

Bargaining Minutes_PESPA & PCSB

July 9, 2026

Present: Scott Barnum, Dena Collins, Michael Vigue, David Richmond, Allison Hearn, Paula Stephens, Tracey McDonnell, Kevin Felton, Gary Jeppesen, Alisha McGinnis

Opening

Mr. Vigue welcomed both groups to the first bargaining session of the 2026–2027 cycle and noted that Mr. Jeppesen would begin with an overview of the FEFP for the upcoming school year.

FEFP Overview — 2026–2027

Mr. Jeppesen explained how school districts receive funding through the per-pupil allocation. The state's enrollment estimate for the coming year reflects a continued decline, with 70,239 students anticipated.

Key points:

- The district will receive a 1.9% increase in per-student funding compared to last year.
- Last year's revenue loss totaled \$23,463,905.
- Despite new dollars added this year, the district still anticipates a net loss of \$15,440,929.
- Budget management continues through attrition, not filling vacancies, and ongoing staffing model adjustments.
- Pinellas County Schools currently holds the second-lowest fund balance in the state.
- As enrollment declines, staffing levels must also decrease to align with the number of students served.

Union Requests

The union requested the following information and discussion items:

- Roster with current pay
- 22.24% fringe calculation
- Current vacancies within the bargaining unit
- Clarification on terminal pay (up to 100% at 13 years in lieu of contract language, Article 19-1)
- Continued discussion regarding COD I and COD II
- List of courses offered to support employees

District Salary Proposal

The district presented its salary proposal for the 2026–2027 year:

- 1.48% salary increase
 - Minimum increase: \$261
 - Maximum increase: \$907
- Referendum increase: \$541 per support employee
- Total average increase: approximately 3.53%, or \$952 per support employee
- This total reflects both general operating funds and referendum funds.
- The district stated this is its formal offer.

Caucus began: 1:34 PM Return: 1:44 PM

Upon returning, Mr. Barnum stated that the union needs additional time to review the proposal and would like to use EWBS to better understand salary outcomes.

Next Steps

A follow-up bargaining session was scheduled for: **Wednesday, July 9, 4:45 PM – 5:45 PM**