

**CITY OF TEMPLE TERRACE, FLORIDA
SCHOOL SUPPORT COMMITTEE
REPORT OF MEETING**

**Monday, April 26, 2010
Conference Room – City Hall
5:00 p.m.**

The Temple Terrace School Support Committee met on Monday, April 26, 2010, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall.

PRESENT WERE: Chairman Cynthia Mohler, and School Support Members Joseph A. Affronti Jr. (arrived at 5:30 p.m.), Gwen S. Mora, and Abdelelah Mostafa. **ABSENT WERE:** School Support Members Susan Grzybowski and Jennifer Penoyer.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Council Liaison Alison Fernandez, Legislative Secretary Sobeida LeBlanc, Inglis Wiley, Dr. Jack R. Lamb, Hillsborough County School Board District 3, and George Gaffney, Area III Director.

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. by Chairman Mohler.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Since there wasn't a quorum present at the commencement of the meeting, approval of the minutes from the previous meeting was moved to the end of the meeting.

A. Persons Wishing to be Heard:

Dr. Jack Lamb stated Quality Assurance is now taking place in the district. He explained a 40-member team is out visiting schools and on Wednesday afternoon they will find out the results. He said he has heard feedback and has a feeling the results will be very positive, which would mean that all 226 schools in the district would be fully accredited.

School Support Member Mostafa asked if the group is visiting all schools. Dr. Lamb responded the group randomly selected various schools, including special centers, elementary, middle, and high schools.

George Gaffney added the group also requested school improvement plans, demographic reports, free and reduced lunch reports, and other data for each school. He explained, last week a sub-committee of the group selected 36 schools to visit and last night he was informed that four more were selected.

Mr. Gaffney said that all the schools were told to prepare themselves; therefore, the district felt comfortable that all schools would do fine. He briefly explained the process the selected schools were going through, which includes interviews with the principals, teachers, students, and even custodians.

School Support Member Mora asked for an update on Riverhills Elementary School. Mr. Gaffney responded this school lost their principal; Dr. Scaglione is going to be the new principal at Hill Middle School. He said they had to advertise the position for Riverhills and are in the process of receiving applications. Tomorrow, he said, he will be putting together a committee to help pick the next principal.

Dr. Lamb stated his February meeting of the District III schools was held at Riverhills Elementary School; the school looked beautiful and was complimented by a lot of people.

Mr. Gaffney reported he has a meeting scheduled with Leisure Services Director James Chambers to review the status of the Riverhills playground.

Council Liaison Fernandez updated the Committee on the playground at Riverhills. She explained Riverhills Elementary School and the City of Temple Terrace share the park and playground. She continued, that because this park has a parking lot and is centrally located, it was decided it would make a really nice park; therefore, it will be a multi-use park where children with disabilities will have something to do.

Council Liaison Fernandez informed the Committee about the upcoming fundraiser on May 15th at Ridgedale Park: a softball game between the City's Fire and Police Departments, vendors, a glow-in-the-dark golf tournament, a movie on the golf course, and a fund-raising campaign called "Give Me Five." She said it is a free, family event and encouraged everyone to attend.

Council Liaison Fernandez emphasized that this park is not only for children with mobility issues, but also for adults that cannot take their children to a park because they (the adults) can't get around; everyone will be able to navigate this park.

Council Liaison Fernandez said there should be a link to "Clouds of Hope" on the City's website, but if not, she will look into having it put up. Also, she said, there will be a formal presentation made to the City Council on May 4th, which will demonstrate some of the equipment that will be incorporated in this park. She encouraged everyone to attend or watch from home.

Mrs. Wiley asked whether the park is going to be totally dismantled or additions will be made to it. Council Liaison Fernandez responded it will be completely removed from the ground.

Council Liaison Fernandez requested that the Committee encourage citizens to go out and visit the schools, and talk to administrators when obtaining information about the schools, versus making decisions based on "hearsay."

B. Unfinished Business:

1. King High 50th Anniversary Celebration & Homecoming Weekend

School Support Member Mora asked Council Liaison Fernandez, Dr. Lamb, and Mr. Gaffney to mark October 29, 2010, on their calendars as they will be invited guests to King's very first "King Pride Luncheon." She said she hopes to see them there as it will be a big event at the Temple Terrace Golf and Country Club. She said invitations will be mailed to them in the future.

School Support Member Mora updated the Committee with the different events that will take place starting Thursday, October 28th through Saturday, October 30th, in honor of King High School's 50th year.

C. New Business:**1. 2010 Temple Terrace Reads**

School Support Member Mora informed the Committee that Saturday, October 16, 2010, is the confirmed date for the event. She expressed appreciation for the Fire Chief going the extra mile in organizing things around this date. She said this is the only date that does not conflict with any of the schools.

Dr. Lamb confirmed with School Support Member Mora that the event will be held at Temple Terrace Elementary School.

Chairman Mohler said that in speaking with a parent, they expressed concern about all the changes going on with FCAT testing; she questioned whether they could have an FCAT info booth at Terrace Reads with someone from the District knowledgeable on the issue, who can explain things well to the parents. Dr. Lamb suggested the Committee contact Wynne Tye, the person in charge of curriculum.

School Support Member Mora stated there should be a Terrace Reads planning meeting in May; she will email the Committee the date and time of the meeting in case anyone wishes to attend.

2. Meetings Schedule

Chairman Mohler stated the Committee usually decides when to meet on a month-to-month basis. She suggested they come up with a "solid" schedule for at least the remainder of this calendar year. After some discussion the Committee agreed to meet:

- Monday, May 24, 2010 at 5:00 p.m., to discuss grant evaluations;
- Monday, August 23, 2010 at 5:00 p.m., to discuss plans for the fall;
- Monday, September 27, 2010 at 5:00 p.m., to discuss school meetings, Terrace Reads, and King High School's celebration; and
- Monday, October 25, 2010 at 5:00 p.m., to discuss "post" Terrace Reads and grants.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Upon motion of School Support Member Mora, seconded by School Support Member Affronti, and unanimously carried, the **REPORT** of the February 22, 2010, meeting was **APPROVED**.

D. Reports:**1. School Liaisons' Updates**

School Support Member Mora reported that King High School is having their volunteers breakfast tomorrow morning at 8:30 a.m.

Council Liaison Fernandez encouraged the Committee to attend the Town Hall Meeting taking place this evening at 6:00 p.m. at the Temple Terrace Library.

Chairman Mohler said she attended Lewis Elementary School's carnival on Friday; it was a huge event, bigger than last year's.

School Support Member Mostafa reported on Terrace Community Middle School.

E. Announcements:

Mr. Gaffney thanked the Committee for their support of the schools; he has seen nice cooperation between the City and the District the last three years. He emphasized they all share the same interests with respect to the children and the schools. Also, he commented the Chamber of Commerce's student luncheon last Wednesday was really nice; the presenters were great and it was wonderful to see all those students acknowledged for their hard work.

Dr. Lamb agreed with Mr. Gaffney's statement, adding the progress made by the Committee is phenomenal.

F. Adjournment:

There being no further business to consider, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sobeida LeBlanc
Legislative Secretary