

02 28 2012 Work Session

For ADA assistance, contact the Office of Equity and Compliance, 534-0781, at least 3 business days before the meeting.

New Business

1. [12:30 - 12:40 PM School Board Comments](#)

Minutes:

Lori Cunningham would like to invite Congressman Dennis Ross to meet with the School Board to discuss topics of interest. Consensus given.

Debra Wright distributed FSBA (Florida School Boards Association) information on how to arrange meetings with Legislative Representatives. She inquired if there was a protocol to proceed. Dr. Nickell reported that staff is currently creating a communication that will cover not only Legislators but community and business partners as well. Typically, Wendy Dodge, Legislative Liaison, arranges meetings with Legislators. Kay Fields would like to know if any Legislators have visited our schools.

Mrs. Sellers requested input on the time line for Dr. Nickell's evaluation. Mr. Mullenax suggested the evaluation piece be reviewed since the State has changed several of the variables. It is unfair to hold the Superintendent to those standards when the State has changed the rate factors (cut scores, etc). Consensus was to hold the evaluation in August after data is received from the State. The use of a facilitator will depend on the budget; but if possible, Tom Freijo would be contacted.

Mrs. Sellers asked if a Board Member was available to attend a Department of Commerce meeting tomorrow in Sebring. Topic is on the affects of economic development in our area. No one was available at such a short notice.

Board Agenda Review

2. [12:40 - 1:00 PM Review February 28, 2012 School Board Agenda](#)

Attachment: [02 28 12 School Board Agenda.pdf](#)

Minutes:

C-10 thru C-15 Charter Schools

Mrs. Fields asked for clarification on charter concerns regarding services they feel the district should be providing. Mrs. Fields will meet with Carolyn to review the documents.

C-17 Resolutions to amend District School Budget 2011-12

Mr. Mullenax asked if the line item attachment is necessary (67 pages). Consensus is that the information is for transparency and for those that wish to view it.

C-18 Voluntary Public School Choice Fifth Budget Period

Mrs. Cunningham requested a report on the grant's benefits to students. Carolyn Bridges, Senior Director of Magnet, Choice and Charter, stated that the grant is with eight (8) other school districts and a report is required at the end of the grant.

Discussion

Item 3

3. [1:00 - 1:05 PM Charter Review Committee Recommendation to the Superintendent: Hartridge Academy Renewal](#)

Attachment: [Hartridge-CRC Recommendation to Superintendent.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Recommendation of renewal.

To avoid 'he said/she said', Mrs. Wright requested the questions be a part of the backup, along with the Charter's response. Mrs. Bridges clarified that the information could be found in the documentation provided.

Item 4

4. [1:05 - 1:10 PM Charter Review Committee Recommendation to the Superintendent: Edward W. Bok Academy Renewal](#)

Attachment: [Bok-CRC Recommendation to Superintendent.pdf](#)

Minutes: Recommendation of renewal.

Item 5

5. [1:10 - 1:15 PM Charter Review Committee Recommendation to the Superintendent: Berkley Charter School Renewal](#)

Attachment: [Berkley-CRC Recommendation to Superintendent.pdf](#)

Minutes: Even though there was a diversity concern, the Charter Review Committee recommended renewal.

Item 6

6. [1:15 - 1:25 PM BREAK](#)

Item 7

7. [1:25 - 1:45 PM School Board's Policy Making Process](#)

Attachment: [SchoolBoardPolicyMakingProcess.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Wes Bridges, School Board Attorney, provided samples of other districts' policies on rule making, rule making authority, purposes of school board rules, and the differences between policy and procedure. The differences between school districts is the way we do business through policies.

Mr. Mullenax voiced a concern on the length of time it takes to review a policy. Mrs. Sellers agreed and has discussed the process with other districts. None of those she talked with have a Policy Committee. It is difficult to schedule meetings due to the number of members on the committee. Without a Policy Committee, the Board could bring up a policy concern during a work session for consensus, then have the Superintendent review/update the policy.

Mrs. Wright suggested eliminating the Policy Committee; she spoke highly of Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties' policy procedures.

Mrs. Fields reported that public input is important and transparent. However, if a policy needs to be reviewed quickly, the Board could bring it up during a Work Session.

The Superintendent and Mr. Bridges reported that a contract with NEOLA is forthcoming but any changes that need to be made before that happens could be accomplished through the existing process.

Item 8

8. [1:45 - 1:55 PM Update on Special Policy Concern](#)

Item 9

9. [1:55 - 2:20 PM Social Studies Curriculum and Instruction Update](#)

Attachment: [Elementary Social Studies Update 120208.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Secondary Social Studies Updates.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Rozy Scott, TRST, and Julie Noel, Senior Coordinator, reported on curriculum strands currently covered in the K-12 format. American History, Civics and Government, Economics and Geography. Language and Math standards have been incorporated into the curriculum. Sixth grade End Of Course exams begin this year in Social Studies. Next year, the EOC will be 30% of the student's grade.

Due to lack of funding, the Teaching American History grant will end in December, 2012. There are two positions paid through the grant.

Item 10

10. [2:20 - 2:45 PM RTTT Florida Performing Arts Assessment Project update](#)

Attachment: [RTTT Performing Fine ARTS information page.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Beth Cummings and Mary Grace Gordon presented information on the hard to measure concepts and ideas in the Performing Arts. The RTTT grant (Race to the Top) will provide \$1.9 million for the next three years for assessments on 3 of the performing arts: Music/Art/Theatre. Test items will be made into assessments and made available to schools and school districts to use as formative and summative assessments. New technologies will provide an opportunity to sustain these assessments as models for the next generation of educators and students in Florida and throughout the world.

Item 11

11. [2:45 - 2:55 PM Civil Citation Pilot Program](#)

Attachment: [Civil Citation Flow Chart - FINAL 1-2012.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Civil Citation FAQs.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Greg Bondurant (Director of Safe Schools), Linda Troupe (Director of Student Services), and Jennifer Haynes (Chief Probation Officer, Department

of Juvenile Justice) shared information on student civil citations. The zero tolerance policies were to encourage the use of alternatives through expulsions and create a safe learning environment of safe schools. The program needs the support of the State Attorney's office, the Sheriff's Office, as well as the School Board. Polk County ranks 21st in the number of arrests of students at school and 1st in students younger than 9 arrested at school. The district had an 18% increase in misdemeanors from last year.

A Civil Citation program would be cost effective: \$386 per citation vs \$5,000 per arrest. With minor misdemeanors, the Code of Student Conduct would be followed. Resource officers would determine if a civil citation is warranted with parents agreeing to the program requirements. Students would be assigned a Probation Officer through DJJ who would determine the sanctions. If sanctions are met, there is no record.

Lakeland High and Sleepy Hill Middle were chosen as the pilot schools because their SROs support the program and they have higher incident rates. Mrs. Fields asked for a break down of incidents by gender and race.

A Pilot program, if implemented, would begin in August and all schools would be served. Organizations such as PEACE and the NAACP are scheduling appointments with Jerry Hill to see if they can garner support for the program to go forward.

Consensus: School Board will send a letter of support.

Information

Item 12

12. [Mulberry Step Up Academy Request to Delay Opening](#)

Attachment: [WS-Mulberry SUA Delay Opening 2.28.12.pdf](#)

Item 13

13. [Contract Appendices for Polk Pre-Collegiate Academy](#)

Attachment: [WS Contract Appendices 2 28 2012.pdf](#)

Item 14

14. [Contract Appendices for Compass Charter Middle School](#)

Attachment: [WS Contract Appendices 2.28.12.pdf](#)

Item 15

15. [Contract Appendices for New Beginnings High School](#)

Attachment: [WS Contract Appendices 2.28.12.pdf](#)

Item 16

16. [Contract Appendices for ACE Charter School](#)

Attachment: [WS Contract Appendices 2.28.12.pdf](#)

Item 17

17. [Contract Appendices for McKeel Elementary Academy](#)

Attachment: [WS Contract Appendices 2.28.12.pdf](#)

Item 18

18. [Contract Appendices for Our Children's Middle Academy](#)

Attachment: [WS Contract Appendices 2.28.12.pdf](#)

Item 19

19. [Head Start Monthly Summary](#)

Attachment: [11HSA BUDGET REPORT BOARD MEETING as of 12-31-2011.pdf](#)

Attachment: [February 2012 Board Executive Summary.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mattie Fried reported that 92% of our schools met or exceeded the cut scores. Readiness rate for the rest of the state is at 59%. We are above the state average!

Mrs. Wright suggested the percentage rate of our Kindergartners be provided in the news release.

Item 20

20. [Women and Minority Business Enterprise Report Update](#)

Attachment: [Semi annual summary with graph \(3\).pdf](#)

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:25. Minutes were approved and attested this 20th day of March, 2012.

Hazel Sellers, Board Chair

Sherrie B. Nickell, Ed. D, Superintendent