

**SUMMARY OF PINELLAS SCHOOLS COLLABORATIVE
MEETING OF NOVEMBER 5, 2008**

The meeting was held on Wednesday, November 5, 2008, in the Planning Department Conference Room. Those in attendance were:

Members Present:

Susan Latvala	Pinellas County (Chairman)
Jane Gallucci	Pinellas County School Board
Gigi Arntzen	City of Largo
Nadine Nickeson	City of Safety Harbor
George Cretekos	City of Clearwater (arrived at 9:18)
Julie Ward Bujalski	City of Dunedin
Suzanne Vale	City of Oldsmar
Bill Dudley	City of St. Petersburg
Jerry Mullins	PSTA/Pinellas Park
Peter Dalacos	City of Tarpon Springs
Doug Mullis	Citizen Representative

Members Absent:

Carol Cook	Pinellas County School Board
John Counts	City of Seminole
Mary Stull	City of Gulfport
Paula Cohen	City of Madeira Beach
Mike Finnerty	City of St. Pete Beach

Others Present:

Dave Sadowsky	Pinellas County Attorney's Office
Steve Fairchild	Pinellas County School District
Michael Bessette	Pinellas County Schools
Marlene and John Buckles	Consultants for the Pinellas County School Board
Steven Everitt	City of Oldsmar
Paul Gesz	City of St. Petersburg
Tom Washburn	Pinellas County Public Works
Robert Davis	Pinellas County Public Works
Sandra Herman	City of Clearwater
Arrow Woodard	City of Largo
Robert Davis	Pinellas County Traffic
Chelsea Ross	Pinellas County Planning Department
Liz Freeman	Pinellas County Planning Department
Gordon Beardslee	Pinellas County Planning Department
Gina Harvey	Pinellas County Planning Department/MPO
Sarah Ward	Pinellas County Planning Department/MPO
Carolyn Kuntz	MPO/Recorder

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Latvala called the meeting to order at 8:56 a.m. and welcomed Bill Dudley, representing the City of St. Petersburg. She then thanked Jane Gallucci for her leadership and service to the Committee and community, noting this was her last meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2008 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Arntzen moved, Councilman Mullins seconded, and motion carried to approve the minutes.

III. **STATUS OF ADOPTION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES ELEMENT AND LOCAL CODE AMENDMENTS TO IMPLEMENT SCHOOL CONCURRENCY**

Mr. Beardslee distributed copies of an updated table showing the status of the adoption of the Public School Facilities Element and Land Development Regulations by the local governments. The effective date for implementing school concurrency according to the Interlocal Agreements is when all local governments have adopted their Element and amended their Land Development Regulations.

IV. **PROGRESS ON DEVELOPING AND INITIATING THE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT TRACKING SYSTEM**

Mr. Beardslee noted the School Planning Work Group has put in a lot of work, assisted by the Pinellas County Business Technology Services (BTS) Department. BTS has developed a web-based tracking system. They have met with the local governments and they are using the system on a trial basis to work out problems so it can be modified as necessary. The intent is to have a final web-based development tracking system in place by November 17. The benefits are that all local governments will be able to share information and know the status of how many student stations are available at any time. When a development comes in with a residential project, they will know immediately for small projects the availability of student stations to meet the anticipated demand. For larger projects, the tracking system will allow the local government to easily request a concurrency determination from the School District. After phase 1 is complete, the Work Group and BTS will continue to work on phase 2, refining as necessary. They are developing a procedural manual so that school concurrency is implemented consistently among the local governments.

Chairman Latvala appreciated everyone's effort.

V. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT INPUT ON PREPARATION OF EDUCATIONAL PLANT SURVEY**

Marlene Buckles, consultant, indicated the School Plant Survey is to ensure anything the School District builds is consistent with laws and Statutes and are good facilities. This is a systematic study that takes place every five years. There are several categories that will be included in the final document. These are:

- **Site improvements** – work done needed to correct health and safety problems, meet specific program needs, and deals with current or proposed sites;
- **Remodeling** – defined by the State as a change of an existing room from one function to another, such as moving walls, changing from a regular classroom to a Science Lab, changes the function or shape of a room;
- **Renovation** – deals with aesthetics, necessary upgrade to current standards, technology infrastructure, etc.; and
- **New Construction** – new building, new school, or replacing a school.

During this school year, the consultant will coordinate with the School District and develop recommendations for the survey. They receive input from various groups, District staff, and the schools. Ultimately, the School Board and State will approve the final report, which will result in work plans for the next five years.

Steve Fairchild added they have sent a formal invitation to the local jurisdictions for input, which they would like by December 1 for forwarding to the consultants. Comments can be emailed to him or Gordon Beardslee.

Some general discussion followed.

Commissioner Bujalski noted a concern with the Interlocal Agreement. Mr. Fairchild requested she get with him after the meeting.

Ms. Gallucci noted there is \$144 million worth of classroom improvements for next year, included in the Five Year Plan. This money comes from local tax dollars except for the \$33 million that comes from the State. More classrooms are needed in order to meet the Class Size amendment requirements even though there is declining enrollment in Pinellas County.

****Councilman Cretkos arrived at 9:18****

There is the need to ask the State Legislature to suspend the implementation language of the Class Size constitutional amendment and, instead, allow each school district to determine how best to achieve the intent of the class size amendment in the current environment of declining school enrollment.

Chairman Latvala requested everyone discuss this issue with their Legislator.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:21 a.m.