

09 05 2017 WORK SESSION 2 00 PM

NEW BUSINESS

1. [2:00 - 2:15 PM School Board Comments](#)

Minutes:

Board Member Billy Townsend commented on a staff meeting held at Tenoroc High School on Thursday that was attended by Board Member Tim Harris and asked if he was aware there was a sexual harassment investigation on the principal when he visited. Mr. Harris was not and inquired why Mr. Townsend would have knowledge and not all board members. Mr. Townsend informed the Board that he read a 2010 investigation on the same individual and they should read it. It is available in the Human Resources' Investigation office. Chair Fields responded that the report would be 7 years old; and, if there was anything the Board should be aware of, staff would have notified them. She commented the Board should wait until the investigation is complete and the results will be made known to them.

Mrs. Sellers asked if the district was going to be an evacuation site for Hurricane Irma. Mrs. Byrd reported that key members of her staff, the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) and the Governor's office are in discussions now and will provide updates over the upcoming days through the social media and our website. We are identifying potential school sites to be opened in stages. It may be necessary to close schools early this week to allow Red Cross time to prep the buildings for evacuees.

Mrs. Field informed the Board that the Sept 12, 2017 Strategic Plan Retreat may be postponed due to the pending hurricane. She will discuss options with Dr. Freijo.

The Polk County Legislative Delegation has invited the Board to meet with them on September 20, 2017 between 1:15 - 2:30 PM. Please let our Executive Assistant, Susan Worthington, know if you plan to attend and she will respond on our behalf.

The FSBA Legislative Platform is due this Friday.

The Polk Vision Leadership Class has invited us to participate with them on January 25,

2018 at 4:00 PM. Let Susan know if you wish to attend and she'll place it on your calendar.

Everyone should have received an email from Volusia County's Chair Person regarding DCD funding. She is asking districts to support her platform to eliminate the DCD funding formula. A more in depth discussion will be held later during the work session when the item is presented by staff.

BOARD AGENDA REVIEW

2. [2:15 - 2:30 PM Review the Agenda of the September 5, 2017 School Board Meeting](#)

Attachment: [09 05 2017 School Board Agenda.pdf](#)

Minutes:

C-19: Contract with Educational Directions

Mrs. Sellers commented there are other schools needing support; how is the district helping them? Such as Bartow Middle. Superintendent Byrd reported that the district has built in a support team for those schools. Educational Directions was contracted to assist the TOP schools.

R-46: Quit Claim Deed

Mr. Townsend asked about the value of the claim. Wes Bridges, School Board Attorney, reported the nominal fee of a few dollars. Board Chair Fields reported that the issue is that parents picking up students and dropping them off have created a traffic backup for the residents.

R-49: Final Budget

Mr. Wilson questioned the resolution on Categorical Flexibility. Mike Perrone and Jason Pitts reported this is new for Polk; it is a DOE form used by most districts. It allows us to charge more items to Categorical if we have met certain State criteria. The Board will be notified if it becomes necessary to use the Resolution.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Item 3

3. [2:30 - 2:45 PM 2018 Legislative Agenda](#)

Attachment: [2018 PCPS Platform Outline Draft - Draft.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Wendy Dodge, Legislative Liaison, presented a draft of the Legislative Platform.

Mrs. Cunningham commented she is not in favor of eliminating the requirement of passing the General Knowledge Exam for certification.

Ms. Reynolds believes the request is not to eliminate the requirement but to modify the cut score and the cost; because the passing rate is so low and the cost is so high (\$200 per test).

Mr. Harris asked if there are conversations among the State's universities and colleges regarding the requirement their Education majors have to pass the GK exam before becoming teachers. Ms. Dodge isn't aware of any discussions. It is her understanding students don't receive a degree until they pass the test. It is part of the degree.

Ms. Dodge stated that only 12 districts benefit from the current DCD funding formula. We are one of the larger losers from the formula and other areas of the formula. Volusia's impact is different than Polk's. Melody Johnson (Volusia's Board Chair person) is asking districts to sign a resolution to eliminate the formula because it only benefits a select few. Polk County's DCD has consistently decreased over the past few years. The only way to reverse the decline is to see our property values increase drastically. There is a \$3000 per student difference between the highest and lowest districts; it began as a \$500 difference.

Mrs. Sellers does not support eliminating the formula entirely; that would be a tough fight against the larger funded southern districts.

Mr. Harris stated that FSBA doesn't think it would be appropriate for them to support either side because of their state-wide membership. They do encourage each district to lobby their stand on DCD.

Mr. Townsend agreed with Mrs. Sellers. He also would like to see the .5 mill (capital) that was taken away in 2006 be added to the platform.

Mr. Wilson prefers the DCD formula be eliminated and have them come back with a better plan.

Consensus to add the .5 mill to the Legislative Platform.

Ms. Dodge provided information on the unconstitutional provisions in HB 7069. She would like to add a request that if the unconstitutional revisions were removed from HB 7069, the lawsuit would be dropped. She will provide the wording to the Board before the meeting tonight.

Item 4

4. [2:45 - 3:00 PM Learning Resource Center Contracts End of Year Report 16-17](#)

Attachment: [LRC Contracts End of Year Report 16-17 eagenda backup documentation.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Maria Longa, Senior Director of Federal Programs, and Dr. Kimberly Steinke, Assistant Superintendent of Learning Support, provided information on the services provided by the Learning Resource Center. These programs and services are a team effort from a variety of staff and areas: Hearth, 21st Century, Migrant, Title 1, and Learning Support.

Mrs. Sellers asked if there is comparison learning gain data of eligible students who receive the services vs the learning gains of those that aren't served by LRC. Do we pre and post test these students. Ms. Longa responded that when Performance Matters and the STAR assessment are administered district-wide, the external evaluators will be able to pull that report.

Mrs. Fields feels post testing will be the most difficult for LRC.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM. Minutes were approved and attested this 24th day of October, 2017.

Kay Fields, Board Chair

Jacqueline M. Byrd, Superintendent