



## THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

### *Curriculum Advisory Committee*

*May 25, 2006*

### **Meeting Minutes**

Committee Members Present: Elaine Armani, Constance Dennis, Patricia Howell, Lois Redmond, John Traube, Virginia Wallace, Rebecca White

Committee Members Absent: Barbara Chapin, Susan Cook, Marianne DeVargas, Susan Ehr, Susan Jacobse, Alicia Reyes, Charles Spire

Lee County School Personnel Present: Mr. Robert Chilmonik, Dr. Constance Jones

Guest: Julie Nieminski – School Board Auditor

Recording Secretary: Sherry Pearsall

#### **Reading/Approval of Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Chairperson, Ginny Wallace.

The new School Board Auditor, Julie Nieminski was introduced. Ms. Nieminski will be visiting each of the Board Advisory Committee meetings to familiarize herself with each committee's focus. Currently, in her new position, she is reviewing activity in the accounts payable system.

Minutes from the May meeting were dispensed and reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes from John Traube was made and seconded by Elaine Armani. The vote was carried unanimously.

#### **Board Members' Report**

Mr. Chilmonik will be presenting to the School Board soon on the \$25,000 invoice analysis he is performing, hoping to return more dollars to the classroom. Mr. Chilmonik also reported that FCAT scores have mixed results and nice gains. Reading at the high school level needs to be addressed.

#### **Old Business**

##### **FCAT RESULTS –**

Dr. Jones presented this evening on 2006 FCAT Results. Handouts were given to members showing progress made in reading, math and science from last year to this year. The District is very pleased with the results. Data shows that ground was only lost in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Achievement levels were established for FCAT Science for the first time this year. Reading scores in middle school improved by 8 points in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, 5 points in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and 3 points in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Lee County students equaled or out performed the State average in most grades tested in Math (grades 3-10). Per new legislation, all scores include LEP & ESE students.

Criteria for good cause promotion are in place following summer school attendance. We did improve from 21% down to 17% of students needing to be retained for not passing the FCAT. From that population of students, at least 1/3 of these will be able to go on to fourth grade (approximately 500). Retaining earlier, if needed, gives students more time to develop skills and be successful in third grade.

The cover sheet that describes good cause exemption is available in the Student Progression Plan on the District website. Summer school programs will be offered for all Level 1 students in elementary school. At the middle school level, all retained 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are offered summer school classes in Math and Reading. The high school level offers a credit retrieval program (1/2 credit per course) usually in Math and English.

**MATH/SCIENCE MAGNET RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES-**

John Traube presented a proposal of this subcommittee which highly recommends the use of a new curriculum and advancement of a broad project-based program using hands-on support and real world applications. A handout was shared with committee members detailing recommendations that involve not only administrators and teachers, but students, parents, volunteers, higher education institutions and community and business leaders that educational partnerships could be developed with.

Following this presentation, a discussion among members followed regarding some recommended changes/suggestions to the proposal making it a more concise action tool. Because of changes in language and the expansion of the report, there was no consensus on recommendations. The committee is looking for initiatives that can be supported. To assist with bringing this proposal more focus, Dr. Jones offered to share the proposal with the District Math & Science Coordinators and Dr. Tihen between now and the August meeting and will update the committee with their suggestions. She will also provide the new legislative updates as they pertain to middle school and high school at the August meeting.

**New Business**

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR QUARTERLY REPORT TO THE BOARD –**

For the upcoming quarterly report to be made to the Board on June 20<sup>th</sup>, a motion was made by Patsy Howell that it be reported that the Curriculum Advisory Committee is currently reviewing and researching math, science and technical immersion programs to increase opportunities for teachers and students within the District. John Traube seconded the motion and the vote carried unanimously. Mrs. Wallace will also include highlights of Mrs. Stockman’s presentation on Quality, the FCAT scores that the committee has reviewed and the upcoming review of new legislative changes in her report.

**Public Comment**

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

The next meeting of the Curriculum Advisory Committee is scheduled for:

**August 24, 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 Ave., Ft. Myers, Fl.**

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Respectfully submitted,  
Sherry Pearsall