

Approved in Open Board Meeting May 19, 2020

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

March 31, 2020  
Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.

MINUTES OF EMERGENCY MEETING

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, met in special session at 10:17 a.m. in the Board Room of the Kathleen C. Wright Administrative Center, 600 Southeast Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and through electronic communication due to the Coronavirus. Present were: School Board Members Donna P. Korn, Chair; Dr. Rosalind Osgood, Vice Chair; Lori Alhadeff (telephonically); Robin Bartleman; Heather Brinkworth (telephonically); Patricia Good; Laurie Rich Levinson; Ann Murray (telephonically); Nora Rupert (telephonically); 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.

**Moments of Silence** None.

**Added/Changed Items** The Superintendent requested that the Board permit the following changes to the Agenda:

- Item 12 Withdrawn
- Item 16 - Added

The Chair approved the changes and announced the changes to the Agenda proposed by the Superintendent were accepted by the Chair after being determined that good cause had been established for said changes.

**Close Agenda** The Agenda was approved and declared closed by acclamation of the Board. (9-0 vote)

**Purpose of Meeting** For The School Board of Broward County, Florida to transact official business of the District, and any other items the Board deemed necessary.

The Superintendent thanked teachers for their dedication and for adapting to the shift in teaching. He provided an update on the number of students that received laptops and the total users that were online. He stated that the Florida Education Commissioner requested that schools remain closed until May 1, 2020. He thanked the community and parents for their patience while focusing on what mattered.

The Chair thanked staff, parents, and those in harm's way, putting themselves on the line, and asked for a moment of reflection.

**Superintendent's Recommendation(s)**

**1. Reports Required by the Uniform Guidance for the Year Ended June 30, 2019  
(Received)**

Motion was made by Mrs. Good, seconded by Dr. Osgood and carried, to receive Reports Required by the Uniform Guidance for the Year Ended June 30, 2019. (9-0 vote)

No discussion was held and a vote was taken on this item.

**2. Recommendation to Approve Agreement – FY20-216 - Knox Master Key Boxes  
(Approved)**

Motion was made by Mrs. Good, seconded by Dr. Osgood and carried, to approve the recommendation to award the above agreement. Contract Term: March 18, 2020 through June 30, 2020, 3 Months; User Department: Risk Management; Award Amount: \$87,224; Award Vendor(s): Knox Associates, Inc.; Small/Minority/Women Business Enterprise Vendor(s): None. (9-0 vote)

No discussion was held and a vote was taken on this item.

**3. Instructional Materials World Languages and Dual Language Adoption (K-12)  
(Approved)**

Motion was made by Mrs. Good, seconded by Mrs. Brinkworth and carried, to approve the adoption for the recommended instructional materials for World Languages and Dual Language (K-12). The following courses are affected by the programs recommended by the World Languages and Dual Language Instructional Review Committees: American Sign Language (Grades 7-12), Chinese (Grades K-12), French (Grades K-12), Spanish (Grades K-12), Spanish for Spanish Speakers (Grades 6-12), and Dual Language (Grades K-5). (9-0 vote)

Mrs. Alhadeff wanted to know since the textbooks were based on the categorical funding, if it would continue.

Judith Marte, Chief Financial Officer, replied that approval of this item would allow that to happen if the money comes through but they would not be purchased until then. She assured the Board that the money was safe.

A vote was taken on this item.

**4. School Surveillance System Access Agreement (Approved)**

Motion was made by Dr. Osgood, seconded by Mrs. Good and carried, to approve the School surveillance Camera System Access Agreement between The School Board of Broward County, Florida (SBBC) and the City of Wilton Manors, Florida. (9-0 vote)

Mrs. Alhadeff wanted to know who was left to sign the camera system access agreement.

Jeffrey Moquin, Chief of Staff, replied there was one municipality left to execute the video surveillance agreement. He indicated the Chief of Safety, Security & Emergency Preparedness understood they would be executing the agreement but said he would find out and follow up with the Board.

A vote was taken on this item.

**5. Termination Without Cause of the Construction Services Agreement – The Weitz Company, LLC – C. Robert Markham Elementary School – Pompano Beach – Project No. P.001920 – SMART Program Renovations – RFQ 17-210C (Approved)**

Motion was made by Dr. Osgood, seconded by Mrs. Good and carried, to approve the Termination Without Cause of the Construction Services Agreement with The Weitz Company, LLC, C. Robert Markham Elementary School, Project No. P.001920, SMART Program Renovations, RFQ 17-210C. (9-0 vote)

Mrs. Rupert stated this was a school that bumped ahead for the roofing project and it had not yet commenced. She wanted to implore staff, through the Superintendent, for the Pompano Beach community to get this done. She said whatever the issue was here, to make sure it did not happen to any other school in the future.

Mr. Runcie appreciated her sentiments and agreed. He indicated he has talked with the community on this and other issues as well. He said this was a case where the District had to move forward and hold the vendors accountable and getting the appropriate pricing for the work. He shared that they planned to go out and do hard bids for the items and would continue to move this forward.

Mrs. Bartleman requested that staff follow up with the Board as to how long staff was in negotiations for this item.

A vote was taken on this item.

**6. Authorization to Advertise for Bids – Westglades Middle School – Parkland – RGD Consulting Engineers Orlando, LLC – SMART Program Renovations – Project No. P.002131 (Approved)**

Motion was made by Dr. Osgood, seconded by Mrs. Good and carried, to approve Authorization to Advertise for Bids, Westglades Middle School, RGD Consulting Engineers Orlando, LLC, SMART Program Renovations, Project No. P.002131. (9-0 vote)

Items 6-8 were motioned and discussed concurrently.

Mrs. Bartleman stated that these projects fall under the current series of General Obligation Bonds (GOBs) and wanted to know how much was left in the current one.

Ms. Marte replied \$357 million was issued and have expended \$201 million, but the difference was committed to other outstanding purchase orders for projects that the Board already approved. She indicated of the remaining amount, some of that was scheduled to cover these items.

A vote was taken on these items.

7. **Authorization to Advertise for Bids – Margate Elementary School – Margate – Song & Associates, Inc. – SMART Program Renovations – Project No. P.001647 (Approved)**

Motion was made by Dr. Osgood, seconded by Mrs. Good and carried, to approve Authorization to Advertise for Bids, Margate Elementary School, Song & Associates, Inc., SMART Program Renovations, Project No. P.001647. (9-0 vote)

Items 6-8 were motioned and discussed concurrently.

A vote was taken on these items.

8. **Authorization to Advertise for Bids – C. Robert Markham Elementary School – Pompano Beach – Carty Architecture, LLC – SMART Program Renovations – Project No. P.001920 (Approved)**

Motion was made by Dr. Osgood, seconded by Mrs. Good and carried, to approve Authorization to Advertise for Bids, C. Robert Markham Elementary School, Carty Architecture, LLC, SMART Program Renovations, Project No. P.001920. (9-0 vote)

Items 6-8 were motioned and discussed concurrently.

A vote was taken on these items.

9. **Change Order #2 – Miramar Elementary School – Miramar – DiPompeo Construction Corporation – SMART Program Renovations – Project No. P.001727 (Approved)**

Motion was made by Dr. Osgood, seconded by Mrs. Good and carried, to approve Change Order #2, Miramar Elementary School, DiPompeo Construction Corporation, SMART Program Renovations, Project No. P.001727, for a credit in the amount of \$108,146 and no change in contract time. (9-0 vote)

No discussion was held and a vote was taken on this item.

**10. Construction Bid Recommendation of \$500,000 or Greater – ITB 18-177C –  
Lauderdale Manors Early Learning and Resource Center – Fort Lauderdale –  
Burke Construction Group, Inc. – SMART Program Renovations – Project  
No. P.001635 (Approved)**

Motion was made by Dr. Osgood, seconded by Mrs. Good and carried, to approve the recommendation to award the Construction Agreement to Burke Construction Group, Inc. for the lump sum amount of \$5,415,000 and approve additional funding in the amount of \$3,976,444. (9-0 vote)

Mrs. Bartleman wanted to confirm that this was an additional impact.

Ms. Marte answered in the affirmative.

Mrs. Alhadeff asked if this amount was not enough would money in the Unallocated Reserves be enough.

Ms. Marte replied yes.

Mrs. Brinkworth questioned if anything had changed in regards to the Reserves.

Ms. Marte responded no.

A vote was taken on this item.

**11. Construction Bid Recommendation of \$500,000 or Greater – ITB 19-167C – Tedder  
Elementary School - Deerfield Beach – OAC Action Construction Corp. – SMART  
Program Renovations – Project No. P.001808 (Approved)**

Motion was made by Dr. Osgood, seconded by Mrs. Good and carried, to approve the recommendation to award the Construction Agreement to OAC Action Construction Corp. for the lump sum amount of \$3,142,378.21 and approve additional funding in the amount of \$1,027,616. (9-0 vote)

Mrs. Bartleman inquired if the Capital Reserves was depleted, would there be enough in Unallocated Reserves.

Ms. Marte answered in the affirmative.

A vote was taken on this item.

**12. School Board Policy 1005.1-E – Emergency Delegation of Authority During  
Covid-19 Pandemic Board Policy 1005.1-E (Withdrawn)**

**13. Agreement with the University of South Florida Board of Trustees (Approved)**

Motion was made by Dr. Osgood, seconded by Mrs. Good and carried, to approve the Agreement between The School Board of Broward County, Florida, and the University of South Florida Board of Trustees. The Agreement begins upon full execution by all parties and ends on June 30, 2020. (9-0 vote)

No discussion was held and a vote was taken on this item.

**14. Resolution No. 20-106 – Certificates of Participation, Series 2020A (Adopted)**

Motion was made by Mrs. Good, seconded by Dr. Osgood and carried, to adopt Resolution No. 20-106 - Certificates of Participation (COPs), Series 2020A and amend the capital budget to include the \$250 million additional appropriation. Mrs. Alhadeff, Mrs. Bartleman, and Mrs. Rupert voted no. (6-3 vote)

Items 14 and 15 were moved and discussed concurrently.

The Chair received audience input on these items.

The Chair asked the Chief Financial Officer to provide some background information on this item and why it was coming to the Board.

The Board had a in-depth discussion on some of the information Ms. Marte shared that included, but was not limited to, approximately \$30 million was left in the Unallocated Reserve; the unallocated money for the SMART Reserve was already used; this was needed to finish the program; explaining this was essentially a mortgage on the District's property; the request for a RAN, which would act as a fall-back if needed for 1-5 years; the \$250 million would cover future projects on the timeline/schedule that was provided by the Facilities department; the money would stay in unallocated funds; the COPs would not over-obligate the Board; the money could only be used for projects, not raises; it was common for school districts to use COPs; the Board would be able to review through the Unallocated Reserve; the bond rating would not be affected; this was the least costly solution and took advantage of the steep decline of service in the later years; the Bond Oversight Committee does not review financial instruments, it is reviewed by the Financial Committee; a large up-front payment would be made with a lower interest rate; the RAN, if used, would be almost identically the same or lower than the COPs; and the issue was the availability of funds, which would not only resolve that problem, but it would also accelerate the program.

A vote was taken on these items.

**15. Resolution No. 20-107 – Revenue Anticipation Notes, Series 2020 (Adopted)**

Motion was made by Mrs. Good, seconded by Dr. Osgood and carried, to adopt Resolution No. 20-107 - Revenue Anticipation Notes, Series 2020. Mrs. Alhadeff, Mrs. Bartleman, and Mrs. Rupert voted no. (6-3 vote)

Items 14 and 15 were moved and discussed concurrently.

The Chair received audience input on these items.

A vote was taken on these items.

**16. Recommendation of \$500,000 or Greater – FY20-169 – Elementary Literacy Support Program (Approved)**

Motion was made by Mrs. Good, seconded by Dr. Osgood and carried, to approve the recommendation to award the above Agreement. Contract term: July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020; 1 Year; User Department: Early Learning & Language Acquisition; Award Amount: \$981,864; Awarded Vendor(s): Children's Literacy Initiative Corporation; Small/Minority/Women Business Enterprise Vendor(s): None. (9-0 vote)

Mrs. Bartleman commented that this was for seven (7) Title I schools, being expanded to eight (8) schools, and wanted to know if it was strictly for professional development and if it was in addition to the coaches that already existed.

Mr. Moquin requested that the item be tabled until staff could come to the Board Room.

Motion to Table (Carried)

Motion was made by Mrs. Rupert, seconded by Mrs. Bartleman and carried, to table this item until later in the meeting. (9-0 vote)

Following a vote on Item #5, this item was brought back to the table for discussion.

Mrs. Bartleman thanked staff for his hard work and all that he was doing for online learning. She re-stated her question, asking if this was in addition to the current literacy coaches.

Dan Gohl, Chief Academics Officer, thanked her for her kind words. He reminded the Board that the Children's Literacy Initiative was part of an I-3 Grant provided by the federal government and focuses on the lowest-performing schools as gauged by a number of different measures, some of which show significant gains. He shared that this was being paid for by rollover Title I funds, which were secured. He said it would deliver two (2) things: 1) an additional externally funded coach that is an employee of the Children's Literacy Initiative, that goes to the school to work with the teachers and 2) they have materials that focus on phonics for the earliest grades on up through being able to read independently. He indicated they would be able to provide the services through the distance learning environment.

Dr. Osgood commented that what has been taking place with the coaches was working in a significant way.

Mrs. Rich Levinson requested information be provided in a follow-up on the seven (7) schools mentioned in the Executive Summary for the last three (3) years since this initiative has been in place. She said there have been jumps in the third grade proficiency and she wanted to know why that has not been maintained or built upon.

Ms. Korn referred to page 2 and said the agreement starts July 1, 2019, concluding on June 30, 2020 and believed it was a scrivener's error that should have read July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Mr. Gohl stated he would check with staff to ensure it was clear and correct before its final passage.

A vote was taken on this item.

**Adjournment** This meeting was adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

/dvn