### One Mill Oversight Committee APPROVED MINUTES February 26, 2019

The School Board of Alachua County *One Mill Oversight Committee* was called to order at 4 p.m. in Conference Room C, District Administration Building, 620 East University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida.

**Members Present:** Rob Hyatt, School Board Chair; Debbie Gallagher, One Mill Chair; Eric Godet, Sam Goforth, Jean Robinson, Albert White and Janie Williams, Members. **Members Absent:** Harvey Budd, and Lillian Swanger.

**School District Staff Present:** Karen Clarke, Superintendent; and Alex Rella, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services.

**Invited Guests Present:** Pam Korithoski,, **ACCPTA** President; Ian Fletcher, VP & Talent Alignment, **Chamber of Commerce**; Linda Henderson and Bonnie Bernau, **Friends of the Elementary Arts**; and Uma Shankar, Chief of District **Instructional Technology.** 

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gallagher called the meeting to order members introduced themselves and welcomed guests in attendance, which included:

- Mrs. Linda Henderson and Bonnie Bernau, Friends of the Elementary Arts
- Mr. Ian Fletcher, Vice-President of Education & Talent Alignment for the Chamber of Commerce
- Mr. Uma Shankar, District Technology Chief
- Mrs. Pam Korithoski, ACCPTA President

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2018, MINUTES Motion by Mr. Goforth

Seconded by Ms. Robinson

<u>Moved to</u> amend the minutes of the September 25, 2018, One Mill Oversight Committee minutes, as presented.

The question was called. <u>Upon Vote</u>: Motion passed

GUEST
INTRODUCTIONS—
Friends of the
Elementary Arts
(FEA)

Mrs. Linda Henderson and Mrs. Bonnie Bernau, Friends of the Elementary Arts, (FEA) explained that their mission is to support and enhance full-time Art and Music program for all elementary students in ACPS.

Each year a \$5,000 grants has been made available to transport students to the Harn Museum and to one of three music concerts at the Phillips Center. To date a total of \$87,588 has been granted for field trips.

They reported that the annual Musical Chairs event was recently held and \$5,600 was raised, \$5,600

They also reported that FEA received an additional \$3,500 from Gander Design., Brooklyn, NY.

Mrs. Williams thanked FEA and applauded their efforts on behalf of students that would have never had the opportunity to go on these field trips without their assistance.

### Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Fletcher shared an update on the Education Compact and informed the group that they are focused on the following areas:

- 1) Understanding the structure of the school system
- 2) Understanding and supporting children with their homework
- 3) How to advocate for your child by developing a relationship with your teacher

He also shared that they are in the process of scheduling parent focus groups to improve parent engagement and hope to move forward with online videos available during Fall Open House.

#### **ACCPTA**

Mrs. Korithoski reported that currently the Alachua County Council of PTAs oversees 32 local units out of 41 schools and centers. The mission of the ACCPTA is to advocate for kids and what they need at their schools.

She also shared that ACCPTA is trying to bring more mental health programs middle schools and they are advocating in Tallahassee for more funding.

# Instructional Technology

Mr. Uma Shankar, Chief of Instructional Technology, shared that his department provides technical assistance for K-12 students in all schools. The focus is on exposing all students to Career and Technical Education programs. Alachua County students earned the highest industry students in the state of Florida. He also reported on the change to digital instructional materials and collaboration with the public libraries for access to the instructional materials.

Mr. Shankar reported that the district has 20,000 computers and a refresh occurs every 3-5 years due to outdated software, Windows 10, etc. He indicated the goal is to maintain the computers 4-5 years and keep the refresh going.

Mrs. Gallagher noted that every student, parent and teacher are impacted by the One Mill, either through technology or guidance counselors.

Mrs. Williams noted the need for a Head Start counselor at Duval to circumvent problems.

Mrs. Clarke noted that One Mill funds cannot be used for Head Start, and this year the district is re-competing for the Head Start grant. She pointed out that in the past we have not had to compete, but some larger companies are wanting to do head start. The district needs to rethink how we are offering services—do we need to change to mental health of 3-4 year olds. She stated it is on the district's radar and hopefully the district will win the grant.

The Superintendent also pointed testing coordinators at the high school level have taken the burden off counselors, and also by increasing guidance clerical aide time at elementary, middle and to free up the counselor's time as well.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Mr. Rella conducted a review of financial information, which included:

- Analysis of One Mill Revenue and Expenditures as of February 26, 2019
- 2018-2019 Estimated One Mill Revenue and Expenditures
- One Mill Current Staffing
- One Mill by Project (2/2019)
- One Mill by Center (2/2019)

Mrs. Gallagher feels it is very helpful providing information noted the importance of communicating regularly with the public about what is going on with the One Mill and what could happen if we did not have the One Mill. She thanked everyone for sharing helpful information and providing updates.

Superintendent Clarke shared information related to the proposed Bill in the Legislature (retroactive to July 1<sup>st</sup>), that school districts will be watching closely, which will require that any local referendums be shared with charter schools (based on enrollments). This could potentially have a significant impact on the district and the concern would be that they could touch the current One Mill and the Half-Cent Surtax, or even future referendums.

Mrs. Gallagher suggested that now is the time to write a letter to the Editor in *The Gainesville Sun* focusing on how the money from the One Mill is being used and what is happening in Technology, Guidance Counselors being freed up to do their jobs, etc.

Superintendent Clarke stated that she will begin strategizing since the next election is only 20 months away.

Chairman Hyatt agreed with Mrs. Gallagher related to Art and Music should be part of the story to share with the public.

Mr. Godet gave a shout-out to Jackie Johnson, Public Information Officer, to continue to expand the information that is shared with the public through newsletters, media, etc.

Mrs. Gallagher suggested using images of the students performing in order to put a human face to it, and also the technology piece of what the money is being used for.

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING Mrs. Gallagher thanked everyone for sharing helpful information and providing updates.

The next meeting of the One Mill Oversight Committee will take place on Tuesday, **September 24, 2019, at 4 p.m.**, Conference Room E.

The annual report to the Board will be presented at the <u>Tuesday, May 7, 2019, 6 p.m.</u>, School Board meeting. All members are invited to attend.

ADJOURN <u>Motion by Mr. Goforth</u>

Seconded by Mrs. Robinson

Moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

The question was called. <u>Upon Vote</u>: Motion passed