



VISION:
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, January 11, 2011

Attending

Mr. Thomas Scott, Chairman	Dr. Lawrence D. Tihen, Interim Superintendent/Secretary
Ms. Mary Fischer, M.A., Vice Chairman	Mr. Keith Martin, Board Attorney
Dr. Jane E. Kuckel, Member	
Mr. Don Armstrong, Member	Mrs. Susan Johnson, Recording Secretary

Absent:

Mrs. Jeanne Dozier, Member (illness)

Ms. Fischer called the Briefing Meeting of January 11, 2011, to order at 2:52 P.M. She acknowledged Mrs. Dozier's absence from the meeting due to illness.

A. Item(s) with Guests

1. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010
Ms. Alisa Train, Senior Manager, Cherry Bekaert & Holland, presented results of the District's 2010 Financial Statement Audits. Ms. Train's PowerPoint presentation is on file.

B. Board Members

1. Special Areas of Board Involvement/Reports
Mr. Scott: Initiated conversation regarding the upcoming Community Public Forums. He suggested that there be consensus as to format so that the forums are conducted under the same circumstances. Initiated conversation regarding designating Tuesdays for Board Workshops. Mr. Scott noted that the District should be prudent regarding security after the shootings in Panama City and Tuscon. He stated that he would like to see the Board Members be available to members of the media in a more orderly way at the end of the meetings, working through Mr. Donzelli at a secondary location, avoiding the rush after the meetings.
Mrs. Dozier: In her absence, Mr. Martin noted that Mrs. Dozier asked him to speak on her behalf. She does not support the proposed changes to Board Policy 1.09, because she does not want to burden staff with having to come up with topics. She notes that it will create a personal hardship, since she has commitments with other organizations on the other Tuesdays of the month.
Dr. Kuckel: Noted that the proposed change to hold Tuesdays open for workshops has merit; however, does not want to impose on staff to be obligated. She feels that maybe one every two months or once a semester would be more practical. Dr. Kuckel suggested a

compromise on the number of Tuesdays being considered. She requested an update as it relates to moving toward a paperless agenda process.

Ms. Fischer: Attended Learning for Life, the Nutcracker Performance at B.B. Mann Performing Arts Hall by North Ft. Myers Academy for the Arts students; Kiwanis Kids Night Out; Santa Claus party at Royal Palm Exceptional School; and Support Person of the Year award given to Helyn Ferlazzo at Mariner High School. Ms. Fischer feels that one Tuesday a month held open would be adequate for Board Workshops. She requested that training be scheduled as it relates to desktop technology at the Board table.

Mr. Armstrong: Schools visited were Littleton Elementary, Cypress Lake High and Island Coast High schools. He fully supports the proposed changes to Policy 1.09.

Consensus Regarding Community Forums: Timekeepers will be provided at each Community Forum. Superintendent/Staff will select two facilitators for each Board Member to assist at each forum, with the exception of Mrs. Dozier. She will take responsibility of selecting two trained facilitators to assist her at Fort Myers High School.

Consensus Regarding Proposed Changes to Policy 1.09: Bring forward a “draft” policy for discussion at the next Board Briefing Meeting recommending that the Superintendent designate one Tuesday every other month from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the purpose of holding Board Workshops.

Consensus Regarding Security as it relates to Media and Members of the Community Approaching the Dais after Meetings of the Board: Move forward with developing a process that would require the media and members of the public to work through Mr. Donzelli if discussions with Board Members are requested.

C. Academic Services – Dr. Constance Jones

1. Early Childhood Education/Overview

Mrs. Jeanne LaFountain gave an overview of Early Childhood Education. (handout provided)

2. 2009/10 – 2011/12 ESE Policies and Procedures (SP&P) Document (revisions)

Dr. Carl Brunick gave an overview of ESE Policies and Procedures document revisions. (handout provided)

D. Administrative/Support Services – Mr. Bill Moore

1. FP&L Performance Contract

Mr. Bill Moore and Mr. Ron Risley from FP&L shared savings benefits to the District by entering in a performance contract with FP&L four years ago. (handout provided)

2. Change Orders/November and December 2010 (handout provided)

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

1. Wide-Area Computer Network

Mr. Dwayne Alton gave an overview of the District's Wide-Area Network. He noted that the District will need to increase bandwidth to keep up with on-line testing. (handout provided)

2. Budget Overview and Future Funding Issues

Dr. Ami Desamours gave an overview of budget, (past, present, and future) and showed the District's timeline for budget preparation FY11 as an example. (handout provided)

Consensus: Begin the FY12 budget process based on the timeline suggested. Bring forward to the next Briefing Meeting information regarding breakdown of fund types, where the funds come from, flexibility, etc. Bring forward to the next Briefing meeting, a summary of topics (calendar) to be discussed at Briefing meetings throughout the FY12 budget process.

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

G. Executive Services – Dr. Larry Tihen

Dr. Tihen noted the improvements in Pre-K.

H. Public Comment (*None*)

I. Board Attorney's / Superintendent's Comments

Mr. Martin cautioned the Board regarding being impartial in relation to student and employee discipline matters, avoiding making statements to the public and media regarding upcoming decisions.

Dr. Tihen (*None*)

Ms. Fischer adjourned the January 11, 2011, Briefing Meeting at 5:22 P.M.

Mary Fischer, M.A., Meeting Chairman

ATTEST:

Lawrence D. Tihen, Ph.D., Interim Superintendent/Secretary

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/stream. 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.