

08 27 2013 Work Session 12 30 PM

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New Business

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

Minutes:

Mrs. Sellers announced that the legal services update will be presented at the September 24th Work Session. She will need a consensus at that time on whether or not the Board wishes to contract with FSBA (Florida School Boards Association) for a review of the legal services.

Board Agenda Review

2. [12:45 - 1:10 PM Review the Agenda for the August 27, 2013 School Board Meeting](#)

Attachment: [08 27 13 Revised Agenda.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Item C-12: Dental Plan Renewal

Mr. Harris asked why only the higher plan premiums increased. It was noted that the plan incurred higher claims so the premium increased to offset the costs.

Item C-15 and C-16: Contracts with Learning Resource Center

To avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest, Mr. Berryman announced that he sits on the Advisory Board of the Learning Resource Center.

Mrs. Woolcock explained that the contract increase was because more private schools have asked for their students to be serviced. Over the past few years, the number of private schools utilizing the services increased from 3 to 40.

Mrs. Wright asked if the Board could have the number of students receiving services. Mrs. Woolcock reported that 356 students were serviced last year. The allocation is based on the prior year numbers.

Item C-25 - World Book On line Subscription

Mr. Mullenax asked why would we purchase World Book. Today's student Googles everything on their smart phone, iPads, etc.

Mrs. LeRoy stated the purchase is for the media centers; we know the site information is reliable. We can provide the number of 'hits' to the site to see how often it is utilized.

Item R-39: Project PRIDE Contract with USF

Mr. Berryman asked if it was possible to continue the program after the grant expires this year. Marcia Ford reported that the Department of Education has voiced an interest in replicating the program across the state but so far no funding has been forthcoming

Superintendent LeRoy provided information on the revised Facilities Use Agreement.

Mrs. Wright asked if the community will be charged a fee to use the sites. Greg Rivers, Acting Associate Superintendent of Operations, responded that the biggest change is the inclusion of in-kind contributions as part of the collection of fees. Such as a volunteer group provides some type of service at the school on a routine basis and once a year wants to have a meeting, in-kind services can be utilized. School associated groups were identified to allow authority through the building principal. Also, we included the joint use agreements with cities and county.

Mr. Harris and Mrs. Wright would like to see the specific changes from the original document.

Discussion

Item 3

3. [1:10 - 1:20 PM Head Start Services Summary](#)

Attachment: [August 2013 Board Executive Summary.pdf](#)

Attachment: [8-15-13- Projected Enrollment Report.pdf](#)

Attachment: [13HSA Budget Report Board Mtg 06-30-2013.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Head Start Board Training Presentation 2013 rev.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Head Start is a more in depth program than the typical Pre-K program. For the low-income families, it provides:

- a comprehensive health component (physical, nutritional, mental, and dental)
- an education component, and
- a social component (i.e. parenting classes)

Federal funding has decreased 5.27% due to sequestration; it dropped from \$7,375,371 to the current \$7,017,817. For the 2013-2014 year, we will serve 891 preschoolers and employ 135 staff. Matti Friedt, Director of PreSchool Programs, commented it is rumored that additional cuts are coming.

Item 4

4. [1:20 - 1:30 PM Financial Review](#)

Minutes:

Mike Perrone, Financial Consultant, reported that the figures remain the same as the August 13th report.

Mrs. Sellers inquired about the enrollment numbers. Mr. Perrone reported that the numbers for the 2nd day are higher than reported the same time last year. The major count day in the FTE reporting is in October.

Superintendent LeRoy commented that districts around the state usually begin closing their fiscal books in April with a definite date of June 30th. Polk County leaves the books open until August. She hopes to put into place policies and procedures to close the books in SAP (financial and position control software) by June 30th and begin the next year's figures on July 1st.

Mrs. Wright commented that the schools should be notified far in advance since this will be a change in procedures.

Item 5

5. [1:30 - 2:00 PM Dual Enrollment Update](#)

Minutes:

Superintendent LeRoy stated that in the upcoming weeks agreements with Polk

State College, Florida Southern College, and Southeastern University will be brought before the board to address dual enrollment opportunities for our students.

Recent legislation changed the funding of dual enrollment students to help the higher education sites. School districts now pay approximately \$71 per credit for each course taken. If the student goes to the college/university campus, we pay the credits and purchase the instructional material. If the professor comes to our site, we pay their salary. We can also have our own teachers become certified as adjunct professors and provide the courses on our sites to save dollars.

Mrs. LeRoy stated the original contract with Polk State College was negotiated down from over \$600,000 to \$233,000 by shifting in-kind services. Districts are required to offer dual enrollment opportunities to students to receive college credits; however, we are also under budget constraints to afford the things we need to afford. The state has a policy and accountability system in place that 50% of high schools' points come from dual enrollment, acceleration course work, and industry certification that requires school districts to enter into MOUs (memorandums of understanding) with local colleges and universities. She believes revisions will be coming from the Legislature that will benefit both educational providers. Contracts with both universities is a total of \$24,000.

Mr. Harris asked if this means staff will encourage students to take more advanced classes rather than dual enrollment. Mrs. LeRoy stated that we will continue to offer students as much acceleration opportunities as possible. We will continue to promote dual enrollment. She would like to see us offer high schools students 'Early College' courses on our campuses where students graduate with a high school diploma as well as AA Degree.

Mr. Harris asked we will continue articulation agreements. Mr. Small responded that students in the Fort Meade / Frostproof areas are served through articulation agreements with Southwest Community, South Florida, St. Petersburg Community College and others. The articulation agreement is for students who take a minimum of three of our courses in a specific program (Microsoft, business, etc). The college agrees to provide them credits for industry certification once they complete the program. We have over 200 articulation agreements.

Mrs. Wright asked for this information to be linked to the policy that closely aligns with student progression and dual enrollment.

Mr. Mullenax commented that over the past few years at meetings with the various universities, staff has asked if schools should advise students to enroll in dual enrollment or advanced programs. The response from the higher education people is that rigor vs acceleration is preferred. They tell our guidance counselors and administrative staff to steer students to advanced classes.

Item 6

6. [2:00 - 2:10 PM BREAK](#)

Minutes:

Mrs. Sellers announced that there will be an Executive Session immediately following the Work Session today.

Item 7

7. [2:10 - 3:10 PM Differentiated Accountability Update as it Pertains to Polk County](#)

Minutes:

Superintendent LeRoy and Deputy Superintendent Jacqueline Byrd reported that Polk has 71 schools that fall within the Prevent, Focus, or Priority status as identified by the State. These schools will receive additional support and services. This is an unfunded mandate that costs districts quite a bit.

The state's Differentiated Accountability (DA) model is a consolidation of federal and state accountability systems for the purpose of identifying the lowest performing schools in need of assistance and to classify schools for applying a more nuanced system of support and interventions to accelerate student achievement and achievement gap closure.

Why Differentiated Accountability?

- It steam lines two accountability systems: Florida School Grades and No Child Left Behind
- Challenges 'one size fits all' approach by organizing and differentiating federal/state interventions based on school performance.
- Identifies required interventions and who is responsible for implementation, support, and monitoring
- Requires district to provide students from chronically low-performing schools with new learning environments if improvement is not made
- Provides targeted and high quality assistance to State's lowest performing schools through the Florida Differentiated Accountability Regional support system

DA School Categories:

- Prevent: "C" Schools - State will monitor; district is to provide support in all areas needing improvement.
- Focus: "D" Schools - District is to direct school interventions, provide on site support, FL DOE will monitor the district's support to schools, and

DOE will review the school improvement plan and monitor through visits the fidelity of the plan's implementation. Year two focus schools are those that receive a grade of "DD" and are required to submit a Turnaround Option Plan the following year should the school receive a third "D".

- Priority: "DDD" or "F" Schools -Intensive intervention efforts are required by FLDOE and managed (initially) by the District. The Department and District will direct the schools interventions. The State tells the districts what should be happening at the school in terms of leadership, extended day, staffing, curriculum, etc. The State has the authority to enforce public school improvement, DOE has oversight enforcement authority.

Mrs. LeRoy reported that she has been invited to the State Board of Education meeting in West Palm Beach on September 17th to address the implementation plan for the two priority schools.

Deputy Superintendent Byrd, provided information on the Turnaround Options once a school has been identified:

- District-Managed Turnaround (DMT): Convert to a district -managed turnaround school. If we do not improve this year, we go to one of the following options:
 - Closure: reassign students to another school or schools and monitor progress of each reassigned student
 - Charter: Close and reopen the school as one or more charter schools, each with a governing board that has a demonstrated record of effectiveness.
 - External Operator - contract with an outside entity that has demonstrated record of effectiveness to operate the school
 - Hybrid - implement a hybrid of turnaround options 1-4 or other turnaround models that have demonstrated record of effectiveness.

"DD" SCHOOLS: After two consecutive "D" grades, a district must submit its selection of what Turnaround Option plan would be implemented should the school receive the third "D" the following year.

- Polk currently has six (6) DD schools:
 - Denison Middle,
 - Inwood Elementary
 - Kathleen Middle
 - Sleepy Hill Middle
 - Wahneta Elementary
 - Westwood Middle
 - Boone Middle (F/D) will become a District Manages Turnaround Plan school if their grade does not improve to a "C" this year.

Priority Schools - DDD or F schools

- The district MUST SUBMIT its selection of what turnaround option plan would be implemented should the school grade not improve the following year.
- Polk is currently implementing the DISTRICT-MANAGED Turnaround Option Plan for:
 - Tenoroc High School and
 - Lake Alfred Addair Middle School.

NEXT

- The district will not be required to continue implementation of its turnaround option phase if the school grade improves
- If a school DOES NOT improve its grade following the second year of implementing a turnaround option, the school district must implement a different turnaround option at the beginning the subsequent school year.

Mr. Harris asked if schools were ever closed in a consolidation or cost saving measure. Mrs. LeRoy commented Miami-Dade closed several alternative schools and consolidated schools. She could not say that it was for cost savings but the result was the same.

DISTRICT-MANAGED TURNAROUND PLAN

- Requirements and Deliverables
 - Recruitment and Retention incentives
 - Instructional coaching in reading, mathematics and science
 - On-going collection and use of student data
 - Required progress monitoring assessments (FAIR, DISCOVERY, etc)
 - Implementation of a district improvement and assistance plan
 - Common planning for teachers
 - School improvement plan monitoring
 - Educator quality to ensure effective teaching and learning
- Turnaround components already in process
 - Provide district, regional, and school-based instructional coaches in reading, math, and science
 - Extensive review and revisions to the curriculum maps and learning schedules for core subject areas
 - Ongoing progress monitoring to support schools
 - Effective professional development to support teachers and leadership
 - Building opportunities for common planning for teachers
 - SIP development and monitoring
 - Determine educator quality through student learning gains data

NON-COMPLIANCE

- o Report to legislature that the school district has been unwilling or unable to comply with law or state board rule and recommend action to be taken by legislature
- o Reduce the discretionary lottery appropriation until the district complies with the law or state board rule
- o Without the transfer of state funds, discretionary grant funds, or any other funds specified as eligible for this purpose by the legislature until the district complies
- o Declare the district ineligible for competitive grants
- o Require monthly or periodic report on the situation related to noncompliance until it is remedied.

The Superintendent reported that many of the above areas are already being addressed. She is confident that plans and support are in place to help these schools improve. The state, district and school staff have to work as a team. It is possible that staff changes will be made in mid-year if gains are not realized. The process will be expensive: extended time (300 hours thru after school, Saturdays or summer). Summer school (210 hours) is provided through Title I, but that leaves 90 hours during the school year not funded at this time. Professional development is very expensive; looking at bringing teachers and leadership teams back earlier next year. Incentives are the most expensive area. (To incentivize teachers to come and remain at the school, you need to offer \$3000-\$5,000 bonuses). Luckily the two schools are Title I schools; staff is costing out the expenses for the two schools.

Mr. Harris asked if the School Board is responsible for the Charter Schools; Superintendent reported they are not under the same requirements of public schools.

Mrs. Sellers asked if leadership is properly evaluating teachers who are not showing learning gains for repetitive years. Deputy Superintendent Byrd reported that Regional Assistant Superintendents have been tasked with having on-going conversations with principals; monitoring walk throughs and learning gains, etc.

Information

Item 8

8. [Revised and New Job Descriptions for Review](#)

Attachment: [New and Revised Job Descriptions 8-27-13 WS.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Item 9

9. [2013-2014 Interlocal Agreement between Osceola County and Polk County for New Dimensions High School](#)

Attachment: [WS Interlocal Agreement 8.27.13.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Berryman commented that the agreement is for 70 students; he believes the number of Polk County students attending a school in Osceola County is far higher. Mr. Rivers reported it is believed that approximately 400 of our students attend schools in Osceola. Mr. Berryman noted that approximately 600 are going to Lake County as well.

Mrs. LeRoy reported that she has a community meeting in Poinciana in September and will address his concerns and possible solutions at that time.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 PM. Minutes were approved and attested this 10th day of September, 2013.

Hazel Sellers, Board Chair

Kathryn M. LeRoy, Superintendent