

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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WORKSHOP

DATE: OCTOBER 23, 2007
LOCATION: KCW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
TOPICS:
-Head Start Training #2
-School Boundaries #II, Policy 5000
-Policy 1161, Growth Management
-Mission & Vision
-School Board Members' Requests for Workshop/Retreat Items

Board Members Discussion:

The Board Chair informed the Board of the tax proposals coming from the Senate and House regarding the Property Tax Amendment. Again, it has been stated that education would be held harmless. Language has to be finalized by October 31st in order to get on the ballot for January's vote. Members from the Board will be attending Committee Days in Tallahassee, October 24th-October 27th, where they hope to get more information regarding the property tax proposals. The Superintendent asked the Board Members, who are attending Committee Days, to see what is happening with the Tax and Budget Commission. Charter schools were also discussed and the possibility of filing a lawsuit against the State by school districts throughout Florida. There will be a meeting November 5, 2007, possibly in Tallahassee, to sit down and discuss what this means to Florida school districts. The rules have changed and clarity is needed regarding the newly formed special commission over charter schools.

Head Start Training Part II

Dr. Charles W. Woodard gave Part II of the Head Start Shared Governance training. The agenda for this training session included: General Procedures, Human Resources Management, Vision and Mission, Transition: Changing Times, and Risk Management. General Procedures are the written policies that define roles and responsibilities of the governing body members such as: management procedures, functions, shared decision-making, internal dispute resolution, procedures for resolving community complaints, management of Federal funds and an annual independent audit. Human Resources Management are the personnel policies, which help with decisions to hire or terminate staff of Early Head Start or Head Start, including standards of conduct for program staff, consultants and volunteers. Dr. Woodard read for the Board the Vision and Mission of the Head Start Program and that the program must constantly be reviewed in order to accommodate changing times. Dr. Woodard explained what Risk Management entailed, such as: what kind of plan was in place to deal with people leaving because of high real estate costs or natural disasters such as hurricanes. It has been noted that the poverty level has increased and certain population areas have shifted their locations due to real estate costs and past hurricanes. The Head Start staff will continue to monitor data regarding this program and VPK and, once gathered, will send information to the Board Members to respond to their questions.

School Boundaries #II, Policy 5000

The School District is in the first phase of Class Size Reduction, classroom by classroom. Staff is in the process of collecting this data school by school. Completion of this data collection should be available by the end of October for the Board. The critical questions are being asked, whether a school is over or under enrolled or meeting class size. Gross capacity and core capacity of a school is being considered for meeting class size. All options will be looked at for those schools that do not meet class size or will be recommended to be a part of the boundary process. The boundary process timeline was reviewed. Staff will be back for further discussion November 27, 2007. Elementary, "A" and "Z" were discussed regarding their situations. Elementary "A" is not meeting class size and Elementary "Z" is opening in December of 2007. Both schools will be included in the boundary process this year. Construction of Elementary C (Lincoln Park) and High School LLL were discussed and the need to build these schools. Immediate decisions will have to be made to alleviate the overcrowding at Cypress Bay, Everglades, Flanagan and Miramar High Schools, and the Board suggested different options. Portables and classroom additions and new schools that are opening in the first semester can, at this time, be counted for meeting class size. Staff will do a Magnet feasibility study for Plantation High School to determine what type of program would attract students to return to this school. Because of time restraints policy 5000 was not reviewed but will be brought back to the boundary discussion on November 27, 2007.

Policy 1161, Growth Management

Policy 1161, Growth Management was in conflict with State Mandated Public School Concurrency Requirements. The revised policy is structured to comply with State Mandate Public School Concurrency Provisions and address the School Board's Obligation in the amended Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning and Proportionate Share Mitigation. The Board had a discussion regarding the district's proposed application and cost recovery fees schedule and the review of development applications and their costs. Board Members thought there should be a flat fee charged and then extra costs for further work done by the school district. Board Members also thought the payment of Proportionate Share Mitigation total payment, upon School Board approval, should be changed from six months to one year after plat/site plan final approval.

School Board of Broward County, Florida (SBBC) Vision & Mission

Dr. Nancy Terrel, Nova Southeastern University, facilitated a discussion with the Board regarding the School District's Vision and Mission. Information provided to the Board consisted of the existing Vision and Mission and comparison information of other large school districts.

The past and proposed SBBC Vision were reviewed and suggested Vision statements were heard. The final Vision statement decided by the School Board is: "The School Board of Broward County Florida, educating today's student for tomorrow's world." The School Board had a further discussion about the existing Mission statement and decided that it would remain the same. "The School Board of Broward County, Florida, is dedicated to meeting the educational needs of all students in a safe learning environment." The values remained unchanged, but the School Board requested that the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) review them and suggested adding an accountability value. Time allowed for the School Board to continue their discussion regarding their Belief Statements. The thirteen statements were reviewed and some changes were made. The final Vision, Mission, Values and Beliefs will be brought to a future School Board meeting for the Board's approval. Once approved, the final version will be available on the School Board's Web site, browardschools.com.