

SCHOOL BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA WORKSHOP – April 6, 2010

The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida, conducted a workshop on Tuesday, April 6, 2010, at 9:00 a.m., in the Cabinet Conference Room, Administration Building, 301 4th Street S.W., Largo, Florida.

Present: Ms. Janet R. Clark, Chairperson; Mrs. Carol J. Cook, Vice Chairperson; Mrs. Mary L. Tyus Brown, Ms. Nina Hayden, Mrs. Linda S. Lerner, Mrs. Peggy L. O'Shea and Mrs. Robin L. Wikle, Members; Dr. Julie Janssen, Superintendent; Mr. James F. Madden, Deputy Superintendent; Mrs. Catherine Fleeger, Deputy Superintendent Chief Academic Officer; and, Mr. James A. Robinson, General Counsel.

During the review of the agenda, Dr. Janssen added the topic, Update on John Hopkins to be heard immediately following the lunch break.

The following topics were presented and discussed during this workshop session:

- **Budget Update**
- **Title I – changes in Funding Distribution** – The proposed budget for the redistribution of funds will be presented to the Board at the May 20th workshop for discussion and to the May 26, 2010 Board meeting for action. The need for a current staffing model was reiterated by Ms. Clark and will be scheduled for a future workshop.
- **Graduation Enhancement** – Mrs. Lerner requested that the Board receive a plan for chronically disruptive students and information on best practices used in addressing the same. Mrs. Lerner also expressed the need for a strategic plan for the pTEC centers. A workshop discussion will be scheduled regarding charter schools and forming a more collaborative relationship with them in order to give them the help they may need. Further information will be provided to the Board pertaining to this topic, information to include the budget impact of the recommendations for the graduation enhancement initiatives.
- **Update – John Hopkins Middle School**
- **Safe & Drug Free Schools Program – Update** – Questions to be answered are: 1) How much money is the district losing in that department? 2) How does the district plan to continue the needed programs with these cuts in funding? 3) What can be done to educate parents, bringing the necessary information to them? Consideration will be given as to what may be included on our television network and how PCCPTA can assist in delivering the message. Dr. Janssen stated that her efforts will be put towards acquiring grants to help fill the funding gap.
- **Surplus Property** – Additional information, including names of the groups that have indicated an interest in the district's vacated property, will

be provided to the Board through Friday Update and then this topic will be scheduled for further discussion at a future workshop.

- **Bradley Mediation – Investigation of Criminal Activity** - Dr. Janssen explained that the plaintiffs in the Bradley case are asking that a statement be placed in the MOU that would require a school administrator be present during the questioning of a student on our campuses by police for an off-campus offense. The Office of the General Counsel will identify wording that will meet this request but provide some flexibility for the district.

- **Leadership Discussion**

- Mrs. Cook suggested that since workshop topic requests are to be presented at workshops rather than at meetings, the Board may want to look at what is presented during Board reports at meetings.
- Workshop Topic Request Forms are to be electronically completed and forwarded to Mrs. Beaty (Board Office), who will then share with the Board Members and the Superintendent.
- The workshop topic request for a discussion on SRO's submitted by Mrs. Lerner will be scheduled for the June workshop. Chief Gavin and some of his school resource officers will be invited by the Superintendent to join this presentation and discussion.
- An informal hearing on the Life Skills Center Charter renewal request will be scheduled for April 27, 2010 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 am. in the Conference Hall. A workshop will be scheduled that same day from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to discuss the input received in the informal hearing of that morning and charter schools in general. A request will be submitted to Life Skills to submit their plan to the Board prior to the hearing date. Board Members should submit their charter school questions to the Board Office and Superintendent prior to the April 27 date.
- Scheduling of workshop topics – Life Skills Charter and charter schools on April 27; Decentralized Decision Making on May 20; Teacher Appraisal form on May 20; Title I on May 20; Budget Update on May 20; Parent Contract & Involvement on June 8; and, SRO on June 8.
- Mrs. Wikle stated that having the staffing model will be a great tool as the Board looks at the offerings for the different levels, elementary, middle and high. Mrs. Wikle also encouraged Board Members to see the movie, Precious.
- Ms. Clark stated that Mr. Johansen's last meeting will be the April 20th meeting due to his retirement. Mrs. Wikle and Mrs. Cook will work on identifying a way to commemorate Mr. Johansen's twenty-plus years of service to the district.
- Dr. Janssen stated that Donna Winchester will be giving a weekly update on our district's website, specifically geared to proving better communication with teachers and support staff.
- Mrs. Lerner encouraged all Board Members to call their Legislators encouraging them to vote against SB 6.

No official actions were taken by the Board at this workshop. An audio recording of this workshop is filed in the Board Office archives. This workshop adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary

/db
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