

**MINUTES**  
**Monthly Work Session**

**MEETING:** March 21, 2017

**PRESENT:** Board Members: Caroline Zucker, Chair; Bridget Ziegler, Vice Chair; Shirley Brown, Jane Goodwin; Eric Robinson; Superintendent Todd Bowden

**CALLED TO ORDER:** 9:00 a.m.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION
Financial Advisory Committee Annual Report – John Cranor, Murray Blueglass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The key roles of the Financial Advisory Committee are providing oversight for sales tax and voted millage, financial condition monitoring and evaluation of budget and spending, good business practices, sounding board for policy to provide recommendations to Superintendent and staff</li> <li>• Funding sources for 2016-17 consisted of 59.88% Ad Valorem taxes, 19.46% State of Florida, 9.31% millage initiative, 3.52% Federal Government, 4.54% other local sources, and 3.29% ¼ of \$.01 sales tax</li> <li>• The impact of voted millage and sales tax was reviewed</li> <li>• Sarasota schools were rated an “A” district; 75% A or B elementary schools, 83% A or B middle schools, and 71% A or B high schools</li> <li>• 2016 FSA scores were #3 in Florida</li> <li>• FCAT/FSA passing scores for were reviewed</li> <li>• Graduation rates for Sarasota were +6.2% as compared to the state at +2.9%</li> <li>• Dropout rates for Sarasota showed a decrease of -0.1% as compared to the state 0.1%</li> <li>• Data on capital Investments, charter school impacts, return on investments were reviewed</li> <li>• Priorities include 2018 referendum renewal, pursue balanced budget, maintain financial reserve position &gt;7.5%, identify and implement funding opportunities</li> </ul>

	<p>such as COPs financing and refunding, review employee benefits, analysis of charter school economics, and evaluation of program investments such as Summer Learning Academies, I-Ready, etc., inform community of educational achievements, engage community on educational opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outreach targets include community (Tiger Bay Sarasota, Tiger Bay Venice, Argus Foundation, Community Foundations, neighborhood associations) and business (GSCC, COBA, GCBE, Venice CC, North Port CC)</li> <li>• Board Members discussed the need to prioritize voted millage investments, i.e., addressing the achievement gap, funding art and music teachers, summer learning academies</li> <li>• At the next work session, Dr. Bowden plans to present the eleven criteria he would like to drill down on i.e., instructional programs, graduation data, closing the achievement gap, etc., being sure to build in time for questions and answers. The criteria can then be prioritized by the Board.</li> <li>• The possibility of another MGT study or job/salary study, looking at other insurance sources for property insurance/workers comp, Florida school boards insurance trust, audit committees, etc. was discussed</li> <li>• As far as an instructional audit, the possibility of district-level school accreditation by Southern Association was discussed, which could balance out an operational audit</li> <li>• Board members thanked the committee members for their time and dedication</li> </ul>
<p>Sarasota County Parks and Recreation Agreement – Scott Lempe Kathie Ebaugh</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board members were given the opportunity to review the new interlocal agreement (ILA) prior to formal vote scheduled at the upcoming Board meeting</li> <li>• The reasons for replacing the current agreement included enabling greater opportunities to use school facilities and fields for sport and recreation purposes, provide greater flexibility and availability to school campuses, establish a well-defined way for sport leagues to have access to school facilities, ensure school facilities are maintained appropriately and establish a framework for the joint use, maintenance and management of school facilities as recreational sport venues between Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources and Sarasota County Schools.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After discussion, general consensus was to send the agreement back to staff in order for them to write a “whereas” clause stating that this agreement is meant to supplement the use of county parks, rather than replace</li> <li>• Once the ILA is signed and approved, the ILA will be presented to city municipalities for clarification on what this document means for everyone</li> <li>• This ILA will be withdrawn from the upcoming (March 21, 2017) agenda and placed on a future agenda once it is revised</li> </ul>
<p>Proposed 2017-18 Budget – Todd Bowden Mitsi Corcoran Christa Curtner</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Governor’s budget, released January 31, 2017, contains a statewide enrollment increase of 1.01% and revenue per student increase of 3.03%; the source of revenue increase is reliance upon a school taxable property value increase of 6.56%.</li> <li>• Total federal, state and local revenues and transfers for 2016-17 had an increase of \$5,760,598</li> <li>• Appropriations and transfers out for 2016-17 had an increase of \$1,763,862</li> <li>• Gross fund balance and unassigned fund balance changes were reviewed; the ending unassigned fund balance as a percentage of appropriations and transfers out had an increase of .20%</li> <li>• Dr. Bowden shared a copy of the new organizational chart</li> <li>• Dr. Bowden pointed out that the entire proposal that was put before the Board on February 21, 2017 could be accomplished without tapping into reserves</li> <li>• After discussion, it was proposed that additional funds be factored into the budget to include a 1.5% pay raise for employees as a starting point, realizing that will need to be negotiated</li> </ul>
<p>Transgender/LGBT Issues Discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board members were sent the following documents prior to the work session intended to support the conversation: Sarasota School Board Policy 2.71 Against Student Discrimination, Hillsborough County Gender Equity Resources, Hillsborough County Policy 1122, Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity, Broward County Critical Support Guide, and Broward County Policy 4001.1 Nondiscrimination Policy Statement</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sonia Figaredo-Alberts was invited to participate in the discussion; she has been to training conferences and her department is prepared to conduct transgender awareness/sensitivity training for administrators, teachers, students and parents.</li> <li>• Pros and cons of adding the word gender <u>“identity”</u> in our current policy was debated</li> <li>• Pros and cons of our current procedures were discussed</li> <li>• The Superintendent cautioned that by adding the words gender identity, gender expression or a combination thereof to the policy, there will be an expectation to revise the procedures/practice; as of today he does not understand what the implications of a policy change would be. He proposed, since the majority of the Board has signaled we are going to do a policy change, to utilize the resources available in our community and convene a group of people to develop procedures/practice, probably closer to Hillsborough current practices. After that, there will need to be a series of inservices for administrators so they understand how to administer their schools. Guidance Counselors will need a separate and distinct training. Training will also be needed for our teachers and resources for our students and families. Dr. Bowden recommended we define some of these terms first and do this simultaneously with a policy change. A draft of the guide could then be shared in a public forum for input.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recessed at 12:21 p.m. for Closed Executive Session, Safety and Security Update - Scott Lempe, Mike Andreas</b></p>	<p><b>Conference Rooms A/B - CLOSED TO PUBLIC</b></p>
<p><b>Reconvened for Public – 1:55 p.m.</b></p>	
<p>Graduation Data/Requirements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eleven elements make up a school district’s grade and Dr. Bowden is proposing to set up an hour at each work session to discuss one of those items, which will include graduation data; he will outline/prioritize the eleven elements at the April work session.</li> <li>• The question on the number of credits required by the state compared to our district requirements and graduation standards will be included in that discussion</li> </ul>
<p>Restorative Justice Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most of these strategies are coming through a grant</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently there are more people wanting the training than there are slots</li> <li>• If Board Members have any questions or need an update at any time, they can contact Rex Ingerick</li> </ul>
Textbook Review/Adoption Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After discussion it was decided to postpone this discussion until we see what is passed in legislation</li> <li>• A short discussion on current textbook adoption procedures will be scheduled at the April work session</li> </ul>
Goals/Facilitator Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Superintendent has three goals in mind: (1) maintain our tradition of excellence which means keeping the “A”, (2) make sure excellence extends to all students which means closing the achievement gap, and (3) make sure our commitment to our students extends beyond graduation, which is college and career readiness, making sure we don’t just meet minimum standards for graduation, but they have done what it takes to go to college or enter the workforce.</li> <li>• How those goals could be measured was discussed; Dr. Bowden requested a criteria reference instead of a norm reference.</li> <li>• Ways to measure/close the achievement gap locally, statewide and nationally were discussed</li> <li>• If Board Members have additional or different goals in mind, they were asked to send them to Zoe by March 31, 2017; Dr. Bowden will then determine how/if they are measurable goals.</li> <li>• There was no consensus regarding hiring a facilitator</li> <li>• A goal setting workshop was previously scheduled May 3, 2017 was cancelled; we will keep the previously scheduled goal setting workshop on May 23, 2017, 3:00p – 5:00p</li> </ul>
Adjourned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Monthly Work Session adjourned at 2:49 p.m.</li> </ul>

We certify that the foregoing minutes are a true account of the Monthly Work Session held on March 21, 2017, and approved at the regular Board meeting on April 4, 2017.

---

Secretary  
Todd Bowden

---

Chair  
Caroline Zucker