



“Student Success,
Whatever It Takes”

SCHOOL BOARD OF MONROE COUNTY SPECIAL WORKSHOP AND SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

March 9, 2010 at 2:00 PM

A. J. Henriquez Adm. Bldg.
241 Trumbo Road, Key West, Fl. 33040

PRESIDING: Andy Griffiths, Chair

PRESENT: John Dick; Duncan Mathewson; Steven Pribramsky; Debra Walker; Dr. Joseph Burke, Superintendent and School Board Attorney Richard Collins, Jesus Jara, Michael J. Henriquez, and Michael Kinneer.

WORKSHOP ITEMS

Discussion of the 2008-2009 Preliminary Audit Findings –Dr. Burke provided introductory comments relating to the initial draft response and not a final version to be released to the Auditor General’s Office. Dr. Burke welcomed and introduced the Audit and Finance Committee and thanked them for the invaluable service. In attendance were the Audit and Finance Committee Members; Bill Anderson, Roger McVeigh, Larry Murray, and Jerry Bolduc. Absent members were Stuart Kessler and Melissa Grady. Dr. Burke outlined the role of the Finance Committees participation in the audit response.

Mr. Roger McVeigh, Chair of the Committee spoke on behalf of the committee. Mr. Dick brought up something from the audit ending on June 30, 2008. He asked about the status of employee reimbursements and the restitution of the campaign contributions of the former Superintendent. Dr. Burke stated the two reimbursements made to the employees will be reimbursed and Mr. Collins spoke concerning the restitution portion. Dr. Burke suggested making contact with Lt Lafferty concerning what the status of restitution. Dr. Burke provided a draft audit response for review. John Dick recapped the status of the District in contrast to other districts’ fund balance.

Steve Pribramsky asked about the context of this meeting and voiced concern in the fact that some employees mainly responsible for these findings are still in place and would like to see corrections to put these items to rest.

Steve Pribramsky praised Dr. Burke for his quick dissemination of important information and facts. Mr. Dick asked if Mr. Kinneer feels he has uncovered six figure shortfalls. Mr. Kinneer replied. Dr Burke would like to put in place a set of personnel reviews of the work that people are doing. Dr. Burke stated the preliminary audit will be work-shopped today, with the response to be provided by the prescribed day. He also is willing to move forward in the direction the board desires but did outline potential soft funding.

Dr. Mathewson asked how to proceed with non-compliance issues and lack of managerial oversight. Dr. Burke did state the district will exercise the kinds of managerial support that is needed. A Court Reporter was in attendance at the behest of Mick Barnes, attorney for Kathy Reitzel.

The Superintendent will bring forth budget reductions to the April meeting. Mr. Dick asked for the status of the audit finding on the airline tickets and asked for an update on whether the status of the airline ticket issue. Mr. Kinneer will provide an update.

Mr. Pribramsky asked about to proceed concerning the potential short fall below 5% in the fund balance. Mr. Collins stated the policy does have a provision for public notification. Dr. Burke stated the public notification comes into play when the fund falls below 3%.

Mr. Pribramsky asked if the Superintendent would include in the third paragraph of the response concerning ethics policy a statement concerning what the mgmt role will be on the execution of the ethics and fiscal policies.

Mr. Griffiths referenced email communication from Maureen Bramlodge which was provided to member of the Board.

Board Interview of Internal Auditor Candidate, Kenneth Gentile

Ms. Nieminski is no longer interested in the position. The Board conducted an interview with Mr. Gentile. The Board also agreed to reimburse Mr. Gentile for a future trip in which he and his spouse would search for housing.

Funding of HOB Construction

Concession Stand Recap

Mr. Pribramsky asked how the project came to be at the expense of \$218,000. Mr. Sims stated he was directed to do. Mr. Pribramsky asked by home. Mr. Sims stated he would rather not say. It was part of the overall project for HOB fields and it was built.

Concerning the Funding of the HOB and PKS Construction

Mr. Dick recapped minutes from a previous meeting before the sale of Harris School. Mr. Sims that at the time when the contract was approved; the Harris School was not sold yet. The funding came into play with the sale of Harris School. Dr. Mathewson stated that is where the confusion is. Dr. Mathewson stated that Mr. Sims believed that that the funds became available with the sale of Harris School. Mr. Sims agreed. Dr. Mathewson stated he believed there was no intention to deceive but rather a misunderstanding that there was enough money to move forward. Mr. Sims would like to know what how the Board wishes to proceed with the PKS construction project. The Board would like a review of the expenses associated with the PKS construction. Mr. Sims will stop the work tomorrow and get an invoice for work done to date. Mr. Dick would like to know what work Biltmore performed.

Upon the Recommendation of the Superintendent

Mr. Dick motioned, and Mr. Pribramsky seconded to approve
Add-On for Cause by the Chairman: 4. Stop any future payments temporarily until such times as funding source has been identified and the Board approves for the construction of the Plantation Key School. And additionally Mr. Sims is to provide a cost estimate and invoice for services provided thus and the percentage of work completed thus far and what remains to be done for the next meeting.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Dick YES

Dr. Mathewson YES

Mr. Pribramsky YES

Dr. Walker YES

Mr. Griffiths YES

Motion passed without objection
(Copy in SMB 48, page 239)

INSURANCE FUND SHORTFALL

Mr. Pribramsky asked about the Insurance Fund short fall. Dr. Burke explained how this may have happened and outlined potential action to cover the shortfall.

SPECIAL MEETING ACTION ITEMS

Item No. 3 Approve Memorandum of Agreement with the Education Coalition of Monroe County was stricken from consideration on the agenda.

Upon the Recommendation of the Acting Superintendent

Dr. Walker motioned, and Mr. Dick seconded to approve

2. Approve Budget Amendment Concerning Proceeds of the Sale of Harris School appropriating \$4,362,996.10 in sale proceeds and \$2,653.200 in expenditures. **This excludes any expenditures and expenses relating to Plantation Key School.**

Motion passed without objection
(Copy in SMB 48, page 240)

Upon the Recommendation of the Acting Superintendent

Mr. Pribramsky motioned, and Dr. Mathewson seconded to approve

1. Approve the Superintendent's Recommendation concerning Employee Disciplinary Action Concerning Tonya Lindsey, Marathon High School Cafeteria.

Motion passed without objection
(Copy in SMB 48, page 241)

AUDIT FINDINGS – Continued

The Board continued their discussions concerning the preliminary audit findings.

Upon the Recommendation of the Acting Superintendent

Dr. Walker motioned, and Dr. Mathewson seconded to approve

Add-On 5. Hiring of Kenneth Gentile as Internal Auditor

Ms. Hoffman, with Mercer Group asked whether the Board would permit the hire of an assistant as that is a contingency for Mr. Gentile. The Board agreed to permit the hire of an assistant if the budget permitted.

Mr. Pribramsky's single biggest concern is if his wife is interested in living in Key West. . She has two other candidates that she interviewed and suggested she do the reference checks as a back up in the event things do not work out with Mr. Gentile.

Move to negotiate a contract with Kenneth Gentile as the Monroe County School District's Internal Auditor.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Dick	YES
Dr. Mathewson	YES
Mr. Pribramsky	YES
Dr. Walker	YES
Mr. Griffiths	YES

Motion passed without objection – no agenda item presented.

Ms. Hoffman asked about board reimbursement of travel expenditures relating to the search of a home provided he accepts the position. The Board authorized the Superintendent to deal with these expenditures.

OTHER

Mr. Dick advised the Board that the Board of County Commissioners will consider the District's Resolution concerning the Appointive Superintendent at their March 17, 2010 Board meeting. Mr. Dick will attend that meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:27.

Andy Griffiths
Andy Griffiths, Chair

Joseph P. Burke
Joseph P. Burke, Superintendent