

Volusia County Schools
~School Board Notes~

February 23, 2016
School Board Meeting

SCHOOL DISTRICT UPDATE

The school board heard a [presentation](#) regarding state funding. As compared to this year's 3rd calculation, overall the Senate proposal provides \$815,000 more than the House for a total of \$10,338,000. However, the base student allocation (BSA) is \$22.37 more in the House proposal. It is also the first time since 2007-08 the BSA is higher.

The DCD (District Cost Differential) decreased from .9701 to .9689, which means Volusia will send additional dollars back to Tallahassee for redistribution. The Senate budget provides almost \$2 million more in ESE Guaranteed Allocation, but does not include wording that it won't be recalculated. Supplemental Academic Instruction (SAI) provides \$656,000 more under the Senate budget, but Digital Learning is provided \$289,000 more under the House bill.

The school board was also provided an update regarding scoring and action taken by GCA, the firm that provides custodial services for the school district. School board members requested to go along on an inspection to see how schools are scored.

DISTRICT AND SCHOOL GRADES

The school board heard a [presentation](#) regarding the district's grade, which increased from a C to a B. It is important to note that learning gains were not part of the formula to calculate the grade because this is considered a baseline year. Two-thirds of schools are now an A or B and 38% of schools are A rated. Going forward, a different model will be used than in previous years and will include learning gains.

POLICIES – 600 SERIES – GOVERNING FACILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION

The school board approved advertising amendments proposed 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. The first draft of these revisions were presented to the board on May 12, 2015, and have been subsequently revised.

- [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.

NAMING NEW SMYRNA BEACH MIDDLE SCHOOL BASEBALL FIELD

The school board approved naming the baseball field at New Smyrna Beach Middle School the “Eugene ‘Bo’ Evans Baseball Field. Coach Evans, who passed away last August, was a life-long resident of Oak Hill, a graduate of New Smyrna Beach High School, and a compassionate coach to the students at New Smyrna Beach junior high and middle school for over 30 years.

RECOGNITIONS

The school board recognized:

- [Pine Ridge High](#) School's Head Athletic Trainer Joelle Houser and her team of student athletic trainers for their efforts to comply with the rigorous standards necessary to qualify for the Safe School Sports award. Pine Ridge High School has been named a Safe Sports School by the National Athletic Trainers Association.

- High school students who earned first place rankings in leadership events from Florida FFA State Convention:

[DeLand High](#) – Brett Brandner and Amanda Johnson, advisors

- Michael Austin, Brianna Edwards, Jenna Girman and Trevor Rosso - 2015 State Champion Livestock Judging Team
- Haley Stark - Individual - 2015 Swine Proficiency Winner
- Mason Bishop - Individual - 2015 Ag Service Proficiency Winner

[Pine Ridge High](#) – Charlotte Roberts and Cera Troy, advisors

Chloe Burke, Summer Chalfant, Bethany Hirt, Tylre Potter, Hunter Richardson, Gabrielle Sasser and Nick Sutton - 2015 State Champion Agriculture Issues Team

[Taylor High](#) – Kyle Hearn and Amanda Forstater, advisors

Morgan Gray - High Individual in the State Livestock Evaluation

[University High](#) – Heather Sniff, advisor

- Hunter Pepin - Individual - 2015 State Champion Agriscience Fair - Environmental Resources/Natural Resource Systems
- Abby Marion – Agricultural Communications Proficiency Winner

- STEM Alliance winners - drawing on leadership that initially formed the PRISM Project (a 10-county initiative devoted to Promoting Regional Improvement in Science and Math), the STEM Alliance of Central Florida is an expanded effort to bring business, industry, and higher education leaders into a strategic partnership in support of the region's public school system. Below are this year's STEM Alliance winners:

[Middle School Science](#)

Alisha Afridi, Hinson Middle
 Caroline Cairns, DeLand Middle
 Lucas Compton, Hinson Middle
 Jack Ramshaw, Hinson Middle
 Dallas Remsburg, Silver Sands Middle
 Brendan Ryan, Creekside Middle

[Middle School Mathematics](#)

Sandra Hernandez, Taylor Middle - High
 Destiny Martinez, Silver Sands Middle
 Alejandro Morales, Creekside Middle
 Maddison Robbins, DeLand Middle
 Renee' Sanders, Hinson Middle
 Amber Leigh Zaragosa, Hinson Middle

[High School Science](#)

August DeBerri, Mainland High

Phasin Gonzalez, Mainland High
Rosalie Morrissey, Mainland High
Miraj Patel, Mainland High
Josh Pollock, Spruce Creek High
Dalton Price, Spruce Creek High
Brianna Zuckerman, Mainland High

High School Mathematics

Maximilian Blasko, Atlantic High
Anna Hostetter, Deltona High
Heavyn Vanleer, Atlantic High
Anna Wuest, Atlantic High
Brianna Wise, Atlantic High

STEM Alliance Secondary Excellence in Science/Mathematics Teaching

Melanie Jenkins, Deltona High, science, and Michael Chase, Deltona High, mathematics

STEM Alliance Elementary Excellence in Science/Mathematics Teaching

Tammy Ciaramella, Chisholm Elementary, science, and Patricia Johnson, Chisholm Elementary, mathematics

- Cody Carrier, Spruce Creek High School junior, for being named the Sunshine State Scholar and Anna Hostetter, Deltona High School junior, for being named the Sunshine State Scholar runner-up. Florida school districts select their top 11th grade student in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) based on established criteria.
- Thirty-three 33 students who received scholastic awards:

Gold Key Award Winners and Gold Key Portfolio Winners

DeLand High - Bryan Carson, art teacher

Naeyma Ahmed
BreeAnna Duell
Ashley Fernandez
Jessica Fuller
Sarah Gaudreault
Nidhi Patel

New Smyrna Beach High, Christine Colby, art teacher

Claudia Behringer-Smith
Jessica Parker
Laityn Russell, 2 Gold Keys
Starr Shaver

New Smyrna Beach High, Tina Curry, art teacher

Ashly Barker, 2 Gold Keys, Gold Key Portfolio and American Vision Nominee
Ashlyn Gamble, Gold Key and Gold Key Portfolio
Shannon McCaddon
Dillon Murphy, Gold Key and Gold Key Portfolio
Danielle Shreffler
Noah Sturles
Skye Williams

New Smyrna Beach High, Liz Phillips, art teacher

Ashley Teagarden

Spruce Creek High, Bruno Moskola, art teacher

Emily Nakamura, 4 Gold Keys and Gold Key Portfolio
Nicole Weir, Gold Key and Gold Key Portfolio

Seabreeze High, Lisa Botkin, art teacher

Alyssa Hopper
Rachael Maccio
Calyssa Nowviskie, 2 Gold Keys

[Silver Key Portfolio Winners](#)

New Smyrna Beach High, Christine Colby, art teacher

Anthony Peer

New Smyrna Beach High, Tina Curry, art teacher

Elena DeMarco
Dalton Hadley
Julianna Jacono
Dorothy Martin
Tulsi Patel
Matthew Sanders
Taylor Titus
Amber Zeigler

Spruce Creek High, Bruno Moskola, art teacher

Alexis Taylor

- Anthony Peer, New Smyrna Beach High senior, for being named the 2016 K-12 National Ceramics Exhibition winner. Anthony's winning ceramic art was a ceramic box. Ms Christine Colby is his art teacher.

RESOLUTIONS

The school board approved the following resolutions:

- [Read Across America Day](#), March 2
- [Music in Our Schools Month](#), March 2016

- [Theatre in our Schools Month](#), March 2016
- [Youth Art Month](#), March 2016

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

- Collegiate High School [agreement](#) with Daytona State College, which will allow high school students to apply to the Collegiate High School Program at the end of their tenth or eleventh grade year. These students may begin the program in the fall semester of their eleventh or twelfth grade year. The dollar amount is contingent on the number of students who participate in the program, the standard tuition per student per semester and cost of textbooks.
- An [addendum](#) to the Dual Enrollment Articulation agreement to add a new certificate program, Building Trades and Construction Design Technology. The program was developed at the request of the Volusia Manufacturing Association. This addition will allow eligible high school students to enroll in the program the summer semester of 2016. The cost for textbooks and tuition will be determined by the number of students who participate in the program.
- Forty-three Deltona High students to [travel](#) to Atlanta, GA in March to perform at the Dixie Classic Band Festival.
- Twenty-three Spruce Creek High students to [travel](#) to Savannah, GA in March to participate in the Jazz Band Performance at the Swing Central Jazz Competition.

NEXT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Regular Meeting: Tuesday, March 15, **5:30 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>.

To view prior editions of School Board Notes, please visit: <http://myvolusiaschools.org>. Click on School Board, then click on School Board Notes in the left column. To add or remove your name from the mailing list, please e-mail VCS Community Information at CommunityInformation@volusia.k12.fl.us.