Volusia County Schools

~School Board Notes~

March 17, 2015
School Board Meeting

CUSTODIAL SERVICES – CONSULTANT’S FINDINGS
The school board heard a report from Core Management Services, the firm that was hired to conduct three custodial service audits of district facilities. The presentation included findings from the first two of three audits, which included unannounced inspections of 16 randomly selected schools. The report found that, overall, district inspectors are scoring similar to Core inspectors. Regarding the cleaning program, the overall custodial program is meeting the agreed upon level of cleanliness; however, quality levels vary by school and are not consistent. The school board directed staff to look at options regarding the contract because there have been many complaints regarding the service that is being provided. The district is currently giving Aramark 10 days to correct identified deficiencies at individual schools. If the deficiencies are not addressed within 10 days, an outside contractor is being hired to complete the work at Aramark's expense.

AFSCME NEGOTIATED COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT
The school board approved ratification of the contract changes negotiated between the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) and the district for fiscal year 2014-15. The AFSCME bargaining unit includes school cafeteria personnel, campus advisors, mechanics, warehouse and delivery personnel, maintenance technicians, bus operators and bus attendants. The terms of the settlement are:

- a one-step increase on the salary schedule to eligible employees which constitutes an average 2.01% raise retroactive to July 1, 2014, with re-opener clause;
- non-recurring payment of $250 to employees that work 5 or more hours a day, and $125 to employees that work less than 5 hours a day, that do not qualify for a one-step increase because they are at the highest point of the salary schedule;
- expansion of the district’s pay for skills incentive program to include school bus mechanics that improve their technical skills, eligibility for higher rates of pay and method of implementation of program; and
- an increase to the beginning bus operator wage from $10.80 to $11.02 per hour retroactive to July 1, 2014

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT – NSB FOOTBALL STADIUM
The school board heard a presentation regarding the interlocal agreement with the city of New Smyrna Beach that provides use of the football field and parking at the New Smyrna Beach Sports Complex by Atlantic, New Smyrna Beach and Spruce Creek high schools for six years and up to 11 years for New Smyrna Beach High. The school board’s contribution toward capital improvements, specifically the home-side bleachers, totaled $500,000 to be paid on a schedule
by September 2017 with no additional costs or rental fees. The school board did not accept the agreement, but approved staff to renegotiate the agreement.

DIFFERENTIATED ACCOUNTABILITY COLLABORATION
The school board heard a presentation of how district and state personnel collaborate to provide differentiated accountability support to schools for continuous improvement.

VOLUSIA CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION
The school board heard a presentation regarding the new Volusia Center for Excellence in Education (VCEE) project, which received a three-year grant from the Department of Education in the amount of $1,148,923. This project is a collaborative and dynamic effort with Stetson University, Bethune-Cookman University and the New Teacher Center (NTC) to develop and improve teacher effectiveness by building deeper core subject knowledge and improving field experiences for pre-service K-5 teachers.

This innovative project involves the creation of content learning modules by content area experts, eight demonstration teaching classrooms for real-time modeling, as well as the capacity to record and analyze best practices in teaching core content at the elementary level. The NTC will provide multi-tiered levels of professional development opportunities for the Volusia Peer and Assistance team, university supervisors, cooperating teachers, and mentors working with pre-service and beginning teachers. The VCEE will study and report the impact of the project with the goal of creating an effective project prototype that is replicable in other school districts and teacher education programs.

REFUNDING CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION
The school board approved authorizing the issuance of Refunding Certificates of Participation-Series 2005B, which will save the school district approximately $3.6 million in capital interest payments during the nine-year term.

SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES
The school board approved adoption of School Board Policy 610, Naming of School Facilities and School Board Policy 714, Volusia County School Board Policy on Advertising - The amendments authorize temporary naming opportunities for advertising purposes but would remain subject to existing content restrictions established by the board in policy 714. Approval of those contracts would remain subject to approval by the superintendent and the terms of the contract may not exceed a period of three years. The intent of these amendments is to open additional advertising venues for the generation of funds to support educational programs.

SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH UPDATE
At its workshop on March 13, the school board hired Ray & Associates, Inc. to conduct the superintendent search. Ray & Associates is a firm that specializes in educational executive leadership searches.

RECOGNITIONS
The school board recognized:
• Rachel Titus, Seabreeze High student, for her ceramic work *Totem: Many Views of My Sister*, which was selected for exhibit during the National Council for Ceramic Arts conference. Her art will be included in the catalog, poster and CD showing work of all students selected for the national exhibition.

• Nine high school students whose portfolios won at the 2015 Florida State Fair High School All State Art Exposition. In addition works from 31 other students were on display. The All-State Art Exposition is the one state art adjudicated opportunity for grade 12 portfolio art students. Students compete with other high schools across Florida to have work selected for this exhibit.

  **DeLand High**, Bryan Carson, art teacher
  Megan Ponder

  **Deltona High**, Petra Ramirez, art teacher
  Courtney Wall

  **New Smyrna Beach High**, Tina Curry and Christina Colby, art teachers
  Zosia Ballin, Jordan Rondeau, Marisa Wyatt, Jillian Locke, Gia Nefores and Natalie Draganchuk

  **Seabreeze High**, Lisa Botkin, art teacher
  Yong Qi Zhen

• Twenty-one students who received regional scholastic awards:

  **Gold Key Awards**
  **DeLand High**-Bryan Carson, art teacher
  Joseph Couture, Kylee Kruger and Sophie Paul

  **New Smyrna Beach High**-Tina Curry, art teacher
  Kate Eisen, Shelby Greene, Ruby Nataupsky, Jordan Rondeau (2), Mason Sylvester, Mira Testerman and Marisa Wyatt

  **Seabreeze High**-Lisa Botkin, art teacher
  Margaret Baker (2), Gabi Gonzalez, Rachel Maccio and Yong Qi Zheng

  **Spruce Creek High**-Bruno Moskola and Joseph VandernBerg, art teachers
  Brittany Bentzoni, Austin Davis, Misa Nguyen and Rachel Whiddison

  **Gold Key Portfolio Winner**
  **DeLand High** - Joseph Couture

  **Silver Key Portfolio Winners**
  **DeLand High** - Megan Ponder
RESOLUTIONS
The school board approved three resolutions:
- Music in Our Schools Month
- Theatre in Our Schools Month
- Youth Art Month

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS
The school board approved the following items:
- Purchase of 150 iPads for Taylor Middle-High in the amount of $70,950. The funds are available through Title I, Part A Federal Entitlement Funds
- Purchase of the iBoss Web Filter Appliance from MicroShare Inc. in the amount of $297,106.05 and the expansion of Exinda bandwidth management appliance from Empire Computing and Consulting Inc. in the amount of $32,680. The proposed Internet Bandwidth upgrade is necessary to fulfill demand for the current and future increasing needs of high bandwidth educational requirements such as Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT), state mandated testing, and student cloud and mobile computing technologies.

NEXT SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS
**Good Will Tours:** 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., as follows - Tuesday, March 31, Mainland High; Tuesday, April 7, Pine Ridge High; Tuesday, April 21, DeLand High; Tuesday, May 5, New Smyrna Beach High; and Thursday, May 7, Seabreeze High

**Budget Workshops:** Wednesday, April 8, and Monday, April 20, 5 p.m., DeLand Administrative Complex, 200 N. Clara Ave., DeLand

**Regular Meeting:** Tuesday, April 14, 4 p.m., DeLand Administrative Complex

During school board meetings, a live audio broadcast can be accessed from the School District of Volusia County’s website at [http://myvolusiaschools.org](http://myvolusiaschools.org).

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