



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

Finance Advisory Committee

September 26, 2007

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Present: Thomas Busatta, Larry Bush, Richard Cauble, Wayne Dean, David Hall, Richard Hart, Thomas McNulty, Chuck Reynolds, Steven Riggs

Committee Members Absent: Marshall Bower, Thomas Hodson, Michael McNally, Jack Murphy, Susanne Quattro, Carmelo Santos, Carl Snipes

Lee County School Personnel Present: Ami Desamours, Lee Legutko

Board Member Present: None

Recording Secretary: Mrs. Sheila Stancel

Welcome

Chairman David Hall called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. and welcomed the two new members, Mr. Wayne Dean and Mr. Chuck Reynolds. Introductions around the room were made.

Organization of Committee

Mr. Hall explained the duties of the chair and vice-chair, then asked for nominations for chairman. Thomas McNulty nominated David Hall for chairman, Steve Riggs seconded and the vote carried unanimous. Chairman Mr. Hall continued and asked for nominations for vice-chairman. Larry Bush nominated Thomas McNulty, Mr. McNulty declined. Thomas McNulty nominated Carl Snipes, seconded by Steve Riggs and the vote carried unanimously. Mr. Hall asked for a vote on the current meeting day, dates and times of the fourth Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m., excluding December, June and July (a June meeting may be held pending further budget discussion). The vote to keep the same meetings at the same day and time was unanimous. Mr. Hall reviewed the current rules for public comment of three minutes per person at the beginning of the meeting based on the topics presented on the agenda. A vote was made to continue the same public comment rule and was approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hall asked for a recommendation to approve the minutes as presented. Motion made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Public Comment

None

Board Member's Report

None

Increasing Volunteerism and Mentoring to Improve Student Achievement

Ami Desamours reported on the request by the Board for advisory committee quarterly topics. The Board has requested our input on increasing volunteerism and mentoring to improve student achievement. Ms. Desamours asked if there was something this group would like to do and to consider for a contribution to the Board's goal. After some discussion and ideas being shared, Mr. Hall indicated he would get with the chairs from the other advisory committee to dovetail with their efforts. Any ideas that a member of the committee would like to share were requested to email them to Sheila Stancel for consolidation.

Supreme Court Ruling Impact on COPS?

Lee Legutko reported on the current status of the reversal of the Strand vs. Escambia court ruling and the impact that would affect Lee County and other school districts in the state. School districts ability to obtain bonds, essentially borrow money to build schools, will be in jeopardy. Lee County does not anticipate the need to issue new bonds for the next five years. October 9th the court will rehear the petitions that were accepted.

Property Tax Proposals

Ami Desamours asked the group to consider the possible upcoming property tax proposals and to keep informed from the media on the progression of the issue. It is possible the Board may ask the committee to take a position and lobby the public on the issues should it be scheduled for a vote.

Committee Mission / Purpose

David Hall reviewed the handouts of the current Board Policy 1.18 on Community Involvement Opportunities 2b and the Finance Advisory Committee Mission Statement as adopted January 7, 2004. At the last meeting discussion included conflicting statements as recorded between the purpose as stated on the Finance Advisory Committee website (former policy 3.31, Community Involvement Opportunities) and the mission statement. Ms. Desamours reflected that she does not recognize the two statements as one in the same but in effect two different documents, thus conflict does not exist. Mr. Riggs is concerned that we as a committee provide the School Board with the level of support they expect. Mr. Hall commented that the committee has reviewed the budget in the past from an overall viewpoint vs. a line-by-line detail. The Board reviews the budget from an overall viewpoint leaving Dr. Browder and his executive staff to work on the budget on a line-by-line basis. Mr. Hall sees our committee continuing to review the budget as we have in the past with the same timeline of materials that the Board receives. Mr. Hall will talk with Mr. Teuber regarding changes to the purpose as stated in Policy 1.18, 2b.

Good of the Order

None. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m. Committee members were informed of the Advisory Committee Organizational Meeting with Keith Martin in the Board Room.

**The next meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2007 at 5:00 p.m., in the
Lee County Public Education Center
Community Resource Training Room.**

Follow-Up Action List

Topic/Description	Action By	Action	Due Date
Budget Timeline	Desamours	Handouts and agenda item on 10/24/07	10/23/07
Volunteerism	David Hall	Contact other advisory committee chairs to dovetail volunteerism efforts	10/16/07
Committee Mission / Purpose	David Hall	Contact Steve Teuber regarding suggested changes to policy	10/16/07