



VISION:
To be a world-class school system.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LEE COUNTY – Briefing Meeting / M I N U T E S
Thursday – October 7, 2008 / 2:30 p.m. (called to order by Mrs. Dozier at 2:44 p.m.)

Attendees: Mrs. Jeanne S. Dozier, Board Chairman
Mr. Steven K. Teuber, J.D., Board Member
Dr. James W. Browder, Secretary & District Superintendent

Mr. Robert D. Chilmonik, Board Member
Mr. Keith Martin, Board Attorney
Mrs. Denise Mangus, Recording Secretary

A. BOARD MEMBERS

1. Special Areas of Board Involvement/Reports – Mr. Chilmonik had the opportunity to attend an environmental awards ceremony for our students and noted Mr. Dozier was there. Mr. Chilmonik gave a PowerPoint on some of his financial rescue suggestions (copy on file) to study: possible LCPEC waste/operating inefficiencies via independent firm; capital transfer to operating voter ballot item; SBA funds/Part B pay FTE shortfall; suspend land purchases/reduce closing costs; agencies pooling healthcare insurance; vendors/contractors accountability; sue for damages if fraud/misrepresentation; restructure transportation program/develop partnership; centralize all buying functions/force vendors to offer cash terms; and workshop. Separately, Mr. Teuber thanked the Rotarians for the wonderful dictionary day (he showed the edition's comprehensiveness). He noted Cerras' renewal contract—good to have them active—re federal options (e.g., NCLB, AYP—re latter, Florida has some higher standards and somewhat punished). Mrs. Dozier commented Edison-Ford Estates' grant-funded Wizard Program goes to 50 of our elementary schools; accolades to District art teachers for doing the upcoming Estates' Christmas Tree Trail. She noted: Board advisory committees' orientation; thanks to Dr. Browder re school exhibits/fair booths; Calendar Committee excellent meeting (bargaining units and facilitator acknowledged); passing CAC Board liaison over; enthusiastic United Way kick-offs; Dictionary Day; taking Mr. Chilmonik's suggestions to Board's November Planning Session; and Cerras' support year-round in D.C. for federal legislation.

B. ACADEMIC SERVICES – none

C. ADMINISTRATIVE/SUPPORT SERVICES

1. Change Orders/September 2008 – There was no discussion (back-up on file for information).

D. BUSINESS SERVICES – none

E. HUMAN RESOURCES – none

F. EXECUTIVE SERVICES

1. Capital Outlay Plan – Dr. Browder distributed the revised plan (copy on file) which was finished yesterday; the front page outlines where we are re some of the projects. He noted: elementary at Gunnery removed; Michigan downsized 750 to 524 student stations; Lehigh Elementary addition underway; two high school additions changed to renovations (no new seats; Mariner—some room changes re math and tech program and re-do Cape High cafeteria); middle school on hold (probably not in 5 years); new ALC West High in 2010; HTC renovation (police and fire pulled out; renovate for nursing which local hospital welcomes); two elementaries removed and middle school on table for 2011; one elementary (east and west) 2013; all scrutinizing October and February counts (brought back in budget process at end of year); number of schools/additions built last six years but this now scaled back to meet needs. If class size in two years, relief may be for a period of time but when coming back and going room-to-room, we'll need re F.I.S.H. and needs capacity. Mr. Chilmonik commented, in comparing this to March 2008's, two high schools not there; Dr. Browder noted working backward off the reports to make sure everything's current and on 5-year-plan and plan will change as we move forward (Michigan's in neutral though civil work started but work's stopped to ensure plan meets students' needs in that zone). Dr. Browder explained the biggest portion of capital is maintenance, upkeep, HVAC replacements; a number we're required to do (survey recommendations) and it's \$3 million/year (one firm to do all three (east, west, and south). Next legislative session will be looked at—instead of .25 of one mill, putting it near .50 may make us dangerously close to eating up debt service/big chunk of what we have; capital will have to be watched very closely (Mr. Cerra warns of losing mill money and Dr. Browder has written Commissioner of Education as he's concerned about making ends meet). The amount of revenue loss is unknown but the handout's back pages show dollars and how we balance; Dr. Browder acknowledged the budget and making sure we're inside the law/meeting needs.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT – Sue Jacobse noted District's many informative briefings/meetings, good relationship here vs. another adjacent county's board and the latter's suits against them. She questioned a Board Member's work background.

H. BOARD ATTORNEY / SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS – Mr. Martin provided a school law minute on HB 623 (this legislation could cost us up to \$7 million)—universal school breakfast; clarification was given, per Mrs. Dozier's question, if bus delivers student less than 15 minutes before class (student has right to choose and 15 minutes to eat said meal). Separately, Dr. Browder was honored and thankful to be at the exciting Rotary dictionary distribution where this donation amounts to almost \$100,000 in the last four years; this is the first book for many children which they get to take home and it belongs to them. This meeting of today concluded at 3:28 p.m.

/dwm

Jeanne S. Dozier, Meeting Chair

ATTEST:

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.