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**The School Board of Lee County
Board Organizational Planning Meeting - Minutes
Friday, November 7, 2008
First Community Bank of Southwest Florida
1565 Red Cedar Drive, Fort Myers, FL**

Attendees:

Jeanne S. Dozier, Chairman	James W. Browder, Ed.D., Superintendent
Jane E. Kuckel, Ph.D., Vice Chairman	Keith Martin, Board Attorney
Robert D. Chilmonik, Member	Martha Crotty, Coordinator, District Operations
Steven K. Teuber, J.D., Member	Donna Lesansky, Administrative Assistant to the Board
Elinor C. Scricca, Ph.D., Member	Denise Mangus, Secretary to the Board

Welcome / Opening Comments

The School Board of Lee County met on Friday, November 7, 2008, for a Board Organizational Planning Meeting. Mrs. Dozier called the meeting to order at 12:07 P.M. She welcomed everyone and thanked Mr. David Hall, President of First Community Bank of Southwest Florida, for allowing the Board to use his facility.

Board Office

❖ **Board Member Needs for the Upcoming Year**

It was agreed that the new Board Chairman would work with Mr. Martin to revise Policy 1.09, Board Meetings, to address: what sort of items should be addressed by Board Members under the "Board Members Comments" portion of action meetings, briefing meetings, and workshops; and the requirement for a Board Member who will be presenting a topic at a meeting to provide back-up material in a timely manner in advance of the meeting.

❖ **Board Office Budget**

It was agreed that the Board Office Out-of-County Travel budget line (Object Code 331.00) would continue to be divided by six, designating one-sixth to each Board Member and one-sixth to travel for legislative purposes.

It was agreed that the \$6,000 in the Board Office budget designated for In-County Travel (Object Code 330.00) would be transferred to the District's general fund.

❖ **Superintendent and Board Attorney Evaluation Process**

It was agreed that Mr. Martin would investigate how other school districts calculate the overall evaluation scores for their superintendents and board attorneys. *(Mr. Martin to bring the information to a future workshop.)*

It was agreed (in response to Dr. Browder's request) that Mrs. Dozier would work with Dr. Browder to review and evaluate "outdated" language contained in his employment contract. *(Dr. Browder to bring forward any proposed changes to the December Briefing Meeting.)*

❖ **Replacement of School Board Auditor**

It was agreed that Mr. Charlie Green, Lee County Clerk and Comptroller, would be invited to a future briefing meeting to continue discussion regarding the possibility of entering into an inter-local agreement between the School District and the County to perform audit functions.

❖ **Board Representation at Functions**

It was agreed that the status quo would be maintained regarding Board Member representation at community functions.

It was agreed (in response to Dr. Scricca's request) that expenses for FY 2007-08 for Board Members to attend community functions would be compiled.

Board Meeting Issues

❖ **Annual Organization of the Board**

It was agreed that Dr. Kuckel would assume the role of Board Chairman and that Mr. Teuber would assume the role of Board Vice Chairman for the coming year and that Mr. Teuber, as Vice Chairman, would conduct briefing meetings. (*Official action to be taken during the Annual Organization of the Board at the Board Meeting on November 18, 2008.*)

❖ Proposed Calendar for Action and Briefing Meetings

It was agreed that the dates as presented would be brought forward at the November 18, 2008, Board Meeting for official action.

❖ Opportunities for Public Comment at Board Meetings

It was agreed to continue discussion at a future workshop.

Process / Board Policy

❖ Travel/mileage reimbursement for Board Members

It was agreed that Board Members would not request/receive mileage reimbursement for in-county travel.

It was agreed that Board Policy would not be amended to reflect the above agreement.

It was agreed that discussion regarding in-county travel reimbursement for Board Members would occur annually at the Board Organizational Planning Meeting.

❖ Cellular Phones

Mr. Teuber requested that this item be removed from the agenda since school principals are addressing the matter.

District Issues

❖ Budget Issues

It was agreed that a workshop be scheduled to evaluate the District's financial outlook. Dr. Browder requested that each Board Member provide his/her suggestions for cost-saving measures and possible avenues for revenue to him in advance of the workshop so that he may gather information regarding the costs associated with each. A three-hour limit for the workshop was agreed to.

❖ Student Assignment Program / School Choice

It was agreed that discussion on ways to tighten the Student Assignment Program / School Choice would be discussed at a future workshop.

Legal Issues

❖ Legal Services Expenses Annual Report

Mr. Martin reviewed the report of the School District's legal expenses, comparing the 2006, 2007 and 2008 fiscal years and highlighting the areas of increased and decreased spending.

Community Relations

❖ Board Advisory Committees

It was agreed that with the adoption of Policy 1.18, Community Involvement Opportunities, no further discussion on this topic was necessary at this time.

❖ Board Liaison Assignments

It was agreed that Mr. Martin would bring forward an agenda item at an upcoming Board Meeting to rescind previous action appointing Dr. Kuckel as the Board representative to the Value Adjustment Board and to appoint Mr. Chilmonik as the new Board representative.

It was agreed that the following changes would be made to Board Member liaison assignments:

Federal Legislation: Mrs. Dozier

District Calendar Committee (for next year): Dr. Kuckel

Insurance Task Force: Mr. Chilmonik

Smart Growth Advocacy: Mr. Chilmonik

Southwest Florida Workforce Development Board: Dr. Scricca

Horizon Council: Dr. Kuckel, as Chairman

Partners in Education: Dr. Kuckel, as Chairman

The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools: Dr. Kuckel, as Chairman

Quality Improvement Advisory Committee: Dr. Kuckel, as Chairman, and Mr. Teuber, as Vice Chairman

❖ Communication

It was agreed that requests from Board Members would continue to be channeled through the Superintendent's office.

❖ Community Conversations / Focus Groups

It was agreed to discuss this topic further at a future workshop, with each Board Member bringing to the workshop a list of the organizations that s/he feels should be included.

❖ Media Matters

It was agreed that Board Members, on a monthly rotation following the Lee in the Loop schedule, would prepare an op-ed piece to share with the media.

Good of the Order

- ❖ Mr. Chilmonik: brought forward an idea for an aerospace program at one of the High Tech Centers to train students how to build light airplanes to sell.
- ❖ Dr. Kuckel: thanked Mrs. Dozier for organizing this afternoon's meeting.
- ❖ Dr. Scricca: thanked Mrs. Dozier for organizing this afternoon's meeting and for her leadership during the past two years; urged the other Board Members to write positive op-ed pieces for the media.
- ❖ Dr. Browder: distributed a memorandum regarding proposed changes to the current Student Assignment Plan for the 2009-2010 school year and told the Board Members to call him with any questions; thanked Mrs. Dozier for her leadership over the past two years.
- ❖ Mrs. Dozier: thanked those present for their contributions during today's meeting and stated that she will ensure that everything discussed is addressed.

The Board Organizational Planning Meeting concluded at 3:55 P.M.

Jane E. Kuckel, PhD, Chairman

ATTEST:

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