

Volusia County Schools
~School Board Notes~

May 24, 2016
School Board Meeting

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

The school board approved assistant principal transfers, [assistant principal appointments](#), principal transfers, [principal intern appointments](#), [principal appointments](#) and an administrative appointment as shown on this [list](#).

RENEWAL OF EMPLOYEE BENEFIT CONTRACTS

The school board heard a [presentation](#) and approved renewal of agreements for insurance providing for employee health, dental, vision, life, personal accident and disability plans. The existing five health insurance plan offerings were reduced to four through the elimination of the PPO health insurance plan due to the federal health insurance tax. The HRA plan, which is similar to the PPO plan, will be continued. The following insurance agreements were renewed:

1. Florida Blue HRA plan, Florida Health Care HMO, Triple Option, and Point of Service plan under the two-year ProShare offer from the carrier as previously recommended to the board by the superintendent for a one year term, October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017, and extension of a subsequent one-year term unless terminated by the district;
2. Delta Dental and Delta Care with no plan design changes resulting in a 2.1% rate increase for two years, October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2018;
3. Hartford Personal Accident Insurance with no plan design changes resulting in a 0% increase for the second year of a two year contract, October 1, 2015, through September 30, 2017;
4. UNUM Disability Insurance with no changes to plan design resulting in a 0% rate increase for one year, October 1, 2016, through September 30, 2017;
5. UNUM Life Insurance with no changes to plan design resulting in a 0% rate increase for two years, October 1, 2016, through September 30, 2018; and
6. Humana Vision Insurance with no changes to plan design or rates – second year of a two (2) year contract ending on September 30, 2017.

In light of the board's impasse resolution decision on May 18, 2016, the proposed health insurance agreement renewal will result in a free health insurance plan being offered in the upcoming health insurance plan year and a savings of \$240 annually on the premium for individual employee coverage. That plan, the Point of Service Plan, qualifies for a gold medal rating on the federal marketplace. This also provides a health insurance program that is consistent with, or exceeds the value of, health insurance plans offered by our

surrounding school districts. For example, Flagler County Schools offers the equivalent of a lesser rated plan, silver, for nearly \$54 per month and higher deductible. Brevard County Schools also offers the equivalent of a gold medal plan, but for nearly \$107 per month.

NAMING OF MAINLAND HIGH'S MEDIA AND LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The school board approved naming Mainland High's 21st Century Media and Learning Environment "Graham's Galleon" in honor of Patsy Graham, who retired after 33 years of continuous and dedicated service to the children of Volusia County. Mrs. Graham was a teacher, guidance counselor, director, and assistant principal before being named principal of Mainland. She worked tirelessly assisting in the design of the new Mainland campus.

MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING, PLANTATION OAKS – SECOND AMENDMENT

The school board approved a second amendment to the [memorandum of understanding](#) with Plantation Oaks, Ormond Beach, for the dedication of an alternate school site and upfront payment of school impact fees in the amount of \$500,000. The alternative site is adjacent to Westside Elementary School and will enable renovations and additions to be conducted at that school which is 120% over its permanent capacity and currently has eight portables on its campus.

POLICIES – 600 SERIES – GOVERNING FACILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION

The school board approved adopting amendments to the school board policies governing facilities and construction: Policies 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608 and 609 to comply with state law or best practices in the industry. No changes have been made to the proposed amendments since its last presentation to the board on February 23, 2016.

- [Policy 601](#) governs the requirements for design professionals for construction projects. The current policy mandates at least \$1 million in professional liability insurance for design professionals. The proposed amendment increases the minimum professional liability insurance requirements to up to \$5 million;
- [Policy 602](#) implements the state law governing the requirements for the selection of professionals for the design of capital projects. The proposed amendment updates the selection committee process to reflect existing district organizational structure and the participation of finance staff;
- [Policy 603](#) requires the district to maintain school design guidelines and board approved form contracts. The proposed amendment is non-substantive and revises reference to the board approved construction contract rather than the title of a previously approved contract template.
- [Policy 604](#) governs the requirements for the prequalification of contractors. The process is extensively regulated by state law. Language contained in state regulations has been proposed for deletion to avoid any conflict with state requirements and avoid the necessity of future amendments as state requirements are changed in the future.
- [Policy 605](#) governs the requirements for different design and construction techniques authorized by law. The proposed amendment is non-substantive and limited to updating the reference to construction managers with construction management firms.
- [Policy 606](#) governs the competitive solicitation requirements for construction contracts. State law requires formal competitive sealed bids for construction projects in excess of

\$300,000. The proposed amendments would apply more restrictive bidding requirements by requiring bidding for all construction projects in excess of \$100,000. This is consistent with existing district guidelines outside of board policy. The proposed amendments increased the threshold for obtaining quotes for minor construction projects from \$25,000 to \$35,000.

- [Policy 607](#) governs the payment and performance bond requirements for school construction projects. The proposed amendment is intended to reflect industry practice and permit the reduction of bond retainage upon one-half completion of a project.
- [Policy 608](#) governs the requirements for construction contract change orders. The proposed amendment provides more restrictive change order limits than required by state law by: 1) requiring board approval for those amounting to \$35,000 or more; 2) requiring board approval when the cumulative total of change orders exceeds 10% or \$300,000, whichever is less, of the contract price; and 3) prohibiting the split of change orders to avoid the board approval threshold.
- [Policy 609](#) governs the requirements for compliance with state building codes for school construction. The proposed amendment is non-substantive and merely updates the reference to the district to conform to other policies.

SUPERINTENDENT'S 2015-16 EVALUATION INSTRUMENT AND PROCESS TIMELINE

The school board approved the instrument to be used to evaluate the superintendent, which each school board member will complete individually. Chairman Wright and Attorney Ted Doran will meet to combine the ratings into one, which will be presented to the school board for approval on June 14.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The school board approved the consent agenda, including the following items:

- Twenty Deltona High students to travel to Nashville, Tennessee from June 22-26, 2016 to attend the International HOSA conference
- Submittal to the Lois Lenski Covey Foundation a grant for the [Pierson Elementary](#) and [Starke Elementary](#) media centers for the 2016-17 school year in the amount of \$2,400 and \$2,906, respectively
- Submittal to the Scholarship Management Services a [grant](#) for the DeLand Middle ESE program for the 2016-17 school year in the amount of \$2,000
- [2017-18 school calendar](#)
- Purchase of cafeteria furniture to refurbish cafeterias in various elementary, middle and high school dining rooms using capital funds from School Way Café not to exceed \$575,000

NEXT SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Workshop: Tuesday, June 10, **8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.**, Bethune-Cookman University

Regular Meeting: Tuesday, June 14, **5:30 p.m.**, DeLand Administrative Complex, 200 N. Clara Ave., DeLand,

During school board meetings, a live audio broadcast can be accessed from the School District of Volusia County's website at <http://myvolusiaschools.org>.

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