



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, August 31, 2010

Attending

Mr. Steven K. Teuber, J.D., Chairman Superintendent	Dr. James W. Browder, Secretary and District
Dr. Elinor C. Scricca, Vice Chairman	Mr. Keith Martin, Board Attorney
Dr. Jane E. Kuckel, Member	Mrs. Donna Lesansky, Recording Secretary

Dr. Scricca called the Briefing Meeting of August 31, 2010, to order at 2:40 P.M.

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

B. Board Members

1. Special Areas of Board Involvement / Reports

It was the consensus of the Board Members to dispense with this portion of the agenda.

C. Academic Services – Dr. Constance Jones

1. VPK/Early Learning Centers

Ms. Jeanne LaFountain (*Coordinator, Early Childhood Learning Services*) provided, via a PowerPoint presentation (*a copy of which is on file with the official minutes*), an update on the District's Early Childhood Learning Services (ECLS). The presentation included data related to the funding sources that support the classrooms, ECLS key services, programs offered by the Parent University located at the Michigan Avenue site, new partners to the ECLS, successes realized last year, and long-term successes.

2. Update: Summer School

Dr. Connie Jones (*Executive Director, Academic Services*) informed the Board that although this summer's program was a reduction from last year's, it was still very active and targeted the populations that needed help most. She added that opportunities were available at all levels and in all areas including: elementary school, middle/high school, SAT Prep Camp, ESE, VPK, and Drivers Education.

Dr. Gregory Itzen (*Director, Accountability, Research & Continuous Improvement*) provided, via a PowerPoint presentation (*a copy of which is on file with the official minutes*), data and statistics related to each of the aforementioned levels / areas.

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

1. Update: FY11 Budget

Dr. Ami Desamours (*Executive Director, Budget*) provided, via a PowerPoint presentation (*a copy of which is on file with the official minutes*), an update on the FY2011 final budget. She explained that this would give the Board an overview of what has transpired since they approved the tentative budget at the July 29, 2010, Special School Board Meeting.

Dr. Desamours informed the Board that the recommendation for the FY2011 final budget, which will come to them at a Special School Board Meeting to be held on September 14th at 5:05 P.M., would be for \$1,411,934,198, an increase of \$16,261,809 over the tentative budget. She explained that the long-range budget plan consists of strategies such as: building up as much reserve as possible now, utilizing cost savings from previous cuts; using reserves to cushion the blow of lost stimulus dollars; and gradually reinstating items that had been cut as dollars allow and economy begins recovery. Dr. Desamours added that the five-year facilities work plan will be brought to the Board for review at the September 14th Briefing Meeting and will be presented for approval at the October 5th School Board Meeting.

Dr. Browder noted that the Lee County School District is the only governmental agency that has not resorted to cutting employees' salaries. He added that Dr. Adkins and the bargaining units are working to conclude negotiations and that he is looking forward to reinstating programs as circumstances permit.

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

G. Executive Services – Dr. James Browder

1. District-wide Guidelines for Use of Social Media Websites

Dr. Browder explained that the purpose of developing these guidelines is to provide guidance and direction to the District's employees in an effort to protect them from the possible negative ramifications of participating in social media websites. He stated that the bargaining units have been involved in the development of the guidelines and that there is no current plan to create a Board Policy around the guidelines.

Mr. Martin clarified that there is already a policy regarding the appropriate use of technology within the District and that it is best to proceed cautiously with regard to the guidelines.

Dr. Browder stated that interest has been aroused regarding the guidelines and that the District has already received requests from other entities to share the document.

2. Scheduled Meetings of the Board: September 28, 2010

Dr. Browder informed the Board that he would like to cancel the September 28th Board Meeting, as he will be attending the Educational Summit in New York during that time. It was the consensus of the Board to have a "good cause" recommendation brought to this evening's meeting to take the appropriate action to cancel the meeting.

Dr. Browder explained that it is policy to make appointments to Board Advisory Committees in September; however, he would recommend this year that appointments to committees in District 1 be postponed until the currently vacant District 1 seat is filled. It was Board consensus to deviate from policy to follow this recommendation.

Dr. Browder offered an update regarding the Florida School Boards Association (FSBA) litigation [challenging the class size penalties]. He informed the Board that Dr. Wayne Blanton (*Executive Director, FSBA*) will provide a copy of the lawsuit by Friday so that Mr. Martin may review the language and issue a memorandum containing his recommendation as to whether or not the District should join the lawsuit. Dr. Browder stated that should the District elect to join, it would cost \$1,500. Dr. Browder told the Board that this matter would be brought back to them on September 14th.

H. Public Comment

Sue Jacobse commended the District on the intelligent initiatives being brought forward from Academic Services and Budget.

I. Board Attorney's / Superintendent's Comments

Mr. Martin (*None*)

Dr. Browder stated that his comments under Executive Services would suffice.

Dr. Scricca adjourned the August 31, 2010, Briefing Meeting at 3:48 P.M.

Elinor C. Scricca, Ph.D., Meeting Chairman

ATTEST:

James W. Browder, Ed.D., Secretary and District 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.