



Vision:
100% Student Success

Mission:
"Educate and prepare each student for college, career and life."

Via U.S. Mail and
Email to mwoodard@pinellascounty.org

April 27, 2016

Mr. Mark S. Woodard
County Administrator
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

Re: Board of County Commissioner's approval of Referendum Question
Approved by School Board of Pinellas County

Dear Mr. Woodard:

I am writing to advise you that the Pinellas County School Board took action at its April 12, 2016, regular meeting approving a School Board resolution directing the Pinellas County Commissioners to place a measure on the ballot for the November 8, 2016, general election regarding the continuance of a one-half mill ad valorem tax for four years pursuant to Section 1011.73, Florida Statutes. Attached please find the School Board resolution that passed unanimously (7-0) at the School Board's regular meeting on April 12, 2016, as well as the minutes reflecting such passage.

In accordance with section 1011.73 (2), Florida Statutes, I am hereby advising you that the School Board has directed the County Commissioners to call an election as described above. Our hope is that the Board of County Commissioners will be able to take action at its May 10, 2016, regular meeting.

Please advise me when this matter is placed on a meeting agenda for the Board of County Commissioners.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me. I appreciate your assistance in the matter.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Grego, Ed.D.
Superintendent

cc: David Koperski, School Board Attorney
Beth Rawlins

ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING
301 Fourth St. SW
P.O. Box 2942
Largo, FL 33779-2942
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SCHOOL BOARD OF
PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA
Chairperson
Peggy I. O'Shea

Vice Chairperson
Terry Krasner

Jane R. Clark
Carol J. Cook
Renee Flowers
Linda S. Lamer
Dr. Ken Palumbo

Superintendent
Michael A. Grego, Ed.D.



ADOPTED

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL (ID # 5683)

April 12, 2016

TO: MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY

FROM: MICHAEL A. GREGO, Ed.D., SUPERINTENDENT

SUBJECT: Recommend Adoption of Resolution Containing Ballot Question Necessary to Continue the One-Half Mill Ad Valorem tax for Necessary Operation Purposes and Authorize the Superintendent to Forward the Resolution to the Supervisor of Elections for Inclusion on the November 8, 2016, General Election Ballot

BACKGROUND:

In November 2012, the voters of Pinellas County continued their commitment to public education in Pinellas County by voting to approve a continuation of the one-half mill property tax for four years. This will end on June 30, 2017.

In order to maintain the benefits of the one-half mill property revenue, it is necessary for the voters in the county to approve a continuation of the one-half mill property tax at a duly-called election.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION: Effective & Efficient Use of Resources

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the Resolution and present the ballot question as proposed.
2. Do not approve the Resolution and present the ballot question as proposed.

RECOMMENDATION:

Alternative No. 1 is recommended.

RATIONALE:

The School Board is requesting the public to approve a renewal of the tax referendum in order to continue to provide additional revenue with which the district may recruit and retain quality teachers and maintain quality educational programs in academic areas and in the areas of visual arts, performing arts, reading and technology. The ballot question to be adopted by Board resolution is as follows:

"Shall the Pinellas County School District ad valorem millage of one-half mill per year be continued beginning July 1, 2017, and ending four fiscal years later on June 30, 2021, for necessary operating expenses including funds to recruit and retain teachers; preserve reading programs and music and art classes; and provide up-to-date textbooks and technology, with oversight of these expenditures by an independent citizens financial oversight committee?"

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Request for Approval (ID # 5683)

Meeting of April 12, 2016

It is estimated that continuation of the one-half mill increase in ad valorem tax will generate approximately \$34 million annually beginning fiscal year 2017-2018 for the district to use for teacher salaries and designated programs and classes.

DATA SOURCES:

David Koperski, School Board Attorney
Kevin Smith, Associate Superintendent, Finance and Business Services
Independent Citizens Referendum Oversight Committee

SUBMITTED BY:

William P. Corbett, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PINELLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO PLACE A MEASURE ON THE BALLOT FOR THE NOVEMBER 8, 2016, GENERAL ELECTION FOR THE ELECTORS WITHIN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT TO VOTE ON THE APPROVAL OF THE CONTINUATION OF ONE-HALF MILL AD VALOREM TAX FOR FOUR YEARS PURSUANT TO SECTION 1011.73(2), FLORIDA STATUTES (2011).

WHEREAS, Section 1011.73(2), Florida Statutes (2015), authorizes the School Board pursuant to a resolution adopted at a regular meeting to direct the County Commissioners to call an election at which the electors within the school district may approve an ad valorem tax millage as authorized under Section 1011.71(9), Florida Statutes (2015); and

WHEREAS, Section 1011.71(9), Florida Statutes (2015), authorizes a school district to levy, by local referendum or in a general election, additional millage for school operational purposes up to an amount that, when combined with the nonvoted millage levied said section, does not exceed the 10 mill limit established in s. 9(b), Art. VII of the State Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the School Board has determined that it is in the best interests of the school district to submit to the voters the question of approving the continuation of the one-half mill ad valorem tax for four years for necessary operating expenses;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN REGULAR SESSION DULY ASSEMBLED THIS 12th DAY OF APRIL, 2016, THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA, IS HEREBY DIRECTED TO CALL AN ELECTION IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GENERAL ELECTION OF NOVEMBER 8, 2016, AT WHICH THE ELECTORS WITHIN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY VOTE ON THE APPROVAL OF CONTINUATION OF THE ONE-HALF MILL AD VALOREM TAX FOR FOUR YEARS AS AUTHORIZED UNDER SECTION 1011.71(9), FLORIDA STATUTES (2015), AND THE SUBSTANCE OF THE MEASURE AND THE BALOT TITLE SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:

BALLOT TITLE: APPROVAL OF THE CONTINUATION OF ONE-HALF MILL AD VALOREM TAX FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT OPERATING EXPENSES

BALLOT QUESTION: Shall the Pinellas County School District ad valorem millage of one-half mill per year be continued beginning July 1, 2017 and ending four fiscal years later on June 30, 2021, for necessary operating expenses including funds to recruit and retain teachers; preserve reading programs and music and art classes; and provide up-to-date textbooks and technology, with oversight of these expenditures by an independent citizens financial oversight committee?

_____ **YES**
_____ **NO**

Regular School Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 12, 2016 10:00 AM
 School Administration Building
 301 Fourth Street SW
 Largo, FL 33770

~ Minutes ~

<https://www.pcsb.org>

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at the School Board Administration Building, 301 Fourth Street SW, Largo, Florida.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Rene Flowers	Board Member	Present	
Ken Peluso	Board Member	Present	
Carol J. Cook	Board Member	Present	
Janet R. Clark	Board Member	Present	
Terry Krassner	Vice Chairman	Present	
Linda S. Lerner	Board Member	Present	
Peggy O' Shea	Chairperson	Present	
Michael A. Grego	Superintendent	Present	
David Koperski	Board Attorney	Present	
William Corbett	Deputy Superintendent	Present	
Kevin Smith	Associate Superintendent/Finance Business Services	Present	
Clinton Herbic	Associate Superintendent/Operations	Present	
Ann Simonetti	Administrative Asst. and Clerk to the Board	Present	

Attachment: board meeting minutes 041216 (5707 : Request Approval of Minutes)

II. Amendments to the Agenda

At this time, Dr. Grego requested that the following agenda item be amended:

Consent Agenda Item #6: Request Approval of 2016/2017 Property, Boiler & Machinery Insurance Program

He stated the item is being amended to reflect an additional premium savings of approximately \$300,000.

Mrs. O'Shea stated that as board chair she finds good cause to amend the agenda by updating consent agenda item #6 on page 83 of the online agenda to reflect additional savings in premium payments of approximately \$300,000.

III. Invocation: Pastor Kenny McNatt, Seminole Assembly of God, 10600 113th Street, Largo, FL

The invocation was delivered by Pastor McNatt.

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance followed the Invocation.

National Anthem

The National Anthem was sung by Lindsey Collins, student at Palm Harbor University High School.

Video: Fairmount Park Elementary students prepare for state testing during motivational pep rally

The video highlighted Fairmount Park Elementary. Motivational speaker and musical artist, Corey Thornton, performed during an FSA pep rally. This goes beyond the academic preparation for the Florida Standards Assessment. Students in third through fifth grade were encouraged by Thornton's message to "put school first, then do it big." Corey Thornton is a graduate of Gibbs High School.

V. Introduction of Professional and Community Organization Reps

Lisa M. Wolf, Public Information Officer

Lisa M. Wolf, Public Information Officer, introduced the following individuals: community organizations- Nelly Henjes, PESPA; Mike Gandolfo, PCTA; Sonya Roundtree, SEIU/FPSU; Cindy Ehrenzeller, PCCPTA, Rondi Hilleso and Victoria Hagedorn, Pinellas Arts for a Complete Education Coalition; and members of the media- Colleen Wright, Tampa Bay Times.

After introductions the following member of the media arrived: Cara Fitzpatrick, Tampa Bay Times.

VI. Presentation by Student Rights and Responsibilities: Palm Harbor University High School

Alexandra Solomon and Sandy Besaly, Student Rights and Responsibilities representatives from Palm Harbor University High School, addressed the Board to share information regarding programs and achievements taking place at their school.

VII. Adoption of Agenda

The action by the Board to adopt the agenda reflects the amendment presented by Dr. Grego during Item II. Amendments to the Agenda

Attachment: board meeting minutes 041216 (5707 : Request Approval of Minutes)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Krassner, Vice Chairman
SECONDER:	Rene Flowers, Board Member
AYES:	Flowers, Peluso, Cook, Clark, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

VIII. Special Order Agenda

1. Presentation of the Proclamation Designating April as National Autism Awareness Month Presented by Sherry Aemlsegger, Executive Director, Exceptional Student Education
Dr. Grego introduced this proclamation by thanking teachers who work with autistic students. He then called upon Ms. Aemlsegger, executive director, exceptional student education, who cited programs being held across the district this month to increase autism awareness.

Ken Peluso read the proclamation aloud.

It was moved by Rene Flowers, seconded by Carol Cook, and carried with a 7-0 vote to approve April as National Autism Awareness Month.

2. Presentation of the Proclamation Designating April as National Occupational Therapy Month Presented by Sherry Aemlsegger, Executive Director, Exceptional Student Education
Ms. Sherry Aemlsegger, executive director, exceptional student education, shared the important work of occupational therapists and occupational therapist assistants.

Terry Krassner read the proclamation aloud.

It was moved by Rene Flowers, seconded by Janet Clark, and carried with a 7-0 vote to approve April as National Occupational Therapy Month.

(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #163.)

3. Recognition of the National Art Education Association 2016 Southeastern Region Supervision/Administration Art Educator of the Year Award to Mrs. Sue Castleman, PK-12 Visual Arts Specialist, Presented by Pamela T. Moore, Associate Superintendent, Teaching and Learning Services

Ms. Pam Moore, associate superintendent, teaching and learning services, spoke of the recognition given to Ms. Sue Castleman by the National Art Education Association. She was named the 2016 Southeastern Region Supervision/Administration Art Educator of the Year. Dr. Grego thanked Ms. Castleman for her leadership.

Ms. Castleman was greeted and congratulated by the board.

IX. Public Comments on Agenda Items

The following individuals addressed the Board to offer their comments on selected agenda items:

1. Mike Gandolfo

Nonconsent Agenda Item #1: Recommend Adoption of Resolution Containing Ballot Question Necessary to Continue the One-Half Mill Ad Valorem tax for Necessary Operation Purposes and Authorize the Superintendent to Forward the Resolution to the Supervisor of Elections for Inclusion on the November 8, 2016, General Election Ballot

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Mr. Gandolfo, Pinellas Classroom Teachers Association, on behalf of teachers thanked Pinellas taxpayers for supporting the referendum for the last twelve years and for making education a priority in this county.

2. Joe Farrell

Nonconsent Agenda Item #1: Recommend Adoption of Resolution Containing Ballot Question Necessary to Continue the One-Half Mill Ad Valorem tax for Necessary Operation Purposes and Authorize the Superintendent to Forward the Resolution to the Supervisor of Elections for Inclusion on the November 8, 2016, General Election Ballot

Mr. Farrell, Pinellas Realtor Organization, on behalf of 7,000 realtors is proud to support the referendum and the impact quality education has on real estate sales.

3. Victoria Hagedorn

Nonconsent Agenda Item #1: Recommend Adoption of Resolution Containing Ballot Question Necessary to Continue the One-Half Mill Ad Valorem tax for Necessary Operation Purposes and Authorize the Superintendent to Forward the Resolution to the Supervisor of Elections for Inclusion on the November 8, 2016, General Election Ballot

Ms. Hagedorn, Arts for a Complete Education, spoke in strong support of the referendum and the benefit to all schools due to the equitable distribution of funding.

4. Cindy Ehrenzeller

Nonconsent Agenda Item #1: Recommend Adoption of Resolution Containing Ballot Question Necessary to Continue the One-Half Mill Ad Valorem tax for Necessary Operation Purposes and Authorize the Superintendent to Forward the Resolution to the Supervisor of Elections for Inclusion on the November 8, 2016, General Election Ballot

Ms. Ehrenzeller, Pinellas County Council PTA, wholeheartedly supports this item; PTA has served on Independent Citizens Referendum Oversight Committee (ICROC) the entire time.

5. Michael Vetter

Nonconsent Agenda Item #1: Recommend Adoption of Resolution Containing Ballot Question Necessary to Continue the One-Half Mill Ad Valorem tax for Necessary Operation Purposes and Authorize the Superintendent to Forward the Resolution to the Supervisor of Elections for Inclusion on the November 8, 2016, General Election Ballot

Mr. Vetter, on behalf of Ms. Jeanne Reynolds, PCS PK-12 performing arts specialist, stated that this year All County Orchestra was a full orchestra and the performing arts program is on the cutting edge of technology due to this revenue.

6. David Lehmann

Nonconsent Agenda Item #1: Recommend Adoption of Resolution Containing Ballot Question Necessary to Continue the One-Half Mill Ad Valorem tax for Necessary Operation Purposes and Authorize the Superintendent to Forward the Resolution to the Supervisor of Elections for Inclusion on the November 8, 2016, General Election Ballot

Mr. Lehmann, student from Largo High School, shared his experience as a music student since elementary school and stated his support of the referendum.

7. Melissa Erickson

Nonconsent Agenda Item #1: Recommend Adoption of Resolution Containing Ballot Question Necessary to Continue the One-Half Mill Ad Valorem tax for Necessary Operation Purposes and Authorize the Superintendent to Forward the Resolution to the Supervisor of Elections for Inclusion on the November 8, 2016, General Election Ballot

Ms. Erickson, executive director, Alliance for Public Schools Foundation, supports the

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referendum and thanked the board for their leadership in placing this on the ballot more than 10 years ago.

8. Mark Klutho

Consent Agenda Item # 6: Request Approval of 2016/2017 Property, Boiler & Machinery Insurance Program

Consent Agenda Item #11: Request Approval for the 2016-2017 Instructional Materials Adoption

Nonconsent Agenda Item #1: Recommend Adoption of Resolution Containing Ballot Question Necessary to Continue the One-Half Mill Ad Valorem tax for Necessary Operation Purposes and Authorize the Superintendent to Forward the Resolution to the Supervisor of Elections for Inclusion on the November 8, 2016, General Election Ballot

Nonconsent Agenda Item # 2: Request Approval of a Five-Year Charter Renewal for Discovery Academy of Science Charter School and Add Second Location

Mr. Klutho shared his concern with the district's energy usage, environmental concerns, and concern with charter schools.

9. Mitch Lee

Nonconsent Agenda Item #1: Recommend Adoption of Resolution Containing Ballot Question Necessary to Continue the One-Half Mill Ad Valorem tax for Necessary Operation Purposes and Authorize the Superintendent to Forward the Resolution to the Supervisor of Elections for Inclusion on the November 8, 2016, General Election Ballot

Mr. Lee, Pinellas Education Foundation Board and Independent Citizens Referendum Oversight Committee (ICROC) member since its inception, shared his support and restated the many uses for these funds and the solution it provided for lack of state funding.

X. Unfinished Business

- 1. Public Hearing to Consider the Amendments Policy 2460 – EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION. (This is the second reading. There are no changes since the first reading.)

There were no speakers for this public hearing.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Krassner, Vice Chairman
SECONDER:	Janet R. Clark, Board Member
AYES:	Flowers, Peluso, Cook, Clark, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

- 2. Public Hearing to Consider the Amendments to Policy 5112 – ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS. (This is the second reading. There are no changes since the first reading.)

There were no speakers for this public hearing.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Krassner, Vice Chairman
SECONDER:	Janet R. Clark, Board Member
AYES:	Flowers, Peluso, Cook, Clark, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

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- 3. Public Hearing to Consider the Amendments to Policy 5320 – IMMUNIZATION. (This is the second reading. There are no changes since the first reading.)

There were no speakers for this public hearing.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Terry Krassner, Vice Chairman
SECONDER:	Ken Peluso, Board Member
AYES:	Flowers, Peluso, Cook, Clark, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

XI. Consent

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Flowers, Peluso, Cook, Clark, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

- 1. Request Approval of Minutes: To Approve the Minutes of the School Board Workshop of March 8, 2016; and, of the Regular School Board Meeting of March 15, 2016
Approved as submitted
- 2. Request Approval of Personnel Recommendations
Approved as submitted
(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #163.)
- 3. Request Approval of the Administrative Appointment of the Assistant Principal, Sexton Elementary School
Appointment approved-Stephanie L. Middleton
(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book # 163.)
- 4. Request Approval of the Administrative Appointment of the Assistant Principal, Northeast High School
Appointment approved-Robert J. Gagnon
(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #163.)
- 5. Request Approval of the Appointment of the K-8 Social Studies Specialist
Appointment approved-Michelle L. Anderson
- 6. Request Approval of 2016/2017 Property, Boiler & Machinery Insurance Program
Approved as amended by the Superintendent under Item II. Amendments to the Agenda
- 7. Request Approval of the Following Special Projects:
Approved as follows:
 - Agreement with Learning Sciences International \$76,250.00
 - Amendment (additional funds) \$766,531.00 (new total \$5,463,848.00) to Title II, Part A

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Teacher and Principal Training and Recruitment Fund Grant
(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #163.)

8. Request for Early Termination of Existing Student Services Agreement with Bay Area Behavioral Serviv
Approved as submitted
9. Request Approval of the High School Course Code Directory and the Uniform Course Descriptions for 2016-2017
Approved as submitted
10. Request Approval of the Middle School Course Code Directory and the Uniform Course Descriptions for 2016-2017
Approved as submitted
11. Request Approval for the 2016-2017 Instructional Materials Adoption
Approved as submitted
12. Request Approval of Florida Inventory of School Houses (FISH) Certification of Facilities Data
Approved as submitted
(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #163.)
13. Request Approval of Substantial Completion for Group Restrooms Renovation (Buildings 5 and 7) as of October 5, 2015, Which is a Portion of the Project at Belleair Elementary School, Project No. 9235
Approved as submitted
(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #163.)
14. Request Approval of Selling the District's Surplus Equipment on the PublicSurplus.com Internet Auction Site
Approved as submitted
15. Request Approval to Recycle, Cannibalize, and/or Scrap Obsolete Fixed Assets
Approved as submitted
16. Request Approval of Bids to Vendors at Prices in Bid Documents in Accordance with Bid Policies and Statutes
Approved as submitted
(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #163.)

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XII. Nonconsent

- 1. Recommend Adoption of Resolution Containing Ballot Question Necessary to Continue the One-Half Mill Ad Valorem tax for Necessary Operation Purposes and Authorize the Superintendent to Forward the Resolution to the Supervisor of Elections for Inclusion on the November 8, 2016, General Election Ballot

Dr. Grego called upon Dani Dahlberg and Mike Gandolfo.

Ms. Dani Dahlberg, Citizens for Pinellas Schools, shared the organizations role in bringing forth the idea of the tax referendum, thanked the Board for their support, and spoke of the benefits of this funding which raises \$33 million; costing approximately \$65.57 per household.

Dr. Grego thanked Mr. Mike Gandolfo, PCTA, for the associations support.

Ken Peluso thanked everyone who spoke to this item.

Carol Cook wholeheartedly supports how these funds change students' lives and that many counties in our state reduce or eliminate programs due to lack of funding.

Terry Krassner thanked the speakers for taking the time to attend today's meeting and share their support.

Janet Clark thanked the residents of Pinellas County for fully supporting this referendum for the last twelve years and the important role of technology in today's classroom environment.

Linda Lerner stated that this revenue provides so much in classrooms.

Rene Flowers thanked the residents of Pinellas County and stated the benefits of these funds cross all cultures and geographic locations of our students.

Peggy O'Shea shared her strong support for placing this item on the ballot; all the money remains in Pinellas County, it is not shared with other counties in the state of Florida like other taxes. She thanked the oversight committee and the citizens and the fact that our district has renowned music and art programs due to this funding.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Rene Flowers, Board Member
SECONDER:	Janet R. Clark, Board Member
AYES:	Flowers, Peluso, Cook, Clark, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

- 2. Request Approval of a Five-Year Charter Renewal for Discovery Academy of Science Charter School and Add Second Location
(Copy to be found in Supplemental Minute Book #163.)

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ken Peluso, Board Member
SECONDER:	Terry Krassner, Vice Chairman
AYES:	Flowers, Peluso, Cook, Clark, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

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XIII. New Business

A. Items Introduced by Superintendent

Dr. Grego's report included the following:

- 1) He shared information about the Summer Reading Initiative, created to prevent summer learning loss. The goal is to put books into the hands of students, track their progress and provide incentives and increase school and community engagement in reading. A Fill the Bus drive kicks off April 25; there will be several drop-off locations. More details and opportunities to donate are listed on the district website at [pcsb.org/summer reading](http://pcsb.org/summer-reading).
- 2) He stated that on March 30 he joined Hillsborough County's Superintendent Jeff Eakins to host GradNation. More than 200 high school students from both counties came together to exchange ideas on how to increase the on-time high school graduation rate to 90 percent by the year 2020. Several GradNation summits were held across the county; the event we held was the only student-led summit in the nation.
- 3) He shared that Jaycelynn Dowdy, a fifth grade student at Curlew Creek Elementary was named the statewide winner of the 2015-16 Florida Missing Children's Day Essay Contest. This contest is open to all fifth graders in the state of Florida and focuses on what children can do to keep themselves safe from abduction while at home, school or away from their parents. On Monday, September 12, 2016, Jaycelynn will be honored at the State Capitol. She will read her essay to the audience. She won a prize package that includes a trophy, \$100 cash and a trip to Universal Studios.
- 4) He spoke about the recent Tarpon Springs pool groundbreaking ceremony. Due to the collaboration between Pinellas County Schools and the City of Tarpon Springs there will be a pool which can be used by students and residents. He thanked Mayor Archie, the Tarpon Springs' community and the School Board for partnering to provide this resource.
- 5) He congratulated the Tarpon Springs High School Color Guard for being named the Scholastic World Champions in Dayton, Ohio. They competed against guards from across the country and earned the top score by nearly three full points, which is a rare occurrence. They earned the top spot in 2014, also.
- 6) He said student teams from Dunedin Highland Middle School, Forest Lakes Elementary, Morgan Fitzgerald Middle School and Carwise Middle School competed in the state Odyssey of the Mind Competition held at the University of Central Florida. Dunedin Highland Middle School placed first in one category and second in another. Forest Lakes Elementary placed second in their division. These teams will be invited to the World Finals at Iowa State University in May.
- 7) He spoke about the PRIDE awards; Program to Recognize Initiative and Distinction in Education. This award honors fifth grade students who excel in math, science, social studies, and writing and eighth grade students who excel in math, science, social studies, writing and world languages. The event was held at Ruth Eckerd Hall. He thanked the Pinellas Education Foundation for their support.
- 8) He said that tomorrow afternoon he will attend the Executive PASS program meeting at the Stavros Institute. Our PASS partnerships continue to grow. He said he is looking forward to hearing about the impact of this year's partnerships on schools in our district.
- 9) He said that on Thursday this week, he will be at the Tarpon Springs campus of St. Petersburg College to meet with their first cohort of students in the Elite Educator program. This program is possible through the district's partnership with St. Petersburg College. He thanked Dr. Law of SPC for his leadership.

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B. Items Introduced by School Board Attorney

Mr. Koperski stated that he had no report.

C. Items Introduced by the Board

Terry Krassner- She shared that she attended the Leadership U graduation ceremony. This program requires thirty-six hours of training; it builds relationships across the district; and encourages leadership in all staff.

Linda Lerner- 1) She said that she attended GradNation Summit; planned by students. Students looked at what is needed to support learning. She requested the Power Point presentations from this summit be shared with all board members. 2) She stated that two outstanding administrators are retiring. Ms. Linda Whitley, social studies supervisor, after 35 years and Ms. Pat Lusher, director, digital learning, after 39 years with the district. 3) She spoke about the district's program that allows students from economically disadvantaged families to take home laptops to aid their learning and the program we have with Bright House Networks to offer reduced rates to these families. She inquired about the possibility of WiFi hot spots since many families are unable to meet even the lower rate. 4) She asked if principals in the twelve Turnaround Schools will be given more autonomy over curriculum and the possibility of revisiting the idea of decentralized decision making. She asked that it be a workshop topic.

Rene Flowers- 1) She shared information about a community partnership event with USFSP and JDAI scheduled for Monday, April 18th from 9am-12noon at the Jackson Recreation Center, The Pursuit of Justice for Children and Youth and at the Johnson Library from 1-4 pm, An Introduction to Restorative & Trauma-Informed Practices. 2) She shared information about a community meeting being held at PTC, St. Petersburg, 6-8:30 pm, on Tuesday, April 19th; The Enough is Enough; We Talk You Listen. Dr. Brimm is involved. 3) She spoke about Corey Thornton who led the FSA pep rally at Fairmount Park. She met him in the 1990's and commended him for his passion to share a positive message and for people to see beyond their present situation.

D. Review of Board Requests

Dr. Corbett stated the following board request:

- Inquire about WiFi hot spots through Bright House Networks

E. School Board Meeting Evaluation

The evaluation of the meeting followed the adjournment of the meeting; and, the results are as follows:

Pluses:

- respond with clarification to speakers
- referendum well supported

Opportunities:

XIV. Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the School Board; this meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM

Chairperson

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Superintendent and Ex-Officio Secretary

XV. Public Speakers

The following individuals addressed the Board to share their comments:

1. Lenore Faulkner

Ms. Faulkner shared her personal experiences and spoke against Common Core.

2. Mark Klutho

Mr. Klutho shared his viewpoint on the district's energy usage.

3. Tameka Williams

Ms. Williams, parent of s successful student at Melrose Elementary, requested four improvements: 1) parent accountability, consensus and bridging communication 2) qualified teachers for student population (suggested AmeriCorps) 3) school focus/magnet linked to middle school 4) need for community liaison that is familiar with community services.

4. Etta Tucker

Ms. Tucker spoke of her dislike for the mural of the Manatee at Melrose Elementary and wants it removed.

5. Ashley Green

Ms. Green (Dream Defenders) said that she commends the district for working with the Department of Education investigation. She announced that the Restorative Justice BBQ is rescheduled for this Sunday; it was originally to be held March 19th, but was cancelled due to weather. She asked for a sense of urgency by the district in solving problems.

6. Jayson James

Mr. James stated that mental health services in schools are critical for many students.

This session ended at 12:08 PM

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