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To be a world-class school system.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LEE COUNTY
School Board Briefing Meeting – MINUTES
(School Board Meeting Room, 2855 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers, FL)
Tuesday, November 3, 2009

Attending

Dr. Jane E. Kuckel, Board Chair	Dr. James W. Browder, Secretary and District Superintendent
Mr. Steven K. Teuber, Vice Chair	Mr. Keith Martin, Board Attorney
Mr. Robert D. Chilmonik, Member	
Mrs. Jeanne S. Dozier, Member	
Dr. Elinor C. Scricca, Member	Mrs. Donna Lesansky, Recording Secretary

Mr. Teuber called the Briefing Meeting of November 3, 2009, to order at 2:47 P.M.

A. Item(s) with Guests

1. Board Advisory Committee Chair Reports
Representatives from the five Board Advisory Committees delivered an update on their respective committee's activities:
District Advisory Committee – Richard Tanner, Vice Chairman (*handout provided*)
Continuous Systemic Improvement Advisory Committee – Nick Kellen, Vice Chairman
Finance Advisory Committee – David Hall, Chairman
Construction Advisory Committee – Trish Leonard, Chairman (*handout provided*)
Curriculum Advisory Committee – Patti Lochner, Chairman (*handout provided*)

B. Board Members

1. Special Areas of Board Involvement / Reports
Mr. Chilmonik: issued reminders about several Veterans Day events; complimented Estero High School's teacher/coach Jeff Sommer on a recent successful 5K run event.
Mrs. Dozier: announced that 29 Lee County schools would be participating in Holiday House at the Edison & Ford Estates this year; stated that she attended FSBA Committee Days last week and that the Association had finalized its 2010 Legislative Platform; stated that the recent Board Retreat went well and promised the other Board Members that she would provide them with them with copies of the information she discussed; thanked Donna Mutzenard and Mark Castellanos for their participation in the Hero Care initiative.
Dr. Kuckel: announced that she met with/participated in the Head Start Policy Council meeting, the Horizon Council meeting, Bonita Leadership Educational Day, the Quality Improvement Advisory Council meeting, and the PACE luncheon; thanked Dr. Scricca for attending the Calendar Committee meeting on her behalf.
Dr. Scricca: stated that she is continuing to collect Pride & Patriotism Proclamations; announced that she has attended/will attend the Uncommon Friends meeting, the Blue Chip Luncheon, the Bread Bowls event, and a League of Women Voters event.
Mr. Teuber: expressed appreciation to Marshall Bower for allowing the Board to use his facility for the recent Board Organizational Planning Meeting; and sent best wishes to Steve Scott of Leadership Lee County who recently suffered a stroke.

C. Academic Services – Dr. Constance Jones (None)**D. Administrative/Support Services – Mr. Michael McNerney**

1. Change Orders – October 2009

A packet containing the information was included in the meeting packets for the Board Members' information and review.

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

1. Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCB)

Mr. Jerry Ford of Ford & Associates was present to assist in answering Board Members' questions. Dr. Browder explained that when he originally brought forward the discussion of the District taking advantage of the QSCBs, there was no cost associated with doing so, as the bonds were interest-free; however, since that time, Wachovia Bank has added a supplemental coupon equal to a current rate of 1.35%. Dr. Browder stated that, since the conditions of the loan have changed and it would now cost the District approximately \$900,000 in interest, he did not want to move forward until the Board had an opportunity to revisit the matter.

Dr. Browder referred to the five projects for which the money would be used. He indicated that these projects are already included in the five-year plan and that the District could manage without the use of the QSCBs. Dr. Browder added, however, that he felt it would still be a good idea to move forward because, although it is no longer "free" money, it is still a reduced interest rate.

During the ensuing discussion, the Board Members expressed a desire to abandon plans to apply for the loan as they did not want to increase the District's debt load. However, Dr. Kuckel opined that she was in favor of borrowing enough money, approximately \$7 million, in order to proceed with the renovations at Villas Elementary School and the cafeteria project at Bonita Springs Elementary School.

Dr. Browder acknowledged that he was clear about the Board's direction to not move forward.

2. Update / FY2011 Budget

Dr. Desamours referred to the FY11 Preliminary Budget Calendar. She informed the Board that next year's budget planning process will begin this month. In response to her question as to whether the Board desired to schedule community forums again this year to provide information to the public, it was the consensus of the Board to not hold any but for the Superintendent to disseminate information in other ways, such as e-mails and via the District's ITV system. Dr. Desamours also noted that the FY11 FTE projections are due to be submitted to the state by December 18th.

F. Human Resources – Dr. Greg Adkins (None)**G. Executive Services – Dr. James Browder**

1. Chapter 3 Policies / Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Browder informed the Board that if they didn't have any questions regarding these policies, he would bring them forward at the November 17th Board Meeting for adoption.

H. Public Comment (None)**I. Board Attorney's / Superintendent's Comments**

Mr. Martin (None)

Dr. Browder issued a reminder about the H1N1 clinics; mentioned a student's senior project about running a school bus on vegetable oil.

The November 3, 2009, Briefing Meeting adjourned at 4:35 P.M.

Steven K. Teuber, J.D., Meeting Chairman

ATTEST:

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

An audio-visual recording of this meeting has been produced to provide a verbatim record of the proceedings and may be viewed on the School District's Website at www.leeschools.net/board/stream/welcome.htm. Members of the public wishing to obtain a copy of the recording of this or any meeting of the School Board must make a request through the District's Communications Department at (239) 337-8327.