

Hillsborough Association of School Administrators
Board of Directors Meeting
February 1, 2010

In attendance: Ken Allen, Carla Bruning, Lou Cerreta, Mary Cunningham, Linda Denison, Ernie Fernandez, Alice Gault, Wendy Harriossn, Connie Hayden-McPeak, Marilou King, Joe Leavens, Jean Leone, Derrick McLaughlin, John Miliziano, Bill Orr, Herbert Peeples, Jason Pepe, Sherrie Sikes, Maria Singfield, Tee Solomon, David Smith, Joe Trumbach, Elsa Tuggle, Laura Zavatka,

President Tee Solomon welcomed attendees at 5:09 PM. She noted that Greg Fenlon with Balfour would be presenting information later in the meeting.

A. Minutes – Herbert Peeples

The Board was asked to review the January 2010 meeting minutes. It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes as presented and the motion passed.

B. Treasurer’s Report – Jason Pepe

Jason Pepe, treasurer, addressed the January 2010 treasurer’s report. Mr. Pepe discussed a recommendation regarding the categorizing of the budget line items. It has been a struggle in the past to categorize the activities in the budget. Co-mingling of funds from FASA and the Tampa Bay Area Coalition has presented specific problems. Mr. Pepe’s recommendation was that HASA work with an accountant to set up the accounts so that co-mingling would be ceased, as was the recommendation of the auditor last year. Discussion ensued and the motion was seconded and passed. A motion was made for approval of the January treasurer’s report for audit. The motion was seconded and passed.

C. Membership Report – Linda Denison

Dr. Linda Denison reviewed the January membership report. Current membership is 833, up by five members. The membership report was accepted as presented for information. Dr. Denison also congratulated Wendy Harrison on her recent promotion to principal.

D. President’s Report – Tee Solomon

Mrs. Solomon welcomed back Dr. Miliziano from his eye surgery. Dr. Miliziano thanked everyone for prayers, thoughts, cards, and encouragement.

Mrs. Solomon officially congratulated Wendy Harrison on her promotion to principal of Muller Elementary School.

Mrs. Solomon asked for items for the Superintendent’s Roundtable for February. Two established topics were: Administrative Career Ladder, and FASA’s five legislative priorities. One other suggested possible topic, either for the Superintendent’s Roundtable or for the School Board Forum, was the question, “what is the district’s plan for implementing Class Size Amendment in August?” No additional items were mentioned.

A question was posed: Does HASA ask our School Board members if they have a plan for working with legislators? Are School Board members allowed to seek input or form relationships with our legislators? It was noted that Dr. Lamb does a lot of that kind of networking through the Florida School Boards Association and our School Board usually establishes their priorities around that organization’s priorities. However, it has been noted that HASA’s priorities line up extremely closely with those of the School Board and that more unity has been seen statewide regarding these issues. Dr. Miliziano stressed the importance of opening emails that he sends because they contain vital information regarding legislative actions. One attendee from Legislative Days noted that legislators and/or representatives had asked for bill numbers, and none were available. Perhaps on future trips talking points can include more specific information if available.

At this point HASA Business Partner Greg Fenlon of Balfour, addressed the group. Greg is one of the very first HASA Business Partners. He is in his 25th year with Balfour. Balfour provides class rings, caps and gowns, diplomas and diploma products. Balfour also manufactures the beautiful HASA pins that are distributed to new members. Mr. Fenlon now services nine schools in Hillsborough, up from the one school he serviced the first fifteen years of his career in Hillsborough. Balfour is currently working with the New York Yankees, designing their World Series rings. Dr. Allen mentioned how Greg was always supportive to the high school principals with his assistance and quality products. Dr. Miliziano thanked Greg for his outstanding service to HASA.

Mrs. Solomon asked the board for their suggestions for topics at the School Board Forum. The Calendar of Conflicting Deadlines is still not ready for discussion at either the School Board Forum or the Superintendent's Roundtable. The placement of appointees on the School Board agenda was suggested and approved as a topic. Appointees are still required to wait until the end of the Board meeting. Mrs. Solomon asked Elsa Tuggle to address the evening's Forum format. Mrs. Tuggle described how the format was changed last year to include a historical overview of HASA, and then some topics pertinent to issues of the day, as well as offering suggestions to how the School Board can support HASA's initiatives. It is important to partner HASA board members with school board members so that there is a good mix of both at all tables. Mrs. Solomon initiated the circulation of a sign up page for HASA board members to choose to sit with certain School Board members. Dr. Miliziano also asked that HASA board members be willing to speak about some of the current issues. It was noted that thanking the School Board for their support of HASA should also be included.

Mrs. Solomon gave a report on Legislative Days. The delegation was able to keep every appointment that was scheduled, although they had to leave a calling card with Faye Culp's office and Kevin Ambler, as they had no set appointment with him. Warm receptions were received for the most part. One amusing anecdote: In the middle of legislative discussion, Bill Wetherford asked about the Hillsborough High school quarterback. Mrs. Solomon rose to the occasion and was able to obtain the information requested. Mrs. Solomon sent out kudos to Dr. Allen for arranging the appointments, then opened the floor to the Legislative Days attendees to make comments:

Ernie Fernandez noted that it was 13 degrees Monday, 17 degrees Tuesday. The talking points were good but specifics regarding bills would have been helpful. Rebuffs about the DROP showed that HASA needs to be aware of the attitude that exists regarding DROP. It was evident that it is not a money year. Victor Crist was very honest and told HASA exactly what would fly and what would not.

Jean Leone was impressed that the House is all for Class Size Amendment, and seem to be being listening to the union. Regarding the start of school being left to local control – there is a lot of concern with holding semester exams after the holidays. Mrs. Solomon picked up that parents and tourism want the start of school to stay like it is.

Dr. Linda Denison thanked Dr. Allen for making appointments in advance. She also suggested calling up legislators ahead of time to get the ball rolling prior to Legislative Days.

Mrs. Solomon distributed a draft document on the Mentoring Initiative Outline and Ideas. From the Pearls workshop the Mentoring Initiative was born and Mrs. Solomon will spearhead the program. She reviewed the timeline of the proposed process with the HASA Board attendees. Supplies should be provided at the workshops, most of which we have already. She also suggested that mentor/mentoree pins could be designed with the HASA logo for attendees. Dr. Miliziano asked the group to think it all over and get back with Mrs. Solomon either individually or during a meeting. It was suggested that Audrey Miller be contacted to see if she had some information to contribute from her term on the Mentoring Committee. It was also suggested that any desired guest speakers would need to be contacted well in advance of the orientation meeting for calendar coordination. Wendy Harrison mentioned that new appointees may already have a mentor assigned through the PNL program, and that would need to be considered. It was suggested that brown bag lunch-type sessions might also be incorporated.

E. Executive Director's Comments:

Dr. Miliziano noted that at the February 3rd Coalition meeting, the Tampa Bay Area Coalition will discuss planning a drive-in statewide meeting to establish additional regional groupings. Another meeting topic will be the possibility of local associations having a seat on the FASA board.

Discussion ensued on whether or not to have a March 1st representative board meeting, since the Forum is March 2. It was decided to cancel the regular board meeting and perhaps have the executive board could meet separately if needed.

A question was asked: What is the board's feeling on a workshop for HASA members to discuss the Gate Grant and pose questions? Dr. David Steele is the one who knows the most. If HASA sponsors a session on the Gates Grant, will the HASA board commit to attending and bringing some component group members? Much discussion ensued about the timing of a meeting, whether or not there is enough concrete information available. The Board decided to wait and monitor the progress of happenings.

Dr. Miliziano received many positive comments about the newsletter. It was reiterated that prior surveys have indicated that members do not want electronic newsletters. He noted that business partners have paid over \$2000 for advertisements.

F. Administrative Assistant:

Please return School Board forum RSVP flyers as soon as possible. Also, Mrs. Solomon asked that everyone wear their HASA pins to the School Board Forum.

G. Committee reports:

Lou Cerreta: Westshore Financial wants to do a workshop for HASA. The timing and details are still to be determined. Also, HASA board members were asked to think about and nominate a Business Partner of the Year.

Dr. Denison reported one response has been received for the Leadership Development program funds. She also offered the suggestion that Wendy Harrison be considered for the Leadership Development committee next year.

Dr. Ken Allen reported on Legislative status: He will be working with Rep. Kevin Ambler on his "It Ought to be a Law" project; he met with State Senate candidate Bill Montford to offer our support and discussed with him needs of administrators/managers; he will participate in a conference call with the FASA PAC on 2/15 to begin identifying candidates we want to support.

H. Roundtable:

Connie Hayden McPeak offered copies of platform priorities from the Coalition for Exceptional Students in the interest of better collaboration between groups.

Elsa Tuggle reminded the group to consider candidates for the annual HASA Leadership Awards.

Wendy Harrison applauded Derrick McLaughlin as the new representative for the APEI component group.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert Peeples

Herbert Peeples
2009-2010 Secretary

**Minutes not official until ratified at the next Board of Directors meeting.*