



Special School Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 15, 2006 – 9:00 a.m.
School Board Meeting Room
Stuart, FL 34994

Members Present

Lorie Shekailo – Chair
Laurie Gaylord-Vice-Chair
Dr. David Anderson
Susan Hershey
Nancy Kline
Dr. Sara A. Wilcox, Superintendent

Members Absent

Kristin Conrad, Student Representative (JBHS)

Staff Present

Ruth Pietruszewski, Steve Weil, Dr. Joyce Holmes

Public

No Representation

Press

PBPost – Mike Bender

Stuart News – Kelly Tyko

MCEA – No Representation

AFSCME – No Representation

Call to Order by the Chair at 2:00 p.m. and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

1. Adoption of the Agenda:*

A. Additions, Deletions or Amendments to the Agenda

There were none.

B. Approval of the Agenda

Nancy Kline moved approval of the agenda. Sue Hershey seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Open to the Public:*

No one from the public requested to address the Board.

3. Applicant Interviews:*

• **Doug Grffin**

Deana Newson, Director of HRMD and Staff Development, explained the interview process to Board members. Each Board member would take turns asking one question at a time from the interview guide. The applicants resume and entire application was in each Board member's packet. Doug Griffin was the only applicant, and he would be interviewed long distance by telephone. Deana opened the questions and began with the key background review. Doug Griffin explained that the school districts in Illinois were not county-wide; therefore, there were many more districts than in the state of Florida. Doug stated he was a partner at Miller, Hall & Triggs in Peoria, Illinois. His firm currently represents 10% of the schools in Illinois. His present practice is a mix of school related issues and commercial real estate. He reviewed his experiences in local governmental law, Administrative Procedures Act, general contract law, labor and employment law, construction law, laws relating to claims of discrimination, real estate/land acquisition, ESE litigation, sunshine law and public records law. He told Board members that Florida has the most aggressive public record laws in the nation. He stated that his entire career has been dealing with those types of related items. He informed Board members that his firm has a sophisticated commercial real estate practice, which has given him great experience in contract law. At the end of the interview guide, Lorie Shekailo asked Doug, if he were offered the position, how much time would be required for him to close out of his current practice. Doug responded that with his partnership agreement he would be able to leave no sooner than June 30. He was required to give a 30 day notice. Sue Hershey asked Doug to describe his computer knowledge, and he gave details about his computer expertise. Lorie Shekailo questioned him on how leaving the position and then coming back would affect him. He answered that he would take a look at the changes. He stated that he had no need to control. His management style was to help those in control to facilitate. Nancy Kline asked if a monitoring system could be set-up so Board members would stay informed. Doug said he could create a system, and he personally had a system for himself. Laurie Gaylord

3. Applicant Interviews :*(Con't)

asked questions about the colleges Doug had attended. Sue Hershey asked Doug if his Florida bar was in an active status. He said it was active, but he had not done the required Florida CLE's, so he will probably have to make them up. Laurie Gaylord asked if Doug felt his return to Florida meant longevity. He answered definitely. Laurie Gaylord asked Doug his opinion on in-house vs. out-house attorneys. Doug's view point was that internal improvements could not be made without working in-house day to day. Doug asked what the Board's timeline was. Lorie Shekailo told him the Board would be discussing the timeline after the interview ended. Board members finished questioning Doug. They discussed the interview. Dr. David Anderson asked if there were any more applicants. Deana checked with personnel this morning, and she said there were no other qualified applicants. Board members asked how long the attorney's position had been posted. Deana answered that it had been posted on April 19th. Sue Hershey mentioned that there were many Board Attorney positions left vacant throughout the state of Florida, since qualified applicants were few. Lorie Shekailo said Russell Petersen had offered his advice on screening qualified applicants. She mentioned Doug Griffin's name to him, and his response was, "Why are you looking else where?" Sue Hershey said that Steve Fry, the County's attorney, had made the same exact comment, "Why would you look any further?" when Sue mentioned Doug Griffin had applied for School Board Attorney.

Sue Hershey made a motion to begin negotiations with Doug Griffin, Nancy Kline seconded, and motion carried unanimously

Dr. Sara A. Wilcox asked the Board to confirm that her assumption was correct on allowing the Board Chair the authority to negotiate and then bring it back before the Board. Board members came to a consensus that the Chair had that authority.

4. Open to the Board

Board members decided to table Open to the Board until tomorrow night's Board meeting.

There being no further business to bring before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

CHAIR (Lorie Shekailo)

SECRETARY (Sara A. Wilcox, Ph.D.)