

DAVIE SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD
AUGUST 18, 2003

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m. Board members present were Chair Pj Grant, Vice-Chair Kimberly Sereda, Rebecca Orlando, John Pisula, Barbara Ann Tilley and Jim Tralewski (arrived 5:55 p.m.). Also present were Broward County Schools Liaison Fran Klauber and Janet Gale recording the meeting. Joe Brown, Alice Harrington, Debbie Meyers and Barry Mowell were absent.

2. OLD BUSINESS

2.1 Update on Nova School Issues

Chair Grant introduced Broward County School Board Member Marty Rubenstein and asked that he update the Board on items 2.1 and 3.1.

Mr. Rubenstein advised that in May, the Broward County School Board had discussed the issue of changing Nova to a standard school or allowing it to stay as it was. The School Board had decided to let it stay as it was because it had been "highly successful" and in the year 2000, it had been rated one of the top five high schools in the country. The School Board, however, believed it should be brought back to the experimental status it once had been and revalidate the concept.

Mr. Rubenstein spoke of future building and technological changes such as the delivery of text books from the conventional distribution to electronic, and that this prospect would start with Nova. Vice-Chair Sereda asked how the issue of providing electronic text books to students who have no access would be resolved. Mr. Rubenstein responded that there were several projects going on between vendors regarding the issue and that the School Board was looking for corporate sponsorship.

Mr. Rubenstein spoke of other programs that were to be implemented in the near future such as "Eye Site" and "Eye Chat" transmitted through high speed Internet connections. He talked about the implications and advantages of "Virtual" education and reiterated that Nova was the perfect place to initiate the concepts.

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Broward County School Board Activities

The discussion led to the type of construction that would be necessary in the future considering that the fundamental chalk board would be replaced by an electronic media display. Mr. Rubenstein indicated that there was no question that Broward School Board needed to build more schools because of class size reduction. He indicated which schools already had money allocated for construction and that there was "design money" in the budget for another middle school in this district. Mr. Rubenstein advised that due to construction overhead issues, a 24-classroom addition to Western High School was awaiting commencement. Also discussed were the plans for relief to Cypress Bay High School. He indicated that for the next two or three years, the steps in the measurement for student enrollment were to be first by district, second by schools, and third by individual classrooms.

Other areas of interest that were addressed in discussion were: the starting date of the school year; cell phones in schools; the prospect of a bond issue; the amount of charter

schools allocated for the County and their performance; the recent legislation regarding high school credits (18 or 24); and transportation costs to Nova schools.

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Ms. Klauber advised of a State bill which had been passed regarding drivers' education which was being offered as a pilot program in Plantation High School. She provided details and indicated that the program would expand.

Mr. Tralewski inquired on the concept of building schools more than one-story due to the reduction in available land. Mr. Rubenstein acknowledged that the concept had to be considered for future buildings.

4. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS

Ms. Gale confirmed that the next meeting date was scheduled for October 20th.

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Date Approved: _____

Chair/Board Member