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School Board Workshop
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Career And Technical Education (CTE) 5-Year Strategic Plan

The Superintendent Requested a 5-Year CTE Strategic Plan to align Broward's CTE Program with the new Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 and The Florida Career and Professional Education Act (Cape) of 2007. This would increase student achievement and unify and strengthen programmatic delivery systems to increase opportunities for students.

The 5-Year Strategic Plan for Secondary and Post secondary CTE in Broward County is an integral part of the District Strategic Plan goal areas and the High School Reform initiative.

There are common initiatives being pursued by Broward Schools, the State and national levels, such as: career academies, dual enrollment options, technology utilization and business and industry credentialing. The goal is to prepare students for the workforce and to leave school with the proper credentials to move on and get a job.

The Florida Career and Professional Education Act (CAPE) is created to provide a statewide planning partnership between the business and education communities in order to attract, expand and retain targeted, high value industry and to sustain a strong knowledge based economy.

The CAPE program provides students the opportunity to

- Graduate from high school with a college ready diploma.
- Obtain one or more industry recognized certifications.
- Be prepared to enter the workforce and proceed to higher education.

The CTE 5-Year Plan provides students the opportunity to obtain:

- Career Prep Certificates of Mastery.
- Work based experiences: internship O-J-T. clinicals.
- Post secondary technical program certificates.
- Postsecondary credits toward articulated AAS and AS degrees or vocational certificates.
- Business and industry recognized credentials/licenses.
- Florida Ready to Work certificates.
- Florida Gold Seal scholarships.

The vision, goals and desired results of the 5-Year CTE Strategic Plan is to:

- Increase student achievement and graduation rates.
- Engage students in rigorous career preparation to earn business and industry credential licenses.
- Increase student access to technical dual enrollment and articulated college postsecondary credit.
- Increase student enrollment and achievement via on-line distance learning opportunities
- Unify programmatic delivery systems to increase opportunities for students, such as: CTE Programs, Magnet Programs and High School Major Areas of Interest.

- Prepare graduates for future education and employment.
- Create a cadre of skilled professionals to excel in high demand/high skill-wage centers.

There is a philosophical change in education that taking elective courses may not get you a job when you graduate. Education is now focusing on classes that will help with employment opportunities. Local businesses want students who are ready for employment and have the proper skill credentials. The School District has a very close relationship with the Broward Workshop, which is made up of local businesses, working with and helping the School District.

There will be several innovation zones across Broward County with high schools offering CTE classes. All high schools will not be offering the same courses. The School Board Members would like a future discussion regarding students from one school to be able to go to another school for a program. Board Members suggested offering popular courses, such as the Veterinary program, in every zone.

Senate Bill 1908 will require, in 2009-10, that 50% of a student's grade will be on the FCAT and a portion of the other 50% will be on required CTE classes. It will be of great importance that students will be able to take CTE courses. With the restructuring of schools towards that end, students will be able to achieve these goals. This will affect our dropout rates and high school reform. Education will be individualized for every student.

The material for this presentation is available on the eAgenda for the October 16, 2008 workshop.

Graduation Task Force

A request was made by the School Board to establish a Task Force to address the goal of increasing the School District's graduation rate.

There is recognition that the State's computation does not provide a true picture of Broward County's dropout rate. The Task Force was asked to determine an alternate calculation.

The State calculates the graduation rate with all students who entered 9th grade and graduated 4 years later. However, DOE is proposing to change that calculation and not include GED graduates, which would significantly impact the graduation rate. The District is also waiting to hear if the State would include students who graduate within 5 years.

The Task Force met initially in November 2007, with almost 60 participants from the SBBC and the community, evaluating underlying causes and developing solutions to increase the District's graduation rate.

The *Process for Change* model, successfully utilized by the United Way of Broward County to develop, implement, and evaluate community impact initiatives, which create significant and lasting change in peoples lives, was used to guide the work of the Task Force. The process ensures that the plan developed will address the underlying root causes of the problem.

There are many factors that might help students stay in school and graduate:

- Improve teaching curricula to make school more relevant.
- Improve instruction and access to support for struggling students.
- Build a school climate that fosters academics.
- Ensure students have strong relationships with at least one adult in school.
- Improve communication between parents and schools.

The Task Force looked to impact the graduation rate by focusing on low performing high schools, target populations and identify risk factors.

Turning around low achieving schools takes effort from not only teachers and principals, but also parents and the community. There must be a home, school, community and innovation zone focus. In the near future, the school and the community will provide services in a collaborative effort. There are strategies to address these needs, such as: a parent communication plan, partnerships with local businesses to assist with start of the year basic supplies, and special activities such as a resource fair to provide families with information about community services.

The Task Force will continue their work and will update the School Board in the future.

The material for this presentation is available on the eAgenda for the October 16, 2008 workshop.

Financial Market Update

The financial market has been in turmoil this past year, headed off by the housing market's related problems and other recent financial market shocks. Following are a few of these problems.

- JP Morgan rescues Bear Stearns on March 24, 2008.
- The Federal Government announced their intent to buy equity stakes in banks on October 14, 2008.
- The Federal Government takes Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae into conservatorship on September 7, 2008.
- Lehman Brothers filed for Bankruptcy on September 15, 2008.
- U.S. Government seized control of American International Group (AIG) on September 16, 2008.
- Paulson rescue (bailout) plan unveiled on September 19, 2008.
- WaMu seized by the FDIC and its assets are sold to JP Morgan on September 25, 2008.
- President Bush signs the financial rescue plan into law on October 3, 2008.

Because of this financial climate, the School Board could approve a contract for construction, from the 5-Year plan, but there may not be any money available to borrow. The Chief Financial Officer and his advisors will work very closely with the Facilities Department and look at this financial crisis very seriously. The School District will look at the 5-Year plan projects and prioritize what is needed such as roofs and air conditioners.

The Board Members have requested the financial staff to come before the board once a month with an update of the financial status.

The material for this presentation is available on the eAgenda for the October 16, 2008 workshop.

Proposed New Policies:

School Board Roles & Responsibilities and Orientation & Training

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) conducted a Quality Assurance Review visit of Broward Public Schools October 29th-November 1, 2006. The review team made recommendations for two new policies.

- Policy for School Board Training & Orientation and Roles & Responsibilities.
- Policy with an operational definition of equity.

These policies will establish:

- Board training requirements and orientation of members related to their role and function as a corporate board.
- Roles and responsibilities consistent with the constitutional requirements.
- Issues and conflict resolution.

In order to meet SACS recommendations, staff came before the Board with two policies to review:

-Policy 1005, School Board – Responsibilities and Authority

The School Board is responsible for the organization and control of the public schools of the district and authorized by Florida Statutes to determine policies necessary for the effective operation and general improvement of the school system. The School Board clarifies the goals and objectives of the school system through the District Strategic Plan. (The complete policy can be found on the eAgenda October 16, 2008 workshop.)

-Policy 1006, School Board Members – Professional Development

The School Board Members shall promote continuous improvement by participating in professional growth opportunities. (The complete policy can be found on the eAgenda October 16, 2008 workshop.)

A complete new orientation manual is being put together for all School Board Members. School Board Members requested that the manual will include information regarding the Florida Sunshine Law, School Board meeting agenda, Quality Selection & Evaluation Committee (QSEC), Executive (closed-door) Sessions, Collective Bargaining, email information, public records requests and a clear explanation regarding receiving gifts. School Board Members requested that there be consistent training for all appointee committees and asked staff to draft a procedure to set a standard for selecting and training representatives for committees.

Staff will bring the policies back for further discussion in the near future. The material for this topic is available on the eAgenda October 16, 2008 workshop.

-Vendor Sponsored Field Trips

-Hiring of Past School Board Employees

School Board Members have concern regarding employees accepting gifts and employees doing business with the School District. Each of these concerns requires a separate School Board policy.

Staff brought forward, for the School Board Members review, a proposed Policy, Gifts: Solicitation and Receipt.

For the purpose of this rule, no School District employee shall solicit or accept anything of value including a gift, loan, money, credit, entertainment, reward, promise of future employment, favor, or service based upon any understanding that the vote, official action, or judgment of the School District employee would be influenced thereby. Board Members requested that a statement be added to the policy, “based upon an understanding or perception.” The intent of this policy was not to preclude someone for giving a gift. Vendors should not give gifts because it could be construed as an influence.

Board Members wanted to clarify, employees receiving a small gift at the holidays, to not be construed as a possible bribe. A list of items that cannot be accepted will be added to this area of the policy.

Also discussed was a draft policy regarding representation of persons before the School Board.

No School Board Member or School District employee may personally represent another person or entity for compensation before the School Board of Broward County, Florida for a period of two years following vacation of office or termination of employment except for purposes of collective bargaining.

General Counsel will review the draft policies and will bring back for further discussion at a future workshop.

Material for this presentation may be found on the eAgenda October 16, 2008 workshop

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