



THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LEE COUNTY

Compliance Advisory Committee

Dr. James A. Adams Public Education Center

Monday, October 10, 2005

6:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Dr. Timothy Butts, Mr. Jack Eikenberg (Chairman), Mr. James Hebner, Mr. Orin Oppermann, Ms. Karen Ryan, Mr. Richard Young

Committee Members Absent: Mr. Ken Caserio, Ms. Arlene Franklin (Vice-Chairman), Mr. Marvin Goetz, Ms. Karin Grant, Mr. Gary Griffin, Mr. Charles Gutekunst, Mr. Richard Houlihan, Ms. Lynne Lampila

Board Liaison Present: Mr. Bob Chilmonik

School District Personnel Present: Mrs. Greta S. Campbell

Guests: Ms. Vicki Stockman, Director of Staff Development; Ms. Cindy McClung, Staff Development Coordinator of Endorsement Programs

Recording Secretary: Mrs. Lisa Meo

Welcome and Opening Remarks

The Chairman opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and made the following reports:

- The District has successfully implemented 113 out of 115 Best Financial Management Practices recommended in OPPAGA review and has been referred to the State Board of Education to receive the Seal of Best Financial Management. He gave a brief overview of the history of OPPAGA and initial involvement/ input of the first sitting Compliance Advisory Committee.
- He presented the Committee's 3rd Quarter Report to the School Board at the September 29, 2005, Briefing Meeting. He corrected a small misstatement made in the report re: the proposed hotline.
- After the evening's presentation on Sterling Quality Initiatives, wants to spend some time reviewing four action points for Committee involvement suggested by Dr. Larry Tihen following his Reading Scores/ Graduation Rates presentation at September's meeting, and Mr. Hebner's e-mail re: Committee votes on Strategic Plan.

Board Member Comments

Mr. Chilmonik thanked everyone and made the following reports:

- The job description for the Internal Auditor to the School Board has been finalized to everyone's satisfaction. (There was discussion on the standard of ethics for the position as defined/ not-defined by Florida Statutes and the State Board of Education Code of Ethics.)
- The employee hotline will happen and much good can ultimately come from it. The hotline and the position of Internal Auditor accomplish accountability and now it is a matter of establishing guidelines and frameworks. In response to questions from Committee Members, Mr. Chilmonik stated that the hotline would be for everyone – the public, vendors, and employees.

Public Comment (Agenda Items only)

None

**Meeting Minutes Approval
(September 12, 2005 Meeting)**

The Chairman called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the September 12, 2005, meeting, as written. Motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Oppermann, and carried 6-0.

Sterling Quality Initiatives

Ms. Vicki Stockman, Director of Staff Development, and Ms. Cindy McClung, Staff Development Coordinator of Endorsement Programs, gave a presentation on the Sterling Quality initiatives that have been implemented in certain schools in the District. They explained that Sterling Quality is a system for achieving organizational performance excellence and continuous improvement via compliance, best practices, self-assessment, and external assessment. There are seven categories of focus: Leadership; Strategic Planning; Student, Stakeholder & Market Focus; Measurement, Analysis & Knowledge Management; Human Resources; Process Management; and Organizational Performance Results. Each category is analyzed using the PDSA formula: PLAN (validate need for improvement – what’s the problem?; clarify purpose, goals and methods); DO (choose and deploy a means for continuous improvement; align and implement actions); STUDY (analyze the results); ACT (make improvements). The PDSA process is repeated as needed to further refine and improve. There are currently eight Sterling Quality demonstration schools in the District (Gateway Elementary, North Fort Myers Academy for the Arts, Orange River Elementary, Tanglewood Elementary, Tropic Isles Elementary, Lehigh Acres Middle, Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle, and Cypress Lake High School), and four additional schools (Gulf Elementary, Hector Cafferata Elementary, Pine Island Elementary, and Ray V. Pottorf Elementary), will be added in the 2005-2006 school year.

The demonstration schools that have been utilizing the Sterling Quality process for a number of years have shown marked improvement at all levels and a few of the schools have actually *closed* the minority/ non-minority achievement gap in reading and math. For example, hard data presented in graph form showed that within three years (from 2002-2003 to 2004-2005) Tropic Isles Elementary closed the reading and math achievement gaps in grades three and five, Tanglewood Elementary closed the reading achievement gap in grade four, and Orange River Elementary closed the math achievement gap in grade four. The Committee was highly impressed with these results and Mr. Chilmonik requested that this information be presented to the School Board at a future meeting.

At the request of the Chairman, the presenters offered the following ways that the Committee can assist with the Sterling Quality initiatives:

1. Tour one of the Quality demonstration schools
2. Get involved with the Superintendent’s Quality Advisory Committee
3. Attend a Sterling Quality training (6 hours)
4. Continue support of the Quality initiatives before the School Board

Future Meeting Dates

The Chairman announced that the next two meeting dates would be Monday, November 14, 2005, and Monday, December 12, 2005.

Public Comment

None

Good of the Order

Mr. Eikenberg handed out “save the date” flyers for the School Board’s *Lee County Legislative Day*, scheduled for October 26, 2005.

Mr. Hebner reviewed his concerns regarding the method the Committee used to vote for Strategic Plan areas of focus. After a brief discussion, it was decided to give time for full discussion on the next meeting’s agenda.

Mr. Young wondered if it would be a good idea to assign each Member something to research and then present findings to the Committee each month.

Mrs. Ryan noted some problems that have come to her attention regarding busing. She also noted some weak areas in the high school curriculum, which may contribute to low reading scores.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Compliance Advisory Committee is scheduled for **Monday, November 14, 2005**, 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 meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

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