



# **Board of Trustees Work Session and Finance Meeting** **Minutes**

**Monday, January 22, 2024**  
**Lake Wales High School (Auditorium)**  
**4:00pm**

## **Livestream Link:**

<https://youtube.com/live/pELuDfl0zgU?feature=share>

**Those Present:** Danny Gill - Chair, Dr. Lori Hutto, Nicole Sealey, Brian Marbutt, Rafael Unzueta, Tonya Stewart, Andy Blair, Dr. Wayne Rodolfich, Alricky Smith, Marie Cherrington-Gray, Robin Gibson, Blake Fann, Anna Barcenas, Anuj Saran, Rebecca Thomas, Kim Griffiths, Donna Drisdorn, April Barnhardt, Jennifer Barrow, Angela Heyward, Gary Laspina, June Ullman, Marcia Rose, Stacie Padgett, Morgan Willis, Dr. Julio Acevedo

**Guests:** Officer Hernandez, Chief Chris Velasquez, Sergeant Ed Palmer, Andrea Kowalski, Jennifer Holland, Ed Lockhart, Mark Parlier

- I. CALL TO ORDER** **Dr. Wayne Rodolfich, Superintendent**  
The meeting was called to order at 4:10pm.
- II. ATTORNEY UPDATE** **Robin Gibson, General Counsel**  
General Counsel Gibson updated the Board on current legal items.
- III. LWCS HEALTH BENEFITS** **Andrea Kowalski, USI Insurance Services**  
Andrea provided her annual update on our current health plan.
- IV. FINANCIAL REPORT** **Alricky Smith, CFO**
  - A. MONTHLY FINANCIALS (November 2023 / December 2023)**  
Presented for your review and approval at the January 22, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting.
  - B. PERSONNEL REPORT (November 2023 / December 2023)**  
Presented for your review and approval at the January 22, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting.
- V. LWCS SCHOOL CALENDAR 2024-2025** **Angela Heyward, Federal Programs**  
Presented for your review and approval at the January 22, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting.
- VI. CAMERAS - BUSES/SCHOOL ZONES** **Dr. Wayne Rodolfich, Superintendent**  
Presented for discussion only at this time.
- VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** **Dr. Wayne Rodolfich, Superintendent**
  - A. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE**
    - Reviewing our testing we are struggling in areas such as ESE & ESOL. We are providing continuous training for our teachers in these areas.
    - We have instructional protocols for ESOL along with the ESOL endorsements for this area.

- Budget analysis being done. We are constantly working on our budgets. We are also working with PCSB in some areas that we might be able to get advance funding. There will be a hit for the federal funding that we have been receiving if/when the budget is reduced. Please make plans for this financial shortfall. The Covid funds will go away. Cleaning contract funds that were used previously will no longer be there, so we will have to make budget adjustments to absorb these costs.
- Strategic plan goals have been updated. We shared this in a newsletter last week for all 7 of our schools. They are located on our website. We'll visit these again this summer during our administrators training.
- We have had 744 reading home visits so far this year. We are trying to get as many as possible prior to testing.
- Classroom visits are going well so far this year. We have a seven-day rotation for each school. We have completed 619 eight-minute classroom visits to date.
- Upcoming Mountain Lake visit with Mr. Saran and myself to share information with them about our schools.
- ACT Work-Ready Community – we are working on this. If we accomplish this we will be the first one in the state of Florida. We will be doing the ACT Work Keys.
- Friday updates sent to you weekly. Any Trustee that I have not met with we will work on this as we move forward. I want to hear from the entire board so everyone is included in our decision making for the future.
- Upcoming policy adoptions – several for next month. We will make adjustment to some of the policies that we already have, and also create new ones as needed. We will go through our attorney to get feedback on these policies.
- Mardi Gras is coming up and we look forward to participating in the parade. We will be giving out books, beads, candy etc.
- I had a meeting today with a perspective state legislature and we visited a few of our schools and I also share information about all of our schools.
- Teacher pay raise is an issue and we are waiting on the state approval to release the funds.
- We are also waiting on our auditors to complete our current audits.
- I will be meeting with Mr. Gill to discuss our district strategic plan.

**Chair Gill:** Have we done an RFP for a new auditor? **Trustee Unzueta:** We have finalized the auditor decision with the committee, and we will wait until the following school year to make any adjustments.

**Superintendent Rodolfich:** We are working hard on the 1919 Building fundraising. We are hopeful that we can pay off the building and have no debt, and also pay off Bok South balance.

**B. MINUTES: November 28, 2023 BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORK SESSION AND MEETING**

Presented for your review and approval at the January 22, 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting.

**C. NEXT MEETING DATE**

**Board of Trustees Work Session (4:00pm) and Board Meeting (5:30pm) – Monday, February 26, 2024 at the Lake Wales High School (Auditorium).**

## VIII. BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

Danny Gill, Chair

### A. Chair Report

We have two seats – These seats finish their first terms on 6-30-24. Trustee Hutto and Trustee Stewart has both agreed to a 2<sup>nd</sup> term. The teacher representative for this upcoming year will come from LW High School.

We need a strong succession plan as a Board. At the end of this school year I will have served almost 13 years, and chaired for 4 years. I will not seek Chair for my last year. I will mentor whoever will serve as chair.

### B. Trustees Report

**Trustee Blair:** As chairman of the 1919 Building we have done a lot. We have our architect and Semco construction here for any questions. We trimmed down the numbers and we are about 10.5% over budget. Thanks to Principal Drisdorn, Dr. Rodolfich and Alricky.

**Trustee Marbutt:** Exactly where are we in the project? Any construction started?

**Trustee Blair:** We have done the demo and we have awarded some bids in December and January. Things are in motion at this time.

**Jennifer Holland – VP Semco Construction:** We have submitted applications to the city for building permits, and we are anticipate receiving this by the end of the week. We anticipate starting the project soon.

**Trustee Blair:** Are we still doing Board Docs?

**Superintendent Rodolfich:** Yes Sir, we will try it for a few months and learn on the go.

**Trustee Hutto:** Shared her Teacher Appreciation update. Teacher appreciation focus is shared from HR newsletter which includes birthdays and anniversaries. Thanks to LaQuanda from HR. TSIA allocation is coming soon. Other districts have access to tax revenues and they used that to give their teachers the raise. We do not have this and we have to wait. As soon as we receive the final approval it will be released to our teachers. Thanks to Alricky and our district staff. Working over contract hours is a concern with teachers especially our tenured teachers. We will public notice the meeting for tenured teachers so we can discuss how to support and assist our new teachers. We all know we have additional workload in our schools and offices. We appreciate your work.

**Trustee Sealey:** No follow up from concerns voiced at the Board meetings. We are looking for more constructive ways to work together – we do know our concerns are statewide for schools. We would like to talk about the strategic plan etc. I sent out a survey a while back and communication is a concern amongst the schools and the central office. There is a perceived disconnect with the schools and the central office.

## IX. SCHOOL UPDATES – DRFBP / HC / JHW / PAE / BOK N / BOK S / LWHS

X. **BOARD RECOGNITION** Superintendent Wayne Rodolfich & Chair Danny Gill  
The Board recognized Rosalyn Layton, Chief Velasquez, Sargent Palmer and Officer Hernandez for their commitment and hard work with the LWCS.

XI. **OTHER BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CAUSE** None

## XII. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Marie Cherrington-Gray, Corporate Secretary

Board Approved: \_\_\_\_\_