MINUTES School Board Workshop July 26, 2011

This workshop, held at the St. Johns County School Board Administrative Center, 40 Orange Street, St. Augustine, Florida, was called to order at 3:00 pm by Chairman Bill Fehling. Dr. Joyner called roll; all board members were present. Also in attendance was School Board Attorney Frank D. Upchurch, III, district staff and media representatives.

Opening Comments

Mrs. Wright reported attending a Value Adjustment Board meeting, and noted that our school board representative, Mr. Doug Wiles, was in attendance. Dr. Joyner reported we saved about \$250,000 by shutting down for the past week. He announced Mr. Weiss was interviewed by Channel 4 today and will be on tonight's news.

Race to the Top Update

Dr. Joyner introduced Mr. Brennan Asplen, who presented draft evaluation information. Questions and comments on these evaluations followed. Mrs. Slough asked that everyone submit input for the Teacher Leader committee.

School Board Meeting Time

Mr. Fehling noted he requested this item be added to today's agenda. He asked the board to consider moving the 6:00 pm meetings to 9:00 am, noting there are only nine times per year for student performances. Mr. Allen stated he was a member of the school board when meetings began at 3:00 pm and 6:00 pm, and suggested meetings be broadcast live and aired again in the evening. Mrs. Slough suggested we make certain we do not conflict with the Board of County Commissioners meetings. Mr. Upchurch stated that he believed meeting times could be changed by school board vote at any meeting.

Smart Find/Substitute Teachers

Mr. Mignon stated there are times when we have 30-40 vacancies district-wide without substitutes and he is concerned about this. Dr. Joyner stated he has studied the data and there are but three of four times per year when there are 30 vacancies or more; most days are three or four. Dr. Joyner said this topic will be studied and we will revisit this. Comments on the subject followed.

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Response to Intervention Update

Mrs. Stewart introduced Mr. David Morell. Mr. Morell presented information on the Response to Intervention (RtI) process. He described it as a method of catching students when they "slouch", instead of when they fail. He reported if quality instruction is delivered, RtI can be very successful.

This workshop was recessed at 4:00 pm for a Special School Board Meeting, and reconvened at 4:39 p.m.

Elementary School "L" Planning

Dr. Joyner stated we'll have some key decisions to discuss at the August 23rd workshop. Zoning will be part of the discussion. Mr. Forson noted a proposed schedule for Elementary School "L", and Mr. Paul Rose, Director of New Construction, stated construction is well on schedule and we anticipate staff in the building by early summer, 2012. Mr. Asplen added that the initial interviewing of a principal, secretary and maintenance manager will take place in November, 2011, with a recommendation to the board at the December, 2011 school board meeting. All other hires will be completed by May, 2012. Mrs. Cubbedge announced town hall meeting dates, and Mrs. Slough asked that these dates be rescheduled as she will be attending an FSBA event out of town. Therefore, the workshop was changed to Tuesday, August 30th, 8:30 a.m. and the town hall meetings were changed to Tuesday, August 30th and Thursday, September 1st at 6:30 p.m. Mrs. Cubbedge also asked that October 4th be scheduled for the Special School Board Meeting to approve advertisement. Mrs. Slough requested that the previous First Class zoning site emails be archived before this zoning process begins.

Public Comments

Mr. Leo Zanchettin, 125 Worthington Place, St. Johns, FL 32259, a Hickory Creek Elementary School parent, commented that his experience does not mirror what was presented today regarding Rtl. Dr. Joyner asked Mr. David Morell to meet with Mr. Zanchettin at this time. Mrs. Wright reminded all of the August 4th Northeast Florida School Boards Coalition meeting. Dr. Joyner announced he'll be interviewing the Governmental Relations Coordinator finalists this week, and he asked all to advise Mrs. Slough of legislative priorities.

There being no further business, the workshop was adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Superintendent

Chairman

Date Approved