



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

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LEE COUNTY**  
**School Board Briefing Meeting – MINUTES** [Approval 8/28/07]  
**Tuesday – August 14, 2007 – 2:30 P.M.**

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**Attending**

Mrs. Jeanne S. Dozier, Chairman	Dr. James W. Browder, Secretary and District Superintendent
Dr. Jane E. Kuckel, Vice Chairman	Mr. Keith Martin, Board Attorney
Mr. Robert D. Chilmonik, Member	Ms. Julie Nieminski, Board Auditor
Dr. Elinor C. Scricca, Member	Mrs. Donna Lesansky, Recording Secretary

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Dr. Kuckel called the meeting to order at 2:37 P.M.

**A. Item(s) with Guests**

1. Collaboration Effort

Dr. Browder announced that this item would not be addressed until Councilman Streets was present.

**B. Board Members**

1. Special Areas of Board Involvement / Reports

*Dr. Scricca:* stated that the “opening of the doors” at East Lee County High School was very encouraging with over 400 attendees; acknowledged that several of the Board Members attended the “closing of the doors” at the Dr. James A. Adams Public Education Center; stated that she participated in a FGCU broadcast regarding elementary school foreign language programs and that all of the callers shared positive comments; acknowledged that this was the baptism of the new Board Room and suggested that Sylvia Haungs, Project Manager, be recognized at a future meeting for all of her efforts in connection with the new building.

*Mr. Chilmonik:* stated that he attended the East Lee County High School; stated that he toured Cape Coral High School on Monday and would be also be other schools.

*Mrs. Dozier:* stated that she had the opportunity to welcome this year’s leadership group and hear the Superintendent talk about the “main thing”; stated that at the last Construction Advisory Committee meeting the group discussed the issues that had been brought up at the July 29, 2007, Board Meeting; announced that she met with a group led by Bob Wimbush regarding the Quality movement; stated that the “Throw Away the Key” ceremony at the former Educational Center was very emotional and that in comparison, the new facility is quite intimidating; announced that she attended the New Teacher Orientation and that the District would be gaining almost 500 new teachers this year; stated that she met with Councilman Streets this week and suggested that he meet with the Board as a group so that he could share his thoughts with all; stated that she attended the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at East Lee County High School; asked if any of the Board Members would like to serve as this year’s Board liaison to the Instructional Calendar Committee (*note: Dr. Scricca volunteered to serve*); suggested that a representative from the District attend the FSU

Symposium and gave the Superintendent some information she had received about the Symposium; mentioned an article that had been in Sunday's newspaper about the District's IT group and the professional manner in which they handled the move to the new building.

*Dr. Kuckel:* commented that the entire move to the new building went very well and that everyone seems to be very pleased with the new facility; stated that she attended the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House at East Lee County High School; announced that she attended the New Teacher Orientation; thanked Julie Nieminski and Bob Brown for attending last evening's Compliance Advisory Committee meeting and for explaining the rules regarding compliance; suggested that Board Members inform her when they have vacancies on the Compliance Advisory Committee so that she may contact local companies to see if they have anyone on staff who might be interested in serving (*note: the Board Members supported this plan*).

Mrs. Dozier and the Board Members discussed setting another date for the Audit Plan Workshop that had been cancelled earlier today. It was the consensus of the Board to reschedule the workshop for Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30 P.M. so that the Superintendent could bring forward a recommendation for approval of the Plan at the September 25<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

In response to a question from Dr. Kuckel regarding the time capsule, Dr. Browder stated that he would be providing them with a list of suggestions from staff and inviting them to also make some suggestions.

## 2. Discussion / 2008 Legislative Platform

Mrs. Dozier introduced John Cerra who suggested that the Board first address the proposed Resolution. It was explained that the purpose of the Resolution is to be proactive during the 2008 Legislative Session with regard to the likely possibility of a shortfall.

Dr. Kuckel read the Resolution into the record. (*Copy of the Resolution is on file.*)

A lengthy discussion regarding the Resolution ensued. Since the Board could not reach consensus on the Resolution, it was suggested that a workshop be scheduled to further discuss the Resolution and to look at other areas that would represent statewide initiatives to address the possible shortfall.

It was the consensus of the Board Members present to schedule the workshop for Tuesday, August 28, 2007, at 1:30 P.M. with the intent of having the Superintendent bring a good cause recommendation to that evening's Board Meeting.

Mr. Cerra led a discussion about the District's proposed 2008 Legislative Platform. (*Copy of the document is on file.*)

Dr. Sheryl Clarke was asked to address questions raised by Board Members regarding the District's immersion program and the District's efforts to assist English learners.

As a result of the discussion, it was suggested that additional language be added to the fifth priority, *Improve the State Pre-Kindergarten Program*, to expand the first bullet so that it would reference the report of the Universal Pre-Kindergarten Education Advisory Council and to create a third bullet that would address the transportation costs associated with the Pre-Kindergarten program.

## 3. Board Priority Targets

Dr. Browder provided the Board with a copy of the draft document entitled “*School District of Lee County Strategic Plan/Board Priority Goals*”. (Copy of the document is on file.)

He explained that the document provides a guide to the calculation of the Board Priority Goals. Dr. Browder then asked Dr. Richard Itzen to provide an update on the District’s Accreditation Process.

In response to Dr. Scricca’s request for background information on each member of the accreditation team that would be visiting the District, it was explained that a packet will be assembled and provided to each Board Member.

#### 4. Discussion / Gwynne Building

Dr. Browder presented the Board with options regarding the Gwynne Building:

1. Update the facility cosmetically at a cost of \$250,000 plus a \$25,000 contingency bid and then lease it to the Foundation at a minimal annual cost.
2. Provide space for the Foundation at the Lee County Public Education Center at a cost somewhere between \$25,000 and \$75,000.
3. Sell the property, which is currently appraised somewhere between \$2 million and \$2.6 million.

The Board requested that information be shared with them as to how much the District would charge the Foundation to lease the building and where the funds would come from to do the repairs/renovations needed. It was the consensus of the Board that the Superintendent direct his Business Department to look into the implication of each of the options and provide the Board with a sound business decision regarding the disposition of the building/property.

### C. Academic Services

#### 1. A Positive Approach to Behavior Management for All Students / Q&A

Dr. Browder referred to the Process and Procedures Manual entitled “A Positive Approach to Behavior Management for All Students.” (Copy of the document is on file.)

He stated that he feels very positive about the manual because it explains timeout rooms and will standardize processes throughout the District. He added that the State is also planning to standardize processes and has expressed interest in this document once it is in place within the District.

Mr. Chilmonik announced that he planned to bring forward a motion at this evening’s Board Meeting to direct the Board Attorney to recommend an outside agency to conduct an independent review of the District’s timeout rooms for the purpose of making a recommendation to make timeout rooms as safe as possible. He added that he would also ask the State to assist the District in funding the review.

### D. Human Resources – None.

**E. Administrative / Support Services**

- 1. Change Orders – July 2007

There were no comments regarding this item. *(Copy of the document is on file.)*

- 2. Discussion / Auditing of “Addition” Projects by Cuthill & Eddy

The Superintendent stated that future renovations will be handled as CM at Risk rather and as design builds so that the Board may decide if Cuthill & Eddy will be retained to audit the projects.

- 3. FPL Performance Contract / Phase II Update

Dr. Browder announced that to date the District has saved \$168,000 under this contract and that 15 schools will be added under Phase II. He informed that Board Members that he will send them a copy of the documents prior to bringing the recommendation forward.

**F. Business Services – None.**

**G. Executive Services – None.**

**H. Public Comment**

*Donna Mutzenard, Executive Director, Island Coast FEA Services Unit, stated that Mrs. Dozier had shared the Proposed Resolution with them and that they were and still are in support. She added that FEA had sent something similar as well. Ms. Mutzenard opined that she felt that the District’s employees would support losing a little money rather than losing money in the schools. She stated that she would ask Mark Castellano and Bob Rushlow to obtain feedback from union members to share at the scheduled Board Workshop.*

**I. Comments: Board Attorney / Board Internal Auditor / Superintendent – None.**

The August 14, 2007, Briefing Meeting adjourned at 5:10 P.M.

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*MINUTES BOOK NO. 44 - FY08*

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**Jane E. Kuckel, Ph.D.,** 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.*