

Inverness, Florida
May 22, 2018

A Special Meeting was held at the District Services Center located at 1007 West Main Street, Inverness, Florida on Tuesday, May 22, 2018. Present: Sandra Himmel – Superintendent; Mike Mullen – Assistant Superintendent; Douglas A. Dodd – Chairman, Thomas Kennedy – Vice Chairman, School Board Members: Virginia Bryant, Sandra Counts, Linda B. Powers and R. Wesley Bradshaw, School Board Attorney.

SPECIAL MEETING

Chairman Dodd opened the Special Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

He shared there is a time certain 9:30 a.m. when Sheriff Prendergast will be attending the Special Meeting to discuss School Resource Officers (SRO).

Linda Powers had opening exercise and reflected on the loss of Chris Gangler and asked everyone to take a moment of silence in prayer. Mrs. Powers then asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA AS RECOMMENDED BY SUPERINTENDET

Virginia Bryant moved for the adoption of the agenda as recommended by the Superintendent; seconded by Sandra Counts, and carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

PRESENTATION

- A. Presentation of the Overview of the Proposed Facilities and Construction 5-Year Work Plan

Jonny Bishop, Executive Director of School Support Services asked Eric Stokes, Director of Facilities, Construction, & Maintenance, to update the Board on the five-year work plan. Mr. Stokes presented a power point (copy in supplemental file) of a brief overview of the projects the District is working towards for the next five years. Chairman Dodd inquired about the future plans for Floral City Elementary project regarding the replacement of the portables. Mr. Bishop shared that due to the new mandate placed upon the District to harden schools for safety, the monies are not available at this time. He stated the District is very mindful of the request from the Board regarding Floral City Elementary but needs to find a funding source. Discussion ensued regarding the needs for Floral City Elementary School.

SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES, JONNY BISHOP

A. Human Resources, Suzy Swain

Approved Instructional and Support Recommendations

Suzy Swain, Director of Human Resources requested approval of the Instructional and Support Recommendations as listed on the goldenrod.

Sandra Counts moved to approve the Instructional and Support Recommendations as listed on the goldenrod; seconded by Virginia Bryant and carried unanimously. Ms. Swain shared the number of current openings and shared that Monday, July 30, 2018 would be the new teacher orientation at Citrus High School.

B. Risk Management, Cheri Cernich

Approved the Funding of Safe Schools Officers pursuant to Florida Statute 1006.12

Superintendent Himmel asked Mr. Bishop to summarize his prior meeting with Sheriff Prendergast regarding the School Resource Officer (SRO) program. Mr. Bishop began by stating it is the District's desire to maintain a good relationship with the Citrus County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) and have them continue to provide security at the schools. He shared that during that conversation, Sheriff Prendergast stated he would have to lease vehicles to get the cost down to \$1.1 million. Mr. Bishop invited Sheriff Prendergast to the podium to discuss his ideas for the SRO program and to answer questions. The Sheriff stated his first concerns were to provide a safe environment for students and staff. Mrs. Counts asked Sheriff Prendergast to explain the Guardian Program and he shared that the difference between the Guardians and Law Enforcement Officers was their training. Discussion ensued regarding the funding for Sheriff Prendergast's proposal. Chairman Dodd asked for clarification of the number of positions this would include. Sheriff Prendergast explained it would be for 25 positions, which includes three full time supervisors over the SRO program. Chairman Dodd stated he believes the offer from the CCSO is something that should be seriously considered. Mrs. Powers asked Sheriff Prendergast why he objects to the Guardian program. She shared she knows individuals that are trained and very willing to help. Sheriff Prendergast reiterated the very extensive training for law enforcement officers. He shared his concerns and discussion ensued. Superintendent Himmel stated the District needs direction from the Board regarding Sheriff Prendergast's proposal. She made it clear that it is everyone's position to keep the students safe. Ms. Counts inquired if the contract would remain the same as prior contracts. Discussion ensued regarding a new contract and Attorney Bradshaw stated it would have to be reviewed on an annual basis. Discussion continued regarding how the program will operate.

Mr. Kennedy moved to accept entering into a contract with the CCSO for the 2018-2019 school year to cover 22 schools plus 3 additional supervisors for \$1.1 million; seconded by Ms. Counts. Mr. Bradshaw shared that it will be a renewal contract. A vote was taken and carried unanimously. Chairman Dodd shared his appreciation of the Sheriff being present and Sheriff Prendergast thanked the Board for taking the lead in working this out and taking a strong stand to lead the State in taking care of the students.

ATTORNEY, LEGAL MATTERS

None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT NEEDS TO COME BEFORE THE SCHOOL BOARD

Mrs. Powers shared the Abilities Fine Arts Gala and Reception is on June 29th.

Ms. Counts shared her excitement for all graduations and retirement celebrations.

Mr. Kennedy made a proposal to the Board asking if they would, at a future date, make a proclamation to have a Chris Gangler Day.

Chairman Dodd stated the Board will be sending flowers to Chris Gangler's Memorial Service.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Dodd adjourned the Special Meeting at 10:53 a.m.

Douglas A. Dodd
Chairman

Sandra Himmel
Superintendent