



Monroe County School Board Workshop and Regular Meeting

Tuesday, October 8, 2019 • 3:00 PM

Marathon High School Media Center, 2nd Floor • 350 Sombrero Rd (mm 50) • Marathon, FL 33050

Attendance:

Mr. Griffiths

Ms. Conn

Dr. Woltanski

Mr. Highsmith

Mr. Porter, Superintendent

Mr. Smits, Attorney

Absent:

Mr. Dick

WORKSHOP AGENDA - TIME CERTAIN 3:00 P.M.

1. 2020 Legislative Priorities, M. Porter (20 mins)

Dr. Woltanski discussed (and provided copies) the final approved Florida School Board Associations 2020 Legislative Priorities.

Mr. Griffiths reported that the Greater Florida Consortium of School Boards' 2020 Legislative priorities have been approved by all Consortium members. There were no changes.

Mr. Porter presented the revised Monroe County School District's 2020 Legislative Priorities. There were no changes requested.

2. Sugarloaf Housing Project Update, D. Smits (30 mins)

Dirk Smits, Gaelan Jones and Suanne Lee

Discussion points:

How much control does the District retain?

Does the District retain ownership of the property?

If sold, should there be a reverter clause?

Does the District lease the property?

If leased, should the lease be a 99 year lease?

If the District retains ownership of the property, does the District develop and manage the project?

If the District retains ownership, is there still a restriction regarding the possession of alcohol, tobacco and fire arms on the property? Mr. Smits will request an opinion from the Attorney General.

Will the District finance the project?

The Board recommended no grant money be considered, as the District should retain control over the terms, conditions and occupations of residents.

The income limits and maximum monthly rental rates must comply with the Monroe County 2019 Qualifying Income Limits.

If building 20 units, should all units be 2 bedroom units, or should there be a combination of efficiency, one bedroom and two bedroom units?

What perimeters should be used to develop an RFP? The RFP should be broad.

What perimeters will be used for determining which employees are selected to live in the units? A lottery was suggested.

Board Comments:

Mr. Griffiths would like rents set at one-third of a person's income and would like to maximize the number of tenants. He suggested the District retain ownership and develop the property to which would provide a source of income (in addition to tax dollars).

Dr. Woltanski would like to maintain control so units are available for the District's teachers and staff. However, she does not think the District should manage the rental units.

Ms. Conn would like the District to maintain ownership of the property with another entity developing and managing the property.

Mr. Highsmith questioned why the District would build anything but two bedroom units. He feels there should be no ceiling on how long someone can live in a unit. Following the County's Qualifying Income limits is disappointing and a concern.

3. 2019-2020 Student Handbook, M. Henriquez (40 mins)

The Student Handbook was developed by a committee of school and district administrators. The goal of the handbook, which is distributed every school year, is to communicate expectations to students, parents and stakeholders.

The revisions made to the handbook were either required by Statute changes, or requested by school administrators.

There was discussion about the SROs responsibilities and their role as an SRO vs. Patrol Officer. Mr. Henriquez will add a statement to the Handbook indicating the responsibility of an SRO is the "protection and safety of school personnel, property and students within the school district."

At the suggestion of Dr. Woltanski, Mr. Henriquez will also add a section concerning The Hope Scholarship Program.

SESIR reporting requirements were discussed.

Board Comments:

*Dr. Woltanski would like all policies to be reflected in all corresponding procedures, in all documents, i.e. The Student Handbook, the Student Progression Plan, etc.
When reviewing policy changes, indicate whether the change is a State statute change or a District change.*

*Ms. Conn stated administrators want discipline procedures/processes spelled out.
Administrators want to know exactly what to do, they want discipline consistency, and not have situations left to their discretion.*

Mr. Highsmith feels teachers and administrators should be given more discretion to handle issues.

A separate Board Workshop session will be scheduled to discuss discipline policies and procedures.

- 4. Ocean Studies Charter School Update, T. Woods (20 mins)**
Principal Trisha Woods and Board President David Thompson

Principal Woods addressed the school's request to relocate. The new location is approximately eight miles north of the current school location and has approximately 30% more square footage. No change to the charter is being requested, only the relocation of the school effective with the 20-21 School Year.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA - TIME APPROXIMATE 5:00 P.M. – 5:15 pm

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.**

Dr. Woltanski requested that Consent Item #4 be moved to Action Item #3

Recommendation for approved was made by the Superintendent

Motioned by: Ms. Conn

Seconded by: Dr. Woltanski

Vote: Approved

C. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Approval of September 24, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes

Recommendation for approved was made by the Superintendent

Motioned by: Mr. Griffiths

Seconded by: Dr. Woltanski

Vote: Approved

D. RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE IN THE MONROE COUNTY SCHOOLS

Linda Diaz, Exceptional Student Education Department

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:

Felicity Rodriquez, Marathon High School sophomore student spoke in favor of keeping the designations.

Wendy McPherson, Principal, Marathon High School, spoke in favor of eliminating the designations.

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.

George Geisler, Key Largo Community Band, requested a Facilities Use insurance waiver.

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 Monthly Financial Statements July 2019
- ~~4. Acceptance of Charter School Reports July 2019~~ Moved to Action Item 3
5. Approval of a Workers' Compensation Claim Settlement
6. Approve Receipt of Capital Donations to Monroe County School District KWHS / CSHS
7. Approval of Granicus Year 2 of 3 Payment - \$27,300
8. Approval of Addendum to 2019-20 Guidance/Care Center Contract
9. Approval of Contract Addendum with Brightview Landscape Services, Inc.
10. Approval of contract renewal 1 of 3 with Princeton Staffing Solutions (ESE Department)

11. Approval of Out of State Field Trip -Sugarloaf School Band and Choir
12. Approval of Horace O'Bryant School Out of State Field Trip
13. Approval of Key Largo School Out of State Field Trip to Washington DC
14. Approval of Renewed Lease Agreement With the Village of Islamorada for a Parcel of Property on Upper Matecumbe, MM81

Recommendation for approved was made by the Superintendent

Motioned by: Mr. Griffiths

Seconded by: Dr. Woltanski

Vote: Approved

F. REPORTS

Legal

No additional report

Superintendent

Mr. Porter reported that student enrollment is steady.

All class size requirements have been met.

Count week is the week of October 7-11.

After the three Valedictorian/Salutatorian Public Input sessions, the Options will be placed on the agenda for discussion and a vote.

Board

Mr. Highsmith would like a Valedictorian/Salutatorian Workshop session after the last of the three listen sessions. If necessary the date to vote on the issue can be moved.

Ms. Conn would like a discussion on the Valedictorian/Salutatorian calculation during that workshop.

Dr. Woltanski recommended the FSBA Policy seminar she recently attended and mentioned that the District does not have a policy about creating policies. Dr. Woltanski also questioned the lack of a medical marijuana policy.

In regards to the request from Coral Shores High School to name the softball field after a deceased former student, Dr. Woltanski suggested the current policy would not allow the Board to permit the request.

Are we creating a school environment that makes our young students feel unsafe at school? Does the run, hide, fight strategy have a stressful impact on children? Dr. Woltanski feels it is important that children feel safe and we need to be assuring the children that they are safe.

Mr. Porter advised that a medical marijuana policy is being drafted, and will be presented to the Board.

Ms. Conn would like core GPA indicated in FOCUS (the parental portal). She has heard from parents about the Valedictorian/Salutatorian options, and most want to keep Valedictorian/Salutatorian and include middle school classes.

Mr. Griffiths suggested the District explore live streaming sporting events. He would like the District to determine the cost of putting the "signal" where it needs to be at each schools. Ms. Conn agreed.

Mr. Highsmith felt the District's responsibility would end with the wifi connection.

RECESS

G. PUBLIC HEARING

Policies, 1st Reading

1. 1120 Employment of Administrators
2. 3120 Employment of Instructional Staff
3. 4120 Employment of Support Staff
4. 1122 Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity
5. 3122 Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity
6. 4122 Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity
7. 1362 Anti-Harassment
8. 3362 Anti-Harassment
9. 4362 Anti-Harassment
10. 5610.02, In-School Discipline
11. 5121, Controlled Open Enrollment
12. 5410.01, Promotion, Acceleration, Placement and Retention
13. 5460, Graduation Requirements

Comments:

Ms. Conn:

Are these due to changes in Statute? A. Yes, per Dr. Dawkins.

Ms. Conn likes the change graduation requirements for CTE in Policy 5460.

Dr. Woltanski:

Is it normal to put specific names/address on policies? A: Yes, it is required in some cases.

*Policy 5460. The Scholar Designation, Item 2 – Mathematics, Dr. Murphy will
Revise to include local language.*

Job Descriptions, 1st Reading

1. ~~School Bus Driver I – 78080~~ - will return on October 22, 2019 for first reading
2. School Security Guard - 79023

The School Bus Driver I, 78080 job description was improperly linked. The correct job Description is Bus Driver II, 78029, which will be presented as a first reading on October 22, 2019.

Dr. Woltanski asked if the School Security Guard would be unarmed. The answer was yes. There was no additional other public or Board comments regarding the School Security Guard, 79023 job description.

RECONVENE: 6:02 pm

H. ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of Budget Summary Reports July 2019

Recommendation for approved was made by the Superintendent

Motioned by: Mr. Griffiths

Seconded by: Dr. Woltanski

Vote: Approved

Discussion:

Mr. Griffiths appreciates item being on the Action Agenda for discussion. He advised caution about the District's financial reserves. The District is holding its own but not improving.

2. Approval of MCSD 2020 Legislative Priorities

Recommendation for approved was made by the Superintendent

Motioned by: Ms. Conn

Seconded by: Dr. Woltanski

Vote: Approved

3. Acceptance of Charter School Reports July, 2019

Recommendation for approved was made by the Superintendent

Motioned by: Dr. Woltanski

Seconded by: Mr. Griffiths

Vote: Approved

Discussion:

Dr. Woltanski questioned why Sigsbee Charter School had a \$6 million fund balance.

ADJOURNMENT – 6:07 pm