individuals addressed the Board:

Michelle Dennard, PCTA -- Addressed the Board to report that she serves on the Board of Governors for the Florida Education Association where the "I Pledge" campaign has been launched. Ms. Dennard explained that "I Pledge" cards will be forwarded to the new leadership in Tallahassee to send a strong message regarding the needs existing in education: better funding for Florida's classrooms; smaller classrooms initiative upheld; recognition that the employees in Florida education are behind in compensation when comparing them to those across the states; and, acting appropriately on the fact that vouchers have been found to be unconstitutional and are damaging school systems. Ms. Dennard stated that citizens across the state will be asked to add

their signatures to these cards to send a strong message pertaining to the necessary agenda for public school students.

Michael Rumorl -- Addressed the Board to ask that the school district provide pet-friendly shelters. Dr. Wilcox responded by emphasizing that his number one responsibility in running the school system is to respond to the needs of the children. Dr. Wilcox stated that this is a huge issue; that the clean up of a facility following a storm is a major concern; and, that this topic will be discussed at an upcoming School Board workshop. Mrs. Bostock requested that input be requested from employees who staff those shelters. Mrs. Gallucci suggested that this be discussed with the County Commissioners at the joint meeting scheduled for September 25.

Lenore Faulkner -- Addressed the Board to say that she continues to be the advocate for a world-class technology school at Pinellas Park High School.

Randy Dodds, PESPA -- Addressed the Board to state that the Data Prep Clerks are still in need of a query manual; that the Assistant Bookkeeper and Secretary/Bookkeeper positions need to be addressed this year; and, that the five and three-quarter ESE positions need to be changed. Mr. Dodds expressed concern that he is hearing that the ESE assistants were not properly notified of this change. Discussion followed by Board Members. Dr. Wilcox will follow up on the status of the query manual for data prep clerks and review the communication process used for notifying the ESE assistants of their change.

Ron Neimark, SEIU -- Addressed the Board to express his concern with the layoffs resulting from the spring budget reductions and to express concern with a potential to increase privatization as a result of those reductions.

Raymond C. Reed II -- Addressed the Board to state that he is one employee who lost his position and, in his new job, has experienced a seventeen-percent reduction in his pay.

Michael Wilson, SEIU -- Addressed the Board to state that he was a machinist in the district but lost that position as a result of the budget reductions. Mr. Wilson stated that there is really no other position requiring his skills and that it is not fair to offer positions to people at half of their pay.

Jim Evans, SEIU -- Addressed the Board to express his concern with the "credibility" of the process used to relocate employees affected by the budget reductions, stating that he felt the process was arbitrary.

Mark Klutho -- Addressed the Board to state that Senator John McCain was not a war hero but was a "war monger" and that the district continues to waste dollars and water. Both Mrs. Bostock and Mrs. Gallucci voiced their concerns with the comments made by Mr. Klutho regarding Senator McCain. Mrs. Brown and Dr. Wilcox briefly discussed the fact that the district is looking at school plans to make them more "green."

Rick Brant, SEIU -- Addressed the Board to express his concern with the process used and the miscommunication regarding the process given to those losing their positions as a result of the budget reductions.

## **K. New Business**

### **1. Items Introduced by Board Members**

#### Minutes

Mrs. Lerner -- 1) Stated that she will not repeat the details of her concern regarding the five and three-quarter hour ESE assistants and emphasized the need for employees to have the benefit of health insurance. Mrs. Lerner requested that the Board agree to discuss this and stated that it is a "time sensitive" concern. Mrs. Cook suggested that Mrs. Lerner complete a form to have this issue placed on a future workshop agenda.

Ms. Clark -- 1) Requested that the Board meeting agendas include the listing of the items under Special Projects. 2) Requested that when changes to an agenda item are forwarded to the Board Members that the corrections or changes be clearly marked. Dr. Wilcox agreed to both requests.

Mrs. Russell -- Voiced her agreement with Mrs. Lerner's concern regarding the ESE assistants and requested that the Board receive the data as to the number of employees affected and the financial impact to add the fifteen minutes per hour per employee and add benefits. Dr. Wilcox stated that he will look at this very carefully; that this information should be able to be collected within one week; and, that the Board should move cautiously on this to ensure that others are not impacted, realizing the need to maintain a balanced budget.

## **2. Items Introduced by Superintendent**

### Minutes

Dr. Wilcox's report included the following:

- 1) Stated that overtime is always high at the beginning of the school year as schools are prepared for their opening. Dr. Wilcox stated that it was a conscious decision by Dr. Hobbs and him to move overtime forward in order to do that. Dr. Wilcox stated that overtime is being closely monitored and that the first quarterly report will be forwarded to the Board Members soon.
- 2) Emphasized that the scare tactic being used regarding privatization is unfounded. Dr. Wilcox assured the Board and the employees that there is no effort or contemplation of moving the district in that direction. Dr. Wilcox clarified that he would have to receive that direction from the Board.
- 3) Stated that he and staff are looking at the ESE positions but reminded the Board that employees are voluntarily taking these positions.
- 4) Stated that the district will continue to work with the Data Prep Clerks and their concerns. Dr. Wilcox stated that he was not aware of the considerable down time reported by one of the Board Members, but that he will check on that also with the network monitoring tools.
- 5) Stated that a cost benefits conversation will be done.
- 6) Reminded the Board that there is a process in place for employees who have employment concerns. Dr. Wilcox stated that he will ask the Walter Pownall Service Center administrators to keep an eye on the machinist issue and to review the process used for placing employees, ensuring that the "recall obligation" was followed.
- 7) Reported that the district experienced a tremendous start of the school year and complimented the school administrators. Dr. Wilcox stated that he is pleased to see people working within the dress code guidelines.
- 8) Reported that this Thursday (August 17) will be the eight-day count and that staffing adjustments will follow in order to maintain the budget. Dr. Wilcox commended Mr. Johansen and his team who worked diligently to provide the budget numbers and those Board Members who supported the fiscally conservative budget that allowed the district to provide the generous compensation package this year. Dr. Wilcox also commended those Board Members who directed him to re-bid the health insurance this year and reported that the employees will benefit this year and next as a result of their direction.
- 9) Reported that JWB has agreed to fund a position of a Research Specialist to help the district ensure that young people are better served by looking at our mentoring programs, behavior programs, etc., using data from those programs to set a direction.
- 10) Stated that it is vitally important for the Board to schedule a workshop time to discuss workforce education. Dr. Wilcox commended David Barnes for doing a "masterful" job reinventing our PTECs.
- 11) Announced that Dr. Bill Daggett, during this summer's Model Schools Conference, awarded to Joni Jonas, Supervisor Business Technologies & Workforce Education, the prestigious Ben Kruse Leadership in Education Award. Dr. Wilcox commended Ms. Jonas for her work.
- 12) Reported that PTEC has launched a Broadband Institute through partnership with Brighthouse, Knology, Progress Energy, and the Education Foundation. Dr. Wilcox commended the leadership and support of the Foundation and David Barnes.
- 13) Reported that the ACT results for Pinellas County are up for the third consecutive year and that the district has outperformed the state consistently. Dr. Wilcox stated that he will be sharing further information with the Board.
- 14) Stated that he has spoken with Dr. Leon Hobbs regarding the district taking a direction with our design team to talk about ways to make our facilities more environmentally friendly. Dr. Wilcox stated that a speaker, Mr. Klutho, had suggested that he look at the Rocky Mountain Institute website; that he has spent some time on that site; and, that he will now encourage district staff to review the information contained on that site as they study this new direction.
- 15) Stated that this an exciting time to be in the district and thanked the Board for their leadership and support.

## **3. Items Introduced by Attorney**

### Minutes

Mr. Robinson's report included the following:

1) Stated that he has spoken with the Superintendent and the Board Chairperson regarding the workshop topic "military and other recruiters"; that he feels it best to come to the Board in September; that he believes the topic will require approximately three hours; that he is working on a draft for the Board to work with; and, that he will need to share it with the stakeholders. Mr. Robinson stated that he is receiving input from lawyers at the state and national levels and that he has already received a request from the Department of Defense for a copy of the language. Mrs. Russell questioned how long parents have to complete and return the opt-out form before their child's name might be released. Dr. Wilcox stated that a connect-ed message will be sent out this weekend to inform and remind parents that all opt-out forms are in the Code of Conduct and need to be reviewed by parents. Mr. Robinson and Dr. Wilcox further clarified the process and the time guidelines for Mrs. Russell.

## **4. Board Reports**

### Minutes

Mrs. Bostock -- 1) Thanked all who were involved and responsible for such a successful school opening.

Mrs. Bostock said that she especially wanted to thank those involved in the district's first fundamental high school and the Board Members who supported that effort.

Ms. Clark -- 1) Reiterated Dr. Wilcox's comments regarding the great start to this school year. Ms. Clark shared that she worked on the bus circle at Blanton Elementary on that first day and truly enjoyed it. 2) Stated that she has watched the video by Dr. Wilcox and that she is impressed with the message included on that video.

Mrs. Brown -- 1) Stated that this was a great start of the school year and commended the Transportation Department and Mr. Madden and his staff for their assistance to parents. 2) Thanked Dr. Wilcox for saying that we need to look at the issues brought forward by members of SEIU. 3) Expressed her excitement about the apprenticeship programs that are being implemented. Mrs. Brown stated that this gives students another chance to have the light turned on and stated that it is important to work with companies that do not discriminate. 4) Stated that she does not want to go through the budget cuts again so the district must maintain their fiscal record. Mrs. Brown stated that she is glad that Dr. Wilcox has said that he will be looking at the concerns but keeping the budget needs in mind. Mrs. Brown stated that the training portion is important for those changing jobs. 5) Stated that she attended the training Dr. Wilcox did with principals and administrators and commended him for his consistent message. 6) Requested that the Board consider conducting some of their meetings out in neighborhoods. 7) Stated that on the first day of school she visited both Melrose and Belcher elementary schools, two schools that are piloting the single-gender concept. Mrs. Brown stated that the teachers and students seemed to be very excited and that this is a great choice for families.

Mrs. Russell -- 1) Echoed that this start up of the school year went smoothly and thanked all who were responsible for that, i.e., police officers monitoring school zones. Mrs. Russell stated that she would like to see school zones marked a little clearer.

Mrs. Lerner -- 1) Thanked Dr. Wilcox for his good message to schools. 2) Stated that the Board had a good workshop with Schools Police and other police chiefs; that she wants to be sure that the St. Petersburg Police are included in future discussions; and, that she is very appreciative of these partnerships. Mrs. Lerner stated that the next step will be to talk about consistency across the system. 3) Stated that the Board had received an e-mail regarding health and safety concerns related to the weather. Mrs. Lerner stated that she has asked about the type of training our coaches receive regarding the impact of the weather on the students. Mrs. Lerner stated that the Board had an initiative to have covered play areas at all schools and that there are apparently two that do not have them, Fuiguitt being one. Mrs. Lerner urged Dr. Wilcox to take a look at the capital outlay plan as it relates to the Fuiguitt campus since it is a health issue. Dr. Wilcox stated that he will look into this.

Mrs. Gallucci - 1) Thanked the Pinellas County team for a wonderful opening and the district staff for a continuous improvement to the call center operations. 2) Referencing a recent article regarding cars passing stopped school buses, Mrs. Gallucci requested that the Board consider urging Legislators to change the law so that it is no longer required that you be able to identify the driver of a vehicle that passes a stopped

school bus in order that a ticket/fine be administered.

Mrs. Cook -- 1) Stated that the Board, at their next workshop, will be discussing possible legislative issues to be submitted for the FSBA Legislative Platform 2007. Mrs. Cook requested that Board Members bring their issues forward at that time. 2) Encouraged everyone who got into their position because they love children to take time to remember the children and make this one of the best years we have had.

## 5. School Board Meeting Evaluation

Minutes

N/A

## L. Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, this meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

**1. The above listed recommendations to the School Board of Pinellas County are submitted for consideration and approval at the meeting of August 15, 2006.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent of Schools

Minutes

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Board Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent