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THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LEE COUNTY
School Board Briefing Meeting – MINUTES
(School Board Meeting Room, 2855 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers, FL)
Tuesday, August 25, 2009

Attending

Mr. Steven K. Teuber, Vice Chair	Dr. James W. Browder, Secretary and District Superintendent
Mr. Robert D. Chilmonik, Member	Mr. Keith Martin, Board Attorney
Dr. Elinor C. Scricca, Member	Mrs. Donna Lesansky, Recording Secretary
Dr. Jane E. Kuckel, Board Chair (<i>arrived at 2:50 P.M.</i>)	

Mr. Teuber called the Briefing Meeting of August 25, 2009, to order at 2:30 P.M.

A. Item(s) with Guests

1. Food Service Quality Presentation – Mr. Wayne Nagy / Staff

Ms. Vicki Stockman, Assistant Director for Staff Development, introduced the presentation. She announced that the Food and Nutrition Services “Key Ingredients Team” had won the 2009 Florida Sterling Council Region V Showcase and would compete in the national competition in May 2010.

Mr. Wayne Nagy, Director of Food and Nutrition Services, and his staff shared the skit they presented at the Showcase, which outlined how they used the Sterling Quality process to enable the department to operate at a profit.

B. Board Members

1. Special Areas of Board Involvement / Reports

Mr. Chilmonik: thanked everyone for a great start to the school year; stated that he attended the Substitute Teacher training session at Cypress Lake High School, visited several schools prior to and on opening day, attended the playground ribbon cutting ceremony at Edgewood Elementary School, and participated in the Fast Cat Run at Estero High School; distributed copies of a new employment contract for the Superintendent that he had drafted and stated that he would bring it back to this evening’s Board Meeting for further discussion.

Dr. Kuckel: announced that the Curriculum Advisory Committee began meeting earlier this month and that she would be bringing a request to the Board at this evening’s Board Meeting that the Committee be granted a waiver to omit a September meeting from their schedule; stated that she had reviewed and was impressed by the District’s Emergency Procedures Guide and that she felt it provided consistency throughout the District regarding these processes; announced that she had attended the playground ribbon cutting ceremony at Edgewood Elementary School and the Substitute Teacher Orientation session.

Dr. Kuckel requested that at a future briefing meeting Dr. Jones and Dr. Tihen update the Board on what is available to assist teachers with instruction as it relates to the use of common assessments, lesson plans, best practices, etc.

Dr. Scricca: stated that she visited and took tours of Lehigh Elementary and G. Weaver Hipps Elementary Schools; was present when Governor Crist visited Gateway Elementary

School to discuss the preparations being taken in Lee County with regard to the Swine Flu; attended the Substitute Teacher Orientation Session; attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for Oasis Charter School; visited four schools on opening day; and announced that preparations for this year's Pride & Patriotism Event have begun, especially in the area of fundraising.

Mr. Teuber: reviewed the proposed 2010 Legislative Priorities and requested and received consensus to present the document at this week's annual legislative meeting of the Greater Florida Consortium of School Boards; announced that the priorities as presented would be brought to the September 8th Board Meeting for official approval.

C. Academic Services – Dr. Constance Jones (*None*)

D. Administrative/Support Services – Mr. Michael McNerney (*None*)

E. Business Services – Mrs. Greta Campbell / Dr. Ami Desamours

1. Update / FY10 Budget

Dr. Desamours stated that since this is the last briefing meeting prior to adoption of the FY2010 Final Budget, she wanted to brief the Board on some changes that have occurred since adoption of the FY2010 Tentative Budget:

- Since funds have been carried forward, the reserves will be less than what was indicated in the tentative budget;
- Monitoring of student projections versus actual student numbers has been ongoing, as have adjustments to school personnel based on the former; and
- The final budget will reflect an additional \$8 million due to increased federal funds.

Dr. Desamours noted that the following is left to do:

- Finalize 2009 numbers and make any necessary adjustments; and
- Review and balance 2010 information.

Dr. Desamours noted that the following will take place on/after "Day 11" (September 8th):

- Review school populations and adjust as necessary to ensure that all schools are properly allocated for; and
- Ensure that the District is meeting class size requirements.

Dr. Desamours stated that the following is still to come:

- Approval by the Board of the Five-Year Work Plan, which will occur at a public hearing on September 22nd.

F. Human Resources – Dr. Greg Adkins (*None*)

G. Executive Services – Dr. James Browder

1. Follow-up / Qualified School Construction Bonds

Referring to the Board's request made at the previous Briefing Meeting regarding using the funds from the Qualified School Construction Bonds to install solar panels at some of the District's facilities, Dr. Browder informed the Board that he would not recommend this because it would take too long to realize any savings. Mr. Martin added that using the funds for this purpose would only be allowable if the solar panels were part of a renovation project and that installation of panels could not be a project in itself.

Dr. Browder stated that he would recommend using the funds for the following already-planned projects: the Public Service Academy, renovations at High Tech Central and Villas Elementary, an elementary prototype pavilion, and the Bonita Springs Elementary cafeteria. He added that any upgrades at these facilities would increase the efficiency of the buildings

and generate a cost savings because the upgrades would involve the installation of more modern technology.

Dr. Browder stated that in order to move forward in the process, he would need the consensus of the Board.

Mr. Teuber asked for and received consensus from the Board Members to give Dr. Browder direction to move forward with the Qualified School Construction Bonds, the new class of tax credit bonds to be used for construction, rehabilitation, or repair of public school facilities.

Dr. Browder thanked the Board and stated that a meeting of the School Board Leasing Corporation would be scheduled for this purpose at 2:30 P.M. on Tuesday, September 8th.

H. Public Comment

Sue Jacobse suggested that a workshop be scheduled to discuss the Superintendent’s employment contract rather than taking time at briefing or regular Board meetings.

Bob Rushlow stated his displeasure with the earlier presentation by the Food Services staff, as there were many inaccuracies contained therein.

I. Board Attorney’s / Superintendent’s Comments

Mr. Martin presented a *School Law Minute* regarding an opinion by the Attorney General as to how the Sunshine Law applies to social networking websites.

Dr. Browder stated that he was pleased by the successful school opening; stated that as far as he is concerned, his contract is set and he is not interested in discussing it any further.

The August 25, 2009, Briefing Meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

Steven K. Teuber, J.D., 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.