

04 23 2019 Work Session 12 30 PM

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Item 1

1. [12:30 - 12:50 PM Investment Update](#)

Minutes:

Mike Perrone, Associate Superintendent of Finance and CFO, provided information on the District's investment in 'sinking funds'. Bids have been received from banks and it appears rates are going up, which is a good for us. We will be bonding \$200 million. He will be bringing this to the Board as it becomes more solid.

Mrs. Miller asked if there is a system in place so bond investments don't fall through the cracks. Mr. Perrone stated that, typically, we rely on the investment advisors to be follow up on the investment. We no longer utilize that investor.

Mrs. Cunningham asked if we have an investor now. Mr. Perrone will have a proposal after a meeting with the rating company in May. Mr. Perrone asked for a consensus on the change.

Mr. Wilson asked if impact fees were considered rather than bonding. Mr. Perrone said impact fees are to address growth.

Mrs. Miller requested that, for future items, documentation be provided beforehand; especially if a consensus is needed.

Consensus reached to move forward.

Item 2

2. [12:50 - 1:20 PM Charter School Projected Enrollment for 2019-2020 School Year](#)

Attachment: [2019-20 Charter Schools Projected Enrollment.pdf](#)

Attachment: [WS-Summary-2019-2020 Projected Enrollment.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Michael Akes, CAO, Carolyn Bridges and Candy Amato (Charter Division) provided information on charter school projected enrollments.

High performing charter schools: Magnolia Montessori, Polk Pre-Collegiate and Ridgeview Global are allowed by state statute to increase their enrollment as long as they do not exceed the capacity of the building.

BOK North: is requesting an additional 200 seats in order to add the 7th grade component. Dr. Akes has a concern with their current facility capacity. The site at the First Baptist Church in Lake Wales has capacity for 228. If the Board wishes to approve their request, Mr. Bridges suggested it be contingent upon evidence of having a building with appropriate capacity and showing a certificate of occupancy.

Ms. Reynolds doesn't feel comfortable with a contingency plan with the Lake Wales Charter until they show proof.

Mrs. Cunningham said this allows them to seek financial loans.

Ms. Reynolds feels it is the due diligence of the Board if they haven't fulfilled the original agreement. Mrs. Bridges and Dr. Akes stated it is an ongoing concern. Dr. Akes compared it to Ridgeview rolling one grade up. The district has to pay the charter based on their proposed PTM. Mrs. Bridges stated the district will make a payment for the 400 projected number by July 1. The charter has to have a building 7-10 days before school starts. If they do not have a building, the funds will be adjusted downward.

Ms. Reynolds asked if we can deny the request until they have a building. Mr. Townsend and Ms. Fortney would like a letter sent to them letting them know the District requires proof (certificate of occupancy) they have a building with the educational capacity for 400 students.

Discovery Academy: Dr. Akes is concerned with the 925 request of Discovery. They did not reach the 700 requested earlier (current enrollment is 677). This does not align with their contract of 850. Ms. Reynolds would like to increase to contractual number of 850.

Ms. Reynolds asked if there is data on how many of their 8th graders are being rolled up.

Ms. Fortney noticed a decrease in students in each higher grade level.

Mr. Townsend asked what would happen if we don't offer the contract number. Mr. Bridges responded it would go before an administrative law

judge.

Lake Wales High School: Dr. Akes reminded the Board that last year the district gave them 120 more students than they requested. This request is to increase their enrollment to 1680; 30 more than last year and will require facility modifications. Their current enrollment as of March 2019 was 1567.

Ms. Reynolds asked if they have a wait list? Ms. Amato said they do but she isn't sure of the number. Ms. Reynolds would like to know why they have a wait when they have 83 seats available. She commented that we gave them 120 seats last year because they said they had 120 Lakes Wales kids on a waiting list. Yet, she knows of 2 Bartow-zoned football students that transferred to Lake Wales High before school started this year. The charter is not enrolling their zoned students and continues to reach out to surrounding communities. She would like to make sure they are addressing the needs of the Lake Wales students before increasing their numbers.

Ms. Fortney would like to see their roll up numbers: 8th to 9th; 9th to 10th, etc.

Ms. Amato read a February comment from the charter as to why they did not reach their current PTM. The reason is they can only serve up to 1600 students with the current staff. In order to hire another co-hort of teachers to serve 1732 students, an increase in student enrollment and more portables are required.

Ms. Reynolds noted the district would have to provide more portables to allow them to increase their enrollment and hire more teachers.

Mr. Wilson has heard from the community that they need portables to house the 120 we gave them last year. Mrs. Usher stated she and her staffed walked the campus last year; they have space, is not being utilized properly. At 1650, they are still at 95% of capacity.

Mr. Townsend suggested the charter have established zones just as our schools do. They need to be the school of last resort.

Mrs. Byrd summarized that the Board would like information on the wait list and the 83 students as well as a break down on the 9-12 roll ups. Ms. Reynolds would like to know why Lake Wales is at 1567 and not 1600? Why aren't those 33 students off the wait list?

Item 3

3. [1:20 - 1:35 PM Lease Purchase Proposal for Countywide P25 800 MHz Radio System](#)

Attachment: [Motorola Proposal 04.18.19.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Motorola P25 800 MHz Radio Pricing Summary.pdf](#)

Attachment: [School Board Integration in to the County Radio System.pdf](#)

Attachment: [School Board of Polk County - Financing Proposal 04.18.19.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Budget-Impact-Analysis-2018-19 \(P25 800MHz radio upgrade project\) \(updated 4-11-19\).pdf](#)
Attachment: [Polk County Public Schools - Sole Source Letter 04.10.19.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Townsend asked that this item not be on the agenda for this evening. Mr. Davis said he is under a time constraint to have the buses adapted with the radios.

The district is looking to update the current analogue VHS system to enhance the safety 50,000 students and to be apart of the county radio system. This will also allow us to have access to our buses when they are used for out-of-county field trips. Currently, due to the size of the county, there are several areas that do not have service. Buses can be outside of service 15-20 minutes on their routes.

The proposed system will have direct connect to the county's 911 system. It allows for bus identification and location by the pressing a mike key. The 800 MegaHertz system will not experience lack of service due to bad weather.

Mrs. Byrd said our bus drivers shouldn't have to use their own phones to contact the office for assistance. Safety is just as important on the buses as it is in our buildings.

Mr. Wilson asked for the recurring costs. Mr. Davis said it would be for maintenance of the radio system over the next 7 years; \$478,000 if we use Motorola's service plan or \$1.1 million if we contract with the County.

Item 4

4. [1:35 - 1:45 PM Revised Senior Director, Equity & Diversity Management](#)

Attachment: [Agenda Item Detail for Director Equity Diversity Management.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Revised JD Senior Director Equity Diversity Management.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Teddra Porteous, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources, stated the position of Senior Director of Equity and Diversity Management is being changed to a Director position. The current employee is retiring and she would like time for them to train the new employee.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 5

5. [2019 First Quarterly Report](#)

Attachment: [Quarterly Report 1-1-2019 3-31-19 \(revised\).pdf](#)

Item 6

6. [Financial Statements for the period ending February 28, 2019.](#)

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

Minutes:

Item 7

7. [Head Start Services Report](#)

Attachment: [18HSA - Head Start Financial report - 2018 FINAL.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Board Executive Summary Report April 2019-Final.pdf](#)

Item 8

8. [Results of Custodial Survey conducted in January 2019.](#)

Attachment: [2019 Custodial Services Survey Results.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Copy of Copy of Survey Result arranged strongly agree to strongly Disagree.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Open Ended Responses \(Spanish\).pdf](#)

Attachment: [BUCKET ITEMS FROM SURVEY 3-1-19.pdf](#)

Minutes: Mr. Townsend and Ms. Fortney would like a discussion soon as to how we implement and address the concerns in the survey.

Item 9

9. [Exceptional Student Education Policies and Procedures 2018-2021 sy- Revisions](#)

Attachment: [SIGNATURE PAGE-2018-2021 \(fillable\).pdf](#)

Attachment: [SP&P Summary of Revision for 2018-2021.pdf](#)

Attachment: [SP&P 2018-2019 through 2020-2021.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Kimberly Steinke, Associate Superintendent of Learning Support, reported on the proposed revisions which will be for Board approval in May.

Mrs. Miller asked if the restraint concern is being addressed. Dr. Steinke said it is a global and complicated topic. Mrs. Miller would like to know what we have in place to address the high number of restraints used. Dr. Akes responded he has reviewed the data for the past three years. It shows that we are not higher than other district nor is the minority data correct.

Mrs. Miller would like to be proactive and provide a statement to the

community where we are and how we are doing to address these concerns.

BOARD AGENDA REVIEW

10. [1:45 - 2:00 PM Review the April 23, 2019 School Board Agenda](#)

Attachment: [04 23 2019 School Board Agenda.pdf](#)

Minutes:

C-46: Purchase of Instructional Materials

Ms. Fortney thought this was placed on hold until the State provides the new course adoptions.

Joe McNaughton, Senior Director of Curriculum, stated the new standards will not affect these upper level instructional materials. The current books are about nine years old and need to be replaced.

R-64: INVO Contract

Mrs. Miller asked Dr. Steinke to clarify the contract. Dr. Steinke said it is to expand on their services for us without any extra cost this year.

OLD BUSINESS

11. [FSBA Master Board Training](#)

Attachment: [Master Board Forum Agenda.pdf](#)

Attachment: [2019-20 Master Board Program.pdf](#)

Minutes: The Master Board Training will take place on August 28, 2019.

NEW BUSINESS

12. [Teacher Pay: Raises over Bonuses](#)

Attachment: [March 19 WS Teacher Pay.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Article excerpt on Teacher Pay.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Townsend would like this included in the legislative platform showing that the district prefers funding for recurring salaries rather than bonuses.

Mrs. Cunningham suggested staff draft something and bring it back to the Board.

Ms. Reynolds would like to make sure we are in alignment with other school districts. Ms. Fortney asked if we can reach out to other superintendents as well.

13. [New Policy Request: Tracking of Student Suicides](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Townsend would like a quarterly report on student who attempts to commit or commits suicide.

Mrs. Miller would like the report by grade level. Dr. Steinke voiced possible FERPA violations. Our incident numbers are so low that it might identify the student. Mr. Bridges concurred.

Mr. Townsend prefers knowing the age rather than identifying the school.

Mrs. Cunningham thought it might be helpful to see what other districts report or if they do at all.

14. [New Policy Request: Employee Investigations](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Townsend wants to make sure that repeat accusations are provided to the Superintendent.

Mrs. Porteous asked if his request is regarding sexual or non sexual related cases, thefts, non-harassment or harassment related? He said any repeat offense. Mrs. Porteous stated the superintendent is notified of serious offenses and provided updates.

Mr. Townsend would like it codified in policy. Mr. Bridges commented this is a Human Resources function, he will work with them and submit for approval.

15. [School Board Comments](#)

Minutes:

Mrs. Cunningham received a phone call from Susan about an incident that occurred on Wednesday which she believes was disrespectful to the Board. She feels like all 7 board members should be apprised of the situation. She feels that the responsibilities of their staff should be discussed by all board members. She asked that the Board Chair be notified of any concerns and then all 7 board members be notified for input.

Mrs. Miller would like to return to two board meetings a month. Mr. Townsend is open

to two board meetings as well.

Mr. Townsend attended the Lakeland City Commission meeting where he noticed they allow public engagements. Mr. Wilson stated that if the Board wants to change the policy, a discussion can be held. He doesn't suggest changing the process tonight. Remember our constituents are able to meet with us individually or come to a round table to speak freely.

Consensus was to change the process tonight. Mr. Wilson asked the Board Members be respectful to the Superintendent and her staff.

Mr. Wilson would like Mrs. Byrd to speak about the guns in classrooms before public comments take place tonight.

Ms. Fortney thanked Dr. Steinke for the spread sheet of the facilitators and their duties. The counselors are telling her they need fulltime MTS facilitators. She also spoke on classroom behaviors. Mr. Hill stated that he and his staff have identified areas of concern for the school-based personnel, students and others. A plan will be presented at the May work session.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM. Minutes were approved and attested this 14th day of May, 2019.

Lynn Wilson, Board Chair

Jacqueline M. Byrd, Superintendent