



MISSION:

To ensure that each student achieves his or her highest personal potential.

VISION:

To be a world-class school system.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LEE COUNTY
School Board Meeting - MINUTES
(School Board Meeting Room, 2855 Colonial Blvd., Fort Myers, FL)
Tuesday, February 22, 2011

Attending:

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

Absent:

Mrs. Jeanne S. Dozier, Member (*out-of-town/personal*)

I. Opening Exercises

A. Call to Order

The School Board of Lee County, Florida, met on Tuesday, February 22, 2011, in the School Board Meeting Room for a Regular School Board Meeting. Board Chairman Thomas Scott presided and called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Mr. Scott acknowledged Mrs. Dozier's absence.

Mr. Scott noted that Item IV.D.9. had been pulled from the agenda prior to this evening's meeting.

Motion by Dr. Kuckel and seconded by Ms. Fischer to adopt the agenda as the Order of Business, with the exception of Item VIII.A., Revisions to Policy 1.09, Board Meetings.

Dr. Kuckel stated that she feels any action on this matter should be postponed until discussion among all of the Board Members occurs. She added that she also feels that since this is a new approach to the way in which workshops are handled, a trial should be conducted before anything is put into policy.

Motion carried 3-1, with Mr. Scott casting the vote in opposition to the Motion.

B. Invocation (*Mr. Armstrong*)

C. Presentation of Colors and Pledge of Allegiance (*Dr. Kuckel*)

- Cadet 2nd Lieutenant Witney Blaise, South Fort Myers High School JROTC
- Master Sergeant Ashton Davis, Army Instructor, South Fort Myers High School

II. Special Presentations

A. Recognitions

- 1. 2011 Lee County Teacher of the Year (*Dr. Kuckel*)
 - Barbara Esno, Lehigh Elementary School

B. Resolutions

- 1. Arts in Our Schools Month: March 2011.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the study of arts is basic to a complete education, providing a competitive edge for successful educational reform, engaging students in individual and group activity, developing creativity, communication, problem-solving and critical and evaluative skills, and contributing to the development of young people through listening, reading, and self-expression; and

WHEREAS, arts education helps students acquire an understanding of history and culture and enhances the morale and quality of the school and community environment; and

WHEREAS, all students in kindergarten through twelfth grade, regardless of socio-economic status or personal ability, should have access to a well-balanced, comprehensive, high-quality sequential arts program; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Music Educators Association, the Florida Art Education Association, and the Florida Association for Theater Education encourage maintaining and enhancing the quality of the fine and performing arts education programs in the Lee County School District; and

WHEREAS, all teachers, parents, students and citizens of Lee County are encouraged to support the purposes and practices of arts education and are invited to participate in observation activities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The School Board of Lee County, Florida, hereby proclaims the month of March 2011 as

ARTS IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH

Adopted at a regular meeting of The School Board of Lee County, Florida
This Twenty-second day of February 2011

Motion by Dr. Kuckel, seconded by Ms. Fischer, and carried 4-0 to adopt the Resolution proclaiming March 2011 as Arts in Our Schools Month.

- 2. Purchasing Month: March 2011.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the purchasing and materials management professions play a significant role in the efficiency and effectiveness of both governmental agencies and independent businesses; and

WHEREAS, purchasing and materials management professionals, through their combined purchasing power, spend billions of dollars every year, thus having a significant influence upon economic conditions throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, purchasing professionals are to be commended for diligently pursuing efficiency in the operation of their business and the spending of their organization's dollars by seeking goods and services of the highest value in terms of quality and price, and

WHEREAS, the School District's Procurement Services Department engages in special efforts during the month of March to inform the public

about the importance of the role of the purchasing profession in business, industry and government;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The School Board of Lee County, Florida, hereby proclaims the month of March 2011 as

PURCHASING MONTH

Adopted at a regular meeting of The School Board of Lee County, Florida
This Twenty-second day of February 2011

*Motion by Ms. Fischer, seconded by Dr. Kuckel, and carried 4-0 to adopt the Resolution proclaiming March 2011 as **Purchasing Month**.*

3. “Read Across America” Day: March 2, 2011.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the citizens of Lee County, Florida, stand firmly committed to promoting reading as the catalyst for our students’ future academic success, their preparation for America’s jobs of the future, and their ability to compete in a global economy; and

WHEREAS, significant leadership has been provided in the area of community involvement in the education of our youth, grounded in the principle that educational investment is key to the community’s well being and long-term quality of life; and

WHEREAS, a national celebration, “Read Across America,” sponsored by the National Education Association in honor of Dr. Seuss’s birthday, promotes reading and adult involvement in the education of our community’s students; and

WHEREAS, many wonderful children’s books written by Dr. Seuss have led generations of children to discover the joy of reading; and

WHEREAS, citizens of Lee County are called upon to assure that every child is in a safe place and reading together with a caring adult for at least 30 minutes on March 2, 2011, to celebrate the joy of reading; and

WHEREAS, The School Board of Lee County, Florida, enthusiastically endorses NEA’s “Read Across America” and recommits the community to engage in programs and activities to make America’s children the best readers in the world;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The School Board of Lee County, Florida, hereby proclaims March 2, 2011, as

“READ ACROSS AMERICA” DAY

Adopted at a regular meeting of The School Board of Lee County, Florida
This Twenty-second day of February 2011

*Motion by Ms. Fischer, seconded by Mr. Armstrong, and carried 4-0 to adopt the Resolution proclaiming March 2, 2011, as **“Read Across America” Day**.*

4. National Foreign Language Week: March 7-13, 2011.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the United States Congress recognized the importance of foreign language study, formalizing it in the “No Child Left Behind Act” by designating foreign languages as a core academic area; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature passed legislation requiring Florida public schools to develop a K-12 foreign language plan; and

WHEREAS The School Board of Lee County has as its Vision: To Become a World Class School System; and

WHEREAS The School District of Lee County welcomes students and staff from many different countries, cultures, and language backgrounds; and

WHEREAS the schools of Lee County offer instruction in a variety of world languages and teach English to speakers of other languages representing more than 100 different cultures; and

WHEREAS Lee County students and their families have growing social, cultural, and economic ties to the global community, offering great opportunities while presenting new challenges to communicate with and understand their international partners from different language and cultural backgrounds; and

WHEREAS research indicates that studying other languages has been shown to contribute to cognitive skills, show better academic performance, increase scores on college entrance exams and, most importantly, show greater understanding of others and appreciation for diversity; and

WHEREAS proficiency in other languages enhances our students' career opportunities and provides employers with a workforce with the necessary skills for an international marketplace; and

WHEREAS the Lee County Foreign Language Association of Teachers sponsors a local World Language Fair annually for students, teachers and the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The School Board of Lee County, Florida, hereby proclaims March 7-13, 2011, as

NATIONAL FOREIGN LANGUAGE WEEK

“Languages Make The World Go ‘Round”

Adopted at a regular meeting of The School Board of Lee County, Florida

This Twenty-second day of February 2011

Motion by Mr. Armstrong, seconded by Ms. Fischer, and carried 4-0 to adopt the Resolution proclaiming March 7-13, 2011, as National Foreign Language Week.

C. Special Presentations to the Board (None)

D. Staff Presentation to the Board (None)

III. Public Comment

Speakers and the topics they addressed:

John Traube: campaign promises and District spending related to bussing, the “potty bus” and allegations of “bid rigging”

Rhonda Hansen: commended the District on its social and communications program for autistic students

Mr. Scott responded to speakers. He stated that the Board is addressing everything promised in the right way and in the right time, but that results do not come overnight. He added that a discussion occurred at this afternoon's Briefing Meeting regarding new Procurement processes and that numerous discussions have occurred with regard to the transportation audit.

IV. Consent Action Items

The following items were pulled from the Consent Agenda by Mr. Armstrong for discussion during the Unfinished Business/Tabled Items portion of the agenda:

Item IV.D.1. – Removal of Items from Official Property Records.

Item IV.D.7. – Approve Piggy-back of State Contract No. 425-001-06-1 – Office Furniture and Files.

Item IV.D. 12. – Renew Bid No. B096764SW – Liquid Petroleum Gas.

Motion by Ms. Fischer, seconded by Dr. Kuckel, and carried 4-0 to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of the pulled items referenced above.

A. Executive Services – Dr. Lawrence D. Tihen

1. Approval of minutes of School Board Meetings:
 - January 25, 2011, School Board Briefing Meeting
 - February 8, 2011, School Board Student Hearings
 - February 8, 2011, School Board Action Meeting
2. Approval of the following change to the Construction Advisory Committee: appointment of Joseph Hubner by Board Member Don Armstrong, effective February 22, 2011 through the date of the regular School Board Meeting in September 2011 at which the Board takes action to appoint members to the Board Advisory Committees.
3. Approval of the following change to the Construction Advisory Committee: appointment of Roger Smith by Board Member Thomas Scott, effective February 22, 2011 through the date of the regular School Board Meeting in September 2011 at which the Board takes action to appoint members to the Board Advisory Committees.

B. Academic Services – Dr. Constance Jones

1. Approval of this one grant proposal at no additional cost to the District. Approval authorizes the Superintendent to execute related documents when required by funder and to approve normal and customary accounting, bookkeeping, and payroll processes to maintain continuity of federal and state grant expenditures during fiscal year changes and other technical transitions. Any processes so approved by the Superintendent will represent best practices, and will conform to funding agency regulations.

C. Administrative Services

1. Approval to change the authorized signers on the Internal Fund Accounts at Franklin Park Elementary and Harns Marsh Elementary School with two signatures required on these accounts, one of which must be administrative; and authorization for the Superintendent to execute related documents.

D. Business Services

1. Approval to remove from the Official Property Records, 91 items listed on the attached report titled Property Records Asset Retirement by Bar Code/Tag Number. **Pulled for discussion during the Unfinished Business/Tabled Items portion of the Agenda.**
2. Approval of the Monthly Budget Report for the period ending December 31, 2010.
3. Approval of the Budget Amendment dated December 31, 2010 to amend the 2010-11 annual school budget.

4. Approval of the anticipated annual expenditure of \$450,000 for State of Florida Contract No. 715-001-07-1 for the purchase of library materials awarded to various vendors through February 28, 2012 and authorization for the Superintendent to execute all documents.
5. Approval to piggy-back Broward County Public Schools Bid Number 27-084H, athletic and physical education supplies, equipment, uniforms & shirts (Catalog) awarded to various vendors from February 22, 2011 through December 31, 2011, at an estimated expenditure of \$150,000 and authorization for the Superintendent to execute all documents.
6. Approval to piggy-back Broward County Public Schools Bid Number 29-065X, Industrial Education and Supplies awarded to various vendors from February 22, 2011 through February 2, 2012, at an estimated expenditure of \$50,000 and authorization for the Superintendent to execute all documents.
7. Approval to piggy-back State Contract No. 425-001-06-1 for office furniture and files, awarded to various vendors for the period of March 2, 2011 through March 1, 2012, at an estimated annual expenditure of \$200,000 and authorization for the Superintendent to execute all documents. **Pulled for discussion during the Unfinished Business/Tabled Items portion of the Agenda.**
8. Approval to piggy-back State Contract No. 485-060-07-1 for liners: can, plastic, disposable awarded to All American Poly, Calico Industries, Inc., Central Poly Corporation and PRIDE Enterprises for the period of February 22, 2011 through February 21, 2012 for an estimated annual expenditure of \$50,000 and authorization for the Superintendent to execute all necessary documents.
- ~~9. Approval to piggy back State Contract No. 600-760-07-1 for mail processing equipment, awarded to Mailing Systems and Pitney Bowes for a period not to exceed one year, commencing on the date of the renewal of the State Contract, for an estimated annual expenditure of \$300,000 and authorization for the Superintendent to execute all documents. **Pulled from the agenda prior to the meeting.**~~
10. Approval of the purchase requisitions in the total amount of \$140,963.52 and authorization for the issuance of the seventeen (17) purchase orders as described.
11. Approval to renew Bid No. B096760SW for on-site secure document shredding to Shred It USA, Inc., for the final period of February 23, 2011 through February 22, 2012, pursuant to the same terms and conditions as previously approved by the Board at an estimated annual expenditure of \$50,000 and authorization for the Superintendent to execute all documents.
12. Approval to renew Bid No. B096764SW for liquid petroleum gas to Balgas, for the renewal period of March 10, 2011 through March 9, 2012 at an estimated annual expenditure of \$300,000, pursuant to the same terms and conditions as previously approved by the Board and authorization for the Superintendent to execute all documents. **Pulled for discussion during the Unfinished Business/Tabled Items portion of the Agenda.**
13. Approval to renew ITN No. N096840SW for uniform rental, laundry and delivery services to Unifirst Corporation, for the renewal period of February 22, 2011 through February 21, 2012 at an estimated annual expenditure of \$32,000, pursuant to the same

terms and conditions as previously approved by the Board and authorization for the Superintendent to execute all documents.

14. Approval to renew Bid No. B106848SW for installation, maintenance and repair of two-way radio equipment to include purchase of repeaters Industrial Communications, Inc. as primary vendor and Ashtin Communication as secondary vendor for the first renewal period of February 23, 2011 through February 22, 2012 at an estimated annual expenditure of \$75,000, pursuant to the same terms and conditions as previously approved by the Board and authorization for the Superintendent to execute all documents.
15. Approval of the agreement with eSchool Solutions to upgrade the District's Leave Management System (LMS) from the Substitute Employee Management System (SEMS) to SmartFind Express, at a cost of \$27,449; and authorization for the Superintendent to execute related documents.

E. Human Resources – Dr. Gregory Adkins

1. Approval of the general personnel recommendations including administrative, certificated, support and substitute staff, out-of-field appointments, annual reappointments, and corrections to items previously approved by the Board.

F. School Support Services – Mr. William Moore

1. Approval to accept the Certificate of Final Inspection for Trafalgar Middle School Re-Roof dated July 6, 2010 and final payment in the amount of \$42,594.30 to Crowther Roofing and authorization for the Superintendent to execute all necessary documents.

V. Unfinished Business/Tabled Items

Item IV.D.1. – Removal of Items from Official Property Records.

Motion by Mr. Armstrong and seconded by Dr. Kuckel to accept the Superintendent's recommendation that the Board approve the removal from the Official Property Records, 91 items listed on the report titled "Property Records Asset Retirement by Bar Code/Tag Number."

Mr. Armstrong expressed concern regarding four items listed as "Stolen" and two LCD projectors listed as "Unable to Locate."

Ms. Greta Campbell [Executive Director of Financial Services] responded to Mr. Armstrong's questions and provided information regarding the annual property inventory process.

Following discussion, Mr. Armstrong requested copies of the police reports for the "stolen" items. He also requested that language be developed and brought back to the Board regarding staff accountability as it relates to District property/assets.

Motion carried 4-0.

Item IV.D.7. – Approve Piggy-back of State Contract No. 425-001-06-1 – Office Furniture and Files.

Motion by Mr. Armstrong and seconded by Dr. Kuckel to accept the Superintendent's recommendation that the Board approve piggy-backing State Contract No. 425-001-06-1 for office furniture and files, awarded to various vendors, for the period of March 2, 2011 through March 1, 2012, at an estimated annual expenditure of \$200,000; and to authorize the Superintendent to execute all documents.

Mr. Armstrong expressed concern regarding expending \$200,000 for furniture when a budget shortfall is projected for next year.

Ms. Campbell, Dr. Tihen, and Dr. Ami Desamours [Director of Budget] responded to Mr. Armstrong's concerns and provided information related to the State Contract.

Motion carried 3-1, with Mr. Armstrong casting the vote in opposition to the Motion.

Item IV.D.12. – Renew Bid No. B096764SW – Liquid Petroleum Gas.

Motion by Ms. Fischer and seconded by Mr. Armstrong to accept the Superintendent's recommendation that the Board approve renewing Bid No. B096764SW for liquid petroleum gas to Balgas, for the renewal period of March 10, 2011 through March 9, 2012 at an estimated annual expenditure of \$300,000, pursuant to the same terms and conditions as previously approved by the Board; and to authorize the Superintendent to execute all documents.

Mr. Armstrong stated that, rather than renewing the existing contract for another year, he would like to see this put out for bid this year to see if it would be possible to obtain a better price.

Mr. William Moore [Executive Director of School Support Services] explained that comparisons were done and that a better price is not available at this time. Ms. Susan Malay [Assistant Director of Procurement Services] provided a history of the bid and explained that the District needs to maintain a fair bidding process by honoring its agreements.

Motion carried 4-0.

VI. Superintendent's Recommendations (None)

VII. Attorney's Recommendations – Mr. Keith Martin (None)

VIII. Public Hearing

A. Revisions to Policy 1.09, Board Meetings. This item was excluded from the approval of the agenda for this evening's Board Meeting.

IX. Other Business

A. Board Members' Comments/Reports

Ms. Fischer: stated that she was looking forward to reading at schools on March 2nd for "Read Across America" Day; announced that she attended the recent National Conference on Bullying in Orlando and shared information about the conference; thanked Ms. Hansen for her positive comments about the District's autism program; informed Mr. Traube that campaign promises have not been forgotten.

Dr. Kuckel: thanked Ms. Hansen for her comments; congratulated Jeanne LaFountain [Principal of the District's Early Childhood Learning Services] for being chosen as a presenter at the National Head Start Center for Program Management and Fiscal Operations Conference; suggested that Board Members bring their calendars to the next briefing meeting to set/confirm dates for future workshops and also discuss policy language.

Mr. Armstrong: stated that he would like to have the proposed revisions to the policy [1.09] brought back to the next briefing meeting for further discussion; opined that the transportation audit needs additional review; congratulated the Cape Coral High School soccer team on winning the state championship; suggested that a workshop be scheduled to begin looking at ways to reduce the budget (*Dr. Desamours stated that this is premature and that a better time to begin this process would be toward the end of March when more information is available*).

Mr. Scott: opined that action on Policy 1.09 should take place, as it is important to get tentative workshop dates on everyone's calendar; with regard to the search for a new superintendent, announced that copies of the search brochure have been provided to the Florida School Boards Association, that ads have been placed in various publications and

on websites, and that seven résumés have been received and provided to the Board Members and members of the Superintendent Search Citizens Committee.

B. Board Attorney's Comments/Report

Mr. Martin: with regard to Policy 1.09, clarified that in order to bring this back for Board action, it would need to be re-advertised 14 days in advance of a briefing meeting and 28 days in advance of a Board meeting; therefore, the earliest that action could be taken would be at the April 19th Board Meeting.

C. Superintendent's Comments/Reports

Dr. Tihen: informed the Board that he has a budget meeting scheduled for tomorrow, after which he should have some information to share; commented on the recent visit to Fort Myers High School by the Director of National Drug Control Policy and advisor to President Obama Gil Kerlikowske, where he discussed worldwide drug problems; informed Ms. Hansen that the Board was briefed today on a new position being developed for the social communications program and that the program has grown over the past year; introduced Dr. Carl Brunick as the new Principal for Edison Park Creative and Expressive Arts School; stated that when speaking to various groups, he has observed and been very pleased with the tremendous support for the District that exists in the community.

D. Next Scheduled Meetings of the Board:

- March 8, 2011, 2:30 P.M.*, School Board Special Meeting (**Immediately following Student Hearings*)
- March 8, 2011, 2:30 P.M.***, School Board Briefing Meeting (***Immediately following the School Board Special Meeting*)
- March 8, 2011, 6:00 P.M., School Board Action Meeting

X. Adjournment

Motion by Dr. Kuckel, seconded by Mr. Armstrong, and carried 4-0 to adjourn the February 22, 2011, School Board Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 P.M.

Thomas Scott, Board Chairman

ATTEST:

Lawrence D. Tihen, PhD, Secretary and District Interim 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/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.