

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

**Monday, May 24, 2010
Conference Room – City Hall
5:00 p.m.**

The Temple Terrace School Support Committee met on Monday, May 24, 2010, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall.

PRESENT WERE: Chairman Cynthia Mohler, and School Support Members Joseph A. Affronti Jr., Susan Grzybowski, Gwen S. Mora, Abdelelah Mostafa and Jennifer Penoyer.

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Mohler.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Upon motion of School Support Member Affronti, seconded by School Support Member Mohler, and unanimously carried, the **REPORT** of the April 26, 2010, meeting was **APPROVED**.

A. Persons Wishing to be Heard:

Dr. Jack Lamb stated the District is starting their graduation schedule, which is a very busy time. He said he will be attending a total of nine graduations. Mr. Gaffney added things are going pretty well; the worst news he has received is that King High School's baseball team was defeated today. He said he wasn't too excited when he heard that, but it is great they got this far, which is the first time in 35 years that they made it to the State finals.

Mr. Gaffney continued the District is anxiously awaiting some test scores to come in. Other than that, he said, they are really busy planning for next school year.

School Support Member Mora requested an update on Riverhills Elementary School. Mr. Gaffney responded the school has a new principal, Ms. Betty Baldwin, who came from Forest Elementary School, and has a lot of experience. He said she will be "official" effective June 1st, but has already hired three new teachers in the transfer period.

Mr. Gaffney reported that posted today in the Administrative Bulletin was another opening in Temple Terrace for Lewis Elementary School. Dr. Lamb explained that, due to changes in the Legislation, a lot of their staff that were going to put off retirement have now decided to retire rather than get penalized. Mr. Gaffney added the position will be posted for two weeks.

Mr. Gaffney said they will be putting together a screening committee to meet the applicants and ask them a few questions. He clarified it is the Superintendent's job to recommend to the Board who to hire; therefore, this process is more like a "meet and greet" to get to know the applicants. School Support Member Mora complimented Mr. Gaffney for the interview questions he came up with for the principals' interview process. She suggested he revise a few of the questions to better suit the needs of Lewis Elementary School, since it is such a different school.

Mr. Gaffney informed that Ms. Elia has requested that the District look at implementing a math/engineering type program as an attractor for Riverhills Elementary School. He said that will tie in real well with Greco Middle School's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Academy and King High School's Robotics and Engineering Program; the process is already in motion.

In respect to the playground, Mr. Gaffney stated they (the District) and Clouds of Hope have met; Clouds of Hope has done a great job raising funds and Mr. Otero continues his commitment of the District's funds. He said hopefully this project will begin some time this fall.

School Support Member Grzybowski questioned what grades the math/engineering programs focus on. Mr. Gaffney replied at Greco it focuses on all three grades, 6th thru 8th.

School Support Member Penoyer questioned how late Spring Break will be next year and whether the schools will continue to have the same number of half days. Dr. Lamb responded affirmatively; the half days are in the union's negotiation contract. He said he believes it will be the same number of days (14 half days), but there will be better spacing between them. In response to the Spring Break question, Dr. Lamb said that everyone in the District hates it, but that is the FCAT calendar. He explained the principals do not want anything that interrupts the instructional program that could affect the test scores.

Mr. Gaffney reported this summer the School District buildings will be on a four-day week; all employees and schools will be closed on Fridays with the exception of buildings under construction, in which they have to allow for crews to come in.

School Support Member Penoyer asked whether the half days will be a continuous contract. Dr. Lamb responded it is a two-year contract; one year they negotiate salaries, and the other year they negotiate language in the contract.

B. Unfinished Business:

1. King High 50th Anniversary Celebration & Homecoming Weekend

School Support Member Mora stated there is nothing new to report; they are just finalizing the little details.

2. Temple Terrace READS

School Support Member Mora confirmed the date of the event to be Saturday, October 16th, in conjunction with the Fire Station Open House event. She said she verified all of the schools' contact information and almost all remained the same.

In response to a question by a Committee Member, School Support Member Mora said the event will probably commence at an earlier time, but they have not had the meeting yet to confirm that. She said they might just go along with the Fire Station's event hours of 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

C. New Business:

1. School Grant Evaluations

The Committee reviewed a total of 32 evaluations; they commented that overall this was the poorest group of evaluations they had ever reviewed. It was discussed that the majority of the evaluations did not provide results or scores, which is one of the most important things the Committee looks for. Chairman Mohler added that she liked having the original grants provided along with the evaluations.

After some discussion the Committee agreed they should come up with an evaluation form that the teachers can simply fill out, which would provide all the necessary information.

School Support Member Mora suggested they meet in a work session to discuss and draft a form. She stated that in order for them to have this form ready for distribution to the schools at the beginning of the school year they would need to have the form ready and approved by the City Council sometime this summer.

The Committee decided to meet on Monday, July 26, 2010, at 5:00 p.m. for a work session to discuss and draft an evaluation form. School Support Member Mora suggested that all Members go through the evaluation packet and pick out one evaluation they feel meets all the requirements and bring it to the work session. She stated there is no need for the District's staff to attend this meeting as it is just a work session. The Legislative Secretary added it is still an advertised public meeting and anyone is welcomed to attend.

D. Reports:

1. School Liaisons' Updates

None.

E. Announcements:

School Support Member Mora questioned whether an interested person can apply at any time to be on the School Support Committee. The Legislative Secretary responded affirmatively, explaining the City Clerk's Office will hold the application for future use if there is not a vacant position available at that time. She clarified there is one vacant seat at this moment.

F. Adjournment:

There being no further business to consider, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sobeida LeBlanc
Legislative Secretary