

MINUTES OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

- MEETING: School Board Meeting
Facilities/Construction
- DATE: February 3, 2004
- TIME: 9:00 A.M.
- PLACE: School Administration Building
- PRESENT: Eddie Herrera, Chairman
Sue Dickinson, Vice-Chairman
Dr. James T. Guines, Member
Colleen Conklin, Member, by speaker phone
Evie Shellenberger, Member
Robert L. Corley, Superintendent
Michael Chiumento, Board Attorney
- Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Herrera at 9:01 a.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Chairman Herrera noted that Mrs. Conklin was present by speaker phone.
- Agenda Changes: Dr. Corley stated that he wished to clarify Consent Item F by removing the phrase "to the construction of the new Belle Terre Elementary School 'A'," and to make a corresponding adjustment on page 12 under Recommended Resolution by removing "for the construction of the New Belle Terre Elementary School 'A'."
- Public Comment on Agenda Items: There were no public comments.
- Consent Items: Motion: (Mrs. Dickinson – Ms. Shellenberger) The Board approved the consent items. (Copy in Supplemental Minutes.) The motion carried unanimously.
- Request approval of Change Order #4 in the amount of \$210,369 to the Tower Group, Inc., for changes in civil drawings on the new 6-12 school
 - Request approval of Change Order #5 in the amount of (\$4,765,453) to The Tower Group, Inc., for direct purchased material plus tax savings on the new 6-12 school
 - Request approval of Change Order #6 in the amount of (\$35,000) to The Tower Group, Inc., for deletion of Library Security System on the new 6-12 school

- Request approval of Change Order #7 in the amount of (\$3,000) to The Tower Group, Inc. This change order negates Change Order #3 to install a dock leveler behind the new 6-12 school cafeteria – the leveler could not be installed
- Request approval of Change Order #8 in the amount of \$58,263 to The Tower Group, Inc., providing for stabilization of the construction trailer pads for the new 6-12 school
- Request approval to allocate District Effort Recognition funds and that sufficient student capacity does not exist within existing facilities to meet the Constitutional Class Size Amendment requirements

Report on Educational
Facilities Planning
Committee meeting

Gene Tanner, Facilities Supervisor, reported on proposed legislation regarding the ability to levy sales tax and PECO funds, which will go to colleges and community colleges. He stated that he serves on an advisory committee and will try to protect our funds. He suggested that the Board might want to levy impact fees. Dr. Corley stated that he and Mr. Chiumento are working on it. Mr. Tanner stated that there is thought to taxing garbage, cable, etc. – utilities. A discussion followed as to the need to provide funding for future schools. Mr. Tanner stated that we do not want the proposed bill to pass. There was some discussion of sales tax funds and the County helping with infrastructure. Dr. Corley reported that he and Mr. Herrera went to the Home Builders, who admitted the need, but would not endorse impact fees. A study has been commissioned to see what is being done around the area, but the information has not yet come. He has talked to Mr. Herrera and Mr. Chiumento about putting together letter of our intent to move forward. Question was raised regarding potential of conflict of interest for Mr. Herrera to belong to the Home Builders, but Dr. Corley stated that there is a conflict only when there is direct benefit. Mr. Herrera stated that it was his understanding that the Home Builders wanted to work with our consultant in order to give them their own data. He added that they would eventually take a stand. Mr. Chiumento stated that there is no conflict of interest for Mr. Herrera at this time, but should be looked at when a vote is taken. Mrs. Conklin stated that she would like to impose a deadline in order to see some movement towards these fees, Ms. Shellenberger adding that at the October 7 meeting, it was stated that with these fees we would do a school a year.

Update on construction
projects

Mr. Tanner had a PowerPoint presentation for the Board, and a printout of the presentation. The presentation showed how much of the foundation was done when we

took over, and how much has been done since that time, and added that they gym has now been done since the slides were put together. He showed on an aerial view where only one house stood along Forest Park Drive, stating that there are now 6 new homes. Mr. Tanner went over some of the project milestones, shown in the slides, adding information about some of the quality testing. He added that permitting was expected on the elementary school before the end of the week, and that dirt from the ponds would be used to fill the site. He stated that the contractor has put up a 6-foot chainlink fence, and has done a good job of securing the area.

Dr. Corley thanked Mr. Tanner for a good report and reminded the Board that there is a van available after the meeting for anyone wanting to go to look at the construction projects.

Citizen comments

Jim Thompson, President of Gibraltar Design, stated that he was not here to have a dialog, but rather that he had serious information that he feels the Board ought to know. He had prepared a letter that he presented to Board Members. He stated that Rex Smith, Alex Nelson and Roger Malone (structural engineer for the project) were also present, and wished to say that he was simply disappointed.

Board Member comments

Dr. Guines thanked the administration for help with the computer lab at the hospital, adding that because of those efforts, they had the first group of graduates. He said there had been many unforeseen problems, but it all worked out because of good people.

Mrs. Conklin thanked the staff for the deductive change orders – adding that those were the kind that she liked.

Ms. Shellenberger stated that because these meetings were for construction issues, she had gone back and re-read the October meeting minutes, adding that at that meeting we had said that we would get back together in a couple of weeks regarding buildings and future plans, and that we never did.

Ms. Shellenberger stated that we have touched on rezoning, and that she encouraged Transportation to make a presentation or for Board Members to go back to see the computer system. She stated that it was impressive. Dr. Corley added that when we discussed rezoning before this system was not working, but a consultant has been brought in and now the computer program is working well.

Mrs. Dickinson that there is a fitness event on February 20, a journey from the county line, and that there would be a ceremony at 10:00 a.m. at Wickline Park, adding that she would like to see people there.

Superintendent comments Dr. Corley stated that he had one more informational piece. Back last fall we were notified of a University of Central Florida/Progress Energy grant for leadership development. He stated that there was team of 10 people going – principals and a few others – tomorrow night and Thursday to the training entitled “Understanding by Design.” He added that there would be authors there to present about designing quality lesson plans. He stated that the grant pays for everything, and that he thinks that it will be high-powered.

Reminder of upcoming meetings and events Superintendent Corley reminded the Board that the following Wednesday, February 11 at 1:00 they had agreed to make themselves available for the International Baccalaureate (IB) review committee. He stated that they were coming to make sure that the Board supports the staff already in training.

Dr. Corley stated that the Board had discussed having a Town Hall meeting, but that he had received a memo to inform him that a Superintendents’ Summit had been called by the Governor, which he has been on by invitation. He had asked the Board for feedback on possible dates, and noted that only Ms. Shellenberger had replied, so he felt that it was perhaps not high on their priorities. Only one Board Member, Mrs. Conklin, expressed a great desire to have this type of a meeting, and it was suggested that if it was not the pleasure of the Board to hold such a meeting, then perhaps the one Board Member could hold her own. Mrs. Dickinson reminded the Board that when we did the first one that was presented by Dr. Corley, there was no public input, and that the Board had been content to let Dr. Corley present information. Chairman Herrera stated that he was hearing that the other three members did not feel that it was important to have a Town Hall meeting at this time, but that they would revisit it at a later time. Mrs. Dickinson stated that she liked the idea of an informational workshop first then having a Town Hall meeting. Mrs. Conklin stated that she was ok with whatever the rest of the Board wanted.

Attorney comments Mr. Chiumento stated that the Superintendent had instructed him to get appraisals on our property. He stated that some of the appraisal companies were just too busy, and some were out of line. But he has two appraisers

working on 2 parcels, and has been hammering them but will probably be a week to 10 days before he gets them.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 a.m.

Approved 2/17/04

Eddie Herrera, Jr., Chairman

Robert L. Corley, Superintendent