

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, SARASOTA FLORIDA
FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES
2/10/2022

ATTENDEES: Taylor Collins, Shon Ewens, Susan Hines, Paula Ippolito, Sandra Terry, Pam Truitt

STAFF: Dr. Brennan Asplen, Chris Renouf, Mitsi Corcoran, Christa Curtner, Cyndy Stiglich

ABSENT: Scott Pinkerton

GUESTS: Jane Goodwin, Megan Fay, and Ron La Face

Meeting called to order at 8:00 a.m.

I. Welcome

Chair Pam Truitt opened the meeting.

II. Legislative Update

Mitsi Corcoran introduced Megan Fay who is a partner at Capital City Consulting and Ron La Face who is the owner at Capital City Consulting. Capital City Consulting is the School District lobbying firm.

Note: These were proposals and not everything was passed

There were discussions on the following topics:

- The legislature is in the 2nd half of their session, there are many education topics
- As a result of the constitutional amendment approved by voters and the school districts' budget it must include \$15 an hour for all new employees
- Salary certification by October
- Lawmakers are discussing teacher salary increases
- Veteran teachers receiving earmarked funding
- A proposed bill would mandate districts that did not comply with the Governor's mask mandates that they would be at risk of losing funds for salaried employees who make over \$100,000/annual. Those funds would be redirected to districts that complied. There are serious questions as to whether the proposal bill is legal.
- Reading endorsement/teachers' certification
- There is expected to be an increase to the Florida Retirement System (FRS)
- Proposed changes to sovereign immunity for local governments and school districts, but not the state government. The changes would raise the \$200,000 maximum to 1M. Legislative members raised concerns about this proposal

- Charter schools returning money if they were to sell the Charter school building

III. Referendum Update/Presentations

Board Chair Jane Goodwin shared an update on the 1Mil Referendum campaign with the FAC. She indicated that a poll indicates 82% of the public indicated they thought masks mandates were appropriate. Ms. Goodwin covered the current activities of the campaign:

- Both political parties have endorsed the referendum. This is the first time the local Republican Executive Committee has done so
- Commercial signs are being installed throughout the county. 2,000 residential yard signs are out.
- Vote by mail is underway. The ballot includes two issues. In addition to the school 1 Mil, the County is asking voters to repeal the single member districts. It is expected that more voters will turn out
- Ms. Goodwin, Dr. Asplen, and many others have spoken to business and community groups about the value of the 1 Mil
- Dr. Asplen thanked Ms. Goodwin for her leadership on the campaign
- Ms. Truitt stated that the school districts Strategic Plan will be topic of the May 2022 meeting as components of the plan will be paid for by referendum funds.

IV. Summer Learning Interventions

Chris Renouf put up a PowerPoint Presentation and talked about Summer Learning.

There were also discussions on the following topics:

- Summer Boost 2020
 - Eligible students at 24 elementary schools were invited
 - Remote learning option only
 - Approximately 1500 students participated
 - Individualized learning plans were developed
 - Teachers met with students online in whole groups, small groups, and one-on-one
 - Grades 2, 3, 4 and 5
 - Communication with families
 - Cinch bags with supplies were provided for the 1500 students that participated
 - Virtual field trips
 - REACH arts calendar
 - Summer Reading Camp- 2021 and Beyond
 - Grade 3 students who scored a level 1 on FSA reading
 - Four-week program at 9 sites
 - Added several first-grade classes at various sites across the district and incorporated KidsRead

- CMBF support for teacher incentives
 - CFS incentives for student participation
- Summer Learning Academies
 - Title I schools
 - Grade levels served K-3
 - Academic and STEAM focus
 - Suspended the last two summers due to COVID
 - Discussions are underway to resume this summer
- Interventions-Jumpstart
 - Array of Supports-Recovery-Intervention-Acceleration
 - Before school boost
 - After school tutoring with transportation provided
 - During the school day tutoring
 - Saturday school
 - Collaborative Planning for Teachers- Subs provided
- New B.E.S.T. standards
- New ELA curriculum adoption
- New progress monitoring system
- Enhancement and Expansion of Early Learning
- Assess setting, programming, and staffing needs
- Determine new and potential funding sources for increasing PK programming options within the district
- Assess, update, and improve Prekindergarten (PK) transition planning for students entering Kindergarten
- I-ready scores
- Pam talked about Best standards
- Three standardized FSA
- Final assessment in May
- Reading program called Earned by Learning
- Laurel Nokomis school earned an “A” with the help of Earned by Learning
- Kids who cannot read
- Paula talked about ELA
- New math adoption
- Unfunded mandates
- Federal dollars
- Tracking students who are in the reading learning program
- If the Boost program had to be done over again would there be something that needs to change

V. 2022 Meeting Dates/New Members/Officer Elections

Pam Truitt will remain Chair and Paula Ippolito was elected Vice Chair. Ms. Truitt asked existing committee members to think about who would make a good candidate for the FAC and to send names to Ms. Corcoran for discussion at the May 2022 meeting. She shared backgrounds of past committee members and what qualities are considered for candidates. FAC members are appointed by the School Board.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Tamika Herring-Snead