

Approved in Open Board Meeting September 17, 2019

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

July 23, 2019
Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
(Tentative District Educational Facilities Plan)

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, met in special session at 9:15 p.m. in the Board Room of the Kathleen C. Wright Administrative Center, 600 Southeast Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Present were: School Board Members Heather Brinkworth, Chair; Donna P. Korn, Vice Chair; Lori Alhadeff; Robin Bartleman (absent); Patricia Good; Laurie Rich Levinson; Ann Murray; Nora Rupert; Dr. Rosalind Osgood; Robert W. Runcie, Superintendent of Schools; and Barbara J. Myrick, Esq.

Call to Order The Call to Order was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Added/Changed Items None.

Close Agenda Upon motion by Mrs. Rupert, seconded by Ms. Korn and carried, the Agenda was approved and declared closed. Mrs. Bartleman was absent. (8-0 vote)

Purpose of Meeting For The School Board of Broward County, Florida to discuss and approve the Tentative District Educational Facilities Plan (TDEFP) for the five years beginning July 1, 2019, and any other items the Board deemed necessary.

1. **Tentative District Educational Facilities Plan (TDEFP) For the Five Years
Beginning July 1, 2019** (Approved)

Motion was made by Mrs. Good, seconded by Mrs. Rupert and carried, to approve the Tentative District Educational Facilities Plan for the five years beginning July 1, 2019. Mrs. Bartleman was absent. (8-0 vote)

Announcement by Chair

Welcoming the audience to the first Special Meeting for the 2020 Tentative District Educational Facilities Plan (TDEFP), the Chair stated that the purpose of the meeting was to keep the public and the School Board fully informed as to whether the District was using sound policies and practices that met the needs of students and warranted public confidence in the District's operations.

Explaining the legal procedure required for this hearing, the Chair announced this was the first of two meetings for the DEFP. Individuals wishing to address the agenda item were required to sign in as a speaker. At the end of the presentation and before the Board voted, each listed speaker would be called to the floor and given three (3) minutes to address the Board. She thanked the audience for their support and attendance at this meeting. The Chair introduced the Superintendent and asked him to give a brief overview of the TDEFP.

Statement by Superintendent

The Superintendent thanked the Board for its input at all the workshops to discuss the School District's budget and he was pleased to submit this TDEFP for the Board's consideration and approval.

He stated the District and school leadership were committed to providing students with a world-class education in a safe, secure, learning environment, and they were continuing to make security upgrades that were approved by the Board last year.

He shared that by combining the \$8 million State Educational Security Grant with \$19.8 million of local funding the District planned to:

- Invest in portable radios and the equipment needed to boost radio reliability in schools;
- Improve and upgrade the Public Address (PA) systems with additional coverage and I.P.-based systems at a total of 55 high schools, colleges, combination schools, and centers; and
- Continue to add and enhance security cameras across the District.

The Superintendent said the TDEFP also included new state funding of \$4 million for the District's schools and \$800,000 for Charter schools to make even more security upgrades. He added that the TDEFP continued to deliver the commitments made for the SMART program. The District had committed reserve funding for resources that may be needed to address economic changes in the construction market as the SMART program continued to be implemented.

In closing, the Superintendent stated based on the feedback gathered from the Board during the previous budget workshops, this plan included the leasing authority needed to replace school buses, to purchase and replace some of the District's white fleet vehicles, and to provide the vehicles needed to enhance security at all the schools. He was happy to report that the authority to lease student and staff technology devices for a technology refresh cycle was also included to ensure students' academic achievements continued to rise across the District.

Judith Marte, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed a PowerPoint presentation.

Discussion by the Board

Mrs. Rich Levinson thanked staff and was happy about the \$9.8 million that would go into the Unallocated Reserve. She requested a breakdown be provided to the Board of the Athletics - Facility Maintenance/Equipment. There was a dip in the amount for Maintenance and she wanted to know why.

Ms. Marte explained based on current property values she expected to struggle to meet Maintenance requirements for 2021.

Mrs. Rich Levinson asked if the contingencies would continue to come in that could be used for the resources listed.

Ms. Marte replied in addition to the \$600,00 that went back to the contingencies today, there were two more projects that were closed out that had money going into the contingencies.

Mrs. Rich Levinson referred to the Portable Transition Plan and asked staff to explain the increase on the cost per unit from \$6,200 to \$9,600 for the demolition.

Sam Bays, Director, Physical Plant Operations, responded that it was largely because of the disposal fees due to an increase in the landfill. He indicated he would provide the Board with more detailed information.

Ms. Korn referred to athletics and suggested having a comprehensive conversation soon as to where the District was and if there was a strategic plan for the Board to consider. In regards to the technology, she absolutely supported it but wanted to know how the refresh would be implemented in the schools.

Ms. Marte replied that they would have to come to the Board two (2) more times before anything would happen; once for the authority to enter into leases, and the second would be authority for procurement.

Ms. Korn commented that there was not conversation for the Board to weigh in on the refresh and how it would be distributed and that was what she looking for to happen.

Mrs. Brinkworth inquired on the carryover for the facility projects and asked if all of the dollars were encumbered or were there projects on the books waiting to be completed.

Ms. Marte responded all the dollars were encumbered.

A vote was taken on this item.

Adjournment This meeting was adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

/dvn