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**School Board Workshop**  
**October 28, 2008**

**Differentiated Accountability**

Florida was selected by the US Department of Education on July 1, 2008, one of six states chosen, to implement a Differentiated Accountability Model. This model provides alignment and integration of Florida's "School Grading" Accountability System with the Federal "NCLB" Accountability System and improvement strategies that will have the greatest impact on low-performing schools. This model provides a nine-area support system for the two merged accountability programs through a regional delivery process.

Grants will be available for Title 1 and Title 2 schools that are in need of help. The School District has applied for a School Improvement Grant, which funds will be used to help the low performing schools.

Supplemental Educational Service (SES) providers are used to help tutor students at low performing schools. This will be the first year that SES providers will be graded. Board Members explained that parents would be happier if support personnel would have come from the school or district rather than from an outside source. Because the SES providers are being graded this year, they may look to selecting the higher-grade student rather than the low performing students, thus, showing a higher grade of achievement for the provider. School Board Members would like the State to look at this situation.

Once a school has not made AYP for four consecutive years, a correctible action plan must be implemented the following school year. Broward County has one such school, Larkdale Elementary School.

The School Board Chair stated the community wanted a model to help with the Florida A+ Plan and Federal NCLB. This model does not align standards/benchmarks of the two programs. The Differentiated Accountability Model is not the help they had hoped for.

The material for this presentation is available on the eAgenda October 28, 2008 workshop.

**Succession Planning**

Board Members wanted to have a discussion prior to the Organizational meeting regarding who wanted to be Chair and Vice Chair to avoid any awkward moments. Sometimes a Board Member can be nominated and at the Organizational meeting turn the nomination down, which can cause an uncomfortable moment. Because of the Sunshine Law, Board Members are not allowed to have a discussion unless it is in a workshop or School Board meeting.

Historically, in Broward County, the Vice Chair becomes the new Chair. Board Members asked if anyone else wanted to be Chair. Maureen Dinnen, Vice Chair, stated she wanted to be Chair. Jennifer Gottlieb stated she would like to be Vice Chair. Phyllis Hope stated she would like to

be Vice Chair and if not this year, would like to be Vice Chair when Jennifer Gottlieb is Chair next year.

The Chair and Vice Chair have the huge responsibility of representing the School Board Members and must attend many meetings throughout the community.

The Board Members reviewed what succession policies other counties have. Most have an open election with no particular succession or rotation plan. In Broward County the Vice Chair usually becomes the Chair.

Board Members also spoke about their appointments and wanted to know if there were any committees that they would like to be on. Board Members did have questions regarding the term of office for certain committees. This will be clarified with the Board Members before the organizational meeting.

The material for this presentation is available on the eAgenda October 28, 2008 workshop.

### **District Exam Exemption Waiver**

Staff came before the Board asking if a School District Waiver should be developed. Staff asked if schools be permitted to continue individual exam exemption waivers.

At this time there are nine exam exemption waivers at seven high schools. All of the schools have waivers, but they are not the same waivers. It becomes an equity or fairness issue. It is confusing if one school allows it and another doesn't.

A District Board approved waiver provides uniformity across the District. It does not require all schools in the District to participate. It is a school's decision. To adopt a District Waiver, the school's School Advisory Council would still need to propose having the waiver. Also, per BTU contract, faculty would still have to vote to approve the waiver.

The considerations for a District Exam Exemption Waiver would be:

- Grade levels eligible.
- Courses eligible for exam exemption.
- Criteria: Grades and passing score on FCAT (if scores come back in time.)
- Number of exams to be waived.
- Parental permission required.

Exam exemption waiver focus groups agreed that exam exemptions are a strong motivator for classroom performance. Also, students take FCAT exams more seriously and take advantage of opportunities to participate in FCAT camps and study groups. Students believe that you should be able to waive exams if you demonstrate content area knowledge through classroom performance and/or a passing score on a relevant FCAT Assessment.

Staff will bring back the proposed district waiver to a Board meeting and there will be further discussion whether schools will be permitted to continue individual exam exemption waivers.

Schools are still able to pursue individual exam exemption waivers this year, if brought forward to the Board and processed.

Material for this topic is available on the eAgenda October 28, 2008 workshop.

## **Health Education Services**

Health Education Services provide a unique and important role in the lives of children by helping improve their health related knowledge, attitudes, skills, healthy behaviors, education and social outcomes.

It is the goal of health services that all schools will receive quality health service on a consistent basis to improve the health and wellness of students and to embrace collaboration with community resources to promote good health.

There are eight components of coordinated school health.

- Family community involvement
- Health education
- Physical education
- Health services
- Health promotion for staff
- Healthy school environment
- Nutrition services
- Counseling, psychological and social service

In 2006-07 13,000 students visited the health room for illness, injury, or to manage their health condition. Over 105,00 students are diagnosed with chronic health conditions. Many children are uninsured and are not being managed by a health care provider or connected to a medical home.

At this time there are 101 schools with on site nursing, 124 schools with on-call nursing from the Broward County Health Department, (three RN's cover 124 on call schools), and 55 schools have a contracted agency nurse assigned to care for diabetic students.

Clerical and other non-medical school staff are solely responsible for health service in many schools. There is a lack of continuity in personnel providing health services. RN/LPN are performing duties, which could be delegated to trained health personnel, such as medication, insulin, and glucagons administration. This causes limited time to perform case management for students with chronic illnesses and health education.

Because of the obesity situation there is an increase in the number of students with Diabetes (type 1 and II) who require administration of insulin via injection or the pump and the funding needed has also increased. The current practice in Broward County Public Schools is that only nurses administer insulin.

There is also an increase in the number of students with hypersensitivity allergies. Per the Kelsey Ryan Act, F.S. 1002.2, students are allowed to carry their Epi-pen as approved by their physician. Trained staff can administer Epi-pen to students.

Two options were presented to the Board Members regarding the care of students.

Option A: RN's/LPN's are assigned to select schools with high priority needs.

Option B: Health Support Technicians (HST), with RN supervision, can be used for basic school health services.

The Health Services staff want to realign the District's funding resources and are looking at a phase-in model focusing on elementary schools that have the highest needs and to redistribute those dollars.

Health Services would also like to incorporate the HST certification curriculum into Vocational/Technical health programs that would provide relief to school's staff health assistants. This would allow all schools to receive daily and consistent health services and meet the increasing needs of students with chronic health conditions.

School Board Members requested that the Health Education Services do a pilot program at a few schools to determine if this model would help students. Once a pilot program is designed, staff will bring back for the Board for their review.

The material for this presentation is available on the eAgenda October 28, 2008 workshop.

### **Portables for Haiti**

Haiti received tremendous damage from this season's hurricanes. They had the worst damage of all countries that were hit by hurricanes this year.

School Board Member, Ben Williams, suggested at the October 16, 2008 workshop that the School District send District owned 20-year old portables being stored at this time on different School Board properties to Haiti to help with their rebuilding. At this time, all their schools are being used as hurricane shelters for the huge number of people who lost their homes, therefore, children are not going to school at this time.

There are 600 20-year old portables that would be available to send to Haiti. Per Florida law, any portable over 20 years old must be dismantled, at a cost of approximately \$4,000 per portable.

Mr. Williams and staff met with civic community groups in Broward County for about one month. Three weeks ago Mr. Williams addressed a subcommittee with the United Nations who wanted to come and identify the portables.

Broward School staff met with the Haitian President and his dignitaries showing them the portables and the possibility of sending them over to Haiti. The Haitian President was so enormously grateful for Broward County Public Schools generosity to help the Haitian people.

Broward County's wonderful idea has snowballed with other counties also wanting to help. The Office of Education has commended Broward County and sent a message to other counties to do the same if possible. Broward County Schools will move the portables to Port Everglades as needed and as prepared sites are made available. Personnel will be trained on how to set up the portables. Flatbeds from different companies have been donated to help move the portables to Port Everglades. It will be the Haitian governments' responsibility to get the portables to Haiti.

The portables will be used for schools and clinics. Walmart promises to equip every portable with school supplies. Hopefully, other companies will come forward to contribute to this enormous effort.

Once the arrangements are finalized to transport the portables for Haiti, a board item will be prepared for a School Board Meeting in December. Members from the Haitian Government will be present; therefore, a time certain is requested for the end of the meeting.

The material for this presentation is available on the eAgenda October 28, 2008 workshop.

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