



## THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

### *Curriculum Advisory Committee*

*April 17, 2007*

*6:00 p.m. – HR Conference Room*

### **Meeting Minutes**

Committee Members Present: Barbara Chapin, Susan Cook, Constance Dennis, Patsy Howell, Susan Jacobse, Lois Redmond, Alicia Reyes, Charles Spire, John Traube

Committee Members Absent: Elaine Armani, Linda Houston, Susan Kohler

Lee County School Personnel Present: Mrs. Vicki Stockman

Recording Secretary: Sherry Pearsall

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

Chairperson, Connie Dennis, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and welcomed members.

The minutes from the March 20th meeting were read and a motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Lois Redmond. The motion carried.

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

Mr. Chilmonik reported on the following:

- A recent newspaper article citing over 600 safety violations, many of which are minor and are currently being corrected
- Blocking of egress
- A discussion with Dr. Browder regarding the need for training for administrators, teachers and students
- Communication concerns - developing a way of imparting messages to everyone is key.

#### **New Business**

##### **Safety Curriculum Overview-**

Jan Klein, Prevention Specialist for Safe and Drug Free Schools, presented an overview of the current safety programs available to students, teachers and staff. Mrs. Klein offers training and support to schools, while making students feel safe and providing classroom management for teachers.

Mrs. Klein distributed a handout outlining current programs:

- Too Good for Drugs – school based K-8 prevention program designed to reduce risk factors related to alcohol, tobacco and other drug use and builds life skills
- Second Step – research based violence prevention K-9 program, develops social and emotional skills, ties into the standards being taught
- Bully Safe USA – developed by SuEllen Fried, well known author and educator, program addresses child abuse prevention, brings about awareness and encourages student empowerment. Currently, we have a “bully bill” going through our legislature.

- SADD – Students Against Destructive Decisions – a peer leadership organization dedicated to preventing destructive decisions, particularly underage drinking, other drug use, impaired driving, and teen violence. We currently have chapters in 30 elementary schools, 20 middle schools and 12 high schools. We are the only county in the state to have a SADD club in elementary schools along with middle and high.
- Social Norming – a way to reduce substance abuse among Lee County students. Lee County is in partnership with United Way to implement this for next year. Charlotte County is in its second year and has already seen significant positive results.
- Peer Mediation Programs – hoping to expand these programs in the district, Dr. Browder is very supportive, Jeff McCullers searching for additional grant funding

Mrs. Stockman informed committee members that Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) training is offered through Staff Development and is part of administrator training. CPI offers strategies and interventions to de-escalate potentially violent situations.

### **Committee Follow-Up Discussion – Safety**

Recent events in Virginia prompted much discussion on the topic of safety in our schools and ways to improve and protect our teachers, students and staff. Suggestions from committee members followed the presentation:

- Going to County Commissioners and asking them to contribute more to these safety programs
- Mobilize the Sheriff’s Office into our schools; have principals recognize the importance of these programs and make them a priority
- Be able to recognize the signs of a “troubled mind”
- Develop safety processes and procedures and share with all substitute teachers
- Create a risk assessment
- Utilize students currently taking fire fighting classes to assist with fire inspections in our buildings
- Add more school resource officers
- Create and present a 3-minute safety blurb daily to our students in English, Spanish and Creole
- Encourage parents to teach safety at home

### **Old Business**

John Traube requested feedback from students regarding curriculum offerings at a future meeting.

### **Good of the Order**

Kudos to:

- JROTC for the numerous hours of community service being performed
- John Traube and Robert Chilmonik by Charles Spire
- Charles Spire, who was recently hospitalized, also commended Cape students working in the hospital. They were cheerful, knowledgeable and engaged.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by John Traube at 7:30 p.m. The motion carried.

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

**Tuesday, June 12, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. in the Human Resources Conference Room at the Dr. James A. Adams Public Education Center, 2055 Central Ave., Ft. Myers, Florida**