

## 04 24 2012 Work Session

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### New Business

1. [12:30 - 12:45 PM Board Comments](#)

Minutes: Mrs. Fields asked if more time is scheduled to discuss the Strategic Plan. Dr. Nickell responded that a comprehensive overview of the 2008 - 2011 Plan was provided to the Board members in March. Now that all of the end data has been received, she has contacted Dr. Tom Freijo to schedule a 1/2 day or full day work shop, if the School Board chooses to do so.

### Board Agenda Review

2. [12:45 - 1:00 PM Review April 24, 2012 School Board Agenda](#)

Attachment: [Amended 04 24 2012 School Board Agenda.pdf](#)

#### Minutes:

- C-15 15-Year Contract Modification for McKeel Elementary Academy

Mrs. Cunningham noted the end year of the contract should be 2026 - not 2006.

- C-78 Out of State Field Trips

Mrs. Cunningham requested verification on the year for Frostproof High School's trip. Mr. Lewis said he would verify the information but thought it was for the summer of 2012.

\*\*information provided after the work session by Support Services. The trip was

originally approved on June 28, 2011 for June 17 - 22, 2012; however the request was changed to 2013 and resubmitted for Board approval.

## Discussion

### Item 3

#### 3. [1:00 - 1:30 PM Charter Discussion Continued](#)

##### Minutes:

Superintendent Nickell stated that an exorbitant amount of time and energy has been spent on the charter issue. She has listened to teachers, parents, and students on the proposed Resolution 2011/12-14. It is her recommendation that the Resolution not go forward at this time. Currently the faculty and parents at both Lakeland High School and Harrison are studying the various issues related to seeking charter status; it would be inappropriate to take action that could be construed as preferring one over the other. Any such action might expose the School Board to a lawsuit. A common thread in conversations with parents, students and staff is that the current beneficial arrangement of co-locating the two programs on a single campus and leveraging the opportunities for each, benefits students, taxpayers, and the community.

The history of Harrison's creation supports the theory that it was to be more than a fine arts department. It was envisioned and supported financially by the Board as a high school for the arts to provide unique opportunities for students across Polk County. The Board has continued to make substantial investments in specialized facilities and staff. It is important for the original purpose to be preserved.

The Superintendent stated she does not accept the premise that the State's assignment of a single school number would mean that Harrison automatically becomes a part of Lakeland's charter conversion. The interests of all students of Polk County are best served if these two programs remain as part of the district where they can benefit from the resources and the support of the district.

It was four weeks ago that Dr. Nickell first learned that the difficulties that had developed between the two leaders had resulted in the establishment of a document in 2009, the Mandatory Conflict Resolution Process. The current situation doesn't present evidence that the expectations of that process were met. Failure to move forward in resolving the issues is evidence of the problematic performance at the schools. Rather than moving forward to a satisfactory resolution, matters escalated.

Pending a resolution of those matters and the outcome of the schools' charter initiatives, the superintendent recommended that the Resolution not be addressed at this time. Should Lakeland proceed to become a conversion charter school, an analysis will be done and recommendations made to preserve the unique, county-wide program established by the District at Harrison. Those will include the on-going provision of transportation for students across the district. Likewise, should Harrison become a conversion charter, an analysis will be done and recommendations made to address the actions that decision will create.

Mrs. Fields asked if the Superintendent was recommending that the Board 'just hang tight and see what the end will bring'. Dr. Nickell responded that significant efforts have been made to identify the interest in pursuing charter. Flexibility is one area identified by both schools, latitude with curriculum, along with facility usage and repairs. Staff is working hard to address the issues; however, nothing has been identified that is insurmountable.

Mrs. Fields stated she doesn't want any more schools to go charter. Sitting and doing nothing doesn't seem to be the solution. The Board needs to make a decision; do what's best for kids.

Mrs. Sellers prefers that both schools share the site and state number. They should work collaboratively to benefit the students of both schools. She expects the model to work and for the Superintendent to make it happen.

Board gave consensus to table the Resolution or remove it from the agenda.

Mrs. Wright stated the Resolution doesn't resolve anything but adds coal to the fire. If the schools are applying for charter status, a resolution would not help. The problem began with an earlier superintendent but has now reached a boiling point.

Mr. Harris questioned how Harrison would not be included with Lakeland's charter application since the State recognizes both programs under the one number.

Dr. Nickell responded that there are options to consider, different configurations to explore. A case can be made to the State that they are unique and separate programs. If Lakeland includes Harrison, contract negotiations would preserve the unique elements of the established Harrison purpose.

Mrs. Sellers would like to have the Superintendent's expectations or corrective actions by May 22, 2012.

Item 4

4. [1:30 - 1:40 PM BREAK](#)

Item 5

5. [1:40 - 2:00 PM FCAT and School Grade Changes](#)

Attachment: [Presentation Board Work Session 4 24 12.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mrs. Ferrer commented that recent legislation has changed everything: school grades, federal waiver, accountability, etc. A simulation was made to see what impacts changing the cut scores will have on our schools. We know there will be a reduction of "A" and "B" schools and an increase in "D" and "F" schools. The biggest drop will be seen at the elementary level.

Performance cells will include students with disabilities and ESOL. The State will determine a recommendation in those areas on May 10th. Their inclusion will affect us negatively.

The Community Relations Department has drafted several communications for parents and the community in an effort to educate the public. It is an extremely complicated issue.

Item 6

6. [2:00 - 2:25 PM Final Strategic Plan Report 2008-09 to 2010-11](#)

Attachment: [Final Strategic Plan Report 2008 11.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Strategic Plan (final report for 2011)

Mrs. Wright ask if the District is identifying the key factors that are moving students from levels 1 and 2. Dr. Nickell reported that schools and staff have been researching the indicators and identified vocabulary as one key strategy.

Item 7

7. [2:25 - 2:50 PM Proposed Policy Changes](#)

Attachment: [WS\\_Summary042412.pdf](#)

Attachment: [WS\\_ProposedPolicies\\_042412.pdf](#)

Attachment: [WS\\_ExecSummary\\_042412.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Wes Bridges, School Board Attorney, stated there are 16 proposed policy changes.

Mr. Harris would like to see more frequent updates rather so many at one time. We responded that the NEOLA contract provides quarterly updates.

#### Item 8

##### 8. [2:50 - 3:00 PM Charter School Projected Enrollment 2012-2013](#)

Attachment: [Projected Enrollment WS 4 24 12.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Carolyn Bridges, Senior Director for Magnet, Choice, and Charter, reported that the law says a mutual agreement between the charter and sponsor will determine the enrollment. The Charter Review Committee did not support two requests:

- PSC Collegiate High - school requested an increase of 275; the Committee felt that the school should stay within the 15% quoted in the contract (259).
- PSC Pre-Collegiate Academy - requested 54 student increase; the Committee supported the 15% (50) due to class size requirement of 25.

If the schools do not agree, mediation is the next step.

Several Board Members support the 2 charters' request of more than the 15% maximum. Mr. Harris noted that the additional increase will cost the District in excess of \$3,000,000 dollars. He suggested that the capacity number be included in the contract - especially with conversion charters.

Dr. Nickell requested the cost associated with the increases be included.

Consensus was to grant the two charters their enrollment increase request.

#### Information

#### Item 9

##### 9. [Mathematics Curriculum Update](#)

Attachment: [April12 District Math Update \(2\).pdf](#)

Attachment: [Math Course Recommendations for students in HS 02 29 2012.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Secondary Mathematics Report April 24 2012.pdf](#)

Attachment: [HS Math Sequencing Recommendation 2012-13 03-28-2012.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Courses to be offered 2012-13school year.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Board Elementary Math Update 1200403.pdf](#)

#### Item 10

##### 10. [District Technology Plan 2012-2014](#)

Attachment: [18 - SB Summary District Tech Plan 2012-14.pdf](#)

Item 11

11. [Head Start Monthly Reports](#)

Attachment: [12HSA Budget Report Board Mtg 02-29-2012.pdf](#)

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

Item 12

12. [ING Unsung Heroes Grant Application](#)

Attachment: [ING-BIA.pdf](#)

Attachment: [ING-BrdItem.pdf](#)

Adjournment

Work Session adjourned at 3:33 PM. Minutes were approved and attested this 22nd day of May, 2012.

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Hazel Sellers, Board Chair

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Sherrie B. Nickell, Ed. D, Superintendent