



Monroe County School Board Workshop and Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 22, 2019 • 3:00 PM
Key West City Hall • 1300 White Street • Key West, Florida

Attendance:

Bobby Highsmith
Andy Griffiths
Mindy Conn
John Dick
Suzanne Woltanski

Mark Porter, Superintendent
Dirk Smits, Attorney

Chairman Highsmith called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm, then recessed the meeting for a closed session at 3:02 pm.

CLOSED SESSION - FSSAT (30 mins) - TIME CERTAIN 3:00 P.M.

Reconvene – 3:32 pm

WORKSHOP AGENDA - TIME APPROXIMATE 3:30 PM

1. Educational Facilities Five Year Work Plan and Debt Services Report
J. Drake and P. Lefere (30 mins)

Mr. Drake discussed the District's capital planning process. Large projects are budgeted on two bases: Pay as you go, and debt issuance. Mr. Drake and Mr. Lefere reviewed the anticipated project funding over the next five years.

The Board confirmed that the projects outlined were projects the Board previously determined as priorities.

Board Comments:

Mr. Highsmith asked if the "KWS Athletic Fields \$10M/\$XXM" included the Tommy Roberts Memorial Field project. A: The Tommy Roberts project

is not part of the \$10M estimate. Tommy Roberts is the second part – indicated with no estimate noted.

Mr. Griffiths questioned when the debt is retire in 25 years, would the Switlik change from a COPS issue to Sales Tax/Millage issue. A: No, it is difficult to change funding at that point.

Trumbo Road Discussion:

The events on the chart highlighted in yellow are necessary for the exit of Trumbo Road. The two events necessary to vacate Trumbo Road, are the completion of the Transportation facility and the Montessori School complex expansion (Building 100).

The Board questioned “HOB Bus Loop.” Mr. Lefere clarified that is this front loop used for arrivals and dismissals. Modifications need to be made to make the loops larger.

Dr. Woltanski questioned the status of the Reynolds School and asked if Alternative Education would move to that location (out of Key West High School). Once an exit date is announced by the Boys and Girls Club, The Reynolds School renovation will be fit into the plan.

Debt Service Discussion:

The District has \$68 million in bonds to be paid off in less than six years. The sales tax ends 12/25. The District has a low debt burden and a good rating.

Once the Department of Education’s Five Year plan program is working, Mr. Drake, will input the information and return to the Board with a financially balanced plan.

Cost per Student Station Discussion:

A concern for Monroe County School District is the cost per student station. After much discussion with state and local contacts, Mr. Porter reported that he will work with legal council, Representative Raschein and Senator Flores to draft a local bill for a one time exemption.

2. Cow Key Bridge Project - Operational Impacts, P. Lefere (30 mins)

Mr. Lefere and Mr. Fabal briefed the Board on information concerning the upcoming Cow Key Bridge repair project. The project time frame effecting traffic flow is expected to be from March 2020 to November 2020 (approximately 180 days). Mr. Lefere will be meeting with staff at the schools and present a feasible plan at a Board Workshop in January. Once a plan is approved, it will be initiated two weeks prior to the start date of the bridge construction.

The schools with anticipated operational impact to student transportation are: Gerald Adams Elementary, Horace O'Bryant School and Poinciana Elementary School.

College Road will only have one entrance, which may be a concern for Gerald Adams car riders.

Noted in the discussion was that the Transportation facility will be moving to the new Stock Island facility in June 2020.

Board Comments:

Ms. Conn:

Do Sugarloaf buses come from Key West? A: No, Sugarloaf buses stay at Sugarloaf. Sugarloaf should not be impacted.

The High School start time should not be moved up. A: That is one of the options we may have to consider.

Do the Gerald Adams Elementary buses run at the same time as the KWHS buses? Are they the same buses or different buses?

A: They are all the same buses.

Could we park the buses at the new transportation facility before June 2020? Or would it be helpful to park all of the lower keys buses at Sugarloaf?

A: 1. No, the parking lot is not paved. 2. Regardless, the bus point of origin does not affect student pick up times.

Mr. Griffiths:

Has anyone contact DOT about installing a temporary traffic light at College Road.

A: That was discussed.

When does the lane shift happen? Will dismissal be two lanes going out? A: We don't have all the details yet.

3. Strategic Plan, M. Porter (30 mins)

Mr. Porter presented a draft of the Strategic Plan Renewal 2018-2021.

The Mission statement is unchanged, however moving away from six goals, four new "Wildly Important Goals" were presented in the revised plan.

WIG #1 – Student Success

WIG #2 – The Whole Child

WIG #3 – Human Capital Advantage

WIG #4 – Safety/Security

The Board confirmed that the goals represented are their priorities.

Board Comments:

Ms. Conn:

The goals reflect the conversations we have had.

Mr. Griffiths:

Looks forward to the end results and looking forward to the Superintendent's Evaluation process using the renewed Strategic Plan.

Dr. Woltanski:

It is a great frame work for the Superintendent's evaluation, but not inspirational for moving the District forward.

What was the Studer Group's contribution? A: They were hired as a consultant to gather community input and support the efforts of the Superintendent.

Arts and music have been reduced as testing is increased.

With the proposed new standards, there will be new ways of testing. The accountability system will be disrupted, so we will need a way to measure student success that does not get disrupted by external factors.

Mr. Highsmith:

The plan looks good, but he was looking for something more inspirational also. More skills need to be taught to our students, i.e., Life Skills (stress management).

Strategic Objective 2 - Outstanding Student Achievement

1. Teaching and Learning Update (Math, Social Studies and EL) (Part I)

Mrs. Axford shared that Thursday, October 24, 2019 would be the first session of the VIEW for the 2019-2020 School Year. The VIEW program offers an opportunity for teachers to observe, collaborate and share best practices.

Math, Amy Stanton, Coordinator

Ms. Stanton discussed challenges, goals, learning gains and successes of the Math program. Ms. Stanton also reported that she has been working with the Department of Education reviewing the proposed new standards.

Social Studies, Jennifer Barrios, Coordinator

As a result of the proposed new standards, all of the instructional material for the Civics education courses must be reviewed and approved by the Commissioner of Education. Ms. Barrios explained the review process and timeframe.

Ms. Barrios also updated the Board concerning a few Curriculum requirement changes.

- Financial Literacy will no longer be a requirement for a standard high School diploma/graduation. However all districts must offer a high school financial literacy course.*
- As of July 1, 2019, in order to meet middle grades promotion requirements, a Career and Education Planning course must be completed. This District currently offers an 8th Grade World History and Career Planning or World History, Advanced and Career Planning. MyCareer Shines will satisfy the mandate and some teachers have been trained on the program.*

Board Comments.

Ms. Conn:

Pertaining to the Financial Literacy change, does that mean the AP courses of Government and Economics won't require the economics portion? A: Only the financial literacy requirement has been removed.

Dr. Woltanski asked if "MyCareer Shines" uses a unique sign in for students. A: Ms. Barrios will find out and advise the Board.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA - TIME APPROXIMATE 5:00 P.M. 5:02

A. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. ADOPT AGENDA AND FORMAT - Superintendent's and/or School Board

Members requests to amend the agenda or remove items from the consent agenda.

Withdrawn:

#14 Consent – Approval of Renewal with Hayes Technologies with Amendment for offsite DR services

Policy 6835, internal audits office

Recommendation for approval was made by the Superintendent

Motioned by: Ms. Conn

Seconded by: Dr. Woltanski

Vote: Approved

C. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Approval of October 8, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes

Recommendation for approval was made by the Superintendent

Motioned by: Dr. Woltanski

Seconded by: Mr. Griffiths

Vote: Approved

D. RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE IN THE MONROE COUNTY SCHOOLS

Horace O'Bryant Football Team - Buccaneers

Special Olympics

CITIZEN INPUT - STUDENT PROGRESSION PLAN, HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION HONORS

The Student Progression Plan Committee recommends phasing out Valedictorian-Salutatorian with the incoming class of 2019-2020.

-Summa cum laude - Weighted GPA greater than or equal to 4.5

- Magna cum laude - Weighted GPA greater than or equal to 4.25
- Cum laude - Weighted GPA greater than or equal to 4.0

Alternative Valedictorian-Salutatorian Calculation (phased in for 2019-2020 (class of 2023):

- To be eligible a student must have an unweighted GPA of 4.0 (unless there are no students meeting this)
- Courses taken in middle school will not count toward the calculation

Comments:

Amber Acevedo, Principal, Key West High School, spoke in favor of the recommendations

Julio Torrado, spoke opposing changes to the current program.

CITIZEN INPUT/REQUEST(S) TO ADDRESS THE SCHOOL BOARD.

Presentations to the Board are limited to three (3) minutes for each individual speaker and five (5) minutes for the representative of a designated group. Transfer of time between individuals and/or groups is not permitted. Letters submitted to each Board Member and/or the Board Secretary prior to a Board Meeting will not additionally be read into the record at the meeting.

John Padget spoke regarding recommendations/suggestions for the Sugarloaf Housing Project RFP.

E. CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed as consent agenda items are considered routine and noncontroversial by the School Board and will be approved by a single motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. Prior to this meeting, Board Members have had the opportunity to review each of these items and may request that any item be moved to an Action Item for individual consideration.

1. Approval of Personnel Recommendations for 2019-2020 School Years
2. Approval of School Board and District Travel Requests
3. Approval of Procurement Card Transaction Reports for the statement ending October 5, 2019.
4. Acceptance of Charter School Reports August 2019
5. Approval of Monthly Financial Statements August 2019
6. Approve Removal and Disposal of Tangible Personal Property from Asset Records and MCSD
7. Award RFP2020001 to Island Elevator Company, Inc. for Elevator Service and Repair districtwide.
8. Approve Contract with Papico Construction, Inc. for Track Repairs at Coral Shores High School.
9. Approve Purchase of Network Gear from CDWG.
10. Approve Contract with Bliss Products and Services, Inc. for Playground Equipment
11. Approve renewal of iBoss security solution
12. Award RFQ 2020000 Design Build Contract to Ajax Building Corp. for the KWHS Backyard Project

13. Approve Change Order #6 to GMP Amendment No. #2 and Amendment No. #3 to Biltmore Construction Co., Inc. for the Plantation Key School Project
14. ~~WITHDRAWN: Approval of Renewal with Hayes Technologies with Amendment for offsite DR services~~
15. Award Contract to New Door Installation, LLC. for the Key West High School Door Hardware Upgrade Project
16. Approval of Head Start Monthly Update (Aug.)
17. Head Start P.I.R.
18. Approval of Ocean Studies Charter School Relocation Request

Recommendation for approval was made by the Superintendent

Motioned by: Mr. Dick

Seconded by: Ms. Conn

Vote: Approved

F. REPORTS

Strategic Objective 2 - Outstanding Student Achievement (Part 2)

2. Teaching and Learning Update (Math, Social Studies and EL)

Highlights for EL Program for 19-20 School Year, N. Liz, Coordinator

Ms. Liz discussed and summarized the EL program for the 2019-2020 School Year. Topics discussed were:

WIDA Screener

School Grading Calculation Changes

Targeted Support Plans Implementing the 4 C's.

Professional Development and Ongoing Support

Board Comments:

Dr. Woltanski:

Is there a process for identifying EL gifted students? A: Yes, the 4 C's.

Mr. Griffiths:

Is the EL population spread evenly throughout our schools? A: 20 to 25% are in our high schools.

Do older students require more resources? A: Yes, they have less time to achieve mastery. We work with teachers. There is also peer collaboration among students.

The reports don't indicate ages or grades. A: The placement is determined by age and ability – students are purposely placed.

Ms. Conn:

Requested clarification that achievement does not count until the 3rd year.

Strategic Objective 6: Accountable Resource Management

Audit and Finance Committee Meeting, P. Horton

Mr. Peter Horton provided a recap of the October 22, 2019 Audit and Finance Committee Meeting. Topics discussed included:

- 1. Results of the IT Risk Assessment Audit. All recommendations were supported by Audit and Finance Committee expect recommendation 4.*

Legal

- 1. Resolution for Ballot Language to be sent to the BOCC for Voter Referendum Regarding the Half Millage Switch**

Mr. Smits reported the Ballot language proposed is the same language used in 2004. The Resolution the same.

Mr. Highsmith asked if the Item 4 language should be changed to read “millage continuation” instead of millage increase? A: Yes in Resolution.

Mr. Griffiths suggesting adding a line to all District paycheck indicate what portion of the salary is funded by the millage.

Mr. Porter added that efforts to education can be done, but not to promote the effort. Mr. Dick added that he speaks to the millage at Rotary Club meetings and other civic meetings that he attends often.

Mr. Smits responded to Board member inquires:

- 1. The policy concerning naming athletic fields as suggested for Coral Shores High School. A: Yes, under the current policy it can be done.*
- 2. Self Defense, Mr. Smits does not suggesting a policy for self-defense.*
- 3. Medical Marijuana – The only concern involve Federal funds.*

Superintendent

Mr. Porter reported on the following:

The Closed Session at the beginning of the meeting concerned the FSSAT and details of school safety and security measures.

The Board would like recommendations for the appropriate number of fire drills/intruder drills, and what drills are age appropriate drills.

There is a tentative Contract Agreement with the United Teachers of Monroe regarding both teachers and school related personnel. The Payroll Department was advised and is prepared to process the increases for inclusion in the December 15, 2019 paychecks.

May Sands Montessori School notified the District that they plan to add a PreSchool Program during the 2020-2021 School Year. As a high performing charter school Board approval is not required. Mr. Porter will discuss space requirements with Principal Barras.

Thursday, October 24 all schools will be participating in the VIEW program. Mr. Porter invited Board members to attend a session if possible.

The cost per student station local effort was discussed.

Board

Mr. Griffiths has a scheduling conflict with the November 12 Organizational Meeting And requested the Boards' consideration to reschedule the meeting to November 19.

Dr. Woltanski, Ms. Conn, Mr. Dick and Mr. Highsmith all reported no conflict moving the meeting to November 19. Mr. Highsmith noted the November 12 meeting date had been approved at the November 2018 Board meeting.

Mr. Porter reported there were no District conflicts with the November 19 Board Meeting.

Dr. Woltanski would like to know the District's plan for the 2020 Census. A: Mr. Porter will continue to have discussions internally to determine the appropriate classroom level engagement. She feels the students should go home thinking they should be counted, so the parents will count them.

Dr. Woltanski attended the Florida Standards Listening Tour in Palm Beach County. Many curriculum vendors were present who appeared anxious to see what the Standards changes will be. Dr. Woltanski feels that, particularly with respect to the Math Standards, the DOE staff members are devoted to do a good job, however, they feel pressed for time. The third draft is to be released within the next few weeks.

On November 16, 2019 at 11 am at Coral Shores High School, there will be a panel discussion concerning public education and how to improve Florida schools. The United Teachers of Monroe are a sponsor of the event.

Ms. Conn:

At each Board meeting Ms. Conn would like a status update on the Executive Director of Finance recruitment efforts.

Ms. Conn feels uncomfortable doing a public interview for Superintendent Candidate Theresa Axford at the November 19th Board meeting. She would like an understanding of the process.

Mr. Dick attended an impressive awards ceremony at Marathon High School. Many awards were presented.

RECESS

G. PUBLIC HEARING

Policies, 1st Reading

1. 6100 Uniform Records and Accounts
2. 6320 Purchasing and Contracting for Commodities and Contractual Services
3. 6480, Expenditures
4. 6605, Crowdfunding
5. ~~WITHDRAWN: 6835, Internal Audits Office~~
6. 6840, Audit and Finance Committee Charter
7. 7310, Disposition of Surplus Property

There was no public comment.

Job Descriptions, 1st Reading

1. #78029 Bus Driver II
2. #78028 Bus Driver III

There was no public comment.

RECONVENE

H. ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of Budget Summary Report, August 2019
Recommendation for approval was made by the Superintendent
Motioned by: Mr. Dick
Seconded by: Mr. Griffiths
Vote: Approved
2. Approval of 2019-2020 Student Handbook
Recommendation for approval was made by the Superintendent
Motioned by: Dr. Woltanski
Seconded by: Ms. Conn
Vote: Approved

Comment: Dr. Woltanski appreciated the SRO information being included.

3. Approval of FSSAT
Recommendation for approval was made by the Superintendent with a minor amendment requested by Board.

*Motioned by: Mr. Dick
Seconded by: Dr. Woltanski
Vote: Approved*

- . . Amendment: add statement to considering reducing threat drills and getting advise on number required*

*Recommendation for approval of the amendment was made by the Superintendent
Motioned: Dr. Woltanski
Seconded: Ms. Conn
Vote: Approved*

- 4.** Approval of Resolution of Ballot Language to be Sent to the BOCC for Voter Referendum Regarding the Half Millage Switch.

*Recommendation for approval was made by the Superintendent with modification deleting “increase” and adding “continuation.”
Motioned by: Mr. Dick
Seconded by: Mr. Griffiths
Vote: approved as amended to delete the word “increase” and add the word “continuation.”*

ADJOURNMENT 6:33 pm