



**School Board Briefing Meeting  
Tuesday, August 15, 2006  
3:00 p.m.  
MINUTES**

**Approved September 26, 2006**

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**CALLED TO ORDER:** Mr. Robert Chilmonik, Board Member

**PRESENT:** Mr. Steven Teuber, J.D., Chairman  
Mr. Robert Chilmonik, Board Member  
Mrs. Jeanne Dozier, Board Member  
Dr. Jane E. Kuckel, Board Member  
Dr. James W. Browder, Superintendent  
Mr. Keith Martin, Board Attorney  
Mrs. Julie Nieminski, Board Internal Auditor

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Ms. Sonia M. Roberts

Mr. Chilmonik called the School Board Briefing Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Dr. Scricca will not be present at this meeting.

**Discussion / Legislative Platform – 2007 – Mrs. Dozier & Mrs. Bob Cerra**

Mrs. Dozier introduced Robert and John Cerra, from the Cerra Consulting Group, the District's Legislative Consultants who are present to discuss with the Board the School Board of Lee County 2007 Legislative Priorities, (a copy of which is attached and made a part of these minutes). Mr. Bob Cerra discussed how they approached the development of the Priorities, including working with the 2006 Legislative Platform Priorities and deciding which priorities should stay and which should be eliminated. From that, the Board was presented with a first draft of the four priorities for recommendation at a future Board meeting:

- Provide funding for district operations commensurate with a state goal to improve instructional outcomes
- Re-establish proper governance of charter schools
- Assist with classroom space needs for class size reduction, growth in students and replacement of aging facilities
- Improve on the newly established state Pre-Kindergarten program.

Ms. Dozier advised the Board members that this is the time of year when the Board looks at the proposals for our legislative platform to forward to legislature via the Greater Florida Consortium of School Boards and the Florida School Boards Association. On the discussion related to amending the class size mandate, Mr. Teuber stated that he would rather not see that issue on our platform. Dr. Kuckel took the platforms to the Compliance meeting and the members are very supportive. On the issue of the school calendar, Mr. Bob Cerra advised that when the District Calendar Committee begins the new school calendar that the Committee should prepare two calendars: one with what the legislator will allow and the other based upon what the current law is. At Mr. Teuber's suggestion, Mr. Chilmonik agreed at this time to join the calendar committee; Mr. Teuber will forward his name to the committee. Dr. Browder stated that Dr. Adkins and his staff have had discussions regarding two calendars. Mrs. Dozier advised the Board that the 2007 School Board Legislative Priorities will be brought back to the Board at the next meeting [August 29, 2006] for approval. She advised that she will be working with Mr. Joe Donzelli on the platform card to re-design it. Two cards will be done: one with Board addresses and the other platform card will have to be printed after the elections with the names of our Legislators. John & Bob Cerra were thanked for their presentation.

### **Proposed Calendar for Board / Briefing Meetings – December/November**

Dr Browder presented the November, 2006 – November, 2007 tentative calendar to the Board of the Board meetings. Mrs. Dozier indicated her preference is to remove the July 17, 2007 meeting and call for second meeting if it is needed. Mrs. Dozier hopes a retreat is planned immediately after our re-organizational meeting, or prior to it. (Mr. Teuber had to leave the meeting at this time.) Dr. Browder pointed out that if the re-organizational meeting takes place on November 21<sup>st</sup>, he suggests the week before, or on 11/7. Dr. Kuckel would like to have a workshop prior to the re-organizational meeting; Dr. Browder will go through the process and bring to the Board in a September meeting that we change that date and suggest we go with the 14<sup>th</sup> or Monday. Dr. Browder was asked to bring forward a recommendation for a retreat. A copy of this draft is made a part of these minutes.

### **Special Areas of Board Involvements / Reports**

#### **Jane Kuckel**

- Dr. Kuckel thanked Dr. Browder for all the support given to the schools during the school openings. She attended several of the open houses and was impressed at the turnout. Dunbar Middle School changed from an evening open house to a morning and increased attendance.
- Compliance Committee met last night and Mrs. Julie Nieminski spoke to the committee re the audit of \$25,000 and below. Mrs. Boyle on school improvement process. Ms. Desamours and Mr. Legutko spoke on the budget. Ms. Desamours will get back information to the Committee on the reserve fund.
- The Compliance Committee is looking forward to Dr. Kuckel's presentation to the Board at the September 12, 2006 Board meeting where she will bring to that meeting the Committee's ideas and concerns.
- The Insurance Task Force is meeting on Monday, advised Dr. Kuckel.
- Dr. Kuckel spoke of the Estero Rotary Club and the Estero Council leaders.

#### **Jeanne Dozier**

- Visited several schools during school openings and each ran very well. She took this opportunity to thank the Superintendent and his staff and Construction Services for all their hard work in getting 17 additions opened in a timely manner. Also thanked support personnel in helping out with preparation of these buildings for the opening of schools. She personally thanked those staff persons who worked last week from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. (Mr. Teuber returned to the meeting at this time.)
- Open houses – some schools went to Saturday morning and the turn out was tremendous.
- She will be attending the Consortium Legislative meeting next week to develop the platform. All Board Members will receive a copy of these platforms. She extended an invitation to the Board members to attend this Consortium meeting.
- Met with Edison Board of Trustees and took this opportunity to thank the Edison Foundation for the gift to our employees.
- She was unable to attend the Construction Advisory Committee meeting but asked Mr. Moore to represent her in telling everyone to get their responses in re their continuation on the committee. She took this opportunity to urge the public who are interested in serving on an advisory committee to do so.

As the Briefing Chair, Mr. Chilmonik filled in Mr. Teuber on the proposed calendar discussion and the Superintendent will bring a recommendation to eliminate one of the dates on the proposed calendar.

#### **Mr. Teuber**

Mr. Teuber did not have a report to present at this time.

#### **Mr. Chilmonik**

- Went to the open houses and agreed that the openings went smoothly.
- He mentioned the number of emails he has received related to transportation. He stated that a request of his would be a weekly report from Dr. Browder on transportation.

**Academic Services – Pandemic Influenza Plan – Dr. Jones / Ms. Warnecke**

Dr. Browder introduced Ms. Warnecke and Dr. Jones who are here to present the *Pandemic Influenza Plan for the School District of Lee County, Florida*, and made a part of these minutes. Ms. Warnecke discussed the power point presentation of this Plan. The presentation focused on the need for prevention; and the District's goals in responding to this influenza and a description of the influenza.

**Administrative / Support Services – School Concurrency – Mr. Moore / Ms. Hawkins**

Mr. Moore advised the Board that in 2002 the Board entered into an Inter-local agreement with the local municipalities that would help in school planning facilities where we would cooperate and share information with governmental agencies. At the last legislative session Senate Bill 360 passed which required all the local governments to include concurrency in the state management plan. The District has until April, 2008 to develop an Inter-local that would amend the 2002 Inter-local. He introduced Mr. Hawkins who will take the lead in developing that amended Inter-local. Ms. Hawkins advised the Board that she will present a brief overview on school concurrency and discuss the direction the district is going in and gave a power point presentation on this.

**Executive Services – Dr. Browder, Mr. McNerney, Mr. Shelton, Dr. Jones**

Dr. Constance Jones gave the presentation on the following Administrative Regulations and Policies:

**AR-3.61, Transportation of Students in Vehicle Other Than School Buses**

Dr. Constance Jones briefed the Board on the revisions of this Administration Regulation, to comply with new State legislation by establishing procedures to be implemented when students are transported in vehicles other than school buses. A copy of AR-3.61 is made a part of these minutes.

**Student Progression Plan 2006-07**

Dr. Jones presented this Plan which is reviewed and updated annually, if necessary, and presented to the Board for adoption. A copy of this Plan is made a part of these minutes.

**Middle School Program of Studies 2006-07**

The Middle School Program of Studies is reviewed and updated annually and is made a part of these minutes.

**High School Program of Studies 2006-07**

The High School Program of Studies is reviewed and updated annually and is made a part of these minutes.

**Policy 2.771, Early Childhood Attendance (new 8/29)** – this is a new policy to establish attendance policies for students attending district-provided voluntary Pre-K programs that align with the State Voluntary Pre-K (VPK) Uniform Attendance Policy. A copy of this Policy is made a part of these minutes.

**AR-1.145, Early Childhood Discipline (new 8/29)**

This is a new policy to establish discipline guidelines for students attending District-provided voluntary Pre-K programs. A copy of this AR is made a part of these minutes. This policy will of course be shared with parents, with an attached signature page.

**AR-1.61, School Uniforms (revised 8/29)**

Dr. Jones advised that the Board had asked the District to make the language of this policy very clear. The revisions to AR-1.61, to update the requirements for schools that wish to have mandated uniforms.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Martin read the policy on public comment. Ms. Joanne Thomas-Joseph approached the podium. She thanked the Board and the Superintendent for the Pandemic Influenza Plan. Ms. Thomas-Joseph spoke of her decision related to the Florida Virtual Schools as well as the District's agreement with the Florida Virtual Schools.

**Board Attorney Comments**

School Law Minute: HB787 A++ Plan and a new §1012.23(15) of the Florida Statutes related to the requirements of a school district on non-assigning of teacher personnel to certain schools; the superintendent's annual compliance with these requirements.

**Board Internal Auditor Comments**

Mrs. Julie Nieminski updated the Board on the status of her reports which she will be releasing.

**Superintendent's Comments**

Dr. Browder advised the Board that North Fort Myers High School today accepted recognition from the Commissioner of Education and State Board of Education for improvement of their grades. At Riverdale High School, 1600 parents showed up to a Saturday Open House. He took this opportunity and thanked the Facilities and Maintenance staff, Reggie Snell, Bill Moore and Don Easterly for their hard work. He spoke on the concurrency

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

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**Robert D. Chilmonik, Briefing Meeting Chair**

**ATTEST:**

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**James W. Browder, Ed.D., Secretary and District Superintendent**

*An audio/visual tape of this meeting has been produced to provide a verbatim record of the proceedings. Members of the public may obtain a copy of the tape of any meeting by making a request for such through the Communications Department and paying the actual cost of copying the tape. Members of the public may view any Board meeting tape at the Communications Department at no cost. Anyone wishing to view a Board meeting tape should contact the Communications Department at 337-8327 to make such a request.*