

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

**JAMES F. NOTTER  
SUPERINTENDENT**

Telephone (754) 321-2600

Facsimile: (754) 321-2701

**School Board Workshop  
November 30, 2009**

**Amended Interlocal Agreement (ILA)**

Today's retreat was designated to have a detailed refresher discussion for the School Board Members and Superintendent regarding the Amended Interlocal Agreement and the option of the eight concurrency boundary areas. A few of the School Board Members will be attending the December 9, 2009 Oversight Committee meeting and are speaking on behalf of the Board. They felt they did not have a clear understanding regarding the new eight concurrency areas that will be discussed and the Board's recommendation. The Superintendent thanked staff for their hard work over the holiday getting the appropriate detailed maps for the Board to review to clarify this option.

Staff began with a discussion regarding the current ILA where every single school is an ILA concurrency area, which allows 110% permanent capacity.

Staff clarified the definitions for boundary changes regarding adjacent schools and a domino boundary change. An adjacent boundary change is moving students to one other school. A domino boundary change is when you move students into a school, then that school would need to move students, then the next school would be affected, and so on.

With the current ILA of 110% capacity, portables can be used for the students that are 10% over capacity.

The first map reviewed shows 25 elementary schools do not meet level of service under the current ILA. In order for these schools to meet the level of service, students would have to be moved to adjacent schools. The adjacent schools would be placed on a watch list to see if further moves would have to be made in the future.

The second map shows seven middle schools do not meet level of service under the current ILA. Students will have to be moved to adjacent schools in order to meet level of service. It was asked if the moving of students would go as far as eastern underenrolled schools. Staff did not believe that would be the case.

The third map of high schools show that three schools do not meet level of service under the current ILA.

Staff then presented the option of dividing the County into eight concurrency areas. With this option, every elementary, middle and high school meets level of service, there would be no boundary changes due to the ILA, and portables can still be used. The Board requested that the language used in the West Palm Beach Interlocal agreement be used in Broward County's ILA, which allows for easier changes to the agreement, rather than the amendment process being done at this time.

The Board and staff wanted to be clear that changing the ILA does not mean there will not be boundary changes in the future. Boundary changes will be made for educational reasons, such as: class size, curriculum changes, programmatic changes, safety, and wellness. The Superintendent recommends the eight concurrency areas and believes this is the best business model for the next 5 years. This model will give the School District an opportunity to stabilize and not push into a mandatory boundary change. It also gives the School District a better opportunity to look at data to see what is going to happen with NCLB, Choice and Class Size. The more flexible the School District can be is the best business model and puts us in line with the other large School Districts. It was never the intent of the existing ILA to cause massive boundary changes. The intent was to build modules or schools, but the state has stopped us from building. At this time the current ILA agreement is outdated and no longer meets the needs of our students.

It was pointed out that real estate in Broward County is changing and people are moving in. We should not look short term but should be looking long term. The School District needs to be very careful when speaking about school closure due to underenrollment. The Superintendent wanted to clarify the comment he made about closing schools and that everything was on the table. The Superintendent meant that he wanted to get out of leases and would like to use the School District's existing vacant space. For the record, the Superintendent is not looking to close any schools. There are other options to increase enrollment, such as innovative programs, which draw students from other areas to attend the school.

Board Member asked about the previously discussed option of twelve concurrency areas and why we were not doing that. Staff stated that the twelve concurrency areas broke up feeder patterns and innovation zones. Staff is requested to supply the Board with the maps of the twelve concurrency areas.

Local legislators have asked Board Members if they can do anything to help with the Interlocal Agreement at the State level. The Board believes that this is a local matter and it was decided that General Counsel will make that determination and will let State Legislators know what has been decided.

The Chair thanked staff for the great job they have done presenting this information today. The Chair also wanted to take this opportunity to thank staff for the late hours they have put in going out presenting fair and accurate information across the county, which gave the communities an opportunity to give their input.

The material for this presentation can be found on the eAgenda November 30, 2009 workshop.

JFN:jd