



December 9, 2024
Citizens' Financial Oversight Committee Meeting - 2:00 PM
Manatee County School Board
Walter E. Miller School Support Center
215 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, FL 34205
www.manateeschools.net

In attendance were the following members:

Susan Harrigan – Chair
Holly Johnson – Vice-Chair
Eric DiSilvestro - member
Pat Barber – non-voting member
Deanna Howell – non-voting member (absent)
Michael Bennett (absent)
Kevin Chapman – District Staff
Laura Cox - District Staff - notetaker

a) Call to order

Chair Harrigan called the meeting to order at 2:08 pm.

b) Notification that meeting is being recorded

Chair Harrigan noted the meeting was being recorded.

c) Introduce new member

Chair Harrigan introduced the newest member of the CFOC; Mr. Michael Bennett who was not in attendance.

It was noted that committee member Ehren gave his resignation and is no longer part of the committee.

d) Review and accept notes from meeting of October 28, 2024

Committee Chair inquired if anyone had any changes to be made to the notes taken on October 28, 2024. Being no requests, a motion to approve the notes from the October 28th meeting was made by Vice-Chair Johnson and seconded by member DiSilvestro.

The Vote passed unanimous 3-0.

Public Comments

There was no public comment.

New Business –

a) Annual Report 2023

12/17/2024

The committee acknowledged that finalized Grad rate is not available from DOE until December or January, Mr. Kevin Chapman, Executive Director of Administration, stated the Graduation rate will be out soon in time to be added to the annual report.

It was noted that the Board Clerk forwarded the sections provided to her to all committee members for review. Vice-Chair Johnson thanked the members for their input.

The Committee reviewed the report sections created by the committee members and held discussion regarding the information provided thus far. Further discussion was held in reference to the Human Resources data regarding the retention of employees. The committee requested additional information and inquired why the data could not be provided in the way the committee requested. Committee Member Barber stated that the District tracks the information differently; Mr. Chapman noted the committee Chair might invite a representative from HR to attend the next meeting to work out how to obtain data that shows the number of people leaving their positions rather than unfilled positions.

The committee suggested a way to increase data regarding turnover, or any employees leaving the district, would be to have an exit survey given to employees at the time of notice given rather than an optional survey after the position is vacated. The committee discussed potential HR procedures as well as the current exit interview process.

Discussion took place regarding Member DiSilvestro's data section of the report. The committee discussed organization of the report and the sections to highlight and add additional information. The committee posed questions regarding the actual and budgeted spending for the district. It was stated that follow up from Deputy Superintendent of Business Services would be provided.

The committee discussed the changes in state school grading standards over the years and the importance of noting these changes in the report. They also highlighted specific schools' achievements and the overall district grade improvement.

List of requests made from the Committee included:

1. Graduation Rate (To be provided by State of Florida)
2. Confirm the actual amount set aside for the fund balance and ensure it is reflected accurately in the report. (To be clarified by Ms. Rachel Sellers)

b) Discussion regarding Quarter 1 Millage Data

Chair Harrigan mentioned that during the January workshop, a request would be made to the School Board for CRI to assist the committee in compiling the 2024-2025 millage data until the end of the fiscal year. The 2023-2024 Annual Report will be presented during the January workshop, followed by proposed final approval at the February meeting.

Administrative Matters

- a) **Review Member Vacancies**- did not discuss
- b) **Date of Next Committee Meeting** – Feb 10, 2025 at 2pm, April 7, 2025 at 2pm.

c) **Additional Agenda Items for Next Committee Meeting**

- a. HR / Exit Interview process – (Request an HR Representative)
- b. CRI assistance for the 2024-2025 FY

Comments from Committee Members and Staff

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Vice-Chair Johnson and seconded by Member DiSilvestro. The vote passed unanimously 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:23 pm.

One or more School Board Members may be present and participate in the Committee Meeting.