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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, March 8, 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
Mrs. Jeanne Dozier, Member	
Dr. Jane E. Kuckel, Member	
Mr. Don Armstrong, Member	Mrs. Susan Johnson, Recording Secretary

Ms. Fischer called the Briefing Meeting of March 8, 2011, to order at 3:00 P.M.

A. Item(s) with Guests - None

B. Board Members

1. Special Areas of Board Involvement/Reports

Mr. Scott: Attended the Hispanic American Business Alliance Meeting; an informational meeting hosted by Friendship Baptist Church that featured the Superintendent's Search; participated in Read Across America at Three Oaks Middle School and G. Weaver Higgs Elementary School; and attended the Art of the Olympians reception.

Mr. Scott suggested including the recommended "agreement to assist" document in the Student Code of Conduct documents with a request that the parent sign and return to the school.

Consensus: To develop a Task Force to bring back recommendations as they relate to requesting parents to sign an "agreement to assist."

Consensus: Bring back information regarding the current initiatives used by the District to obtain parent involvement.

Mr. Scott thanked staff for preparing the summary of Board Member travel. He noted that the purpose of his request was to make sure that reports are coming back to the rest of the Board Members regarding the purpose of each trip.

Mr. Scott suggested developing a Bullying Task Force to review current processes, etc., and to bring back recommendations for modifications to current processes and procedures.

Mr. Armstrong: Attended the Golden Apple Teacher Nominee Breakfast; the event at The Imaginarium that included Ida Baker and South Ft. Myers high school students; the community forum hosted by Rev. Bing and Friendship Baptist Church; Read Across

America at Pine Island Elementary School. Mr. Armstrong noted that he has met with Mr. Robert Morgan and Dr. Tihen on trying to resolve long bus rides.

Dr. Kuckel: Attended the Golden Apple Teacher Nominee Breakfast at McDonald's. Dr. Kuckel suggested that "thank you" notes be sent to McDonalds thanking them for the food and for the gift certificates given to our Golden Apple Teachers of Distinction. Dr. Kuckel noted that she had scheduled times to read at schools and attended the Finance Advisory Committee.

Mrs. Dozier: Facilitated a tour of Dunbar High School for Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto. Senator Benacquisto was very impressed with the Academy for Technology Excellence at Dunbar High School. Mrs. Dozier announced that Dunbar High School received a national award for being a magnet school of excellence. Mrs. Dozier read at Allen Park Elementary and Skyline Elementary on Read Across America Day. She attended the Art of the Olympians reception and the Sam Galloway/CCMI event to stamp out hunger.

Mrs. Dozier clarified information that was shared with the Board regarding Board travel. She noted that she has always tried to give reports in the past, if not just sharing documents with fellow Board Members that she has obtained on trips. She noted the report that she had recently submitted on her trip to Washington for the Federal Relations Network Conference and also the article reviewing the "Waiting for Superman" documentary.

Consensus: To discuss Board Member travel at a future Board Workshop to include developing a process for sharing information with the Board.

Consensus: To include discussion regarding consideration to establish seven budget lines for Board Member travel – one for each Board Member of equal amounts, one budget line for travel recommended for "new" Board Members, and one line for travel as it relates to Legislation.

Consensus: Mr. Armstrong suggested and consensus was given to include discussion to consider a process to bring forward Board Member requests for travel to the Board for discussion and approval prior to Board Members traveling.

Mrs. Dozier suggested that audio tapes of all public meetings be produced and kept on file.

Mrs. Dozier requested that a Legislative update be provided at each Briefing Meeting throughout the Legislative process.

Mrs. Dozier requested that the Governor's "State of Our Schools Address" be tape recorded.

Mrs. Dozier shared a draft letter outlining the bills in which the District requests the support of passage. (*handout on file*)

Consensus: Prepare for signature of all Board Members and send to each member of the District's local Legislative Delegation.

Ms. Fischer: Accepted an invitation to be on the Advisory Board for the PACE Center for Girls; attended the School Health Advisory Committee meeting where nutrition and bullying were discussed; attended a Quality Improvement Advisory Committee meeting; met with Learning for Life Board; attended Golden Apple Breakfast at McDonald's; read to first graders at Trafalgar Elementary School; participated in Read Across America at

Skyline Elementary, North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts and Sunshine Elementary School; visited Lehigh Senior High School and checked out their AVID and Cambridge programs; visited Cape Elementary School; interviewed with FOX4 regarding campaign promises and transportation issues; met with Marshall Bower regarding The Foundation Grant for anti-bullying efforts, as well as met with Dr. Connie Jones and Jackie Turner regarding anti-bullying education.

2. Update/Superintendent Search

Mr. Scott noted the draft handout for candidate in-county visits. *(handout on file)* Mrs. Dozier suggested the atrium of the LCPEC for the Community Reception. Mrs. McDaniel noted that the Superintendent's Search Citizens Committee will be reconvening on April 6th. The Committee will then meet with Dr. Blanton on April 14th and the Board Workshop to determine the finalists will be held on April 15th. The finalists will get a personal call on April 15th and the packets will go out the following Monday.

3. Discussion/Revisions to Policy 1.09, Board Meetings

Proposed revisions to Policy 1.09, Board Meetings, were discussed. *(handout on file)*

C. Academic Services – Dr. Constance Jones - None

D. Administrative/Support Services – Mr. Bill Moore

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

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

1. Overview/Property Records

Mrs. Greta Campbell gave an overview of the Property Inventory and Records Department. *(handout on file)*

Mr. Armstrong suggested that language be developed to make employees accountable for stolen/cannot locate, etc. inventory/property.

2. FY12 Budget/School Allocations

Dr. Ami Desamours gave an update on the FY12 budget and school allocations. *(handouts on file)*

F. Human Resources – Dr. Greg Adkins - None

G. Executive Services – Dr. Larry Tihen

1. Discussion/Establish Future Workshop Dates

There was much discussion regarding scheduling Board Workshops.

Consensus: To schedule Board Workshops on April 5, June 14, August 16 and October 4 from 2 to 5 p.m.

Consensus: To revisit the process to establish a schedule for future workshops and determine if process should be included in Board Policy and/or continued for the following year.

H. Public Comment (*None*)

I. Board Attorney's / Superintendent's Comments

Mr. Martin gave advice on advertisement of meetings.

Dr. Tihen thanked all presenters for their time in preparation.

Ms. Fischer adjourned the March 8, 2011, Briefing Meeting at 5:30 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.