

**SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

SUBJECT Legislative Update

DEPARTMENT: County Manager **DIVISION:** _____

AUTHORIZED BY: J. Kevin Grace **CONTACT:** Sally Sherman **EXT.** 7224
County Manager Deputy County Manager

Agenda Date <u>2/11/03</u> Regular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Work Session <input type="checkbox"/> Briefing <input type="checkbox"/>
Public Hearing – 1:30 <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing – 7:00 <input type="checkbox"/>

MOTION/RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution in support of funding for Central Florida's Community Colleges.

BACKGROUND:

Seminole County Government has partnered with other agencies to advance the legislative issues in Seminole County. As part of the legislative agenda, Seminole County partnered with Seminole Community College to help support efforts to increase funding for the college. At this time, the college is requesting Seminole County adopt a Resolution supporting the efforts to achieve proper funding for our educational system in Florida.

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) Board of Directors also voiced concerns for the lack of proper funding for Florida's K-20 system, with emphasis on Community College funding. The EDC adopted a Resolution in support of funding for the educational system.

Attachment - Resolution

Reviewed by:
Co Atty: _____
DFS: _____
Other: _____
DCM: _____
CM: <u>[Signature]</u>
File No. <u>Leg01</u>

R E S O L U T I O N

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ON THE 11th DAY OF FEBRUARY, A.D., 2003.

WHEREAS, the growth of the Central Florida economy depends on the availability of a well-educated workforce; and

WHEREAS, employers considering expanding their businesses in the Metro Orlando area rank the quality of education for the workforce highly among the factors that influence decisions to expand in the region; and

WHEREAS, high quality K-20 educational opportunities have an impact on employers' ability to attract and retain employees; and

WHEREAS, funding for rapidly growing school districts and community colleges has failed to keep pace with enrollment demands; and

WHEREAS, the majority of baccalaureate degree students, Registered Nurses, teachers, and high tech workers in Central Florida begin their postsecondary studies at a community college; and

WHEREAS, critical shortages of professionals exist in healthcare and teaching professions; and

WHEREAS, the funding among the state's 28 community colleges has not been adequate nor equitably distributed, resulting in Metro Orlando community colleges being placed at a significant disadvantage in terms of availability of facilities, technology, library resources, full-time faculty, and student services professionals; and

WHEREAS, funding to critically-needed workforce programs has been substantially cut while both performance and enrollments have increased; and

WHEREAS, funding for the state's community colleges has failed to reward their documented improvements in performance and their increased enrollments, but may have penalized Metro Orlando colleges achieving the best results; and

WHEREAS, the low funding level for Metro Orlando community colleges has begun to result in limitations on opportunity, as college programs are filled and students turned away due to a lack of instructors and classrooms for the courses that these students need.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of County Commissioners of Seminole County, Florida commends Governor Jeb Bush and the 2002 Florida Legislature for proposing and enacting into law increased funding for the K-12 and State University education systems and a revised funding formula for community colleges that addresses the inequities in funding distribution caused by rapid growth.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of County Commissioners of Seminole County, Florida urges Governor Jeb Bush, members of the 2003 Legislature, and all other persons, Boards or groups that play a role in community college funding to follow the community college funding formula enacted in 2002 when allocating dollars in 2003, and to provide funding at least sufficient to fund the 80,000 new, unfunded community college students served this year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be forwarded to the Governor and the Seminole County Legislative Delegation.

ADOPTED, this 11th day of February, A.D., 2003.

* * * * *

ATTEST:

Maryanne Morse, Clerk to the
Board of County Commissioners
in and for the County of Seminole,
State of Florida

Daryl G. McLain, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners
Date: _____



"E. Ann McGee"
<mcgeea@scc-fl.edu>

01/29/2003 09:42 AM

To: <kgrace@co.seminole.fl.us>, <ssherman@co.seminole.fl.us>
cc: <rick@cboviedo.com>, <sidneymiller@cfl.rr.com>,
<english@intersrv.com>, "Michael Garlich" <GarlichM@scc-fl.edu>,
"David Harrison" <HarrisoD@scc-fl.edu>, "Carol Hawkins"
<HawkinsC@scc-fl.edu>, "Hank Hurley" <HurleyH@scc-fl.edu>,
"Verdell Pugh" <PughV@scc-fl.edu>, "Joe Sarnovsky"
<SarnovsJ@scc-fl.edu>, <Dede_Schaffner@scps.k12.fl.us>
Subject: Fwd: EDC Resolution re. Funding for Community Colleges

Dear Kevin and Sally,
Thanks for offering to help!!!

As we discussed the other day, here is the resolution that the EDC has passed supporting Central FL's community colleges. Anything that you can do to help with a similar resolution from Seminole County would be appreciated. Please read this and then let me know how I can help. In terms of current funding, you know that VCC ranks 28th and SCC is 27th in the food chain. ann

----- Message from Ray.Gilley@OrlandoEDC.com on Tue, 28 Jan 2003 18:00:41 -0500 (EST) -----

To: mcgeea@scc-fl.edu

Subject: EDC Resolution re. Funding for Community Colleges

Dear Board Members:

At the January 2003 EDC Board meeting, Ed Moore discussed his concerns for the lack of proper funding for Florida's K-20 system, with an emphasis on community college funding. After much discussion, the Board overwhelmingly authorized EDC Chairman John Rigsby to sign a yet-to-be-created resolution calling for equitable and proper funding for Florida's community colleges.

A signed copy of the resulting resolution is attached. A copy of the resolution is being sent to the Governor, Cabinet, key members of the Legislature and all members of Legislature who represent some portion of Metro Orlando. Please feel free to use this document to further the EDC's efforts to achieve proper funding for our educational system in Florida.

As always, thank you for your great support of the EDC.

Ray



cc resolution 01-23-03.d

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

METRO ORLANDO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the growth of the Central Florida economy depends on the availability of a well-educated workforce, and

WHEREAS, employers considering expanding their businesses in the Metro Orlando area rank the quality of education for the workforce highly among the factors that influence decisions to expand in the region, and

WHEREAS, high quality K-20 educational opportunities have an impact on employers' ability to attract and retain employees, and

WHEREAS, funding for rapidly growing school districts and community colleges has failed to keep pace with enrollment demands, and

WHEREAS, the majority of baccalaureate degree students, Registered Nurses, teachers, and high tech workers in Central Florida begin their postsecondary studies at a community college, and

WHEREAS, critical shortages of professionals exist in healthcare and teaching professions, and

WHEREAS, the funding among the state's 28 community colleges has not been adequate nor equitably distributed, resulting in Metro Orlando community colleges being placed at a significant disadvantage in terms of availability of facilities, technology, library resources, full-time faculty, and student services professionals, and

WHEREAS, funding to critically-needed workforce programs has been substantially cut while both performance and enrollments have increased, and

WHEREAS, funding for the state's community colleges has failed to reward their documented improvements in performance and their increased enrollments, but may have penalized Metro Orlando colleges achieving the best results, and

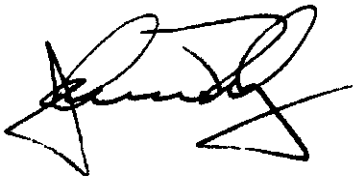
WHEREAS, the low funding level for Metro Orlando community colleges has begun to result in limitations on opportunity, as college programs are filled and students turned away due to a lack of instructors and classrooms for the courses that these students need,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that:

- the Board of Directors of the Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission commends Governor Jeb Bush and the 2002 Florida Legislature for proposing and enacting into law increased funding for the K-12 and State University education systems and a revised funding formula for community colleges that addresses the inequities in funding distribution caused by rapid growth, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that:

- the Board of Directors of the Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission urges Governor Jeb Bush, members of the 2003 Legislature, and all other persons, Boards or groups that play a role in community college funding to follow the community college funding formula enacted in 2002 when allocating dollars in 2003, and to provide funding at least sufficient to fund the 80,000 new, unfunded community college students served this year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John N. Rigsby", written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

John N. Rigsby
Chairman of the Board
Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission

January 28, 2003