

Volusia County Schools
~School Board Notes~

October 27, 2015
School Board Meeting

SCHOOL DISTRICT UPDATE

The school board was provided a financial update regarding the capital outlay fund and general fund. The district is in the process of repairing and replacing aging infrastructure, including air conditioning systems, technology and many other projects that have been on hold over the last several years.

The fund balance level and past reliance on using it to fund operations is a huge concern. There is a \$6 million projected deficit for this fiscal year. The good news is the district has reduced its reliance on the fund balance by about half and has begun working on a 3-5 year fund balance restoration plan to restore it to a healthy level. Volusia's student enrollment on October 15 was 800-1000 students over projections, which could mean an increase in aid for fiscal year 2015-16 that will not be known until late spring. It should be noted last year the district expected an additional \$1.8 million in revenue due to an increase in student enrollment, but received \$500,000 less than projected because the state pro-rates a set amount of aid statewide.

The current projection for fiscal year 2016-17 state funding shows an increase statewide of 1.47%, but there is no breakdown by district at this time.

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The school board heard a [report](#) about the improvement plan for athletic facilities at high schools ([appendices](#)). The plan recognized the role athletics play in supporting student achievement and prioritized capital projects for high school athletics based on existing conditions, equity between sports and schools, the voter approved project list for the half cent sales tax, and the assumption that no debt would be incurred to pay for the improvements. Staff will continue to collaborate with athletic directors to prioritize needs.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

The school board heard a presentation regarding the employee health insurance selection process for the plan year 2016-17. Volusia County Schools' costs were compared to surrounding districts and the request for proposal (RFP) that was scheduled for release November 2 was discussed. The board directed staff to negotiate rates with current providers and return on November 10 to discuss the outcome before they make a decision on releasing or delaying the RFP.

CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION REFUNDING

The school board heard a presentation regarding an opportunity to refund the 2007 series Certificates of Participation (COPS) at a present net value savings of approximately \$6 million, equivalent to \$400,000 per year. Formal documents will be brought back to the board in December for possible early January 2016 sale.

RECOGNITIONS

The school board recognized 28 Superintendent's Outstanding Achievement Award nominees and winner. This annual award honors support staff who have demonstrated outstanding commitment, teamwork, cooperation and innovation in the workplace. [Ms. Carrie Fiorica](#), principal's secretary at Sunrise Elementary School, was selected as the winner for 2015. Photos were taken of those in attendance with board members: [Mrs. Costello](#), [Mrs. Wright](#), [Mrs. Cuthbert](#), [Dr. Hill](#), [Mrs. Johnson](#).

Margaret Sewell	Alternative Education
Kathy Haffa	Atlantic High
Robin Nestock	Citrus Grove Elementary
Janet Simmons	Coronado Beach Elementary
Bonnie Repicky	DeLand High
Lois Fuller	DeLand Middle
Lyndia P. Dickens	Deltona High
Julie Crouch	Edgewater Public
Eileen Wright	Enterprise Elementary
Sigrid "Sid" Wire	George Marks Elementary
Sheila Walters	Heritage Middle
Suzanne Elizabeth Genthner	Hinson Middle
Donna M. Reed	Longstreet Elementary
Harry Austin, Jr.	New Smyrna Beach High
Darline Pishnery	New Smyrna Beach Middle
Tammi Clerkin	Ormond Beach Elementary
Ann Strader	Ortona Elementary
Nordica Townsend	Osceola Elementary
Debra Mues	Pride Elementary
Juanita Evans	River Springs Middle
Sandra Cicero	South Daytona Elementary
Tina M. Daraio	Spruce Creek Elementary
Marquita White	Starke Elementary
Gary Lester	Sweetwater Elementary
Cyd Snider	Woodward Avenue Elementary

Jeri (Dee Dee) Marquart	Federal Programs
Lydia Henning	Human Resources
Miriam Gaylord	Professional Development & Support

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

- grant [application](#) to the Florida Department of Education to implement and support activities at six schools that are designed to increase student achievement: Blue Lake, Indian River, Starke, Sunrise elementaries, Campbell Middle and Holly Hill K-8
- renewal of an [agreement](#) with School Partnerships to host its web-based advertisements for other school districts on Volusia’s servers and advertising management platform; providing for five percent of gross revenue in return
- memorandum of [agreement](#) with the city of South Daytona to provide a school resource officer at South Daytona Elementary school for three years at no cost to the school board

NEXT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Regular Meeting: Tuesday, November 10, 4 p.m., DeLand Administrative Complex, 200 N. Clara Ave., DeLand

Organizational Session: Tuesday, November 17, 9 a.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>.

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