

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

**JAMES F. NOTTER  
SUPERINTENDENT**

Telephone (754) 321-2600

Facsimile: (754) 321-2701

**School Board Workshop  
December 8, 2009**

**Boundaries #4**

Staff came before the School Board Members to give the Superintendent's recommendations for 2010-2011 school year. Staff's presentation included an update on amending the Interlocal Agreement, Class Size Reduction, and the Superintendent's boundary recommendations.

Several years ago municipalities and the School Board created the Interlocal Agreement, which would help fund the School District's 5-year plan. At that time there was a great deal of new community development, and to not overburden schools, this plan was created to make sure appropriate schools were built for the new students. The ILA is now outdated and does not meet the needs of current conditions. The current ILA was self-imposed and is now forcing great boundary changes across the county and has become a huge burden to many of our communities. Under the current ILA, where enrollment cannot exceed 110% of permanent capacity, only 10% of enrollment can use relocatables.

Staff gave a review of the previous meeting held by the Oversight Committee Staff Working Group (SWG) on October 29, 2009. The 12 expanded Concurrency Service Areas were presented on behalf of the School Board. The SWG did not think the 12 areas would solve the problem of boundary changes and recommended the 8 expanded Concurrency Service Areas. The SWG preferred the eight service areas because the 12 service areas would only provide one year of additional relief. The eight areas provide many years of schools making Level of Service. Board Member has questions regarding the 12 expanded Concurrency Service Areas and staff is requested to make an appointment to discuss this.

On December 9th, the Oversight Committee will be meeting to discuss the recommendation from the School Board on the eight service areas. Once the meeting is concluded, staff will update the board on its outcome.

If the eight service areas are approved at the December 9th Oversight Committee meeting, and are directed by the Board, staff will submit a Board item for the December 15th School Board meeting, which would authorize the formal commencement of the amendment process. As early as December 17th the SWG can commence work on the proposed amendment. There is a lengthy process to amend the ILA Agreement and a public hearing will be scheduled in April or May 2010 so that each municipality can approve the amendments to the ILA. If all goes as planned, the amendment can be approved in August 2010.

It is important to keep aware that any potential changes to the ILA will not stop any boundary changes for educational reasons.

Staff then gave an update on Class Size Reduction. The good news is that all non-charter schools have met school wide class size average compliance. This is meeting class size in all core curriculum classes. The Superintendent congratulated the School District's Principals and

staff on this huge accomplishment. A high level of detail was needed for staff to make sure we fully maximized school schedules at the middle and high school level. Relocatables can be used when meeting class size with almost no restrictions. This is the disconnect between class size and the current ILA, which restricts the use of relocatables. School Board Members and the Superintendent agreed that the boundary topic is a complicated issue. There are several issues which impact boundary decisions, such as the Federal program No Child Left Behind (NCLB), the State's Class Size Amendment, and the County's Interlocal Agreement.

The Superintendent stated that changing the ILA to eight service areas is the best model at this time so that the School District can move forward and give some breathing room to look at the impact on our growth over the next 10 years. The Superintendent again wanted to state for the record that we are not closing any schools. The Board stated that due to the under enrollment at some schools they will not have the same funding through FTE dollars as the over-enrolled schools. How can we help the underenrolled schools to have equity in funding? This is an issue that the Superintendent will look into.

Staff is requested to provide for the Board the benefits and consequences of the School District moving into the eight concurrency service areas. Reassignments, double sessions, year round schools and moving Nova schools were suggested as alternatives to amending the current ILA. Another suggestion was eliminating all reassignments to overcrowded schools.

The majority of School Board Members agreed to not do any major boundary changes for this year, but still had questions regarding cost of transportation if the massive boundary changes were done and the use of relocatables. Staff is requested to supply the Board with the transportation costs and a matrix regarding portables, including the laws, uses, when they can be used, and cannot be used. If the change in the ILA does not happen, the Superintendent stated that there would have to be boundary changes next year.

Staff then presented the Superintendent's recommendations. Recommendations and maps are available on the eAgenda December 8, 2009 workshop.

- Wedge Area to Elementary School - Option C recommended.
- Wedge Area to Middle School - One option recommended.
- Wedge Area to High School - One option recommended.
- New School C Montessori (Proposed PreK-8) - Option A recommended
- Virginia Shuman Young Elementary - One option recommended
- Sunrise Middle - one option recommended
- Pioneer Middle -Recommendation - hold one year and move all grades next year if ILA does not change

School Board Members agreed with the Superintendent's recommendations. Board Members did have a concern about the new PreK-8 and did not want the opening of this school to take enrollment from Sunrise Middle. There are 45 students that will have the option to go to either school because they live below the Interstate 595 boundary line. A letter will be sent to the 45 students after the winter break.

Board Member wanted it stated that if the PreK-8 became over-enrolled, those on the waiting list would be offered to attend Sunrise Middle. Board Members wanted the assurance that the Sunrise Middle program will be protected. Board Member also requested that the questions regarding Sunrise Middle transportation be placed in the frequently asked questions on the boundary Web site, so parents will understand their options.

The next step is to bring the Superintendent's recommendations to the Boundary Public Hearings scheduled for January 27 and February 24, 2010.

Two School Board Members alerted staff there might be a request for Choice seats for Riverglades Elementary and Lyons Creek Middle schools if the ILA does change. If that were the case, a third Public Hearing would be held. Staff is requested to make those plans for a tentative meeting.

Material for this topic can be found on the eAgenda December 8, 2009 workshop.

#### **UPDATE from the Superintendent of Schools on the Interlocal Agreement**

On December 9<sup>th</sup> the Oversight Committee met to discuss a change in the Interlocal Agreement (ILA). At this meeting the Oversight Committee was requested to consider the recommendation of amending the ILA to eight CSA's. After much discussion, the Oversight Committee has made the following ILA amendment recommendations:

- Continue with the current CSA's, which are individual school boundaries;
- Change the current 110% of permanent capacity to 100% of gross capacity;
- Include the use of portables in the Inter-Local Agreement for a nine-year period. This language will require the district to eliminate the use of portables to meet 100% of permanent capacity by 2018.

Staff is preparing language to amend the recommendation as set forth in the aforementioned bullets and will be setting up meetings with the Board Members who were not in attendance to review these recommendations.

The Superintendent stated, "This appears to be a good compromise as we move forward to modify the ILA in lieu of "sawgrass to seagrass" moves."

#### **Revisions to Policy 7003, Qualification Selection Evaluation Committee (QSEC)**

Staff came before the Board to go over the School Board Members and QSEC Committee's requested changes.

The issues that were discussed are:

- Prequalification of Contractors** - The current process will be maintained.
- Clearly Understanding Sunshine Laws** - Board Members agreed that there must be a clear understanding of the Sunshine Laws. Staff is requested to clarify with committee members that they cannot talk amongst themselves just as Board Members cannot.
- Cone of Silence** - Cone of Silence applies to the period of time the RFP is active. There cannot be any communication between members of the QSEC Committee at this time. Board Members asked that the notice sent to them regarding a Cone of Silence period be highlighted in some way so they will be sure to see it. Board Members also requested that this definition be strengthened in the policy.
- Sign Off by Committee Members** - Board members agreed with the sign-off by committee members. They did request that there be a better definition of what mandatory training is and be more specific as to what the Board is expecting regarding conflict of Interest. They did not think that it was necessary for the sign-off to be done before a Notary.
- Composition of Selection Committee** - It was directed that School Board Members would no longer serve on the QSEC for the function of pre-qualifying construction contractors. This will change the composition of the QSEC for that function to pre-qualify.
- Campaign Contributions** - Board Members did agree that contributions should not be accepted from companies that had an RFQ/RFP/Bid with the School Board, but did not want this in

policy. This can be stated on the QSEC application form, and if this is violated, the bid cannot be accepted. General Counsel is requested to craft the language.

**-Limitations on Number and/or Dollar Volume of Project for Which QSEC Members May Select Within the Procurement** - Board Members want to keep it as it is at this time.

**-Designees for Committee Members** - The Board Members decided that designees would not be sent if they could not be present. The Chief Operating Officer, Deputy Superintendent Facilities & Construction, Coordinator M/WBE, Safety Director and the Facilities Task Force chair may still send designees. Per Policy 7003, the QSEC members will still be rotating on procurements. The District School Board Members are rarely affected by the procurements rotation. The At-Large School Board Members generally rotate with each other, but occasionally will have to rotate off and will not be sending anyone when they have to rotate off.

**-Time Limit Before a QSEC Member Scoring a Proposer can go to Work for Proposer**

-Board Members agreed there is no control over this issue.

**-How Many Days Before QSEC Meeting Should a Designee is Named?** The Board decided not to have designees, so this no longer applies.

**-Price of Work-** Staff will do some research on this and bring back some models with low bids.

**-Presentation Time for Firms** - Board Members thought the maximum time should be 20 minutes and that the time should not be used to enhance the company.

**-Restrict Use of Electronic Communications during QSEC Meetings.** Rules of Cone of Silence apply here. Once the voting sheet is completed, committee members can use their electronic communication device(s).

Staff will return at a future workshop to further discuss recommended revisions to the QSEC policy.

Material for this topic can be found on the eAgenda December 8, 2009 workshop.

### **Technology Strategic Plan/BRITE Update**

The goals of this presentation are to review the status of the Technology Strategic Plan 2007-2010; current status of the technology initiative, its challenges and strengths to meet new challenges; the next Technology Plan 2010-2013; and looking forward to the next 36-month vision.

The District Strategic Plan Status: There are four strategic areas addressed in the plan: planning and implementation, staff and community development, operational effectiveness, and technology infrastructure. The major accomplishments and modifications were discussed. The complete Technology Strategic Plan can be found on the Broward Schools website.

The challenges moving forward are:

-Meeting equity across the district.

-24/7 access - Digital Divide.

-Teacher/laptop functionality.

-Maintaining services with reduction of staff.

-Budget reduction in the capital and operating funds.

Staff continued with a chart, which showed the Capital budget for technology over the last nine years. Starting out in 2005-06 with over \$35 Million and now reduced to zero dollars due to the State's under funding for technology. Other sources for funding are being used such as E-rate and Stimulus dollars although these dollars are very specific on their usage. In years 2011-2012 there is only \$200,000 in the budget for emergency repairs and replacements. Staff is using parts from other computers to fix computers, most equipment is now out of warranty, and there is a limited budget for the next four years.

Staff went over the current instructional initiatives, such as the BEEP Portal, virtual education, and distant learning.

There are strategies to address the School District's challenges.

-Continuing to negotiate with vendors.

-Use of grants and applying for new grants, standards for hardware and software, realign staff responsibility, and maintain programs at current levels with no expansions

The future vision is to have digital classrooms, mobile learning, access anytime, anyplace, paperless environment, global student collaboration, electronic textbooks, virtual learning, use of hand held devices in the classroom, and teachers fully prepared to use technology, just to name a few.

Staff will be sending an updated list of each Board Member's schools in their districts, which have digital classrooms.

There were several concerns which were brought up in the discussion about Beep, lesson plans, and the Broward Schools website. The Chair recommended that list of the concerns be sent to staff for their research.

A wonderful presentation was shown to the Board Members call *Did you Know*, which can be seen on UTube.

Technology is the future and if we want to continue to be the leader we must make technology part of our core values such as wellness and student achievement.

The material for this presentation can be found on the eAgenda December 8, 2009 workshop.

### **BRITE Update**

BRITE is a single, integrated Business system that has standardized Broward School's financial and administrative process across the District. It is streamline, real time and accessible. The BRITE investment allows Broward County Public Schools to be a continued leader in education.

BRITE has increased reporting flexibility and availability; reduced turnaround time in processing employees through iForms; Employee Self Service, which enables employees to better manage themselves, such as, teacher certification and benefits; reduction of paper usage; and a shared service center.

There has been a very successful implementation of BRITE and staff thanked the Board for the funding that was needed to make it successful. Due to current economic conditions, the second phase is on hold. The second phase will be used for teacher recruitment, maintenance, accounts receivable, and fixed assets.

The Chief Financial Officer stated budgets have been reduced wherever they can be and staff will continue to search where further reductions can be done. This is a multi-million dollar investment and we do not want it to deteriorate. We are just beginning to see the return on this investment. This system has helped make budget projections, which are crucial for the School District to look forward during these enormously difficult economic times.

Material for this presentation can be found on the eAgenda December 8, 2009 workshop.

### **Proposed Revised Policy 4300.1, Overtime Pay - Non-Instructional Employees**

The proposed revisions to Policy 4300.1 are due to an audit report that was done June 20, 2009, regarding overtime expenses. The audit identified issues that needed to be addressed, such as, rules for overtime payments, compensatory time, flexible schedules, and discipline authority for failure to follow policy for exempt and non exempt employees.

This is the first review of this policy and staff will come back and update the board at a future workshop regarding the progress being made on the most efficient and best way to pay our employees.

The draft of policy 4300.1 can be found on the eAgenda December 8, 2009 workshop.

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