04 09 2019 ROUNDTABLE MEETING 12 30 PM

eAgenda POLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Item 1

1. Board Protocols

Minutes:

Mr. Wilson invited representatives from the Florida Charter School Alliance and BridgePrep Academy to speak (Mr. Arza and Mr. Kintada). They voiced concern that the applicants weren't allowed to speak to the consultant who reviewed the applications along with the Charter Review Committee.

Mrs. Cunningham suggested the group present their concerns to the Charter Office prior to the Board's vote.

Marianne Capoziello spoke on

- Fund our Future, a statewide FEA initiative, distributed a petition requesting a per student allocation of \$743
- Unfunded mandates

Board Protocols

Mrs. Miller said she hasn't found another district that does not allow board to talk to staff – have them work in the dark. Emails should be returned quickly; phone calls to and from staff as needed.

Ms. Fortney commented she has talked with Orange County board members (elected the same time as herself) and they don't have these issues; they use common sense and not policy.

Mrs. Cunningham reported the issue is some individuals tend to ask staff for loads of information that, in the past, was unable to provide without spending excess hours to compile. From a knowledge standpoint, it should be accessible, but where do you draw the line? Will there be push back? Will there be more from one board member rather than

others or will there be an excess from all board members. She prefers to go through the Superintendent, that way she knows what I'm looking for and often times directs them to contact me.

Ms. Fortney gave a prime example of what was perceived as a huge amount of time: She approached the superintendent to discuss a request and found out how much time it would take for staff to provide the information and, it was her belief, that the request would have triggered the thought that perhaps we should be tracking this information.

Mr. Townsend stated that the state allows board members unfettered access to any school in the district why aren't we allowed access to the staff as well. Would the AG support this?

Mrs. Miller said that there is not another elected board that is treated this way. If a board member gets out of bounds, couldn't the board chair step in at that time? Mr. Wilson stated he is sensitive and agrees with their concerns. There are challenges that staff face. Mrs. Miller believes Mrs. Byrd would respect staff's input and let the board member know that it was not possible at that time.

Mrs. Cunningham believes we need to come up with a suggestion and put it before the superintendent.

Mr. Townsend discussed the IRIS program process. It will be date/time stamped as it moves through the program for everyone to see. He wants to be able to sit down with the staff member informally. In fact, he does that with plenty of staff now. Mr. Wilson believes we will cross the line when we suggest someone should be doing something differently or direct them to do something. Mrs. Miller said having a third person forward the email to the correct department makes her look ignorant. She knows who they should be talking to and should be able to send it herself. Mr. Townsend agreed.

Mr. Hill said communication improvement is always important. To increase efficiency by getting the information to the right person is critical. Mr. Wilson said some board members will turn a suggestion into a directive.

Mr. Bridges said there is a fine line between a request for information from a staff and a directive to drop what you're doing and provide this information. Duties and responsibility of superintendent rub against the duties and responsibilities of the Board. They overlap; it happens periodically and is revisited. Mrs. Miller believes the Superintendent or Mr. Wilson could address the board member should it become a problem. The culture needs to change. We should be one unit.

Mr. Townsend would like the superintendent to give board access to all staff with the understanding that she will call us down if we abuse it. Having a log is good in some cases, but sometimes it's better to hold a conversation.

Mrs. Cunningham suggested Mrs. Miller work through Mrs. Byrd as she does.

Ms. Fortney said she leaves a sticky note at the person's office and they give her a call.

Mr. Wilson suggested Mr. Townsend and Mrs. Miller share their thoughts on the new IRIS program.

Mrs. Miller wants to learn about the system she is to be governing.

Susan is to add the protocol discussion to the next Roundtable meeting.

Item 2

2. PCSB Elopement Plan

Minutes: Elopement Plan

Mrs. Miller believes all of our schools should have an elopement plan (student fleeing from where they should be). She doesn't want to wait for legislation. Is this a priority of the Board? Can we be create a policy?

Dr. Steinke said our District-wide Critical Response Plan includes when a student is missing. An elopement plan for students with IEPs is different. We don't have anything required by individual school. This requires a perimeter plan with community and SRO/PD.

Mr. Wilson suggested Mrs. Miller provide Mrs. Byrd her thoughts.

Mr. Townsend would like the Audit to be a work session discussion. Mr. Perrone stated that the meeting with the auditor took place (with the board chair) but the auditor couldn't provide a hard copy because he had to send it to his boss first. The auditor offered to return to the district to submit their findings. Mr. Wilson concurred and said we had a clean opinion on the Financial side and you will always have findings on the Operational side. In sheer numbers, 11 findings isn't unusual.

Mr. Townsend would like to invite a STEM advocate to present at the July Roundtable meeting...reality of how our students are doing in math and science. Paul???? Invite math and science teachers at Polk state and district to attend.

Ms. Fortney would like the Girls Scout leader to present at the same time, they have placed a STEP requirement in their badge initiative.

Mr. Wilson asked that they provide contact info to Susan.

Ms. Fortney stated the board requested data about turnover by school at the retreat in March. She requested a follow up with Mrs. Byrd and learned it would be over 100 hours during a busy time to compile. She redrafted her request to top 10 non-magnet schools.

INFORMATION ITEMS

BOARD AGENDA REVIEW

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting adjourned at 2:52 PM. Minutes were approved and attested this 14th day of May, 2019.

Lynn Wilson, Board Chair

Jacqueline M. Byrd, Superintendent