



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

*Finance Advisory Committee*

*October 26, 2011*

Meeting Minutes

**Committee Members Present:** James Beaudin, BJ Brundage, Richard Hart, Charles Massie, Cathleen Morgan, Chuck Reynolds, Tamisen Traiger, Daniel Therrien

**Committee Members Absent:** Nicholas Alexander, Frank Bove, Thomas Busatta, Patrick Darga, Susanne Quattro

**Lee County School Personnel Present:** Dr. Ami Desamours, Dr. Richard Itzen

**Board Members Present:** Dr. Jane Kuckel

**Recording Secretary:** Dr. Ami Desamours

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**Welcome**

Cathleen Morgan called the meeting to order at 4:37p.m.

**Approval of Minutes (September 28, 2011)**

The minutes were approved as presented.

**Board Member's Report**

none

**Public Comment**

n/a

**Academic Goals & Accountability**

Dr. Richard Itzen gave a comprehensive overview of the school grading system. Measures that districts are graded on are based on FCAT scores. There were six measures in 2004; measures increased to eight in 2007. A district must receive at least 525 points to be an "A" district.

Dr. Itzen discussed FCAT 2.0. With the new standards, elementary schools will have a tougher time because the standards have been raised. Middle school standards have risen slightly and high school standards have been reduced. This is expected to affect the number of points the District receives, particularly in reading, by decreasing the elementary level an average of fourteen points, middle decreasing by an average of seven points, and high school increasing by an average of fourteen points. In math, elementary and middle points could decrease eight and fifteen points respectively, while high school would stay the same. The District is trying to

Pending Approval November 16, 2011

predict what performance will be like with the new standards and expect the new standards to negatively impact school grades as well as the District's.

### **FY12 Budget Update**

Dr. Desamours gave an overview of some information in the FY12 Budget Book, particularly noting District facts on pages 40-42, which gave an overview and scope of District operations. She also discussed each fund in the budget and what it is used for. Another portion of the budget will be discussed at the next meeting on November 16, 2011.

### **Committee Intros/Responsibilities**

Introductions went around the table; thoughts and ideas from each member were shared as it relates to what they would like to learn from the Committee as well the Committee's purpose. The following commonalities were reached.

- Focus on saving money, perhaps in Transportation
- Receive information and understanding of District efforts
- Be a communication tool to the public

It was decided Transportation would be the main topic at the November meeting and Robert Morgan, Executive Director of Transportation would be invited; Joe Donzelli will be invited to the December meeting to discuss public relations and Committee members being communication tools; and in January, a representative from Student Assignment will be invited to discuss school choice.

### **Good of the Order**

None.

**The next meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2011 at 4:30 p.m., in the HR Community Training Room located at 2855 Colonial Boulevard, Fort Myers, Florida.**