

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
MINUTES OF INFORMAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
September 11, 2007

The School Board of Alachua County, Florida, met in informal session duly called at 10:25 a.m. in the Boardroom, 620 East University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida. Present were: Virginia S. Childs, Chairman; Janie S. Williams, Vice-Chairman; F. Wesley Eubank, Tina Pinkoson and Eileen Roy, members; and W. Daniel Boyd, Jr., Superintendent.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Childs.

Chairman Childs announced that the School Board will be hosting the April 4, 2008, FundFriday, prior to Spring Break.

REVIEW
LEGISLATIVE
PRIORITIES

Jackie Johnson, Public Information Officer, presented the Board with a draft of the Board's 2008 Legislative Priorities for Board input.

Mr. Eubank provided an inspirational video presentation related to achieving unrealistic goals and urged the Board to begin setting higher goals.

Mrs. Pinkoson provided information on the "Be There" campaign to help parents become more informed in their child's education.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to approve the minutes of the following meetings/workshops:

- March 20, 2007, Budget Work Group
- May 1, 2007, Policy Workshop
- May 8, 2007, Recruitment Workshop
- May 22, 2007, Policy Workshop
- May 23, 2007, Wellness Committee
- June 5, 2007, Horizon Center Workshop
- June 12, 2007, Informal Board Meeting
- July 10, 2007, Informal Board Meeting

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

GENERAL
DISCUSSION

Mrs. Roy made the following comments:

- Believes the "Be There Campaign" is an excellent idea
- "Talk About It" program allows students to go online and report problems. Suggested the district partner with ASO to implement this program.
- Encouraged the district to use the services of "Safety City" for student field trips.

Mrs. Williams made the following comments:

- A behavior modification workshop will be held September 26 for CRT's, BRT's and guidance counselors, which will provide skills and techniques necessary to deal with conflict resolution and classroom management techniques.
- She visited several schools and asked principals what they would like to change: 1) more time with students; 2) extended school year; 3) senior clerical assistants from 10 to 12 months at all schools; 4) registrar concerns; and 5) trespass/safety issues.

Mrs. Pinkoson made the following comments:

- Challenge Day concerns and safety issues.
- Suggested running highlights on Channel 12 to promote the district's programs and suggested a lunch w/legislators showcasing the district's programs.

Mr. Eubank made the following comments:

- Schools of Concern—inform the Board on what steps are being taken and what the Board can do to focus resources on the schools of concern. Request a list of activities and resources being placed in the D & F schools.
- School Appearance—emphasize to principals that the facility belongs to the public and needs to be maintained and presentable.
- Staff positions—Board's responsibility is to create positions and designate which ones need to be filled. The Superintendent decides who will fill positions. He is concerned that an investigator position was added to Human Resources, which belonged to Curriculum (a position that from Anchor) and was moved to Human Resources. He believes the Board should be made aware of changes regarding positions being moved to different functions.

Chairman Childs made the following comments:

- Improvement in completing investigations is necessary.

Superintendent Boyd explained that his decision to move the Anchor position to Human Resources, which deals with over 4,000 employees, was to assist with the important task of completing timely investigations.

Mr. Eubank stated that he is concerned because the position went from instructional to human resources and it is the responsibility of the Board to create positions and tell which positions need to be filled.

He also noted:

- Benefits/Risk Management—State of the 503 Plan since IRS rules

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are changing, which allow employees to vote and dictate what the district offers.

- New Student System
- Wellness Program
- Leftover money on bidding of insurance allows the district to put money into a loss prevention program and suggested working with FSBIT.

ADJOURNMENT The Informal School Board meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.