



## THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LEE COUNTY

### *Compliance Advisory Committee*

Dr. James A. Adams Public Education Center

Monday, May 8, 2006

6:00 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:** Dr. Timothy Butts, Mr. Jack Eikenberg (Chairman), Mr. Gary Griffin, Mr. Charles Gutekunst, Mr. James Hebner, Ms. Lynne Lampila, Mr. Orin Opperman, Mr. Richard Young

**Committee Members Absent:** Ms. Arlene Franklin, Mr. Raymond Rhodes, Ms. Vicki Santini, Ms. Patricia Ward

**Board Liaison:** Absent

**District Staff Liaison:** Mrs. Greta S. Campbell

**Guests:** Dr. James Browder, Superintendent; Mr. Keith Martin, Board Attorney; Ms. Julie Nieminski, Board Auditor

**Recording Secretary:** Mrs. Lisa Meo

#### **Welcome/ Call Center Discussion**

The Chairman opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and explained that Dr. Kuckel was out of town and unable to attend. He then welcomed the Superintendent and the Board Attorney, who had been invited at the prior request of Dr. Kuckel to assist in the discussion of the District's Call Center.

After handing out a transcript of the pre-recorded message, Dr. Browder asked the Committee to review it and recommend any changes. He then spent some time explaining how the reporting of personnel issues on the Call Center line would be subject to public information laws, why those types of issues were not to be included (per Union negotiations, the Bargaining Unit said "no"), and what the Union will/ will not allow in regard to employee complaints. General discussion took place regarding accountability, types of calls/referring inappropriate calls to appropriate department for handling, the target audience (can't limit access/ must be open to all people), and the availability of other call lines. After listening to the Chairman summarize the Committee's disappointments with the Call Center (not what the Committee recommended, too cumbersome, adds to bureaucracy, wrong people in charge), Dr. Browder stated he was sure it would work and urged the Committee to give it time. Due to a previous engagement, Dr. Browder took his leave at 6:35 p.m., after which Mr. Martin and the Committee continued in a general discussion concerning legal issues and the merits of a confidential hotline vs. a casual call center open to the whole community. After a while, it was agreed the discussion would be tabled for continuation at the next scheduled meeting.

#### **Public Comment (Agenda Items only)**

None

#### **Approval of Minutes**

(April 24, 2006)

The Chairman asked if there were any changes/corrections to the Minutes of the April 24, 2006 meeting. Mr. Hebner and Mrs. Lampila both had corrections, but needed time to follow up with the Committee Secretary. Therefore, the vote on the Minutes was tabled until the June 12, 2006 meeting.

**Board Member Comments**

None (Dr. Kuckel not in attendance)

**New Business**

**Board Auditor’s Report**

Mrs. Nieminski made the following reports:

- She has gathered up some basic documents (Attorney General’s Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2005, OPPAGA Report, Budget Manual) and will spend some time reviewing them and checking with other Florida School Districts regarding things to look for and “hot spot” issues.
- She has met with Mrs. Boyle regarding details of the OPPAGA report.
- The May 1st Board Workshop was essentially about determining a deadline for her first audit report. She will be assessing timelines to meet the deadline and explained that the priorities could shift (eight small audits could shift to three big ones) and that the Committee should keep in the mind that the audit plan is fluid and changeable.

After her report, she asked the Committee what issues they felt were important for her to look into. After a brief discussion, the following main concerns emerged (in no particular order):

- Tightening of school security
- Need for an ombudsman to mediate Call Center/ Hotline
- High cost of technology in the schools and lack of teacher training in use of the technology.
- Need to review/ compare costs of this District with peer districts in order to establish operational benchmarks for balanced cost-benefit ratio in our spending, especially with regard to construction spending.
- Status of District’s compliance with OPPAGA recommendations
- How to measure non-financial/ ”softer” things

Mrs. Nieminski and the Committee then spent some time in a general discussion on various topics, including the upgrade of technologies, OPPAGA purpose/ value/ gain (Mr. Hebner stated he would graph correlation of Strategic Plan implementation progress and OPPAGA recommendations), and her role/ participation in the activities of the advisory committees, among other things.

**Call Center/ Survey**

No discussion. Topic was tabled until the June 12, 2006 meeting.

**Public Comment**

None

**Good of the Order**

None

**Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting of the Compliance Advisory Committee is scheduled for **Monday, June 12, 2006**, at 6:00 p.m. in the Superintendent’s Conference Room on the third floor of the Dr. James A. Adams Public Education Center, 2055 Central Avenue, Fort Myers, Florida.

**Adjournment**

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made, seconded, and carried unanimously. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

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