



# Pinellas County School Board

## Public Hearing on Budget

~ Minutes ~

301 Fourth Street SW  
Largo, FL 33770  
<https://www.pcsb.org>

Ann Simonetti

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

5:01 PM

School Administration Building

### I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. on August 1, 2017, at the School Board Administration Building, 301 Fourth Street SW, Largo, Florida.

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

### II. Welcome by the School Board Chairperson

Mrs. O'Shea led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. O'Shea welcomed the public to the first of two public hearings on the 2017-18 budget; tonight's actions are to approve tentative millage rates and the tentative budget. The order of business and actions taken at this meeting must follow specific directions set forth in state statutes. She asked the public for their cooperation as they proceed with this legally required format.

It was stated that there are two opportunities to speak, one regarding the proposed millage rates and the other on the proposed budget. The public was advised to sign up if they want to speak.

She shared that the School Board will continue to review the tentative budget and could potentially make changes or reduce millage rates prior to or during the final public hearing, which is scheduled for September 12, 2017.

She thanked the public for attending.

Mrs. O'Shea requested a motion to adopt the agenda.

She said that following the adoption of the agenda, the superintendent will be given the opportunity to make some introductory remarks prior to the presentation and public comments.

### III. Adoption of the Agenda

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Rene Flowers, Vice Chairperson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Terry Krassner, Board Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Flowers, Long, Lentino, Cook, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

### IV. Introductory Comments by the Superintendent

Dr. Grego said this is the first of two public hearings. The district's budget allocations are tied to the district strategic plan to support the goals of the district. The general operating fund is 63.59% of the total budget; this funds the day to day operation of the district. We currently have just over 5% contingency and will continue to build on it. He is proud of the recent audits of our finance department; minimal findings were cited. The district will issue Certificate of Participation bonds on Wednesday, August 9, 2017. We received excellent credit ratings from both Moody's and Fitch. Raymond James in Feather Sound is where the bond meeting and pricing will take place. Students from Northeast High School Academy of Finance will be in attendance. Raymond James partners with the Academy. Dr. Grego asked Mr. Kevin Smith to re-state the reason for the rescheduling of this public hearing.

Mr. Smith stated that the district was waiting for information from Tallahassee regarding funding. The information was received on Wednesday, July 19, and the calculations need to be done and a public meeting notice had to be placed in the Tampa Bay Times. The original meeting date of July 25th did not allow for all this to occur. Therefore, it was rescheduled for tonight, August 1, 2017.

### V. Overview of Budget Process and Truth in Millage (TRIM) Requirements by the Associate Superintendent of Finance and Business Services

Mr. Kevin Smith, associate superintendent, finance and business services, stated that the public hearing notices and Truth in Millage (TRIM) notices from the County Property Appraiser's office follow the legal requirements outlined in Chapter 200 of the Florida State Statutes. The public hearing notice ran in the Tampa Bay Times on Saturday, July 29, 2017. He noted that this budget is tentative and is based on projections for the 2017-18 beginning balances, since the results of the financial operations for the 2016-17 school year are not yet complete. Also, negotiations with our labor organizations have not yet been completed.

The proposed total tax millage rate of 7.009 mills is slightly lower than the actual rate levied for the 2016-17 fiscal year of 7.318 mills. As a result of the 7.7% increase in the tax roll, the proposed tax millage of 7.009 mills represents a 2.29% increase when compared to the 6.8524 mills "rolled-back" rate. The proposed taxes to be raised by the total millage rate will be \$16.6 million more than the proceeds generated by last year's millage rate. Capital Outlay proceeds will increase by \$8.3 million while operating proceeds will increase by \$8.3 million.

### VI. Millage to Support the Budget, Including Public Comments

Ms. Karen Coffey, executive director, budget and resource allocation, presented the following information through a PowerPoint presentation pertaining to the proposed millage:

- The composition of the School District's proposed millage

- The explanation of a “mill”
- What is the “rolled-back” rate
- The proposed millage vs. the “rolled-back” rate
- The gross taxable value trend
- The millage comparison
- The property tax revenue comparison
- How are school taxes calculate?
- An example of how your taxes may change
- The reasons for millage
- Motions necessary to adopt millage rates

There were no public comments regarding the proposed millage rates.

### 1. ***Approval of Tentative Discretionary Local Effort Millage***

The motion was made by Rene Flowers to approve the levying of a tentative discretionary local effort millage of **0.748 mills** as part of the total millage to be certified to the Property Appraiser and Florida Department of Revenue.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Rene Flowers, Vice Chairperson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Terry Krassner, Board Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Flowers, Long, Lentino, Cook, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

### 2. ***Adoption of Total Millage Rates***

The motion was made by Linda Lerner to adopt the tentative millage rate of 7.009 mills to be set and certified to the Property Appraiser and to the Florida Department of Revenue. The millage rates are as follows:

For required local effort	4.261 mills
For discretionary local effort	0.748 mills
For local referendum	0.500 mills
For Capital Outlay	<u>1.500 mills</u>
total tentative millage	7.009 mills

This rate is **2.29%** greater than the rolled-back rate.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Linda S. Lerner, Board Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Terry Krassner, Board Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Flowers, Long, Lentino, Cook, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

## VII. Tentative 2017-18 Budget, Including Public Comments

Ms. Lou Ann Jourdan, budget specialist, presented the following information through a PowerPoint presentation pertaining to the proposed budget.

- Budget cycle
- Budget parameters
- Budget summary
- Budget summary all sources
- 2017-2018 Legislative issues
- Operating fund resources
- Operating budget revenue sources
- Proposed operating budget
- Operating budget by object
- Capital fund sources
- Five-Year capital outlay plan & facilities work program
- Proposed capital projects
- Proposed special revenue
- Proposed debt service budget
- Proposed self-insured workers comp budget
- Proposed self-insured health budget

Ms. Jourdan stated that the tentative budget is on file in the Office of Budget and Resource Allocation in the Administration Building, 301 Fourth Street SW, Largo, Florida. Additional information is available by calling 727-588-6479 or on the web at [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org)

There were no public comments regarding the tentative budget.

**1. Adoption of the Additional Amendments to the Proposed Budget**

There were no additional amendments.

**2. Approval of tentative budget for 2017/2018**

Terry Krassner moved that the board approve the tentative 2017/2018 budget as presented.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Terry Krassner, Board Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Rene Flowers, Vice Chairperson
<b>AYES:</b>	Flowers, Long, Lentino, Cook, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

**VIII. Additional Board Actions**

**1. Approval to Establish the Second Public Hearing**

Eileen Long moved that the Second Public Hearing on the 2017/18 District Budget be held on September 12, 2017, at 6:30 p.m., in the Conference Hall of the School Administration Building, 301 4th Street SW, Largo, Florida.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Eileen Long, Board Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Terry Krassner, Board Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Flowers, Long, Lentino, Cook, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

**2. Approval to Authorize Submittal of "Certificatin of School Taxable Value"**

Joanne Lentino moved that the Board Authorize the Superintendent to advise the Property Appraiser of the millage rates, including the required rolled-back rates, approved at the first public hearing held on August 1, 2017.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Joanne Lentino, Board Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Terry Krassner, Board Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Flowers, Long, Lentino, Cook, Krassner, Lerner, O' Shea

**IX. Other Considerations & Concluding Comments**

Dr. Grego thanked the School Board Members for reviewing the budget and supporting the integration of the budget into the district strategic plan. He also thanked Mr. Kevin Smith for his work in preparation of the budget.

Dr. Grego asked Mr. David Koperski to share a brief update on potential litigation regarding HB7069.

Mr. Koperski shared that he will participate in another conference call with other districts. Currently five school boards have authorized funds to pursue litigation. They are Broward, St. Lucie, Bay, Lee and Volusia. Attorneys are continuing to vet the potential for a lawsuit. This may be brought before our school board at the Tuesday, August 22nd meeting; unless, it is determined that it is necessary to move ahead prior to that date. If that were to occur, a special board meeting would be called. At this time, if any board member has an objection to this, they should share their objection at this time. There was no objection.

**X. Adjournment**

There being no further business to be brought before the School Board, this Public Hearing adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Superintendent and Ex-Officio Secretary