

## **SCHOOL BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA WORKSHOP – December 13, 2011**

The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida, conducted a workshop on Tuesday, December 13, 2011, at 9:00 a.m., in the Cabinet Conference Room, Administration Building, 301 4<sup>th</sup> Street S.W., Largo, Florida.

Present: Mrs. Robin L. Wikle, Chairperson; Mrs. Carol J. Cook, Vice Chairperson; Ms. Janet R. Clark, Mrs. Terry Krassner, Mrs. Linda S. Lerner, Mrs. Peggy L. O'Shea, Members; Dr. John A. Stewart, Superintendent, Mr. James F. Madden, Deputy Superintendent; and, Mr. James A. Robinson, General Counsel. Board Member Lewis Williams passed away on December 3, 2011.

The School Board, Dr. Stewart, Mr. Madden, Mr. Besette, Ms. Ginny Pannill and Mr. Robinson met in session with Mayor of St. Petersburg Bill Foster, City Commission Chair Jim Kennedy and Lori Matway, Education & Government Services, City of St. Petersburg. The topic discussed was the future use of the Rio Vista Elementary School site. Next steps: Mr. Besette and his staff will provide the demolition and preparation costs to be considered in the amortization portion of the proposed agreement. This information and the proposed agreement will be forwarded to the General Counsel and the School Board for further discussion, prior to it being presented as an agenda item.

During the review of the agenda, Ms. Clark requested that the item, Subcommittee Report – Self Evaluation Instrument & Process be moved to a future workshop agenda.

The following topics were discussed:

- **Budget – Yellow Brick Road** – Mr. Fred Matz and Mr. Kevin Smith presented a brief overview of the Yellow Brick Road and related budget information.
- **Insurance – Humana Financing Option** – Mr. Ted Pafundi, Dr. Ron Ciranna, Mr. Dick Klima, AON, and Mr. Ray Hodorski, Humana, presented for discussion an alternative financing option available to the Board with Humana. The pros and cons of changing to a program of sharing in any premium surplus were discussed. All surpluses will be shared 50/50; deficits will be on paper only, with the deficit amounts being pulled from subsequent surplus years; premiums cannot be increased in order to cover the deficit of a previous year; and, employees will experience no change. Mr. Klima and Mr. Pafundi reported that though the district has already entered into a contract with Human, they are willing to renegotiate this opportunity. Permission was granted by the Board for these gentlemen to go forward with implementing the proposed change in our policy with Humana.
- **Public Presentations at Meetings – Evaluation Criteria to be Considered** – The Board discussed various criteria to be considered in performing a six-month review of the new policy for public presentations at meetings. Some criteria suggested during this session are as follows: 1) Are we able to follow a logical train of thought; 2) Are we finding that more

people are coming to speak at the end of the meeting or at the beginning; and, 3) Do speakers have sufficient time to speak to multiple agenda items. Mrs. Beaty will provide a record of the speakers and when they speak to the Board at each meeting. Student recognition meetings will begin to be scheduled in accordance with the times of the year that various student events or competitions are held. Ms. Winchester will prepare that schedule. The speaker request form will be redesigned under the direction of Mr. David Cook, with assistance from the Office of the General Counsel; it will not be a duplicate form; and, the forms, once the meeting has ended, will be given to the Administrative Assistant. A discussion will be scheduled in June 2012 for the Board Members to review and critique the implementation of the new policy.

- **Teacher Evaluation** – Ms. Lisa Grant shared with the Board that the district has been informed that the evaluation must reflect this year’s data; Ms. Grant will be sending our district’s program to the State DOE immediately following today’s presentation; Ms. Grant will send to the Board through Friday Update the informational brochure that is being prepared for teachers and administrators; Ms. Grant and staff are preparing informational snippets to help explain the process and program to employees; and, the district staff will continue to work with PCTA as the new evaluation system is carried out.
- **Wellness Presentation** – Mr. Ted Pafundi, Ms. Christina Kempf and Mrs. April Paul presented an update for the Board on the district’s wellness initiatives. Ms. Kempf shared that we need a “wellness champion” for this building; and, Dr. Stewart said that he will assist in identifying that individual. Mrs. Lerner encouraged the district staff to do what is possible to discourage the use of tobacco products by our employees.
- **Review of RFP Responses – Performance Auditor** – Ms. Linda Balcombe shared with the Board that she received two responses to the RFP. It was decided that in order for these two proposals to remain confidential, as is the practice, the responses will be forwarded to the Board Members for their individual review and scoring of each response. Further discussion will be scheduled following the Board meeting of January 10, 2012; oral presentations, if any, will take place at the January 17, 2012 workshop; and, an agenda item will be prepared for the February 7, 2012 meeting.
- **Leadership:**
  - **Job Description – Hourly Teacher, Virtual School** – Dr. Ron Ciranna and members of his staff presented information on this position. The Board was told that this position exists; that it has been discovered that it had not been approved by the Board, prior to filling it; and, that an item will be brought to the Board for approval, after the fact, in the first January meeting.
  - **Superintendent’s Update:**
    - **Additional Duty Days** - Dr. Stewart and Dr. Ron Ciranna shared the following changes that will be implemented in the distribution of these days: 1) The distribution will be approved by the Board prior to them being assigned to individuals; 2) The format of the agenda item will be changed to be more specific as to the purpose, the location and the funding source; and, 3) Justification for each position will be required by the requestor.
    - **Title I – Repurposing of Funds** – Dr. Stewart requested that this topic be placed on the January 17, 2012 workshop agenda.
    - **Wished** all a happy holiday season.
  - **Homeless Network Interlocal Agreement** – Ms. Clark, who serves on the Homeless Network Coalition, stated that they are reorganizing, separating into three groups. Ms.

Clark stated that their interlocal agreement needs to be brought to the Board; and, requested time on the January 17, 2012 workshop to discuss this further.

- **Change in Acronyms – RtI (Response to Intervention) to MTSS (Multi-Tiered Systems of Support)** – Mrs. Krassner shared that during the recent RtI Committee meeting she learned that the RtI initiative is being changed to MTSS.
- **MLK Banquet** – Mrs. Wikle shared that Mr. Seville Brown has shared with her that this year’s Martin Luther King celebrations will have a “spiritual” tribute to honor the late Mr. Lew Williams, with the kick-off taking place at the MLK Banquet. Information will be forthcoming.
- **Education Foundation** - Mrs. Wikle shared that the Education Foundation has named a Doorways Scholarship in Mr. Lew Williams’ name.
- **Pinellas Community Foundation** – Mrs. Wikle serves on this foundation and has placed a copy of their most recent executive report in the Board Office.
- **Superintendent Search Subcommittee of the Board** – Mrs. Wikle questioned the status of this committee. Mrs. Lerner stated that the subcommittee will meet in February. Mrs. Krassner offered to take the position left vacant on this subcommittee through the passing of Mr. Williams.

No official actions were taken by the Board at this workshop. An audio recording of this workshop is filed in the Board Office archives. This workshop adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Secretary

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