

08 16 2011 Work Session

For ADA assistance, contact the Office of Equity and Compliance, 534-0781, at least 3 business days before the meeting.

New Business

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

Minutes:

Chair Fields reported that Pat McManus, School Board Senior Staff Assistant, has been creating a Handbook and a Code of Conduct for School Board members.

Dr. Nickell presented a request by PEA and Human Resources representatives to postpone the August 30, 2011 Impasse Hearing until September 27th. Following a discussion, the Board consented to grant the request; however, they will not support delaying the action past September 27th. The September 27th School Board meeting will begin at 5:00 PM.

Mrs. Wright would like verbatim minutes. She believes technology has advanced that would create minutes as discussions are being held. Abdu Taguri, Assistant Superintendent of Information Services and Technology, reported that he did not think there is a product available that would transcribe group meetings such as work sessions and school board meetings. He could research and price what is available if the board wishes, but there are no funds allocated for a purchase.

Board consensus did not support the request.

Board Agenda Review

2. [12:40 - 1:00 PM Review the August 16, 2011 School Board Agenda](#)

Minutes:

- Item C-10 Our Children's Academy

Mrs. Fields noted that the goals were reduced. Carolyn Bridges confirmed the goals were adjusted due to the lower functioning student body.

Mr. O'Reilly questioned the practice of McKeel Elementary to grandfather students from their Voluntary Pre-K (VPK) program into the charter school. McKeel charges parents \$115 for the second half of the day (additional 3 hours). Carolyn Bridges, Senior Director will review the data to see if those students who do not participate in the second 3-hour program have been grandfathered in their enrollment or if it is only the full day students. Legislators Kellie Stargel and Seth McKeel are on the charter board and supported legislation that benefits the McKeel schools.

- C:11 New Beginning Charter

Mrs. Wright will abstain from voting because a family member is employed there.

- R-66: Appointment to County Value Adjustment Board

Two persons were nominated; consensus is to nominate Lee Saunders.

- R-71: Alturas Elementary- Heischer Property Purchase

Mr. Harris questioned if this would hinder any discussion on closing small schools. Fred Murphy reported that the property would assist in the need for more PE area, address staff parking, and future sewer plant plans, as well as address any expansion to the building.

Dr. Nickell commented that the district has schools smaller than Alturas Elementary.

Discussion

Item 3

3. [1:00- 1:20 PM 2011 Charter School Applicant Presentations](#)

Attachment: [WS Charter Presentations 8.16.11.pdf](#)

Minutes:

[Florida Virtual Academy](#) - K-8 year one; 500 students; adding 9-12 grades in year 4 with 1100 students.

- Will address the one year public requirement of traditional virtual programs.

Questions and comments of the School Board:

- was there research made to determine the need for a new virtual program in Polk County?
- will your board members be from Polk County or one person from each county
 - Response: One person from each local county
- how does your program differ from the Florida Virtual School
 - Response: Florida Virtual has Grades 6-12; Florida Virtual Academy will be K-12;
- same proposal has been submitted to ten (10) central Florida counties.
- how will you approach low income families with no access to technology;
 - Response: The Academy will meet Free/Reduced meal requirements; families will automatically receive computer and reimbursement of internet access; other costs could be submitted to the Board for consideration
- we currently have two different virtual programs; why would we embrace an outsider
 - Response: There are different delivery methods in virtual programs

Board would like to see comparison on what the charter would offer that is not currently available in Polk County.

Renaissance Charter - Charter USA - replicates existing charters in Miami Dade and Duval counties; centers on citizenship and student engagement; open to all county students.

Questions and comments of the School Board:

- 52% of Polk County's students are bussed; what are your transportation plans?
 - Response: School may provide transportation or contract services. No site has been selected
- was a needs assessment performed
 - Response: It was determined that Polk County was a good central location.
- how do you maintain a high performing school status? discipline, student attendance, GPA?
 - Response: Benchmarks established for each student; weekly progress evaluation, if student is not performing well, work with them in that area, require support of parent involvement (15 hours of volunteerism). Superior environment is needed for student to achieve and improve
- loss of re-enrollment: failure to abide in uniform policy, attendance, parent involvement
- this is a for-profit corporation; building requirement questioned - all

students deserve same level of safety in any educational facility

Item 4

4. [1:20 - 1:45 PM School Board Redistricting](#)

Attachment: [2010 District Information and Suggestions-City One.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Redistricting Suggestion One.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Redistricting Suggestion Three.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Redistricting Suggestion Two.pdf](#)
Attachment: [2010 District Information and Suggestions-Current.pdf](#)
Attachment: [2010 District Information and Suggestions-City Two.pdf](#)
Attachment: [2010 District Information and Suggestions-Option Three.pdf](#)

Minutes:

By board consensus: Option 1 selected because it is based on population and keeps most communities whole.

Item 5

5. [1:45 - 1:50 PM Meal Prices for the 2011-2012 school year](#)

Attachment: [2011-2012 Meal Prices for Board Meeting.pdf](#)
Attachment: [a la carte price list 2011_2012 for board approval.pdf](#)

Item 6

6. [1:50 - 2:00 PM BREAK](#)

Item 7

7. [2:00 - 2:10 PM 2010-2011 Educational Equity Act Update](#)

Attachment: [2010-2011 Educational Equity Act Annual Update 8-16-11 WS.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Item 8

8. [2:10 - 2:25 PM 2011 Step Up Charter School Applicant Presentations](#)

Attachment: [WS Step Up Charter School Applications.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Item 9

9. [2:25 - 2:45 PM Department of Academic Rigor Update](#)

Item 10

10. [2:45 - 3:00 PM PASS Project Update](#)

Attachment: [PASS Project Summary - CW.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Information

Item 11

11. [Our Children's Middle Academy Charter Contract](#)

Attachment: [WS Our Children's Middle Contract 8.16.11.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Item 12

12. [Discovery Education Assessment Progress Monitoring](#)

Attachment: [BUDGET IMPACT ANALYSIS Discovery 080311.pdf](#)

Attachment: [FL Polk County 3 Year Assessment Contract.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Item 13

13. [Title I School Improvement Grant Application for Oscar J. Pope](#)

Attachment: [BIA-ARSIG for OJP 11-12.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Summary WS 8.16 & Bd 9.6.11 Title I SIG Appl .pdf](#)

Attachment: [BIA-12SIG for OJP.11-12.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Positions for Title I School Improvement Grant 2011-12.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:12 PM. Minutes were approved and attested this 6th day of September, 2011.

Kay Fields, Board Chair

Sherrie B. Nickell, Ed. D, Superintendent