



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

*Finance Advisory Committee*

January 25, 2006

Meeting Minutes

**Committee Members Present:** Lawrence Bush, Cheryl Diamond, David Carleton Hall, Thomas Hodson, Thomas McNulty, Jack Murphy, Gary Snow and Doug Wells

**Committee Members Absent:** Tracey Battle, Errol Howard, Susanne Quattro, Chuck Reynolds, Carl Snipes and Fred Whitehouse

**Lee County School Personnel Present:** Jim Buckley, Kelly Letcher, Ami Desamours, Mike Smith, Ellen Lindblad, Jeanne Dozier and Steven Teuber, Board Liaison

**Recording Secretary:** Mrs. Becky Demo

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**Welcome/ Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made, and seconded to approve the minutes of the November 30, 2005 meeting.

**Public Comment**

None

**Board Member's Report**

Mrs. Dozier, the out-going committee liaison, introduced Mr. Teuber, the new board liaison. She thanked the members and let them know that the committee is a great help to the board. Mr. Hall thanked Mrs. Dozier for her participation with the Finance Advisory Committee.

Mr. Hall asked Mr. Buckley, Chief Business Officer for the District, to introduce all the staff that were at the meeting. Mr. Buckley introduced Mrs. Ami Desamours, the new Director of Budget, Mr. Mike Smith, Director of Planning, Growth and School Capacity, Kelly Letcher, Assistant Budget Director and Ellen Lindbland, Long Range Planner.

Mr. Teuber stated that he wanted some direction from the committee as to what they would like him to do as the Board liaison. Members of the committee stated that they had spent a lot of time on the sales tax issue (approximately 3 years) and are in support of a sales tax. The sales tax was then not supported by the board. It was suggested that the committee be given issues to consider (maybe 8 a year) in priority of need so that the committee can help the district. The committee would then make recommendations to the board on the issues.

Mr. Tueber stated that he felt that the 65% Solution should be one of the issues discussed with the committee. The 65% Solution states that 65 cents of every dollar should be spent in the classroom, but there are no clear guidelines as to what that includes. The committee had some discussion on this matter and asked if they could receive a list of items that they could review to help determine what funds should be considered as in the classroom expenditures. Mr. Buckley said he could show the committee that in a one page document. It was requested that a time table be given to the committee regarding the 65% Solution. It was suggested that maybe Representative Kottkamp could come and speak to the committee.

#### **Enrollment Projections FY07 and Long Term Enrollment Projections**

Mr. Smith handed out the projected enrollment of Elementary, Middle and High schools by zone of residence. The projection showed the year 2006-07 through 2025-26. The committee discussed the substantial growth of the district according to the projections. Mr. Buckley stated that the projections were done annually and that as trends change so would the projections. It was stated that elementary schools need 1 year to plan and a year to construct, middle schools need 3 years to come to life. Mr. Smith stated that as of now growth has not slowed. Mr. Smith passed out a student capacity needs analysis for elementary, middle and high schools for the next 20 years. A few of the significant factors would be charter schools, home schooling, and the VPK program. The Committee agreed that this was a very good presentation.

Mrs. Letcher passed out the FY07 Projection Analysis with figures showing the growth in numbers and in percentage of each educational program in the district. These were the figures sent to the DOE for operational development. The total number of students projected for FY07 is 80,200.41. The growth in numbers from FY06 is 5,318.15, a percentage of 7.10%.

The committee was given a copy of the Florida Education Finance Program 3<sup>rd</sup> Calculation memo showing the updated estimates based on the actual July and October FTE reported and projected February and June FTE. The estimated total reduction in revenue was \$6,027,496. Mrs. Desamours and Mr. Buckley lead the committee in discussion of this process.

#### **Good of the Order**

The Committee would like to have more information on the 65% Solution. Mr. Teuber said that he would bring that for the group. Members had concerns regarding the sales tax issue. The concern was that someone else would use the sales tax and the District would have a hard time getting it passed. There was discussion on the impact fees and the committee requested a quarterly update on these fees.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.

**The next meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2006, at 5:00 p.m., in the Human Resources Conference Room on the third floor of the Dr. James A. Adams Public Education Center.**