

# Education Planning Committee meets

BY SHARAH DENTON  
THE VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

VALDOSTA — The Education Planning Committee met on Thursday, May 26, in the University Center Magnolia Room at Valdosta State University.

Members of the committee were of diverse backgrounds, including teachers, community leaders, church members and parents.

Community Unification for Educational Excellence Vice Chairman Rusty Griffin welcomed all in attendance. "We are delighted to see you. This is not a CUEE meeting; this is a community meeting."

The meeting's facilitator, Steve Prigozzy, described that, with his experience, there are certain things to notice when looking at effective schools.

"This is a process. Whether you're living in the North, South, East or West, there are things that effective schools have," said Prigozzy.

Prigozzy discussed his background and discussed his concerns in regards to former Valdosta City School System Superintendent and Friends of Valdosta City School's Inc. Chairman Sam Allen's in-



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**Community Unification for Educational Excellence Vice Chairman Rusty Griffin, left, introduces the facilitator of the Education Planning Committee, Dr. Steve Prigozzy, before the start of a planning meeting Thursday night in the University Center Magnolia Room at Valdosta State University.**

terview on consolidation.

"Some of the things that were said in that interview about this work, and about schooling in general, distressed me because they were, for a lack of a better term, ignorant. This isn't to say that I think Sam Allen is ignorant. Not at all. I both like him and I respect him," said Prigozzy.

Prigozzy addressed

Allen's interview in regards to what he feels is wrong, one being that CUEE had no plans on how to educate children. He stated that Allen had been invited into conversations from CUEE, himself and the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce to discuss the issues.

"When I look at data, pure data on student

achievement, I would be the first to say, when you look at the data, there is a long way to go with student achievement," said Prigozzy.

Valdosta City School System Superintendent Dr. Bill Cason was invited to speak to the crowd on his views of how to help the students in the city school system.

Cason stated first that he considers Allen one of his best friends and a person who helped him along his career in education. He then stated his feelings on students.

"I have very strong beliefs on what it takes to help a child be successful in the classroom. First off, you have to have a direction. I grew up in a poor family of nine children. My family gave me direction on where I should go," said Cason.

Cason explained to the members his experience of being told by a teacher that he would never be successful. He stated that was his motivation. He included that, to reach children, it takes a variety of measures to do so.

He said that, as a teacher, "you better know and understand that it takes a lot of different

things to reach children. You have to be able to individualize that instruction."

Cason admits that the system has a long way to go to get to where it needs to be.

Valdosta City School System Executive Director of Teaching and Learning Scarlet Brown told the committee, "It is important to be transparent. I believe it is important to discuss the things we do well and to discuss how we can improve."

Brown went on to say that, as an experienced professional, she firmly believes that through educa-

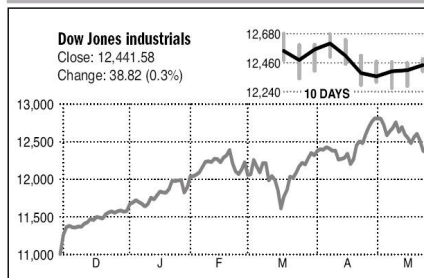
tion lives can be changed.

When asked about classroom sizes increasing, Brown responded, "We (are) trying to monitor that closely. Eighty-five percent of our budget is personnel. You (are) going to see school size increase."

Brown answered the question of parental training by stating that the educators and school system make sure to find a variety of ways to reach and help their students and their parents.

Additional meetings are planned and community involvement is encouraged.

## THE MARKET IN REVIEW



### STOCK MARKET INDEXES

| 52-Week High | 52-Week Low | Name               | Last      | Chg    | %Chg  | YTD %Chg | 12-mo %Chg |
|--------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------|--------|-------|----------|------------|
| 12,876.00    | 9,614.32    | Dow Industrials    | 12,441.58 | +38.82 | +0.31 | +7.46    | +22.74     |
| 5,505.76     | 3,872.64    | Dow Transportation | 5,408.56  | +2.40  | +0.05 | +5.91    | +24.73     |
| 441.86       | 346.95      | Dow Utilities      | 433.54    | +7.0   | +1.6  | +7.05    | +20.03     |
| 8,718.25     | 6,355.83    | NYSE Composite     | 8,386.34  | +44.68 | +0.54 | +5.30    | +23.48     |
| 2,490.51     | 1,888.19    | Amex Market Value  | 2,419.03  | +11.65 | +0.48 | +5.54    | +35.89     |
| 2,887.75     | 2,061.14    | Nasdaq Composite   | 2,796.86  | +13.94 | +0.50 | +5.43    | +23.92     |
| 1,370.58     | 1,010.91    | S&P 500            | 1,331.10  | +5.41  | +0.41 | +5.84    | +22.19     |
| 1,018.65     | 692.75      | S&P MidCap         | 980.19    | +6.02  | +0.61 | +9.14    | +29.82     |
| 14,562.01    | 15.80       | Wilshire 5000      | 14,140.42 | +66.53 | +0.47 | +5.84    | +23.32     |
| 868.57       | 587.66      | Russell 2000       | 836.26    | +5.39  | +0.65 | +6.71    | +26.40     |

### STOCK EXCHANGE HIGHLIGHTS

|                                |                                |                                  |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>NYSE</b><br>8,386.34 +44.68 | <b>AMEX</b><br>2,419.03 +11.65 | <b>NASDAQ</b><br>2,796.86 +13.94 |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|

| GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE) |       |       |       | GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE) |       |       |       | GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE) |           |       |       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| Name                  | Last  | Chg   | %Chg  | Name                  | Last  | Chg   | %Chg  | Name                  | Last      | Chg   | %Chg  |       |
| KV PhmA               | 3.38  | +1.00 | +42.0 | PCF pDd102.20+21.20   | +8.82 |       |       | AdvTech               | 6.03      | +2.13 | +54.6 |       |
| KV PhmB               | 3.44  | +92   | +36.5 | GrahamCo23.75         | +2.56 | +12.1 |       | VyNCwt                | 3.20      | +64   | +25.0 |       |
| AmrRly                | 3.23  | +71   | +28.2 | PCF pCld100.70+16.20  | +19.2 |       |       | LifePart              | 4.38      | +81   | +22.7 |       |
| ActiveNt              | 18.80 | +2.92 | +15.5 | Engex                 | 3.93  | +55   | +16.3 | ruet1                 | 32.96     | +4.36 | +15.2 |       |
| ZaleCo                | 5.77  | +71   | +14.0 | PCF pDd100.60+13.10   | +15.0 |       |       | InhibiTex             | 4.26      | +54   | +14.5 |       |
| De One                | 2.47  | +28   | +12.8 | GrahamCo23.75         | +2.56 | +12.1 |       | HampPB                | rs23.01   | +2.52 | +12.3 |       |
| Sequans               | 15.30 | +1.63 | +11.9 | UCM Tech              | 2.88  | +28   | +11.2 | Teknia                | g         | 3.19  | +35   | +12.3 |
| FXCM                  | 10.03 | +1.00 | +11.1 | GrtBasG               | 2.11  | +21   | +11.1 | AcelRx                | n         | 4.62  | +50   | +12.1 |
| MStewr                | 5.14  | +51   | +11.0 | DenismI               | g     | 2.36  | +21   | +9.8                  | SeaChange | 11.06 | +1.17 | +11.8 |
| Danaos                | 6.65  | +63   | +10.5 | DocuSec               | 3.40  | +26   | +8.3  | CleanDsl              | rs        | 8.45  | +85   | +11.2 |

| LOSERS (\$2 OR MORE) |         |       |      | LOSERS (\$2 OR MORE) |           |       |      | LOSERS (\$2 OR MORE) |        |         |        |       |       |
|----------------------|---------|-------|------|----------------------|-----------|-------|------|----------------------|--------|---------|--------|-------|-------|
| Name                 | Last    | Chg   | %Chg | Name                 | Last      | Chg   | %Chg | Name                 | Last   | Chg     | %Chg   |       |       |
| MedcoHlt             | 58.66   | -5.78 | -9.0 | GenMoly              | 4.60      | -29   | -5.9 | ChinaInfo            | 2.00   | -55     | -21.6  |       |       |
| ZuoanF               | n       | 5.58  | -82  | -8.5                 | OrsusXel  | rs    | 2.16 | -13                  | -5.7   | Gordman | n17.42 | -4.59 | -20.9 |
| WlWlch               | 79.25   | -6.51 | -7.6 | ImpacMg              | 2.76      | -16   | -5.5 | Amernis              | pl     | 8.51    | -1.39  | -12.8 |       |
| TorchEng             | 2.45    | -29   | -7.5 | SnCA                 | Fr        | 11.01 | -60  | -5.1                 | Zonwrt | 123.98  | -40    | -10.6 |       |
| DnRsbear             | 34.62   | -2.76 | -7.4 | eMagin               | 6.45      | -31   | -4.6 | OmniVisn             | h33.18 | -3.24   | -8.9   |       |       |
| GushanE              | rs      | 3.20  | -24  | -7.0                 | UrvSeclnt | 7.23  | -35  | -4.6                 | SevTts | rs      | 2.91   | -29   | -8.9  |
| ParagShp             | 2.61    | -18   | -6.5 | NewEnSys             | 3.27      | -15   | -4.4 | MentoGr              | 13.46  | -1.18   | -8.1   |       |       |
| PRUSHMex             | rs50.01 | -3.29 | -6.2 | SearchMed            | 2.05      | -08   | -3.8 | PlumasSc             | 2.55   | -21     | -7.6   |       |       |
| BRLSpv               | VI12.25 | -77   | -5.9 | LucasEng             | 2.63      | -11   | -3.7 | Dshenrtd             | 3.32   | -27     | -7.5   |       |       |
| C-TrCVOL             | 29.00   | -1.71 | -5.6 | StreamSV             | 2.96      | -10   | -3.3 | OptimerPh            | 12.86  | -1.01   | -7.2   |       |       |



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**Education Planning Committee facilitator Dr. Steve Prigozzy speaks to a small group of educators and concerned business leaders Thursday evening in the University Center's Magnolia Room at Valdosta State University.**