



“Student Success,
Whatever It Takes”

SCHOOL BOARD OF MONROE COUNTY
WORKSHOP, SPECIAL MEETING & FINAL BUDGET
HEARING MINUTES

September 8, 2009 at 2:30 PM

Marathon High School Media Center
350 Sombrero Beach Road
Marathon, Fl. 33050

PRESIDING: Andy Griffiths, Chair

PRESENT: John Dick; Duncan Mathewson; Steven Pribramsky; Debra Walker; Dr. Joseph Burke, Superintendent; and School Board Attorney Richard Collins, and Scott Black

Closed ATTORNEY/CLIENT SESSION – 1:30 pm

Closed Executive Session concerning collaborative bargaining began at 2:30 pm. In attendance were the Board, Superintendent Burke, and Richard Collins.

Deletion/Corrections

The agenda was amended as follows.

DELETIONS:

Discussion Items

3. Presentation on Keys Center Academy, Carol Eisenman, Goal Area 2, 20 Min (09/08/09)
4. FAIR Presentation, Rob Taylor, Goal Area 3, 20 Min. (09/08/09)
5. SAT Discussion, Mike Henriquez, Goal Area 3, 30 Min. (09/08/09)

Action Items

2. Approve February, March, April, and May Financial Statements (Note: June Financial Statements constitute the AFR & will not be available until September 22, 2009). Goal Area 8 (09/08/09)
3. Approve March, April, May and June 2009 Budget Amendments. Goal Area 8 (09/08/09)
15. Approve After the Fact Travel – Goal Area 3 (09/08/09)

CORRECTED WORDING

Action Item 19 – For clarification, the item should read “Retirement in Lieu of Termination”.

WORKSHOP ITEMS

1. Discuss Superintendent’s Recommendations for Discipline of Employees, Based upon Findings in the Final Forensic Investigation Report, Superintendent Burke, Goal Area All, 30 Min. (combined with #9 -09/08/09) This item has been combined with Discussion Item #9. Disciplinary Actions - Recommendations, Superintendent Burke, Goal Area 4, 20 Min. (09/06/09) (MOVED TO ITEM 1 - 09/08/09)

Dr. Burke recapped the recommendations for discipline he presented for the Board's consideration. Mr. Dick questioned the oversight of the Even Start Grant and believes a true examination should have occurred. Mr. Henriquez rebutted Mr. Dick's comments concerning the Evenstart Grant. Dr. Mathewson would like to use the Forensic Report to move forward and not rehash things that were going wrong. And asked the Board to go forward with the new Superintendent and use the report to address the disciplinary issues and use the report in good faith to go forward. Mr. Pribramsky wants to be sure that there is change so this cannot occur again. Mr. Pribramsky questioned what occurred with Mr. Hooper. Dr. Burke stated he clearly was demoted and additional investigatory work to be done. Mr. Dick feels the punishment to Mrs. Walker is far and those the scales of justice are overly weighted to the lower echelon. Mr. Griffiths reminded the Board that this will come back to the Board table for a vote.

Strategic Planning – Dr. Burke stated the main mission of the organization needs to be refocused and meet collaboratively as a team to work on this. He is interested in knowing their thoughts on forum or process and a timeline. Dr. Walker is in favor of doing so and would like to start with the Board and the Superintendent and talk about the top 5 priorities in terms of student achievement and goals. Mr. Griffiths suggested starting with the goal areas. Mr. Dick feels the most important thing is to get the SAT and ACT scores up. Dr. Mathewson would like to see why our students are not reading at level in 9th and 10th. Dr. Burke suggested bringing back to the Board a discussion on the SAT, ACT, and AP testing and high school accountability measures. Mr. Pribramsky would like to see a financial plan and a culture survey. He also would like to incorporate a plan to weigh in on how a Superintendent is selected. Now is the time to push the politics out of the educational system Mr. Pribramsky stated. Dr. Mathewson wants to discuss the possibility of placing on the next ballot wording for an appointed Superintendent at the next meeting.

Cellular Telephone Discussion - Dr. Walker suggested the Board revisit the cellular phone accessibility by District Staff and possibly one at each school. Mr. Pribramsky does not feel its fair to provide a supplement to administrator's when teachers pay for their own supplies at times. Mr. Pribramsky would like for the Superintendent to consider a multi-year contract for the Principals. Dr. Burke is in agreement with Mr. Pribramsky's suggestion.

Emergency Purchasing Authority – Dr. Walker wanted to know the processes for emergency spending authority for the schools in light of some emergencies in the upper keys. Superintendent Burke suggested a long term solution could be outlined by the Internal Auditor.

Teachers Credit Union – The Superintendent received a Resolution requesting signature authority on the money market accounts held at the credit union. The Board would like to know how much is in the account. It was placed as the Special Action Item number 20 to delineate the signatories. Mr. Pribramsky suggested the Superintendent and the Chair be the signature authorities.

Audit and Finance Committee – Dr. Burke suggested that a committee be created and outlined their tasks, and composition as outlined in the link. He would like to bring this back for action on the September 22, 2009 agenda. Dr. Walker is in favor of creating a committee. Mr. Dick

feels misinformation would be given and wants to know how to verify the information is accurate. Mr. Pribramsky would like to see the composition a bit differently. He also suggested re-contacting the finance committee that was in place to see if they are still interested.

Internal Audits Office – Dr. Burke supports the Board’s agenda with regard to the Internal Auditor. This item describes the work of the Internal Auditor and the responsibilities and outlines policies on how the office will function and its authority and scope. He would like to agenda this item for the September 22 agenda. The consensus of the board is to move forward. Dr. Walker feels that an Internal Auditor should be hired and is comfortable with slate of candidates and Mr. Boettger is welcome to volunteer or serve on the committee.

CITIZEN INPUT

Rick Boettger spoke concerning the budget and the internal audit position and the value of the Harris School.

EMERGENCY PUBLIC HEARING

Amended Purchasing Policy 6320; Granting the Superintendent Spending Authority under \$25,000 without Board approval.

SPECIAL ACTION ITEMS

Upon the Recommendation of the Superintendent

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

4. Grant Conservation Easement to South Florida Water Management District for the Marathon Manor Property. Goal Area 6
5. Approve Award and Contract of Bid Number 400, Key Largo Office Walkway Roof Replacement with Keys Roofing. Goal Area 6
6. Approve Contract for Professional Services between Timothy R. Vollmer, PhD, University of Florida, Professor of Psychology and Consultant in the area of Behavioral Analysis. Goal Area 3
7. Approve Contract for Oral Health Services with Rural Health Network. Goal Area 2
8. Approve Contract Renewal with ModSpace. Goal Area 6
9. Approve Minutes of July 28, 2009 and August 11, 2009 (09/03/09). Goal Area All
10. Approve Annual Contract with The Monroe County Health Department to Provide School Nursing Services. Goal Area 6
11. Approve Contract with Kelley Steinmetz as an RTI Coach under the USF Project Grant.
12. Approve Legal Services Invoice for Richard Collins. Goal Area 5
13. Approve Travel Reimbursements for Internal Auditor Candidates; Stacey Chados, Ted Guba and David Richstone. Goal Area 8
16. Approve the Recommendations on Change In Employment Status for the 2009-2010 School Year. Goal Area 4 (09/04/09)
Dr. Mathewson asked if the same technician is providing services to the Big Pine Academy. It was stated that yes, the same technician is still providing services.
17. Approve Requests for Leave. Goal Area 4 (09/04/09)

19. Approve Request for Retirement of Staff for the 2009-2010 School Year. Goal Area 4 (added
09/04/09) (UD09/08/09)

Motion Passed without objection.
(Copy in SMB 48, page 89)

Upon the Recommendation of the Superintendent

Mr. Pribramsky motioned, and Mr. Dick seconded to approve

Action Item 1 – Amended Purchasing Policy 6320; Granting the Superintendent Spending Authority under \$25,000 without Board approval.

Mr. Dick asked the Superintendent to inform the Board when services are purchased and Dr. Walker suggested placing it as an FYI on the agenda.

Motion Passed without objection.
(Copy in SMB 48, page 90)

Upon the Recommendation of the Superintendent

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

14. Approve District Travel A, B, C, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, Goal Area 3 (09/08/09)

Motion Passed without objection.
(Copy in SMB 48, page 91)

Upon the Recommendation of the Superintendent

Mr. Pribramsky motioned, and Mr. Dick seconded to approve

Travel 14 D, L, M, N – Mr. Dick pulled the item as an example of how the teachers are willing to pay for them and believes that the District should pay for them instead of having them pay out of their own pocket. Dr. Burke suggested creating a travel budget up to a certain limit. Dr. Burke will find the money to cover this. In the future budget this should be considered. Mr. Pribramsky spoke about the lawful but awful spending including the travel lacking the common sense and how the travel made it to the agenda for consideration. Dr. Walker spoke concerning the national conference for Science and believes this is the venue that our teachers would benefit from attending.

Motion Passed without objection.
(Copy in SMB 48, page 92)

Upon the Recommendation of the Superintendent

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

18. Approve Request to Advertise Open Positions for the 2009-2010 School Year. Goal Area 4
(09/04/09) (ud09/08/09) (09/08/09)

Dr. Mathewson questioned whether Ralph Henriquez is retiring? And who is taking over his duties.

Motion Passed without objection
(Copy in SMB 48, page 93)

Upon the Recommendation of the Superintendent

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

Add-on #20 Approve Resolution concerning the signature authorities for the two money market accounts at the Teachers Credit Union. The Superintendent and the Chair shall serve as the signatories.

Motion passed without objection.
(Copy in SMB 48, page 94)

Mr. Collins called a closed session concerning the Heery Case for September 22, 2009 at 4:00pm.

RECESS WORKSHOP/SPECIAL MEETING
Convene Budget Hearing

FINAL BUDGET HEARING – TIME CERTAIN 6:00 PM

Mr. Kessler spoke concerning the supplies available to AP Chemistry students. Mr. Henriquez addressed his concerns.

1. Adopt the following tentative millages:

Upon the Recommendation of the Superintendent

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

- a. Required local effort Millage Rate: 1.688

Motion Passed without objection.
(Copy in SMB 48, page 95 all budget items)

Upon the Recommendation of the Superintendent

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

b. Discretionary Millage Rate: 0.699

ROLL CALL

MR. DICK NO

DR. MATHEWSON YES

MR. PRIBRAMSKY NO

DR. WALKER YES

CHAIRMAN GRIFFITHS YES

Motion Passed.

Upon the Recommendation of the Superintendent

Mr. Pribramsky motioned, and Mr. Dick seconded to approve

c. Capital Improvement Millage Rate: 0.500

Motion Passed without objection.

Upon the Recommendation of the Superintendent

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

d. Additional Voted Operating Millage Rate: 0.500

Motion Passed without objection.

Upon the Recommendation of the Superintendent

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

2. Adopt Resolution 732 - ESE 524 Report/Determining Revenues and Millages Levied
(09/02/09)

ROLL CALL

MR. DICK NO

DR. MATHEWSON YES

MR. PRIBRAMSKY NO

DR. WALKER YES

CHAIRMAN GRIFFITHS YES

MOTION PASSED

Upon the Recommendation of the Superintendent

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

3. Adopt Resolution 733 – Adoption of Final Budget for 2009-2010 - (09/08/09)

ROLL CALL

MR. DICK YES

DR. MATHEWSON YES

MR. PRIBRAMSKY YES

DR. WALKER YES

CHAIRMAN GRIFFITHS YES

MOTION PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the regular meeting at 6:54pm.

Andy Griffiths _____
Andy Griffiths, Chair

Dr. Joseph P. Burke _____
Dr. Joseph P. Burke, Superintendent