

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
September 4, 2007

The School Board of Alachua County, Florida, met in regular session duly called at 6 p.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 F. Roy, members; W. Daniel Boyd, Jr., Superintendent; and James F. Lang, Attorney for the Board.

The Gainesville High School Saxophone Quartet performed *Stars and Stripes Forever*, in recognition of *Proud to Be an American Month*.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Childs, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, led by the Gainesville High School NJROTC Color Guard.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Williams

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to approve the minutes of the Board meeting of August 21, 2007.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION
OF AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to adopt the September 4, 2007, meeting agenda.

Mrs. Childs stated that the following items will be discussed separately:

- G.9., Interlocal Agreement with the City of Gainesville—21st Century Community Learning Center
- G.13., Interlocal Agreement with the City of Gainesville—Teen Zone
- G.17., Contract for Educational Services at PACE Center
- G.18., Agreement for Operation of Alachua County Truancy Center

The question was called on approval of the agenda.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Williams commended Mrs. Debbie Gallagher, curriculum supervisor, on her recent *Gainesville Sun* article on multicultural education. She also commented that she had visited four schools recently.

CITIZEN INPUT

Williams Elementary School PTA President, Mrs. Rose Koenig, thanked the Board for promptly addressing a recent bus transportation issue. Other parents asked for more notice and opportunity for input, should changes be considered in the future. Mr. Eubank and Mrs. Childs expressed regret for this situation.

A citizen commented on information in the Back-to-School report in the *Gainesville Sun*, saying that he was disappointed in FCAT scores, particularly at the 10th grade level.

A citizen expressed concern for the needs at Hawthorne High School and inquired about specific plans that are being considered to address the issue. Board members expressed appreciation for the concern and support.

Some specific initiatives that have been made at Hawthorne were noted by Deputy Superintendent Hollinger. They include extra teacher units and aide time, and resources and supplies, all totaling approximately \$200,000. It is anticipated that this, along with Dr. Craig's leadership and the community's interest, will turn the situation around.

Mrs. Williams commented that she has seen Dr. Craig interact with the students and believes he will make a difference.

Mrs. Roy stated that community efforts to make teachers feel welcomed and valued is very much appreciated. She commended the recent welcome luncheon for Dr. Craig and teachers.

A former teacher stated that, as a victim of a hate crime, she was pleased to see the issue of safety is being addressed in an upcoming workshop.

PRESENTATION

RAISING 'CANES'
CITY OF GAINESVILLE

On behalf of the City of Gainesville, Assistant City Manager Lee Ann Lowery and City staff conducted a presentation on their Partnership for Student Success program with Gainesville High School. She highlighted support projects, which included providing 250 bus passes for students in after-school tutoring programs, proctoring tests, showcasing student art in City Hall, and recognizing students with awards for academic and personal success. A mentoring program is planned for the future.

In addition, the 'Canes Crew,' a group of City employees with expertise in landscaping, has already made a number of improvements to the campus. They've also developed a plan for beautification of the school entrance. Mrs. Lowery conveyed the enthusiasm of all City employees who have volunteered for this program. Board members expressed appreciation.

PUBLIC HEARING --

The regular Board meeting was recessed and a Public Hearing convened.

RESOLUTION NO. 07-09 –
ADOPTION OF THE
MILLAGE LEVY FOR
THE 2007-2008 FISCAL
YEAR

Mr. Keith Birkett, Assistant Superintendent for Finance, reviewed Resolution No. 07-09 and responded to Board member questions.

A number of citizens addressed the Board to request that the Williams Elementary School Media Center expansion be moved forward.

RESOLUTION NO. 07-10 –
ADOPTION OF THE 2007-
2008 BUDGET

The Superintendent responded to questions concerning possible budget cuts to Gainesville High School's Institute of Health Professions. He stated that because federal funding to technical programs has not increased in many years, some difficult priority decisions are expected. He expressed confidence that an equitable distribution of available monies will be made.

Mrs. Pinkoson acknowledged needs at the Williams Media Center, but pointed out acute needs at other schools as well, making it difficult to

exchange one project for another. If renovation does not have an adequate result, she suggests the Board then consider rearranging the priority.

Mr. Eubank noted that some projects become compulsory because of situations outside the Board's control, for example, an FHSAA requirement concerning locker rooms at Citizens Field. He agreed it would be best to see the results of the renovation before deciding on further action.

Mr. Ed Gable, Executive Director, Facilities, assured the chairman that if the planning phase of the project indicates that required shelf space cannot be provided, he will inform the Board, so alternatives can be considered.

Mrs. Roy questioned Mr. Gable about whether the second stage of the Williams project will ultimately be carried out. Mr. Gable clarified his earlier statement, saying that upon completion of the planning phase for the \$150,000 renovation, the remaining needs will become more clear. The Board can then make more informed decisions.

Mr. Birkett proceeded with the Resolution process. For the record, he pointed out that the millage exceeds the rollback rate by 9.61%.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt Resolution Number 07-09, Resolution Adopting the Millage Levy for Fiscal Year 2007-2008, as presented.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

For the record, Mr. Birkett, pointed out that Budget Resolution 07-10 is in the amount of \$358, 315,035.03.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt Resolution Number 07-10, Resolution Adopting the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2007-2008, as presented.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to amend the motion by holding in abeyance the \$60,000 Citizens Field Concession Stand project until after the planning phase of the \$150,000 Williams Library Renovation project is completed.

The question was called on the amendment to the motion.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

The question was called on the original motion as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

The Public Hearing was adjourned and the regular Board meeting was reconvened.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as described in Items 1-19, with separate discussion to be held on G. 9, 13, 17 and 18.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Mrs. Williams wanted the public to be aware of School Board involvement in various community programs. At her request, Everett Caudle, Project Development supervisor, reviewed activities provided at Teen Zone and Reichert House programs.

Mrs. Pinkoson expressed appreciation to Mr. Caudle on the many grants that have been brought into the system through his efforts. He credited the teamwork of all Project Development and Curriculum staff.

At Mrs. Williams' request, Deputy Superintendent Sandy Hollinger reviewed Teen Zone funding problems. Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Roy both commended the City and the County for their efforts to preserve the Teen Zone programs, despite financial difficulties.

Mrs. Pinkoson cautioned that the District needs to be prepared for the possibility that funding may still be lost in the future.

At Mrs. Williams' request, Mrs. Hollinger reviewed the goals and criteria of the PACE Center, a middle and high school program for girls, which is funded through Title I.

REVISIONS TO THE
2007-2008 PUPIL
PROGRESSION PLAN –
FIRST READING

Revisions to the 2007-2008 Pupil Progression Plan are proposed to reflect changes in current law and additions to information that was previously published only in the Course Code Directory. Dr. Sandi Anusavice, Secondary Curriculum Director, reviewed changes.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to schedule a public hearing for September 18, 2007, at 6:30 p.m., regarding the proposed revisions to the 2007-2008 Pupil Progression Plan.

Brief discussion was held on certain legislative mandates.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BUDGET AMENDMENT

Budget Amendment No. 25 includes final changes to the General Fund for the 2006-2007 fiscal year.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve Budget Amendment No. 25, as presented.

Mr. Birkett and Mrs. Hollinger responded to questions on McKay Scholarships.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

APPROVAL OF 2006-2007
GENERAL PURPOSE
FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS AND
RELATED COST REPORT

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2006-2007 General Purpose Financial Statements and Related Cost Report for submission to the Department of Education.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

RENEWAL OF CHARTER
FOR MICANOPY AREA
COOPERATIVE SCHOOL

Micanopy Area Charter School (MACS) has requested renewal of charter, commencing on August 20, 2007, and ending June 30, 2020. MACS plans to construct an additional building for the school. Their bank has requested this extension as part of their approval process.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the renewal of charter for Micanopy Area Cooperative School, as presented, for the period of August 20, 2007, through June 30, 2020.

At Mr. Eubank's question, it was clarified that the new school building will be the property of Micanopy Area Charter School.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to amend the motion to provide that acceptance of students from Alachua County will take precedence over students from outside the county.

The question was called on the amendment to the motion.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Mr. Eubank commended Micanopy Area Charter School on their accomplishment of receiving grades of three As and one B in the last four years, as well as meeting No Child Left Behind requirements.

Discussion was held on the length of the contract period.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to amend the motion by reducing the length of the contract from thirteen years to ten years.

The question was called on the second amendment to the motion.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

The question was called on the original motion as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CITIZEN INPUT

There was no citizen input.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
REQUESTS

Mrs. Childs requested a timeline on discussion of future zoning changes. She reviewed the upcoming meetings schedule.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.