



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, February 8, 2011

Attending

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

Absent:

Mrs. Jeanne Dozier, Member

Ms. Fischer called the Briefing Meeting of February 8, 2011, to order at 2:39 P.M.

A. Item(s) with Guests (*None*)

B. Board Members

1. Special Areas of Board Involvement/Reports

Mr. Scott: He attended the Community Sustainability and CSI meetings. He visited Veterans Park Academy for the Arts and toured the school and was very impressed with their wearing of uniforms and the feeling that it gives the students. Mr. Scott said that he received interesting information on moving a charter school to another location. He attended the Teacher of the Year presentation for Ms. Barbara Esno at Lehigh Elementary School last Friday. Mr. Scott noted that she is certainly worthy of the award. He said that he visited High Tech-Central and noted that he would like to see that school have a more descriptive name. He noted the float that several classes at the school are working on for the Edison Parade.

Mr. Armstrong: Also attended the Teacher of the Year award at Lehigh Elementary School. He noted that he stayed around after the award and watched Ms. Esno with her class and understands why she won. Mr. Armstrong attended the Special Olympics at Veterans Park Academy for the Arts and is planning to volunteer for another one in March. He visited High Tech-Central as well and noted the float the school is working on encompasses the auto body, painting, lighting, and carpentry classes. Mr. Armstrong visited North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts and said that he cannot speak highly enough regarding their artwork, dancing, music, and academics.

Ms. Fischer: Spoke with Mark Cagle, Director of the Cape Coral Youth Center regarding affordable daycare for single parents, particularly high school students. She noted that she forwarded his information to Dr. Tihen for follow up. Ms. Fischer spoke with Ralph Williams from the Bee Authentic Company regarding business curriculum called “Fran Child,” with a fundraising component. This was also given to Dr. Tihen for him to follow

up with staff. She visited Pelican Elementary School for their backpack project with the Kiwanis and their reading theater. Ms. Fischer visited Gulf Elementary cafeteria and participated in playground activities and read to a kindergarten class. She visited North Fort Myers Academy of the Arts where they are reading the same novel through mixed grades, doing dance and music research in different genres; as well as preparation for their production of “Fiddler on the Roof.” Ms. Fischer noted the creativity of Ms. Barbara Esno, Teacher of the Year, with her butterfly garden and good neighbor program that she started at Lehigh Elementary. Ms. Fischer noted a new anti-bullying club at Ida Baker High School called “Wake Up People.” She noted that ALC-Central teacher Debbie Johnston would be going to Orlando to be a keynote speaker at the National Bullying Conference.

2. Policy 1.09, Board Meetings (revisions) (2/22)

Mr. Scott suggested that the Superintendent establish dates for future workshops (one every other month, on a Tuesday other than Board meeting Tuesday, now rather than in June as established in suggested policy. Mr. Martin stated on behalf of Mrs. Dozier that she does not think changes in current language are necessary; however, she will support the desire of the other Board Members. *(handout on file)*

3. Finalize/Superintendent Search Brochure

Ms. Georgianna McDaniel presented the samples of brochures. Ms. Fischer suggested including substitutes and part-time employees when referring to “number of employees.” She also suggested including both Dr. Blanton and Mrs. McDaniel’s names in the brochure to contact for information. Mr. Scott suggested that reference to Lee County Public Schools be changed to The School District of Lee County. He also suggested minor changes to language under sections “About our District” and “Qualities & Requirements.” *(handout on file)*

Consensus: Make recommended changes and share revised draft with Chair for final approval.

4. Status Report/Superintendent Search

Mr. Scott shared that the link to the Superintendent’s Search is up on our website, that a special e-mail address has been created for applicants to use, and that the advertisement is ready for publication. The first meeting of the Superintendent Search Citizen Committee is Thursday, February 10th and the agenda is as follows:

- 1) Welcome and Introductions (Mr. Scott);
- 2) Overview and Timeline of Selection Process (Mr. Scott);
- 3) Florida Government in the Sunshine Law (Mr. Martin);
- 4) Public Records (Mrs. McDaniel);
- 5) Duties and Responsibilities of Committee Members (Dr. Blanton);
- 6) Election of Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman (Dr. Blanton); and
- 7) Next Steps (Mrs. McDaniel).

Consensus: Run advertisement twice in Education Week and purchase “packaged advertising” to include websites.

Consensus: Send e-mail to Superintendent Search Citizen Committee members with a request to confirm attendance at Thursday’s meeting.

Consensus: Each Board Member shall identify and contact one alternate to attend Thursday's meeting. Mrs. Lesansky will be asked to contact Mrs. Dozier for the name of her alternate.

C. Academic Services – Dr. Constance Jones

1. Update/Strategic Plan

Dr. Richard Itzen gave a full overview of the updated Strategic Plan, with each division head(s) sharing more in-depth information about their division goals. Dr. Itzen noted that the Plan is a guide for Department Improvement Plans (DIPs) and the budget process. (*handouts on file*)

As it relates to E2020, Ms. Fischer requested information on number of courses failed, number of students participating and the success rate.

D. Administrative/Support Services – Mr. Bill Moore

1. Change Orders/January 2011 (*handout on file*)

2. Review of Selection Process/Professional Services

Mr. Bill Moore gave a thorough review of the Selection Process for design professionals and construction managers. (*handout on file*)

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

1. FY12 Budget

a. Department Allocations and Process (*Postponed due to the recent release of the Governor's Budget.*)

b. Budget Predictions (*Postponed due to the recent release of the Governor's Budget.*)

Dr. Desamours shared the District Funding Summary which compares the 2010-11 3rd calculation to the 2011-12 Governor's Budget. (*handout on file*)

2. Discussion/Leave Management System (LMS) Upgrade

Ms. Becky Decker gave an update on the Leave Management Systems Upgrade. She noted that there have been two previous upgrades and that this upgrade will expand functionality. The cost of the upgrade is \$27,449. (*handout on file*)

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

G. Executive Services – Dr. Larry Tihen (*None*)

H. Public Comment (*None*)

I. Board Attorney's / Superintendent's Comments

Mr. Martin (*None*)

Dr. Tihen thanked staff for their presentations. He stated that he would share the date and location of the next Special Olympics. Dr. Tihen congratulated Ms. Barbara Esno for being named Lee County School District's Teacher of the Year.

Ms. Fischer adjourned the February 8, 2011, Briefing Meeting at 5:26 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.