

02-27-07 Special School Board Meeting

Call Meeting to Order

Acceptance of Agenda

1. [Accept February 27, 2007 Agenda](#)

Attachment: [INSTRUCTIONAL AGENDA 2-27-07 ADD Pg 12.pdf](#)

Motions:

Approve acceptance of February 27, 2007 agenda. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Brenda Reddout

Second: Kay Fields

Lori Cunningham	- Aye
Kay Fields	- Aye
Tim Harris	- Aye
Margaret Lofton	- Aye
Frank O'Reilly	- Aye
Brenda Reddout	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye

Invocation

- 2. [Lori Cunningham](#)

Pledge of Allegiance

- 3. [Rebecca Lubin, 2nd grade, Pinewood Elementary](#)

Special Recognitions

- 4. [Arts in Our Schools Month Proclamation](#)
Attachment: [Arts in Our Schools Month.pdf](#)

Minutes:

Motions:

Motion to approve proclamation recognizing March as 'Arts In Our Schools' Month. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Kay Fields
Second: Brenda Reddout

Lori Cunningham	- Aye
Kay Fields	- Aye
Tim Harris	- Aye
Margaret Lofton	- Aye
Frank OReilly	- Aye
Brenda Reddout	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye

- 5. [Student Performance](#)

Minutes: Matthew Oliver performed a composition of his own, 'Eye of the Storm'.

- 6. [Florida State Fair 2007 High School All State Competition](#)

Elizabeth Broadway - Boone Middle School.

Special Judges Award (\$5000 with \$2500 to the School) - Deborah Congdon, Carol Richardson, Jessica Fredericks - Bethune Academy; and,

Arvilla Stokes, Dixieland Elementary

Top 2006 Outstanding Education Award - (\$15,000 and \$7500 to the School) Carole Endicott, Baringthon Brudy, Anjanette Richard-Jones, Jeffrey Wells - Denison Middle School

11. [National Board Certified Teachers](#)

Minutes:

National Board Certified Teachers recognized tonight:

Christina DeAmicis, Allison Hope, Jennifer Cervantes, Crystal Herzog, Marcy Massey, Donna Campbell, Mary Miller, Diane Herron, Patsy Goss, Terry Monies, Jane Romeo Herman, Jennifer Kruck, Julia Stedem, Kyle Guira, Patricia Ann Locke, Maite Rodriguez-Paz, Christina Nipper, Connie Evans, Pamela Hadden, Cassandra Hill, Debi Duggar, Keli Keyes, Shanna Fox, Lynda Norton, Cynthia Braaten, Joyce Bachman, Christine Vaughn, Katherine Heidegger, Jennifer Sowell, Kathryn Hawkins, Susan Lovell, Matha Vanderbult, Merri Elson, Minter Godson, Debra Meyer, Elizabeth Wagner, Amy Weingarh, Patricia McLarty, Loretta Myers, Janice Fite, Angrea Goodson, Elizabeth Graff, Deborah Tregler, Michele Gieseman, Sheri Gieger, Terri Hubbard, Elizabeth de Sousa, Brandy Polly, Deborah Natale Towles, Kristin Stokes, Jason Bowman, Amy Hamilton, Tara Cauthen, Heather Mills, Marlene Olszewski, Lisa Quigley, Michelle Sells, Deborah Smith, Kay Johnson, Judy Fitzgerald, and Cheri McElroy.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

12. [Public Speakers](#)

Minutes:

Speakers: Urging Board Members to vote against the Magistrate's Decision of the STAR Plan.

Beth Hines, Dana Kelly, Guy Whittington, Rhea McKinney, Polly Burkhart, Mary St. Denis, Jeremy Evanchesky, Susan Cameron-Cisco, Bill Kilpatrick, Elaine Andino, Kathleen Merritt, Anna Flannigan, Holly Sullivan, Victoria Hanover, Kiela Gallager, Deborah Zonner, Kevin Sanford, Melody Monroe, Wendy Stewman, Sharon Rodby, Bess Weber, Nancy Fish, Alice Kersey, Donna Oliver, Kim Koda, Joy Coleman, Shanna Fox, Christine Gardner, Linda Clayton, Julie Vess.

Approval of Minutes

13. [M-13 Approve Minutes of the February 13, 2007 Regular School Board Meeting](#)

Attachment: [021307 School Board Minutes.pdf](#)

Motions:

Approve minutes of the February 13, 2007 Regular School Board Meeting. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Tim Harris

Second: Kay Fields

Lori Cunningham	- Aye
Kay Fields	- Aye
Tim Harris	- Aye
Margaret Lofton	- Aye
Frank O'Reilly	- Aye
Brenda Reddout	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye

14. [M-14 Approve Minutes of the February 13, 2007 Grievance Hearing](#)

Attachment: [February 13 2007 McCall.doc](#)

Motions:

Motion to approve minutes of February 13, 2007 Grievance Hearing - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Kay Fields

Second: Brenda Reddout

Lori Cunningham	- Aye
Kay Fields	- Aye
Tim Harris	- Aye
Margaret Lofton	- Aye

Frank O'Reilly	- Aye
Brenda Reddout	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye

Approval of Consent Agenda

15. [C-15 Approve February 27, 2007 Consent Agenda](#)

Motions:	
Approve February 27, 2007 Consent Agenda	- PASS
Vote Results	
Motion: Brenda Reddout	
Second: Hazel Sellers	

Lori Cunningham	- Aye
Kay Fields	- Aye
Tim Harris	- Aye
Margaret Lofton	- Aye
Frank O'Reilly	- Aye
Brenda Reddout	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye

New Administrator Announcements

16. [Connie Lutzenhiser, Assistant Principal to Sandhill Elementary](#)

Consent

Administration - Office of School Choice

17. [C-17 2005-2006 Annual Independent Financial Charter Audits](#)
 Attachment: [BM Summary Annual Audits 2 27 07.doc](#)
 Attachment: [WS 2006 Charter Year End Financial.xls](#)

18. [C-18 First Modification to Berkley Charter School Contract](#)
Attachment: [School Parental Contract.doc](#)
Attachment: [Berkley Accountability Plan Submission 7.doc](#)
Attachment: [Drug Free Workplace Policy.pdf](#)
Attachment: [BM Summary Berkley Charter School Appendices 2 27 07.doc](#)
Attachment: [By Laws & Articles of Incorporation.pdf](#)
19. [C-19 First Modification to PCC Chain of Lakes Collegiate High School Contract](#)
Attachment: [Employee Handbook.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Drug Free Workplace Policy.doc](#)
Attachment: [BM Summary PCC Chain of Lakes Appendices 2 27 07.doc](#)
Attachment: [School Parental Contract.doc](#)
20. [C-20 Second Modification to Life Skills Center Polk County East Contract](#)
Attachment: [Articles and Bylaws.pdf](#)
Attachment: [BM Summary Life Skills Center East Appendices 2 27 07.doc](#)
Attachment: [Student Parent Contract.doc](#)
Attachment: [Drug Free Workplace Policy.pdf](#)
21. [C-21 First Modification to South McKeel Elementary Academy Contract](#)
Attachment: [Employee Handbook.pdf](#)
Attachment: [BM Summary South McKeel Elem Academy Appendices 2 27 07.doc](#)
Attachment: [By Laws & Articles of Incorporation.pdf](#)
Attachment: [School Parental Contract.pdf](#)
22. [C-22 Second Modification to McKeel Elementary Academy Contract](#)
Attachment: [BM Summary McKeel Elem Academy Appendices 2 27 07.doc](#)
Attachment: [By Laws & Articles of Incorporation.pdf](#)
Attachment: [School Parental Contract.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Employee Handbook.pdf](#)
23. [C-23 Second Modification to Our Children's Academy Contract](#)
Attachment: [School Parental Contract.doc](#)
Attachment: [Drug Free Workplace Policy.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Employee Handbook.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Disaster Preparedness Plan.pdf](#)
Attachment: [BM Summary Our Children's Academy Appendices 2 27 07.doc](#)
Attachment: [By Laws & Articles of Incorporation.pdf](#)

Business Services General Items

24. [C-24 Employee Honesty Bond](#)
Attachment: [20070213101312.pdf](#)
25. [C-25 Bid Recommendations for February 27, 2007 Board Meeting.](#)
Attachment: [Bid Rec 2-27-07.doc](#)
26. [C-26 December 2006 Monthly Financial Statements](#)
Attachment: [Dec 2006 Mon Fin Stmt Cover Memo.doc](#)
Attachment: [Dec 2006 Monthly Financial Stmt.pdf](#)

Business Services Budget Revisions

27. [C-27 January 2007 Budget Amendments](#)
Attachment: [12Bud Amend - General Fund 022707.xls](#)
Attachment: [Summary 02-27-07.doc](#)
Attachment: [13Bud Amend - Special Revenue 022707.xls](#)

28. [C-28 Budget Revision Request - Workforce Education](#)

Business Services Grant Applications

29. [C-29 Agriculture Education Challenge Grants Program](#)
Attachment: [Agriculture Challenge Grant Impact Form 07-09.doc](#)
Attachment: [School Board Summary Agriculture Challenge Grant 07-09.rtf](#)

30. [C-30 Laura Bush Foundation Grant](#)
Attachment: [School Board Summary Laura Bush 07-08.rtf](#)
Attachment: [Laura Bush Foundation 07-08 Impact Form.doc](#)

31. [C-31 Challenge Grant Collaborative Curriculum Project](#)
Attachment: [Challenge Grant Impact Form 07-08.doc](#)
Attachment: [School Board Summary Challenge Grant 07-08.rtf](#)

Business Services Contracts

32. [C-32 Xerox Printers Lease Agreement](#)
Attachment: [Xerox Lease Agreement.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Xerox Budget Analysis.doc](#)
Attachment: [Xerox Summary.doc](#)

Business Services Donations

33. [C-33 \\$500.00 Donation from Wayne Harris to Bethune Academy](#)
Attachment: [Acceptance of Donations Harris.doc](#)

34. [C-34 Printer Donation from US District Court](#)
Attachment: [Acceptance of Donations.doc](#)

35. [C-35 \\$1,500 Donation from the John & Martha Carter Foundation to Union Academy Magnet School](#)
Attachment: [DonationCarterFoundation.doc](#)

Business Services Purchasing Items for School Based Operations

36. [C-36 Procurement of Advanced Placement Tests for 2007 Administration](#)

Facilities & Operations General Items – Architectural Services

37. [C-37 Project #C-00149 Gibbons Street Elementary \(4 Classroom Addition\)](#)

38. [C-38 Project #C-00226 – Lake Shipp Elementary \(Buildings 2, 4 & 6 Renovations\)](#)

Facilities & Operations General Items – Construction Services

39. [C-39 Project #R-00918 - Southwest Elementary - Resurface Existing Parking & Bus Drive](#)
Attachment: [r918bidtab.doc](#)

40. [C-40 Project #R-00975 - Traviss Career Center - Resurface Existing Staff Parking](#)

Attachment: [r975bidtab.doc](#)

41. [C-41 Project #C-00171 - Jim Miles Professional Development Center - New Asphalt Parking](#)

Attachment: [C171bidtab.doc](#)

42. [C-42 Project #P-01030 - Kathleen Senior - Resurface Existing Parking with New Parking](#)

Attachment: [p1030bidtab.doc](#)

43. [C-43 Project #P-01102 - Berkley Elementary - Playcourt/Canopy](#)

44. [C-44 Project #P-00903 - Kathleen Senior - Pressbox Block/Masonry Installation](#)

Attachment: [P903bidtab.doc](#)

Facilities & Operations Contract Changes – Construction Services

45. [C-45 Project #C-00145 - Sleepy Hill Elementary - New Elementary School "I"](#)

Facilities & Operations School Improvement Project Requests

46. [C-46 Project #R-01075 - Lake Wales Senior - Resurface Track](#)

Human Resource Services General Items

47. [C-47 Recommend Approval of the Streamlined Substitute Teacher Employment Procedures](#)

Attachment: [HRS Substitute Teacher Training 2-27-07.pdf](#)

Human Resource Services Recommendations

48. [C-49 Recommendations for Non-Instructional Personnel](#)

Attachment: Termination Support Non-Instructional 2-27-07.pdf (Confidential Item)

Attachment: [NON-INSTRUCTIONAL AGENDA 2-27-07.pdf](#)

Minutes:

*****Approved personnel recommendations are recorded in**

Supplemental Book 68A- 07, pages 434 - 461.***

49. [C-50 Recommendations for Temporary Duty Assignments](#)

Attachment: [TDA 2-27-2007.pdf](#)

Minutes:

*****Approved personnel recommendations are recorded in**

Supplemental Book 68A- 07, pages 434 - 461.***

Human Resource Services Annual Items

50. [C-51 Recommendation for 2007-2008 School Calendars](#)

Attachment: [07-08 Calendars 2-27-07 Bd.pdf](#)

Learning General Items

51. [C-52 Polk County Schools Major Areas of Interest](#)
Attachment: [Major Areas of Interest.doc](#)

Regular

Administration General Items

52. [R-53 "BBB" High School Name Recommendation](#)

Minutes:

Motions:

Motion to approve naming High School "BBB" "Tenoroc High School. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Tim Harris

Second: Lori Cunningham

Lori Cunningham	- Aye
Kay Fields	- Aye
Tim Harris	- Aye
Margaret Lofton	- Aye
Frank O'Reilly	- Aye
Brenda Reddout	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye

Motion Minutes: Dr. Reddout asked that more time be scheduled for the process and historic factors be considered in future naming of schools.

Administration - Office of School Choice

53. [R-54 School Board Resolution for PCSB to apply as Exclusive Charter School Authorizer for Polk County](#)
Attachment: [DOE Clarification on Exclusive Authorization Application for March 2007.pdf](#)
Attachment: [BM Summary Exclusivity 2.27.07.doc](#)
Attachment: [DOE Response to Exclusivity Questions by Authorizers 1.31.07.pdf](#)
Attachment: [Resolution 2006 2007-23 on Charter School Authorizing 31 Jan 07 \(2\).doc](#)

Minutes:

Motions:

Motion to approve Resolution 2006/2007-23 to apply for exclusive authority to authorize charter schools in our district. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Kay Fields
Second: Hazel Sellers

Lori Cunningham	- Aye
Kay Fields	- Aye
Tim Harris	- Aye
Margaret Lofton	- Aye
Frank O'Reilly	- Aye
Brenda Reddout	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye

Administration - School Board

- 54. [R-55 School Board's Nominees for Charter Review Committee](#)
- Attachment: [R.W. Gustafson Resume 2-2-07.pdf](#)
- Attachment: [RATING SHEET-CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE 2-14-07.doc](#)
- Attachment: [Hunt Berryman Bio 2-2-07.doc](#)
- Attachment: [Denise Bates Chambers Resume 2-2-07.doc](#)

Motions:

Motion to approve nomination of Hunt Berryman to serve for a term of two years on the Charter Review Committee and R. W. Gustafson as the Alternate. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Brenda Reddout
Second: Frank O'Reilly

Lori Cunningham	- Aye
Kay Fields	- Aye
Tim Harris	- Aye

Margaret Lofton	- Aye
Frank O'Reilly	- Aye
Brenda Reddout	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye

Facilities & Operations General Items – Construction Services

55. [R-56 Authorization for Superintendent to approve Facilities Contracts/Contract Changes](#)

Motions:

Motion authorizing the Superintendent to approve Facilities contracts/contract changes costing \$25,000.00 and below. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Hazel Sellers

Second: Lori Cunningham

Lori Cunningham	- Aye
Kay Fields	- Aye
Tim Harris	- Aye
Margaret Lofton	- Aye
Frank O'Reilly	- Aye
Brenda Reddout	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye

Facilities & Operations General Items – Property Management (Land)

56. [R-57 Chain of Lakes Elementary - Utility Easement to City of Winter Haven](#)
Attachment: [Water & Sewer Esmt - City of WH.doc](#)

Motions:

Approval to grant the City of Winter Haven a public utility easement along the east 15' of the Chain of Lakes Elementary School property. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Brenda Reddout

Second: Kay Fields

Lori Cunningham	- Aye
Kay Fields	- Aye
Tim Harris	- Aye
Margaret Lofton	- Aye
Frank O'Reilly	- Aye
Brenda Reddout	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye

57. [R-58 Medulla Elementary - Drainage Easement to Polk County](#)

Attachment: [02 27 07 Polk County Drainage Esmt.doc](#)

Motions:

Approval to grant a drainage easement from the Medulla Elementary School property to Polk County. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Tim Harris

Second: Brenda Reddout

Lori Cunningham	- Aye
Kay Fields	- Aye
Tim Harris	- Aye
Margaret Lofton	- Aye
Frank O'Reilly	- Aye
Brenda Reddout	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye

Human Resource Services Recommendations

58. [C-48 Recommendations for Administrative and Instructional Personnel](#)

Attachment: [INSTRUCTIONAL AND HOURLY AGENDA 2-27-07.pdf](#)

Attachment: [INSTRUCTIONAL AGENDA 2-27-07 ADD Pg 12.pdf](#)

Attachment: Termination Support-Instructional 2-27-07.pdf (Confidential Item)

Minutes:

Mrs. Cunningham will abstain from voting because her husband is listed on the Administrative and Instructional Personnel Recommendations.

*****Approved personnel recommendations are recorded in**

Supplemental Book 68A- 07, pages 434 - 461.***

Motions:

Recommend Approval of Administrative and Instructional Personnel Recommendations - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Brenda Reddout

Second: Kay Fields

Lori Cunningham	- Abstain
Kay Fields	- Aye
Tim Harris	- Aye
Margaret Lofton	- Aye
Frank O'Reilly	- Aye
Brenda Reddout	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye

Public Hearing

59. [R-59 PUBLIC HEARING TO BEGIN NO EARLIER THAN 5:30 PM - 2006/07 Student Progression Plan](#)

Attachment: [Substantive Changes SPP 2_15_07.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Student Progression Plan 2_15_07.pdf](#)

Motions:

Approve Revisions to the 2006/2007 Student Progression Plan - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Kay Fields

Second: Hazel Sellers

Lori Cunningham	- Aye
Kay Fields	- Aye
Tim Harris	- Aye
Margaret Lofton	- Aye
Frank O'Reilly	- Aye
Brenda Reddout	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye

60. [R-60 Public Hearing: Special Magistrate's Report and Impasse with Polk Education Association](#)

Attachment: [STAR Plan 2-27-07 Bd.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Public Hearing - STAR.doc](#)

Attachment: [SCHOOL BOARD OF POLK COUNTY POLK COUNTY ED ASSOC \(2-506 HEARING\) \(2\).doc](#)

Minutes:

Dr. McKinzie reported that Robert Norton, of Allen Norton and Blue, will report on the position of the Superintendent and Marianne Capozziello, President of the Polk Education Association, will represent the position of the PEA.

Mr. Norton suggested the School Board not turn down \$4,900,000 from the State until a decision has been made on the Legislature's STAR Plan. Both sides have been under enormous legislative pressure to come to an agreement; and, for the immediate future, we must accept that Pay for Performance has been legislated for the State of Florida. When the benefits of adopting a state-funded, state approved STAR Plan are weighed against the glaring detriment of developing and locally funding a pay for performance plan, it is beyond legitimate dispute that the STAR Plan is the only viable alternative.

Maryanne Capozziello voiced her concern that the hearing will only further erode the trust that staff already has and bring morale down further. PEA feels that the Magistrate's decision is a bad call based upon the acceptance of faulty reasoning, half-truths and old data. Several school districts have rejected the STAR Plan or submitted their own 1012.22 Plan: Charlotte, Okaloosa, Highlands, Jefferson, Duval, Santa Rosa, Clay. It is understood that Pinellas will vote no on STAR tonight. Ms. Capozziello asked the Board to support teachers by not accepting the Legislature's STAR Plan. Stand with the Union and your teachers. Separate the issues: vote no on STAR and vote yes to salaries. Vote to support your teachers.

Board Discussion:

Mrs. Fields asked Mark Grey, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, to provide information on the \$88,000,000 the District received in new funds.

Mr. Grey gave a detailed report on the expenditures and explained that in addition to the \$88,000,000, the district reduced the fund balance by \$12,000,000 to help with this year's budget.

Hazel Sellers - Our current plan did not meet the Legislature's intent because teachers have to apply for the Pay for Performance.

Brenda Reddout - Everyone needs to call or visit Tallahassee and let them know of our dissatisfaction. Ask why they are trying to destroy public education.

Lori Cunningham - A vote for STAR, even though we don't like the plan, creates a division among teachers. However, the other option means we have to develop a similar plan and fund it ourselves.

Frank O'Reilly - The Superintendent and several Board Members traveled to Tallahassee to meet with Legislators and begged them to provide for teachers. Employees can be proud that Maryanne and the Superintendent have fought diligently on your behalf.

Superintendent McKinzie - Reported that her efforts and the Board's efforts in Tallahassee are true. Everyone is trying to massage the language to improve it. She suggested staff make their issues known to the Legislators.

Margaret Lofton - Traveled to Tallahassee and Washington, DC to discuss the STAR Plan, NCLB and other issues.

Motions:

Motion to separate the two issues and approve a 2.03% salary increase -

Vote Results

Motion: Tim Harris

Second:

Motion Minutes: Motion failed for lack of second.

Motions:

Motion to separate the two issues for separate votes. -

Vote Results

Motion: Tim Harris

Second:

Motion Minutes: Motion failed for lack of second.

Motions:

Motion to adopt the report and recommendations of Stanley H. Sergent, Special Magistrate, issued pursuant to Florida Statute 447, as amended, PERC Case No. SM-2006-044, and imposition of the recommended terms and conditions. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Lori Cunningham

Second: Kay Fields

Lori Cunningham	- Aye
Kay Fields	- Aye
Tim Harris	- Nay
Margaret Lofton	- Aye
Frank O'Reilly	- Aye
Brenda Reddout	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye

Superintendent's Report

61. [Superintendent's Report](#)

Minutes:

Congratulated Leah Lauderdale, Senior Director of Community Relations, and her staff for being awarded several Addys at the Imperial Advertising Federation Annual Awards Banquet. The department entered and won three awards: 1) tribute to teachers poster campaign during the 2006 Teacher Appreciation Week, 2) the development of our Sleepy Hill Elementary School logo, and 3) our printed tools campaign for our Teacher of the Year/School-Related Employee of the Year event. In addition, Fred Koehler won an award for the work he did for the Ad Fed organization. Competitors for the awards consists of local advertising/promotional agencies who do work for multiple clients and the corporate entities including Publix, Lakeland Regional Medical Center, and the Lakeland Center. We are very proud of the success and talents of our Community Relations Department.

Dr. McKinzie complimented Harrison School of the Arts students, directors and Dr. Craig Collins for performing at the Polk County Day in Tallahassee. In addition, Cecil McClellan, principal of Kathleen High School performed with his bluegrass band, "Never Fade".

The Superintendent voiced her appreciation to administration, teachers, paraeducators, school support personnel, volunteers, mentors, and parents for all they have done to prepare and assist our students to prepare for the FCAT.

There is only one scheduled School Board Meeting for the month of March.

The next scheduled work session will be held March 13, 2007 in the Superintendent's Conference Room at 8:30 a.m.

The next Regular School Board Meeting will be held on March 13, 2007 at 1:30 PM to be held in the School Board Auditorium, 1915 S. Floral Avenue, Bartow.

Attorney's Report

62. [Attorney's Report](#)

Minutes:

Notified the Board Members that he will schedule an Attorney/Client session to be held March 13, 2007.

Auditor's Report

Board Members' Report

63. [Frank O'Reilly, School Board Member District 1](#)

Minutes: No report.

64. [Lori Cunningham, School Board Member District 2](#)

Minutes:

Attended the Teacher of the Year and School-Related Employee of the Year Banquet along with her Board colleagues. It was truly an awesome event which featured eight finalists for each category and then the winner. Mrs. Cunningham congratulated the 2007 Teacher of the Year, Ms. Kristen Wells and the 2007 School Related Employee of the Year, Ms. Vernell White. Both of these fine educators have dedicated their lives to teaching children and making a difference in our schools. We salute you with pride and honor for your commitment to this most worthy profession. She acknowledged and thanked the many corporate, table, in-kind, awards and reception sponsors, without whom this fine event would not be possible.

Mrs. Cunningham attended the Florida School Boards Association's Annual Legislative Conference in Tallahassee along with several other School Board Members, Dr. McKinzie and several of her staff. It was very informative as legislative items affecting school districts around the state were discussed along with their impact on education. It is Ms. Cunningham's hope and desire that our Legislators enhanced education through responsible legislation and funding that will benefit students throughout the state.

Polk County Day was held in Tallahassee last week and it was a wonderful success. Ms. Cunningham thanked the Polk County Commission and staff for hosting such a great event. She was proud to be from Polk County with all the wonderful displays representing tourism, agriculture, mining, education, hospitality, and government. We are truly blessed to have such a diverse economy and kudos to all the individuals who attended and participated in this wonderful showcase of Polk County.

This is FCAT week; FCAT stands for Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test. Our students, teachers, and school staff have worked very hard to get ready for this time of year. The students are ready and will do the very best they can do to demonstrate their learning gains this year. Mrs. Cunningham attended a pre-FCAT celebration at Bethune Academy and those boys and girls are ready. Their slogan is "Pound the FCAT!" So, to all our great Polk County

children ..."POUND THE FCAT!"

Mrs. Cunningham voiced her appreciation of Bartow High School Principal Ron Pritchard for hosting tonight's School Board meeting.

65. [Hazel Sellers, School Board Member District 3](#)

Minutes:

Also attended Polk County Day in Tallahassee and she thanked all that helped to make the day such a success.

Attended the Mulberry Middle School FCAT Kick-off. There have been lots of activities preparing the students with the skills needed to take the test.

66. [Dr. Brenda Reddout, School Board Member District 4](#)

Minutes:

Congratulated the Winter Haven Blue Devils for winning the Girls' State Basketball Championship.

Several weeks ago she requested the District look at extending the school day to offer more options for students. In support of that idea, a recent newspaper article reported that Miami-Dade (and other districts throughout the nation) is looking at either an extended day or extended year program. She will do a letter writing campaign to the Legislators for a pilot program in Polk County.

67. [Kay Fields, School Board Member District 5](#)

Minutes: Congratulated Kathleen High School's Boys' Basketball team for winning the regional finals.

68. [Tim Harris, School Board Member District 7](#)

Minutes: No report.

69. [Margaret Lofton, School Board Chairman, District 6](#)

Minutes:

Played a DVD Video produced by our Community Relations Department to explain the District's concerns on the school calendar issue and its effect on dual enrollment and preparation for FCAT. She is asking Legislators to return local control to school districts.

Public Comments Addressing Items Not on Agenda

70. [Public Speakers](#)

Minutes:

Tami Hughes spoke regarding her autistic son's education and her complaint filed with DOE.

Dr. McKinzie reported that DOE has investigated her claims and we are currently responding to their findings. No changes will be made at this time until the report is complete.

Rhea McKinnie commented he would support addressing the legislators to return local control to school districts. He announced that Pinellas County voted against the STAR Plan.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:06 PM. Minutes were approved and attested this _____ day of March, 2007.

Margaret A. Lofton, Chairman

Gail F. McKinzie, Ph. D., Superintendent