

05 25 2010 Work Session

New Business

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

Minutes:

Chairman Fields announced that Dr. Sherrie Nickell was appointed as the next Superintendent of Schools, subject to contract negotiations. Wes Bridges, School Board Attorney, explained that the contract negotiations would be public information and are subject to a vote at the June 8, 2010 School Board Meeting.

Dr. McKinzie requested a special work session for the presentation of new charter school applications. Consensus was August 17, 2010 at 8:30 AM.

Board Agenda Review

2. [12:40 - 1:15 PM Review Agenda of May 25, 2010](#)

Attachment: [05 25 10 School Board PM.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Item 16: March Monthly Financial Report

Mrs. Sellers asked for the fund balance amount. Mark Grey, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services stated it was approximately \$51 million.

Item 45 - Race To The Top MOU, Phase 2

Dr. McKinzie reported that the RTTT document will be signed immediately after the meeting and faxed to Tallahassee. The Polk Education Association also has a related MOU stating the district will not go to impasse after good faith negotiations. Mr. Harris

voiced a concern of the Department Of Education's perception of sustainability when the funds go away. He commented we need advocates in Tallahassee to support reducing unfunded state mandates.

3. [1:15 - 1:30 PM BREAK](#)

Discussion

Item 4

4. [1:30 - 2:00 Class Size Implementation Strategies](#)

Attachment: [Final SBoard Class Size Reduction for May 25 Work Session \(2\).pdf](#)

Minutes:

Dr. Bruce Tonjes, Associate Superintendent of School-Based Operations, provided information on the district's plan to meet the class size requirements. An example of the issue is:

If on October 16, 2009, we had to meet class size reductions:

- Lake Gibson High has 458 classes to be counted for class size; of which 206 were over 25 students; 220 had below 25 students, and 32 classes had exactly 25 students
- Sleepy Hill Middle had 348 classes to count; 65 classes over 22 students, 275 classes were under 22 students and 10 classes had exactly 22 students
- Alta Vista Elementary had 49 classes that counted for class size, 6 classes were over 18 or 22 students, 6 classes were under 18 or 22 students, and 8 classes had exactly 8 or 22 students.

We will use virtual education; inclusion co-teaching; assigning deans to teach one day first class in the school day; freezing student transfers and basing them on the availability of space at class level, class and/or subject area, voluntary transfer (parent to provide transportation). Two things to avoid are double sessions and rezoning.

Public hearings will be held on June 8 and June 22nd.

Mr. Harris stated that it seems school districts will be forced to be more like a college or university; once a class is full, you close it for any new enrollments.

Dr. McKinzie noted that these are DOE enforcements and are not written in the state statute. And, until it happens to your child or your grandchild, the impact will not be felt by the general public.

Mrs. Lofton asked if penalty funds will be redistributed to charters? Mr. Grey stated anything is possible with the Legislature. Charter schools are not required to meet class size requirements. They receive their share of the class size reduction dollars and are not held to the same standards. Since 2003, approximately \$30 million has flowed to our charters to meet class size reductions.

Mr. O'Reilly commented that charter schools have the right to deny enrollment because their enrollment numbers are met. He asked if the class size requirement can be stalled until the charter schools are held to the same accountability as other public schools.

Mr. Bridges responded that any lawsuit can be filed, but to stall or delay in meeting the requirements would be tricky. Likelihood of success is slim. The courts said in 2006 that charter schools are public schools but there is no mechanism to enforce it through DOE's established rules.

Mr. O'Reilly stated that we should not approve or renew a charter application because they are not in compliance with the constitution. Let them appeal and have the State Board explain why they are allowing them to open without meeting the state constitution.

Dr. McKinzie reported that there are people looking into the violation of the constitution and have written to Governor Crist; especially asking him to veto the Conforming Bill.

Mr. Harris suggested holding town hall style meetings in August. Dr. McKinzie voiced concern that the people you need to reach are not the ones that attend meetings. Until their child is denied a class in a critical subject area, parents will not understand the seriousness of the issue. Orientation is the best time to reach them and that is sufficient time to resolve the issues. Mrs. Sellers suggested Board Members have a power point they could use throughout the summer during their speaking engagements.

Item 5

5. [2:00 - 2:15 Designated Change to 2010-2011 Staffing Plan for Title I in the Learning Division](#)

Attachment: [Designated Change to 2010-2011 Staffing Plan for Learning Division 5-25-10 WS.pdf](#)

Minutes: The district received funds to provide additional services to more schools. This created a need to add another coordinator. These changes would be added to the proposed staffing plan; and as always, when the grant goes away, the position will go away.

Item 6

6. [2:15 - 2:30 PM Plan to Enhance the District's New Applicant Ranking and Hiring System - PrincipalInsight with Gallup, Inc.](#)

Attachment: [Gallup Inc PrincipalInsight Presentation 5-25-10 WS.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Gallup has a principalinsight program similiar to the teacherinsight programming,

Mrs.Fields asked how this will impact the principal pool. Mr. Ciranna commented that this will slow the process enough to review the quality of the applicant and match them with the appropriate school vacancy.

Item 7

7. [2:30 - 2:45 PM Property Insurance Overview](#)

Attachment: [Bound SBPC Structure 2010-2011 \(4\).pdf](#)

Attachment: [School Board of Polk County \(1\).pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mark Grey, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, provided information on the district's property insurance consultant and broker, Marsh, USA. The district's property assets will top \$3 billion this year.

Item 8

8. [2:45 - 3:00 PM Medical Plan Administrative Services \(ASO\)](#)

Minutes:

The different RFP presentations were before a five member review team; CIGNA was designated as the lowest bidder with the best discounts. Proposals were extremely comparable to each other.

- Blue Cross/Blue Shield came in second at a 63.5% discount.
- Our current claims are at \$80 million.
- CIGNA ranks their medical providers - BCBS doesn't.
- Customer service calling hours BCBS: 8-5 M-TH and 9-5 on F
CIGNA : 24/7.

Mrs. Fields and Mrs. Cunningham suggested future RFPs have backup information attached on the points Mr. Grey covered today. Include copies of the committee minutes and an Executive Summary.

Mrs. Lofton asked if any other School Districts have changed over to CIGNA. Mark stated that Miami-Dade recently changed to CIGNA. Several districts have been using CIGNA before now.

Contract would begin January 1, 2011 for three years with an opportunity to renew for one year, for the next two years.

Intent is to have Connie Ashley (a BCBS employee) remain as Claims Manager if she wishes and CIGNA will hire a Clinical Manager.

Information

Item 9

9. [DOE Polk County School Quality Assurance Monitoring Report](#)

Attachment: [FLDOE Quality Assurance Monitoring Report.pdf](#)

Attachment: [FLDOE Audit results May 2010.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Item 10

10. [Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\) - Horizon Health](#)

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:19 PM. Minutes were approved and attested this 8th day of June, 2010.

Kay Fields, Board Chair

Gail F. McKinzie, Ph. D., Superintendent