

RECORDS AND PROCEEDINGS

A workshop of the Board of Education of the Pulaski County Special School District was held at 925 East Dixon Road on the 18th day of January 2011. The following business was transacted.

Opening
1/18/11

President Bill Vasquez called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Present: Mr. Tim Clark, Mrs. Gloria Lawrence, Mrs. Sandra Sawyer, Mr. Tom Stuthard, Mrs. Mildred Tatum, Mr. Bill Vasquez, Ms. Gwen Williams, and Superintendent Charles Hopson.

Absent: None

Open Discussion
1/18/11

Mr. Vasquez stated that the purpose of the workshop was to address tasks assigned to administrative staff during the December 20, 2010 special board meeting, as a result of the legislative audit findings. He stated that items listed under "Reports/ Presentations" were erroneously entered on the agenda for the January 2011 board meeting, but would be addressed at the workshop, with the exception of reports from Dr. June Elliott, Deputy Superintendent for Academic Accountability and Mr. Rodney Matheney, Deputy Superintendent for Academic Accountability, who had prior engagements that conflicted with the change in the board meeting dates.

DREAM/Before
& After School
Programs

Mrs. Farver, Chief Financial Officer, stated that Dr. Elliott and Mr. Matheney will report on the DREAM and Before & After School Programs at the January 2011 board meeting the following evening.

Evaluation of
Acquisition &
Personnel
Processes

Mr. Paul Brewer, Executive Director for Human Resources, addressed the board regarding issues involving the hiring practices of PCSSD personnel. He stated he has taken preventive measures to assure no employees are placed in their respective positions until they are officially hired by the board, and all necessary paperwork is in place.

PCSSD Finances/
Expenditures

Mrs. Farver addressed the board regarding the district's finances and stated that to date, state and federal funds are online with the expectations of this year's spending as well as in alignment with last year's district spending. She also stated that district funds are currently being streamlined to only support expenditures that will not negatively impact teaching and learning, or sacrifice quality.

Mr. Clark and Mrs. Tatum commended and thanked Mrs. Farver on her efforts in completely turning around the district's finances and presenting financial information that is easy to follow and understand. Mrs. Farver stated that her efforts are solely focused on meeting the needs of the students.

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Fixed Asset/
Inventory Control
System

Mr. Derek Scott, Executive Director of Operations, reported that all governing documents are in place and accurate to support insurance coverage and fixed asset lists for buses. Mr. Scott also stated that an inventory control system along with governing documents is in place to not only monitor the Warehouse inventory items, but to fairly distribute them to the schools for their use.

Vehicle Purchase
for Supt Hopson

Mrs. Farver reported that she has researched the report of bids and the invitation of bids for the purchase of the vehicle for Dr. Hopson and they are in accordance with the state bid requirements. Mr. Vasquez reiterated that practices must be adhered to regarding the proper board approval processes when making purchases that require their approval.

**Board Member
Comments**

Dr. Hopson made a recommendation for the board's review of the legislative audit findings regarding the superintendent's contract prepared by Mr. Jay Bequette, to be discussed at the January board meeting on the following evening.

Mr. Clark invited everyone to come out to the celebration in honor of Mrs. Janie Naylor being held at Pine Forest Elementary School.

Mr. Stuthard stated he had visited the bus barn and everything looked good. He also stated he had a very informative conversation with Mr. Brad Montgomery, Director of Transportation, regarding the condition of the buses, inspection practices, as well as the more feasible idea of purchasing buses in smaller numbers. Mr. Stuthard added that he was very enlightened during his visit and encouraged all board members to take the time to go out and see what is actually going on with the district's operations.

Ms. Williams requested a report regarding charges for meals for the headstart programs. Mrs. Farver stated that Dr. June Elliott's department would provide feedback regarding those items.

Mr. Vasquez commented that the district is in a dire financial situation and everyone needs to get on board in delivering better education to our children at a better price.

Adjournment

1/18/11

With no further business, Mr. Vasquez adjourned the workshop at 5:50pm.

Board President

Board Secretary