

01 28 2020 Work Session 12 30 PM

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Item 1

1. [12:30 PM - 12:50 PM Update to Facility Use Program Rates](#)

Minutes:

Jason Pitts, Sr. Director of Finance and Dan Talbot, Sr. Coordinator Athletics, addressed the update to facility use program rates.

The Facilities Use and the Facilitron program were moved under Dan Talbot due to him being out at these facilities and being aware of what is going on as far as schedules, rental approvals, declines etc. Facilitron is the new program we use to book events. Staff receives daily reports.

Mr. Townsend asked about the expenses and the actual cost. Mr. Pitts explained that the personnel cost are accurate but isn't sure of the true cost of utilities and use of the facilities itself. Mr. Townsend proposed asking the stakeholders for their opinion on raising the rates gradually or all at once.

Mrs. Cunningham asked about repair and maintenance; she feels that repairs and maintenance may far out weigh the income. She stated that it would be good to raise the rates all at once.

Mr. Wilson believes that it would be helpful to have depreciation, repairs and maintenance added into this because its an expense.

Ms. Fortney asked about where the funds come from for utilities use. Mr. Pitts explained the school received 20% of rental fees into the supply budget and utilities come out of the rental fee.

Mrs. Byrd explained the principals at the schools normally offer their staff first to cover as the staff knows the buildings.

Mr. Townsend suggested to add "personnel cost" and any additional costs they may incur.

Mr. Pitts stated that security has been built into the program. They shall place security according to how many people are in the stadium at one time.

Item 2

2. [12:50 PM - 1:00 PM Ridgeview Global Studies Academy Contract Modification](#)

Attachment: [Ridgeview Board Minutes \(Approving Additional Grade Levels\).pdf](#)

Attachment: [WS Summary - Charter Modification for Ridgeview Global Studies Academy.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Carolyn Bridges, Sr. Director of Acceleration and Innovation and Candy Amato, Director Charter School Office, presented the Ridgeview Global Studies Academy Contract modification with grade level changes. This will be the last grade level Ridgeview will add. They will remain K-10.

Mrs. Miller questioned if a school can be K-10? Mrs. Bridges explained that Charters can set up how they want.

Ms. Fields asked what happens to the students who cannot get into Pre-Collegiate. Mrs. Bridges explained that they will go have to go back to their zoned school.

Item 3

3. [1:00 PM - 1:10 PM Computer Science Certification Grant \\$333,546](#)

Attachment: [Computer Science Certification Grant Backup Documentation.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Computer Science Certification Grant - Narrative.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Andrew Baldwin, Director Grants and Acquisitions and Jeff Hancock, Senior Director K-12 Science, went over the Computer Science Certification Grant. He stated that this is a one time allocation with no recurring funds.

Ms. Fortney asked about how many teachers are not certified. Mr. Baldwin explained we currently have 29 teaching but 28 are not certified in computer science. Its not clear if they will be grandfathered in. Mr. Baldwin stated that he has a list of teachers that they would like to participate but the actual notification has to be done through collective bargaining.

Ms. Fields asked about an extension on the timeline. Mr. Baldwin stated that their extension is up the end of July.

Mr. Townsend would like to have Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Hancock report back on this matter in August.

Item 4

4. [1:10 PM - 1:20 PM Achievement Academy](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Davis, Assistant Superintendent, Support Services, discussed transportation for Achievement Academy as well as the timeline of transportation cuts.

He stated that last year they proposed to cut services to 12 Charter Schools as well as under two mile transportation. On January 8th, 2019 he felt like he had a consensus to move forward of elimination of Charter School transportation but not under the two mile portion.

Mrs. Miller discussed that Achievement Academy needs to raise money to keep their school going. She also stated that Victory Ridge has a good foundation to stand on.

Ms. Byrd spoke about the limited staff in transportation.

Ms. Cunningham asked if the timeline doesn't work for Achievement Academy, what can we negotiated to make it work for the kids. We need to come together and assist.

Mr. Davis talked about the House Bills 1043 and Senate Bill 1410 that may change the hazardous walking criteria as well as walking to school from 2 miles to 1 mile, which can significantly impact us.

Ms. Fields asked if we can find out how far along Achievement Academy is in providing their own transportation? How much more time will be needed for them to do this?

Mr. John Burton, Executive Director of Achievement Academy, discussed that they would need between \$200,000 to \$500,000 to meet their needs but they do not have the funds to do this. They are still looking for other options. There is no solution at this time that they can afford. He welcomes any assistance or discussions from Polk County Schools.

Mr. Wilson asked Mr. Burton about the issues with the surplus busses we provided. It was mentioned that bus repairs are needed, staff training and additional staff is needed as well to meet the needs of these students. Mr. Burton said that he appreciates the surplus busses but they need to be fixed. Mr. Wilson also mentioned the contract stated that Charter Schools would

supply their own transportation. Mr. Burton stated that at this time they cannot provide their own transportation. Mrs. Cunningham asked if there is a possibility that eventually they can take over their own transportation. Mr. Burton answered that as of today, they probably could not.

Ms. Reynolds asked about the number of additional students once the bill passes. She thinks there may be about 16,000. Mr. Davis advised that from the 16,000 it would be an additional 8,000 students who would need transportation by state statute.

Mr. Davis stated that a few bus companies have reached out to see if they can take on the additional students. The school district receives a portion of the funding and is running as efficiently as possible. Mr. Davis said that its never been about the dollars.

Mrs. Fields would like our staff and the Achievement Academy's staff to get together and review the contract. She feels that having one year to work on transportation, if Achievement cant have their own transportation they will have to come up with a timeline because we can no longer do it.

Mrs. Byrd's recommendation to Mr. Davis is to get with Achievement and providers that have reached out to see if they are able to assist with the transportation.

Mr. Wilson disagrees and wanted to clarify to Mr. Davis that it is about the money. It is because we need paras and bus drivers to fill positions. The reason for this dilemma is the State Legislators are not thinking about financial implications of unfunded mandated.

Item 5

5. 1:20 PM - 1:30 PM Polk Education Association (PEA) Salary and Contract Negotiations 2019-2020 for Paraeducators and Educational Support (clerical) Personnel

Attachment: [1-28-20 Paraeducator 19-20 Tentative Agreements.pdf](#)

Attachment: [1-28-20 Executive Summary PEA Para and ESP 19-20 Salaries and Contract Revisions.pdf](#)

Attachment: [1-28-20 ESP 19-20 Tentative Agreements.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Brian Warren, Senior Director Human Resources, provided an Executive Summary on ESP and paraeducator contract negotiations. Teacher contract is still in negotiations.

Mrs. Cunningham asked about the amount of money that has been put into the self funded insurance plan. Mr. Perrone advised there has been between \$9 and \$10 Million. Mr. Warren pointed out the Financial Impact Chart for paraeducators. Mrs. Cunningham stated that she will not approve a balanced budget with no raises for next year. This will include all employees.

Mr. Wilson stated we should have a contract by now, however, we can offer something.

Ms. Fortney stated there seems to be "presenting" and not negotiating at the meetings.

Item 6

6. [1:30 PM - 1:45 PM SEDNET/USF MOA - Additional \\$307,235 for Mental Health](#)

Attachment: [Polk Memorandum of Agreement SEDNET.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Kimberly Steinke, Assistant Superintendent Learning Support, talked about the one time additional funds of \$307,000 received for mental health work, it can only be used to support development training, curriculum and technical assistance or activities in the areas of mental health. These funds must be spent by June 30, 2020.

Mrs. Miller asked if there will be a report on how this money will be spend. Dr. Steinke responded that there will be one.

7. [Break](#)

Item 9

8. [Head Start Services Report](#)

Attachment: [Head Start Regulatory changes 2020.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Board Executive Report Jan 2020.pdf](#)

Attachment: [19HSA - Head Start Financial report as of 11-30-2019.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mattie Friedt, Director of Preschool Programs, gave an update on Head Start Services. She introduced Karie Barquin, Senior Director of Headstart Preschool Programs. Mrs. Friedt mentioned that they are still struggling on hiring certified staff.

Mr. Townsend asked if we are in jeopardy of being in the bottom 10%. Ms. Barquin stated as of the 2018 scores, we were not in the 10%.

Mrs. Byrd asked if any of the data is lag data? Mrs. Friedt said yes.

Ms. Fortney asked for an explanation on the rental agreements. Mrs. Friedt explained that there are two facilities, the Community Center in Haines

City and the Wilfred Smith building in Winter Haven are that service families. The drawback is the staff in these sites don't have all the support needed, there is a guardian at each site. However, we don't have an administrator on site.

Mrs. Miller talked about the PreK grading system for this age group. Mrs. Barquin explained the grading system and the grading that has been done. Mrs. Friedt stated that their goal is to serve the neediest child.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 7

9. [Financial Statements for the period ending November 30, 2019](#)

Attachment: [November 2019 Board Financial Packet.pdf](#)

Item 8

10. [Quarterly Report - Recommendations approved by the Superintendent](#)

Attachment: [Quarterly Report 10-1-19 12-31-19.pdf](#)

BOARD AGENDA REVIEW

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

11. [BOARD COMMENTS](#)

Minutes:

Mrs. Cunningham asked Susan Worbington to reschedule the Master Board Training. She asked for a couple of dates from Mrs. Byrd, reach out to FSBA and email to board. She would like to bring back an open forum with the Commissioner/County to do presentations in order to work closely together.

Mrs. Cunningham asked Superintendent Byrd to place the referendum discussion on the February 11, 2020 Work Session. She asked board members to fill the spot on Central Florida School Board Collation committee. Ms. Fortney volunteered and Ms. Reynolds the alternate.

Mrs. Cunningham also asked Mr. Warren if he can make a recommendation and discussion with PEA of having a teacher work day before session begins. Mrs. Byrd stated it would have to be amended.

Mrs. Miller mentioned that a policy came through from the state taking funding from Polk schools and the board was not aware. She feels legal discussions should be ongoing in the Work Session about statute changes from DOE and Legislation.

Mrs. Cunningham also stated that during the February 11th extended work session, Mrs. Miller's request to speak about Professional Development and Leadership, will be discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 PM. Minutes were approved and attested this 25th day of February, 2020

Lori Cunningham, Board Chair

Jacqueline M. Byrd, Superintendent