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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, June 21, 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
Mr. Don Armstrong, Member	Mrs. Susan Johnson, Recording Secretary

Absent:

Mrs. Jeanne Dozier, Member
Dr. Jane E. Kuckel, Member

Ms. Fischer called the Briefing Meeting of June 21, 2011, to order at 3:16 P.M.

A. Item(s) with Guests – Ms. Heather Hawkins

1. Discussion/School Board Member Residence Areas

Ms. Hawkins gave a short presentation on redistricting the School Board Member residence areas. (Presentation on file) She noted that Florida Statutes Section 1001.36 requires that School Board Member Districts be as equal in population as possible and that the 2010 Census figures show a large discrepancy between districts. Ms. Hawkins also noted that School Board redistricting must be completed in odd numbered years and that changes must be adopted prior to the end of 2011. Ms. Hawkins also addressed the issue of filing an application with the City of Fort Myers to designate the Andrew D. Gwynne Institute as a local historical landmark.

B. Board Members

1. Special Areas of Board Involvement/Reports

Mr. Armstrong: Thanked Mariner High School, North Ft. Myers High School, and Cape Coral High School students and staff for the wonderful job that was done in each of their graduations. Mr. Armstrong said that he was very impressed with the three graduations that he attended. He attended the last day of school activities at Gulf Middle School, where he participated in their dunk tank. Mr. Armstrong noted that he has held two town hall meetings regarding illuminating bus stops. There was a very low turnout at the meetings; however, he has received many calls and e-mails regarding the safety of students at bus stops. Mr. Armstrong thanked Mr. Robert Morgan for his work on this issue.

Mr. Scott: Attended a Horizon Council Meeting at the end of May where Mr. Arnold gave an update on the work of the legislature. Mr. Scott attended graduation ceremonies for Lee Alternative High, South Ft. Myers High School, East Lee County High School, Lehigh Senior High, and Buckingham Exceptional Student Center, as well as, a graduation for his

grandson in Michigan. Mr. Scott attended the State of the Schools Breakfast, and meetings for the PACE Center for Girls, Uncommon Friends, and The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools Executive Board. Mr. Scott stated that he and Dr. Burke taped an interview with Mr. Jeff Lytle of the Naples Daily News. This interview will be aired on a Sunday morning; however, the date has not been announced. Mr. Scott referenced a memorandum that he sent to Dr. Burke regarding items to consider in the future. Mr. Scott requested that the contents of his memorandum to Dr. Burke, dated June 15, 2011, Subject: *Welcome and Looking Ahead*, be scheduled for discussion at a future Briefing Meeting.

Consensus: To schedule at future Briefing Meeting for discussion.

Ms. Fischer: Attended graduations for Island Coast High School, Ida S. Baker High School, Gateway Charter High School, North Nicholas High and Coronado High, and the Life Skills Center. Ms. Fischer also attended an awards ceremony for Royal Palm Exceptional School; ceremonies at High Tech-North and High Tech-Central; and an end of the year ceremony for Gulf Middle School.

C. Academic Services – Dr. Constance Jones

1. FY12 Program of Studies – Middle Schools

Dr. Jones noted that there were minor changes made to the FY12 Middle School Program of Studies.

2. FY12 Program of Studies – High Schools

Dr. Jones noted that there were also only minor changes made to the FY12 High School Program of Studies.

3. FY12 Student Progression Plan

Dr. Jones noted that new statutes were incorporated into the FY12 Student Progression Plan. She stated that a chart was added displaying graduation requirements.

D. Administrative/Support Services – Mr. Bill Moore

1. Change Orders/May 2011

Mr. Moore stated that there were few change orders in the last month and that two projects are closing. There is nothing out of the ordinary to report.

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

1. FY12 Budget Update

Dr. Ami Desamours gave a presentation on the 2012 Preliminary Budget. She gave clarification on department reductions. There was discussion regarding another stream of income from the charter schools.

2. School Board Policy 6.07, Purchasing & Bidding

Ms. Susan Malay discussed proposed changes to Board Policy 6.07. She noted if the revisions are approved that the revised policy will: 1) increase the superintendent's

purchasing authority from \$25,000 to \$50,000 as it relates to making purchases without requiring Board approval; 2) align bond requirements for solicitations with Florida Statutes; 3) align the use of other awarded entities' contracts with State Board of Education policy; and 4) authorize the superintendent to extend contracts for up to six months, with subsequent Board approval.

Ms. Malay noted if these changes are adopted, that there would be approximately 200 less agenda items on the action meeting agendas and possibly 18 fewer bids per year.

Mr. Scott agreed with the recommended changes; however, he requests a quarterly update as it relates to purchases under \$50,000. Mr. Armstrong requested a copy of the survey in which 16 counties responded, as it relates to purchasing thresholds.

At 4:12 p.m., the June 21, 2011 Board Briefing Meeting was recessed and the June 21, 2011 Special Board Meeting was reconvened.

At 4:30 the June 21, 2011 Special Board Meeting was adjourned and the June 21, 2011 Board Briefing Meeting was reconvened.

F. Human Resources – Dr. Greg Adkins - None

G. Executive Services – Dr. Larry Tihen

1. Direction/Student Assignment (Workshop/Briefing)

Dr. Tihen referred to the memorandum (dated 6/8/11) that he sent to Board Members
Re: Student Assignment in the Lee County Public Schools.

There was much discussion regarding changing the Student Assignment Plan and possible timelines for implementation.

Mr. Armstrong suggested that other districts be surveyed to determine if other options are available for consideration.

Consensus: To schedule discussion at an upcoming Board Workshop.

2. Direction/Tice Elementary (Workshop/Briefing)

Dr. Tihen referred to the memorandum (dated 6/8/11) that he sent to Board Members
Re: Options/Tice Elementary School.

There was much discussion regarding the options for Tice Elementary.

Mr. Armstrong noted that he would like to go out to the school and take a walk-through of the facility.

Consensus: To schedule discussion at an upcoming Board Workshop.

H. Public Comment

Ms. Sue Jacobse addressed the School Board regarding possible changes for Tice Elementary School.

Ms. Patti Lochner addressed the School Board regarding changes to the Student Assignment Plan and options for Tice Elementary School.

Mr. Jim Jackson addressed the School Board about the proposed options for Tice Elementary School.

I. Board Attorney's / Superintendent's Comments

Mr. Martin (*None*)

Dr. Tihen noted that he attended the Fort Myers High School graduation, which was their 100 year of graduations and was glad to be there for that special event. He also noted that the Buckingham graduation is always a wonderful experience. Dr. Tihen thanked the United Way for their services to students, parents, and the School District.

Ms. Fischer adjourned the June 21, 2011, Briefing Meeting at 5:16 P.M.

Mary Fischer, M.A., Meeting Chairman

ATTEST:

Joseph P. Burke, Ed.D., 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.