



VISION: *To be a world-class school system.*

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LEE COUNTY – Briefing Meeting / M I N U T E S [Approved 7/31/08]
Tuesday – June 17, 2008 / 2:30 p.m. (called to order by Dr. Kuckel at 3:06 p.m.)

Attendees: Mrs. Jeanne S. Dozier, Board Chairman
Mr. Robert D. Chilmonik, Board Member
Dr. Elinor C. Scricca, Board Member
Dr. James W. Browder, Secretary & District Superintendent

Dr. Jane E. Kuckel, Vice Chair
Mr. Steven K. Teuber, J.D., Board Member
Mr. Keith Martin, Board Attorney
Mrs. Denise Mangus, Recording Secretary

A. BOARD MEMBERS

1. **Special Areas of Board Involvement/Reports** – Congratulations given to Mrs. Dozier by Dr. Scricca; the latter noted the FSBA informative conference and she's spoken with Dr. Browder re the diversity session and the District. Dr. Scricca noted the Legislative Briefing and Mr. Whittamore's retirement/his comprehensive high schools' work. Mr. Chilmonik noted last day of school visits/thanking teachers and his meeting with FGCU President Bradshaw on things we're doing. Mrs. Dozier thanked the Board for the past year's support and Mr. Teuber as conference parliamentarian last week; she noted Vonnie Bryan's invigorating speech and subsequent requests to speak. Mr. Teuber commended this principal for her positive attitude/speech and children succeeding because we believe, in these tough/adverse times. Mrs. Dozier noted the Consortium meeting (info to be sent) and the legislative platform; separately, she attended CAC's meeting and Edison-Ford Estate's, speaking with Dr. Ken Walker re the latter. Dr. Kuckel acknowledged Ms. Bryan also and complimented Mrs. Dozier for her FSBA leadership and work for adequate funding; Dunbar High received a FSBA technology award.

B. ACADEMIC SERVICES

1. **FCAT Scores** – Dr. Itzen noted, re student FCAT numbers, that ESE and ESOL scores are included and standard curriculum scores wherever we could; school grades will come out of Strategic Plan goals, with additional analysis at that time. It's hard to compare across the state as all have different ESE and ESOL numbers. Dr. Itzen proceeded with a PowerPoint (copy of this 12-page presentation is on file). FCAT 2008 highlights are that elementary reading and math outgain the state; high school reading turns the corner; and there's work left to do in science. School grades (2008)/AYP results are planned for release by the state around July 14, 2008.
2. **Update/ESE Committees** – Dr. Browder noted the Autism Task Force as wonderfully positive; there was a network out there but not as we now do it. Re the ESE Advisory Committee, there's a real clear focus in making gains and those who want to be positively involved; the Board was thanked for their part. There have been 70 trainings in the 4th quarter so parents have ability to be engaged in the IEP process. Dr. Brunick noted of the 50 District student records pulled (all counties audited), 93% were in compliance and the small percentage could be one small item—missing signature, more comprehensiveness needed, ESY program not addressed appropriately, etc. An area to improve is student discipline for exceptional and strategies; it's to be in place December 08. (Please see the '07-08 two-page parent involvement summary on file and graph of trainings/parent opportunities.)

C. ADMINISTRATIVE / SUPPORT SERVICES – No agenda items today.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. **FY 09 Budget /Preliminary Budget Review** – Mrs. Desamours proceeded with a PowerPoint (see 7-page handout of such on file along with 6/16 Memo from Superintendent to the Board on FY09 Preliminary Budget information). Re budget reductions, what brought us here is decreased spending and tourism; declining growth; real estate crisis; and Amendment 1. The state's resolution is FEFP statewide budget down \$332 million; base student allocation decreased \$108 from prior year; all cost factors down; and school improvement, recognition, and teacher lead reduced. At the start of the budget process, \$29 million shortfall from the state to the District was estimated. The District Budget Committee's decisions were \$8 million in non-personnel cuts; \$6.9 million in cuts of personnel; and salaries frozen at current levels until negotiations resume in September. Dr. Browder noted, re Transportation, students' safety won't be jeopardized. Data on essential functions of the District is still being collected. Dr. Browder feels the budget crisis may be a three-year window and there's concern for manpower to continue (if situation worsens); he assured there is an ongoing look at things to be more efficient; our goal is to be as thoughtful/sensitive in moving forward though a Reduction in Force. It's the paramount duty of the state legislators to find funding for a high-quality education; Florida is funded 46 out of 50 states. Upcoming District dates re the budget are: 7/1—valuation certified by Property Appraiser; 7/19—state certifies millage and we receive second calculation; Tentative Budget to the Board 7/24 (7/28 newspaper budget advertisement

per TRIM); 7/31—Tentative Budget hearing; 8/25—Board briefed to review Final Budget; and 9/9—Final Budget Hearing.

E. HUMAN RESOURCES – No items today.

F. EXECUTIVE SERVICES

1. Discussion/Annual Report – Dr. Browder noted the number of copies will be reduced and a sponsor is being sought to pick up additional costs; Mr. Teuber feels people like the calendar built in. Dr. Browder noted one option may be to look at cell tower dollars.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT – Sue Jacobse asked for a look at the positive things in how the year started; separately, she suggested—for the further understanding of some—to have a visual chart of SAT/ACT measures (what we’re responsible for) and FCAT (feels latter has incredible gains).

H. BOARD ATTORNEY/SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS – Mr. Martin gave a school law minute on House Bill 909/Value Adjustment Board; membership is changed from prior, the Board will need to give direction re county business citizen representative prior to 9/1, and consensus was reached to workshop. Separately, Mr. Martin will keep the Board apprised of the lawsuit challenging the Legislature re funding; Mrs. Dozier noted Mr. Martin’s FSBA appointment (due to his performance) by FSBA to serve regarding this. Dr. Browder noted this appointment speaks well of Mr. Martin around the state. The Superintendent commended the positive closing of the school year. He noted two District students singing at last week’s FSBA conference. Dr. Browder also acknowledged Mrs. Desamours great budget presentation; he separately mentioned the summer cadres. The SBA has been discussed in detail re Pool A and B; the good news by September should be substantial fund liquidity (District doesn’t have many operating dollars there as ours are in local banks and insurance). The Federated group (brought on after BlackRock exited) is working to ensure liquidity continues, and Dr. Browder’s happy there’s positive growth. Dr. Browder noted for understanding of all that when an item is seen as taken off a budget list (e.g., bleachers), there are portions of dollars set aside and some are absorbed inside of Maintenance and Safety budgets. The budget isn’t easy and he appreciates the work. Meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

MINUTES BOOK NO. 44 - FY08

ATTEST: _____

Jane E. Kuckel, Ph.D., Meeting Chair

Michael P. McNerney, Secretary & District Interim 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.