



Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 24, 2023

Lake Wales High School (Auditorium) 5:30pm

<https://youtube.com/live/olJ6O7UDgSQ?feature=share>

Those Present: Danny Gill, Chair, David Fisher, Vice-Chair, Dr. Lori Hutto, Andy Blair, Melanie Burrows, Tonya Stewart, Rusty Ingley, Dr. Wayne Rodolfich, Alricky Smith, Marie Cherrington-Gray, Anuj Saran, Donna Drisdorn, Damian Rosado, Elizabeth Tyler, Blake Fann, Anna Barcenas, Kim Griffiths, Rebecca Thomas, Jennifer Barrow, David Waldrop, Gary Laspina, Stacie Padgett, June Ullman, Andrew Smith, Dr. Julio Acevedo, Angela Heyward, Marcia Rose, Jasmine Ansley, Shay Hixenbaugh, TOY/SPOY honorees and their family and friends.

I. CALL TO ORDER Danny Gill, Chair

The meeting was called to order at 6:12pm.

II. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation and Pledge was led by Trustee Dr. Lori Hutto.

III. TEACHER OF THE YEAR – SUPPORT STAFF OF THE YEAR RECOGNITION FOR ALL SCHOOLS – ANNOUNCEMENT OF SYSTEM TOY/SPOY

Danny Gill, Chair / Dr. Wayne Rodolfich, Superintendent

LWCS 2022-2023	Teacher	Support Person
LWHS	Jeremy Byrd	Kari Boyd
Bok N	Megan Whitaker	Sherunda Anglin
Bok S	Emilyn Sharpless	Jamie Lamb
BP	Pam Dicks	Donna Hogan
Hillcrest	Charmin Gulley-Hall	Jennifer Jackson
PAE	Elizabeth Barker	Nellie Priola
JHW	Brianna Cole	Sarah Walker

***** LWCS TEACHER OF THE YEAR - Megan Whitaker**

IV. SCHEDULED PERSON’S ADDRESSING THE BOARD ON AGENDA ITEMS – (3 minutes please) None

V. APPROVAL OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORK SESSION AND BOARD MEETING MINUTES on February 21, 2023.

Request Board of Trustees approval as discussed in our Board of Trustees Work Session & Finance Meeting on April 24, 2023. Motion to approve was done by Trustee Dr. Lori Hutto and seconded by Vice-Chair David Fisher. Motion approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORK SESSION AND BOARD MINUTES on March 7, 2023.

Request Board of Trustees approval as discussed in our Board of Trustees Work Session & Finance Meeting on April 24, 2023. Motion to approve was done by Vice-Chair David Fisher and seconded by Trustee Dr. Lori Hutto. Motion approved unanimously.

VI. FINANCIAL REPORT

Alricky Smith, CFO

A. Monthly Financials (February 2023)

Request Board approval of the Financial Reports as discussed at the April 24, 2023 Work Session & Finance Meeting. Motion to approve was done by Trustee Tonya Stewart and seconded by Trustee Andy Blair. Motion approved unanimously.

B. Personnel Changes

Request Board approval of the Personnel Changes as discussed at the April 24, 2023 Work Session & Finance Meeting. Motion to approve was done by Trustee Rusty Ingley and seconded by Trustee Dr. Lori Hutto. Motion approved unanimously.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Wayne Rodolfich, Superintendent

A. LWCS SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY

Request Board approval as discussed at the April 24, 2023 Work Session / Finance Meeting. Motion to approve was done by Trustee Dr. Lori Hutto and seconded by Vice-Chair David Fisher. Motion approved unanimously.

B. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

- Shared data packets with the Board – Strategic Plan – we have seven plans which was worked on at the individual schools.
- The plans with goals only will be on the website for public feedback.
- During our summer training we will use the feedback and include this in the plan. We will go over each at our Retreat on June 12, 2023.
- We have worked with the schools this year with reading support – home visits. We have visited over 800 homes so far this year.
- Personal vehicle is being used as a rolling billboard to support our teachers – Read 20.
- We will do a three-day administrative training – classroom management, school safety etc. during this training. Feedback received from our teacher talk and parent talk session this year.
- First Day of school – 288 classroom visits
- Public Engagements – about 107+ meetings so far this year
- Book Partners – Read 20 – 63 so far this year.
- Partnered with 12 realtors
- We have 5 college partnerships
- We have completed 66 newsletters so far this year.
- Completed 37 Friday updates, teacher talks (247 responses); Completed seven strategic plans
- High School – We have 25 of 28 teams that have a 3.0 or better.

- Thanks to Janie Howard Wilson and Bok North for their hard work and sharing of campus due to the hurricane damage. The Bok North campus is complete and the staff/students have moved to the new campus.
- Any questions that Trustees has, please contact the Superintendent or Mrs. Gray for any assistance.
- Please stay for us to honor our Teacher and Support Staff of the Year reception before our Board meeting.

C. NEXT BOARD WORK SESSION/FINANCE AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Our May 2023 Board of Trustees Work Session (4:30pm) and Board Meeting (5:30pm) - Monday, May 22, 2023, at the Lake Wales High School (Auditorium).

VIII. SCHEDULED PERSON'S ADDRESSING THE BOARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (3 minutes please)

Gwen Hayes (teacher at Janie Howard Wilson Elementary).

IX. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Danny Gill, Chair

I would like to recognize and thank all the Principals, APs, Administrative Staff, Volunteers – everyone. You are thanked highly for all your hard work the entire year. Thank you for all that you do!

X. TRUSTEES REPORT

Trustee Rusty Ingley – Performance Review information

Thanks also to the Teacher and Support Staff of Year from all schools.

Chair Danny Gill – Please review all the information that you have been provided and forward your feedback to Marie (she'll compile the data).

Trustee Melanie Burrows – 1% Parent Involvement money – will it be taken away? Lot of gossip regarding changes to our sick leave policy – reduce dates from 10 to 5.

Superintendent Dr. Wayne Rodolfich – This is a rumor. We do not make unilateral decisions in our office. This is a parent, teacher, and student led organization. Any initiative goes through the Principals and is also vetted through our stakeholders.

Trustee Stewart – Asked about the home visits – are these homes that you visited?

Superintendent Dr. Wayne Rodolfich – Yes, it is very important to get to know the parents of the students. Our Principals built the list and so far this year we have visited 8—homes and this is documented. I provide the percentage reached. This is an outreach to ask parents what can we do to assist your child in our school. Whatever I am given to do. Dr. Julio Acevedo assist me with some of the list especially our Spanish speaking parents.

Trustee Tonya Stewart – Do you have a list of goals and how do you get the list?

Superintendent Dr. Wayne Rodolfich – We have three criteria – high performing students, attendance (to avoid us reporting a concern to the state), and a 3rd grade reading gate list. Anything that the Principals deem need a visit, I go out and do it. We provide a bag with information on our school, reading etc.

Trustee Tonya Stewart – The two turnaround schools, are we doing something different to get them on track for the short term?

Superintendent Dr. Wayne Rodolfich – The work that they are doing at the school level is phenomenal. This is not going to change overnight. We have put a lot in place, with family outreach and other programs.

Trustee Tonya Stewart – As a Board when the time comes, we as a Board will be able to judge it based on the short term with the things put in place recently?

Superintendent Dr. Wayne Rodolfich – Yes, you will see the change in next year testing cycle. We are all becoming familiar with the expectations and then the third cycle, you will see it from the growth end. About 1/3 of our students are reading on grade level.

Trustee Tonya Stewart - I read an email addressed to the Board that our Superintendent made a public statement that our teachers do not want to work.

Superintendent Dr. Wayne Rodolfich – I did not make that statement. This was allegedly done in a Chamber meeting and Chair Gill and CFO Smith were both present in the same meeting.

Trustee Andy Blair – The RFP for the 1919 Building is out. Historically the building will probably not change at all. We are discussing new windows for safety issues.

Trustee Dr. Lori Hutto – As the educator on the Board, if Dr. Rodolfich is not operating in the best interest of our students, I will be the first one to call him out on that. The emails shared on social media... I responded to the email and my response was not shared. I responded and I did not get an answer back. Dr. Hutto shared the email. Good Friday was approved before Dr. Rodolfich was the Superintendent; Delivering of books was one of Dr. Rodolfich promise to the community to build relationships. The kids are excited about reading and the incentives for our system. We received a weekly update as Trustees. Teacher are excited about changes that are taking place. I have heard from 10-15 teachers and one of the teacher had a family member that was at every Chamber meeting, and advised, that comment was never made. Trustee asked about JHW and Polk Avenue – Dr. Rodolfich asked the Principals to share. He did not evade the question. I would have done the same thing. It is not that he is not aware. It is because he respects their expertise in their area. On the record it shows the respect he has for the people leading his schools.

One way we can set ourselves apart as we do our “Choose Lake Wales” initiative, is our support of teachers being a more directed effort. All respect to Alricky – being the CFO and Acting Superintendent he was overwhelmed in his roles. Our teachers have been through a lot – then we add Covid 19, a hurricane and 4 out of 7 schools doing charter renewals. We need to take this into account. We have asked extra from everyone in our school system this year to include the Superintendent and the Board. There are comments that can open doors and we need to have our doors open from our teacher, Superintendent and student. Our teachers need more support. Our system is on overload this year. I would like to set up a committee to celebrate our teachers. I am glad to spearhead this and make it a part of our system. ESE and ESOL have made tremendous growth this year. All of the schools have had challenges and the job never ends. The best educators are right here! I appreciate JHW and PAE and all your efforts. Bok North – you guys are rock-stars with all of the construction and everything you have dealt with. Thanks Mrs. Griffith and her staff for welcoming JHW. Babson Park – your construction completion looks amazing. LW High School – New Principal & APs and all of the athletics – you guys are amazing. Hillcrest – the integration of arts is amazing. Bok South – AG banquet is amazing. Special shout-out to Mr. Rosado who was at Tami LeBlanc’s husband memorial on his birthday. Athletic Hall of Fame banquet – Shelley Jacob – amazing celebration! We need to up our ability to see things from others perspective, and keep our doors open for the opportunities that awaits us. SWOT Analysis for DOE – let’s make it more open-ended questions. Do I send this to Marie? Chair Gill – Yes.

Vice-Chair David Fisher – I saw the facebook post also. We are a small community, please call me if you have any questions. Please also call Dr. Rodolfich if you have a question instead of going on social media.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CAUSE

None

XII. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marie Cherrington-Gray, Corporate Secretary

Board Approved: _____