

04 24 2018 Work Session 12 30 PM

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### Item 1

1. [12:30 - 1:00 PM Charter Review Team's Recommendation to the Superintendent for Charter Applications Received February 1, 2018](#)

Attachment: [2018 Bok Academy North Evaluation FINAL 3.20.18.pdf](#)

Attachment: [2018 Language and Literacy Academy for Learning FINAL 3.20.18.pdf](#)

Attachment: [WS Summary CRT Recommendations.pdf](#)

#### Minutes:

Melissa Brady, Director of Charter Schools, and Charter Consultant Vicki Mace provided the Charter Review Team's Recommendations to the Superintendent.

BOK Academy North (Gr 6-8) - 200 students first year

#### Concerns:

- States repeatedly that its goal is to provide minority students access to a scholastic program.
  - The latest BOK Academy SPAR report indicates the school has a significantly lower percentage of minority students than that of the district and state.
- Target Population and Student Body
  - States that it seeks to attract two groups of students: Target one and Target two
  - The presented enrollment preference do not comply with law as defined in Florida Statute 1002.22(10) (d) & (e).
- Educational Program Design
  - ESE Students based on BOKS current population which would be approximately 7% (14) students. According to the SPAR report, BOK actually had 4.4% of its students with disabilities.

Significantly lower than the District's percentage of 11.6% and the States (13.1%).

- Projects 46 matrix level 251 students on Revenue Estimate worksheet; consequently, the revenue generated is overstated.
- Budget fails to provide solvent budget the first year of operation due to overstating revenue for the ESE student population
- Fails to show evidence that it will provide 2 board of trustee members to serve as parent/community contacts at each charter school as stated in the charter application.
- Failed to submit organizational charts are required by FLDOE Standard Charter School Application.
- Fails to provide a fair and equitable admissions and enrollment process

Mrs. Sellers asked if they will have a true lottery selection or will they continue to select Target 1 and Target 2 students. Mrs. Brady responded that the lottery comes into affect once it is noted that seats are available per statute: military, employee, etc. comes first.

Mr. Townsend asked if the Tier 1 and Tier 2 is in the application because it was in the original application (replicating application). Mrs. Brady stated that is not a requirement.

Mr. Townsend asked if BOK will implement the priority enrollment? Is that a possibility? Mrs. Brady said it would be a contract modification.

Mr. Wilson asked how do we ensure BOK is enrolling appropriately. Ms. Mace responded that the district can monitor their application process. Mrs. Brady stated that we can ask for a public records and monitor going forward. Mr. Wilson said a concern is how do they define the Lake Wales area?

Carolyn Bridges reported the opt out zone maps can be used to overlay student address residing in the former Lake Wales school zones. This could be done during the contract negotiations.

Ms. Reynolds will not approve the contract if these provisions are not in the contract. She would like to know before they send out letters of acceptance; because it is hard to dis-enroll a student once they've been accepted to the charter.

Mr. Harris is disappointed that the committee voted to approve based on the ESE student population and did not provide two parent representatives.

Mrs. Fields stated their minority student enrollment is extremely lower than district schools; what are they going to do to correct it? Ms. Mace stated they do need to market better but this can be addressed in the contract. Mrs. Fields asked why haven't they provided the organizational charts for the past two years? Ms. Mace responded that their representative did not participate in the interview. Mrs. Fields was also concerned that 2 parent representatives have not been provided.

Mrs. Cunningham believes overlaying the Lake Wales High School zone map will work to establish zones for BOK North.

Mr. Townsend commented they are projecting 20% of ESE student population. Let's hold them to the contract. Mrs. Bridges suggested that 20% of students with disabilities be identified in the contract.

Attorney Wes Bridges stated that these numbers are projections and cannot be controlled. They can be required to serve the students they say they will serve.

Lynn Wilson asked if it is possible for a contract to stipulate that students roll up to Lake Wales High School. Mr. Bridges stated that the law says no child can be required to go to a charter school; they have to apply and be accepted.

Sara Beth Reynolds asked, when overlaying the maps, can we establish zones for all Lake Wales charter schools for contract renewals.

Language and Literacy Academy for Learning (Previously Our Children's Prep of Winter Haven) - Their mission is to serve students with social relational behavioral academic and mental health deficits. A charter school trying to reach out to low performing students.

Grades PK - 12, ESE student population - 305 students first year

The private school Our Children's Academy of Winter Haven will close at the end of this school year and reopen in August as a Charter.

Concerns:

- Fails to accurately project student enrollment subsequently it may have more students than projected.
- fails to provide coherent framework for teaching high school students
- lists all state assessments FSA and FSAA as formative assessments
- fails to demonstrate an understanding of the appropriate assessment plan for high school graduation
- fails to clarify how it will obtain 2 buses from the current private school, which has the potential to negatively impact the budget
- fails to provide a cohesive plan that will serve all students and makes particular provisions for those students who may qualify for free or reduced price lunch.

Mr. Wilson asked if charters can continue to accept McKay Scholarships. Ms. Brady stated McKay is a choice option; you can't attend a charter on a McKay Scholarship.

Mrs. Fields asked for clarification about the private school opening as a charter at the end of the year. Ms. Mace explained that the private school entity will close in May and open as Charter in August. She stated that they have all things in place and they will be a K-12. Public and private will not be under the

same roof.

Both applicants request to open for August 2018-2019 school year.

Item 2

2. [1:00 - 1:15 PM Polk Charter Academy Charter Contract](#)

Attachment: [WS Summary - Initial Charter Contract for Polk Charter Academy.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Polk Charter Academy IEPC-SC 2019-2024 v4.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Townsend confirmed this is the group that was to locate in south Lakeland.

Mr. Wilson questioned why the Board has to vote on the application when the State is forcing us to approve it.

Ms. Brady stated that the applicant would like to open in 2019-20 but new statutes allow them to delay three years.

Mr. Wilson proposed a resolution protesting the state ruling before voting on this application in May. Mrs. Cunningham commented she met with the company (who initially said they would locate in high areas of need) and they stated they did not want to locate in the NE area of the county. This should be included in the resolution.

Wes Bridges will draft a resolution.

Item 3

3. [1:15 - 1:30 PM Discovery Academy of Lake Alfred Contract Renewal](#)

Attachment: [DALA Contract 2018-2033 v3.pdf](#)

Attachment: [WS Summary - Discovery Academy of Lake Alfred Contract Renewal.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Discovery Academy of Lake Alfred

Mr. Harris asked if Discovery has a principal: yes. He stated that the ultimate title would be Superintendent of one school and that he would like tax payers to know.

Mr. Townsend asked if we had a response from the 60 kids they counseled out.

Melissa Brady: the contract outlines how the school can dismiss under

section "L". School can make parents aware of student contracts, behavior policy and procedures.

Item 4

4. [1:30 - 1:45 PM Educational Directions, LLC, Teaching & Learning, 2,100,000.00](#)

Attachment: [PolkED AMO Signed Contract041018.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Budget-Impact-Analysis for Ed Directions.pdf](#)

Attachment: [PublicRecordsAddendum.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Michael Akes, Chief Academic Officer and Associate Superintendent, provided information on the proposed external operator contract with Educational Directions.

- Consistent throughout the contract is references that PCSB and ED will work jointly.
- Issue arises with hiring quality educators, coaches, principals - limited pool across the nation.
- Availability of funding is also noted several times in the contract.
- Both parties will comply with local, state and federal laws
- If any of the schools identified in the contract increase their grade (to be released during summer) will come out of the contract and fees renegotiated
- Leadership at the schools will be a collaborative effort. The responsibility of educating the students remains under the school district.

There is a start date of May 1st, if any of the schools improve their letter grade, the contract funding will be renegotiated. Dr. Akes referenced page 12, the exact amount will be determined before services begin.

Mrs. Sellers was appreciative of Superintendent Byrd and Dr. Akes for negotiating the contract that benefits our schools and students.

Mr. Townsend asked for the specific area in the contract that says the employees remain with the district. Mr. Bridges stated that by omission, employees remain with the district.

Mr. Townsend asked where will the funds (\$2.1 million) come from and what would they have been used for if not for this? Dr. Akes said it will come from General Funds and it would have supported items usually funded through General Funds. Mrs. Sellers stated that if part of the funds is from SAI, some of the schools may have received the funds anyway. Dr. Akes agreed. Mr. Wilson asked if this has been included in the projected fund balance. Mr. Perrone said it is accounted for and its new in the SAI funds.

Mr.. Wilson reiterated what Mrs. Fields and Mrs. Sellers said about not being able to thank Mrs. Byrd and Dr. Akes enough for all of their hard work.

Item 5

5. [1:45 - 2:15 PM School Safety Plan](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Mark Hutek, Acting Deputy Superintendent, Sheriff 's Officer Major Loyd Stewart, and Rob Davis, Assistant Superintendent of Support Services, provided information on the Safe Schools Project.

- Creation of Office of Safe Schools within the FLDOE
- Designate a school administrator as a school safety specialist
  - Polk County's new position: Director, District Safety Specialist
- Director of Safe School: Current position is held by Captain Mike Wiggins, Polk County Sheriff's Office

Mental Health Allocation - Polk County is \$2.41 million

- School district must develop and submit a detailed plan outlining the local program and planned expenditures to the School Board for approval. Plans must be focused on delivering evidence-based mental health care treatment to children. Plans, including approved charter school plans, must be submitted to the Commissioner of Education by August 1 of each fiscal year.

Safe Schools Allocation - \$5.2 million of which \$3.3 million in new dollars

3 Options Identified in the New Safe School Officers Mandate:

- School resource officer program through a cooperative agreement with law enforcement agencies: certified law enforcement. Start up cost: \$15.7 million and \$12.5 million annually thereafter
- School safety officer program employed by either a law enforcement agency or school district: certified law enforcement officers with the power to arrest.
  - District would need to hire school safety officers who would have to be certified law enforcement officers and comply with provisions of Chapter 943.
  - Because of the anticipated cost, this option was not pursued.
- School guardian program: prohibits individuals who exclusively perform classroom duties as classroom teachers; does not apply to JROTC, current service embers or former LEO. Start up costs \$3.72 million; recurring costs annually \$3.69 million
  - 90 School Safety Officers to be hired and trained by August 13, 2018
  - Estimated new state-allocated Safe School funds is \$3.3 million

Based on significant research of each option, and in-depth discussions with PCSO, the superintendent recommends a combination of options to meet the needs of the school district. This combination of the identified options outlined in the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act, and the flexibility to combine options stated within the act, will accomplish and require the following:

- assures all middle and high schools have an SRO/SRD through our current traditional program with the PCSO and other law enforcement agencies.
- assures all elementary schools will be assigned a safe Schools Officer as required by the statute, which is a new uniformed and armed position called the School Safety Guardian(pending approval)
- prevents the need to add additional responsibilities to any current position within our schools
- requires advertising and hiring 90 school safety guardians and 1 Director, District Safety Specialist
- requires establishing an inter-local agreement with PCSO for training of the 90 school safety guardians and the Director, District Safety Specialist, through the Coach Aaron Feis Guardian Program.

Mrs. Cunningham asked if there will be a SRO or School Safety Guardian at all of our schools. Dr. Hutek confirmed that is correct. She asked if we will be able to meet the deadline of first day of school to have these 90 positions at all schools. Major Stewart responded that Local Enforcement Agencies are assisting the District with the application/interview process. Teddra Porteous, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources, commented that the district began receiving a huge amount of interest after Sheriff Judd and Superintendent Byrd held their press conference last week.

Mr. Wilson reiterated that this is a modified Guardian Program; we are not placing fire arms in the hands of school employees.

Mrs. Sellers would like the Board to send a letter of appreciation to Sheriff Judd to thank him for his willingness to work with us to develop a plan for Polk County.

Mr. Townsend asked what happens if a student / parent doesn't disclose that they have been Baker Acted or have mental health issues? What are the consequences to the student? Dr. Hutek stated that the State hasn't provided any guidelines at this time.

Mr. Townsend asked that letters be sent to all local police departments.

Item 6

6. [2:15 - 2:30 PM School Safety Job Descriptions](#)

Attachment: [School Safety Guardian JDs 04.18.18.pdf](#)

Item 9

7. [2:30 - 2:45 PM Half Cent Sales Tax Fiscal Years 2003-2018](#)

Attachment: [Sales Tax Committee Financial Statement 2018 03.pdf](#)

Minutes:

A video was shared that is being aired to show how the past sales tax funds have been utilized.

Mrs. Fields requested that updates are provided routinely.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 8

8. [Financial Statements for the period ending February 28, 2018.](#)

Attachment: [February 2018 Board Financial Packet-revised.pdf](#)

Item 9

9. [Investment Report as of 3/31/18](#)

Attachment: [Summ Of Invest For Board 3-31-18.pdf](#)

BOARD AGENDA REVIEW

10. [2:45 - 3:00 PM Review the April 24, 2018 School Board Agenda](#)

Attachment: [04 24 18 School Board Agenda REVISED.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Wilson reported that the Superintendent is recommending and he supports handling proclamations like the Board of County Commissioners. Proclamations are to be related to education and will not be submitted for a vote or signature. Consensus.

Item C-67: Purchase of School Buses

Mrs. Cunningham asked where we are in purchase cycle. Mr. Davis responded that we are still around a 15 year replacement cycle.

C-22: Learning Sciences International CSA with KHS

Mr. Townsend asked if this contract was processed through an RFP. Maria Longa, Senior Director of Federal Programs, commented it was a requirement of the Schools of Hope grant requirement.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

11. [3:00 - 3:20 PM Attorney / Client Session](#)

Minutes: Meeting recessed at 3:45 PM for the Attorney/Client Session and reconvened at 4:05 PM.

12. [3:20 - 3:40 PM School Board Comments](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Sara Beth Reynolds asked again for information on any early release for the last day of school. Dr. Hutek and Superintendent Byrd responded that it was released to Regionals to provide to their principals.

Mr. Townsend would like to start once a month Saturday white board sessions 9:00-11:00. Just an opportunity to brainstorm ideas. Anybody can come; staff doesn't need to attend.

Mrs. Cunningham said she can't do Saturday mornings and asked that the 1/2 work session day be considered. Mr. Townsend can't do week days but suggested it could be both days; not everyone will make every meeting. No agenda, just open discussions and brain storming. The meeting would be taped. He would like it separate from any regular meeting.

Mr. Harris stated this seems to be board members getting into the weeds of management and can't support.

Consensus to have to extend the Tuesday 1/2 day work session for this purpose. Attendance is optional.

Mrs. Fields asked what happens to the information gathered? Mr. Townsend stated staff would have to do minutes. Any actions to come from the discussions (ideas we would like to see addressed) would be pushed up the ladder. Questions would be sent to staff for answers but he doesn't envision any particular directives coming from the discussions.

Wes Bridges, School Board Attorney, stated the meeting would have to be noticed and suggested it be recorded and a staff member attend to take minutes.

Mr. Townsend would like the Aramark contract be discussed at a work session soon. Mrs.

Sellers said she's not received any complaints and no one complained to the Superintendent. The Union didn't bring any concerns to the Superintendent.

Mr. Harris stated he brought this to the attention of the previous superintendent, Kathy LeRoy. An analysis of in-house personnel was done. Mrs. Fields suggested the analysis be reviewed and an anonymous survey be implemented.

Mrs. Cunningham said if complaints are brought to the attention of the superintendent, she will see that Aramark addresses them or possibly be in breach of contract.

Mr. Bridges suggested if the Board considers to non-renew, it should begin discussions a year in advance to begin setting funds aside for equipment, supplies, etc.

Mr. Wilson asked that it be placed on a work session. Board consensus.

Mr. Harris suggested the survey address to different viewpoints: teachers who have a problem with service and custodians doing the work.

Mr. Townsend commented the cooperation between McLaughlin and Lake Wales is going smoothly. If a Lake Wales student goes to a non-Lake Wales school, can we redirect them back to Lake Wales? Do we have to provide transportation?

Mr. Wilson requested this be address in a future work session.

Mr. Wilson reported that the School Board Retreat is set for September 25th at the Lakeland Clinic from 9-12:00; and reminded the board member that staff evaluations are due by June 29.

He stated there is confusion among the media outlets between the half cent sales tax committee and the political action committee. Mrs. Fields would like more conversation on the topic.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM. Minutes were approved and attested this 15th day of May, 2018.

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Lynn Wilson, Board Chair

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Jacqueline M. Byrd, Superintendent