

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA  
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
April 18, 2006

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: F. Wesley Eubank, chairman; Virginia S. Childs, vice-chairman; Tina Pinkoson, Eileen F. Roy, and Janie S. Williams, members; W. Daniel Boyd, Jr., Superintendent; and James F. Lang, attorney for the Board. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Eubank, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES     Motion by Mrs. Williams                     Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to approve the minutes of March 21, 2006, as presented.

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

ADOPTION  
OF AGENDA

Changes to the agenda were made as follows:

Items H.6.a. and H.6.b., Student Cases, were added as Consent Agenda items.

Item I.11., Resolution No. 06-02, E-Comp Effectiveness Compensation Plan, was added as an Action item, pursuant to Administrative Code 120.525.

The following Consent Agenda items were requested to be pulled for discussion:

Mrs. Williams

- Item 10, Professional Services Ranking for Project SBAC A0331—Hawthorne Jr./Sr. High School Classroom Remodeling
- Items 11a. and 11b., Design Development/Construction Documents.

Mrs. Pinkoson

- Item 5, Purchased Products/Services between \$12,500 and \$24,999, Attachment F.

Motion by Mrs. Childs                     Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to adopt the April 18, 2006, meeting agenda as amended.

The question was called on approval of the agenda as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

RECOGNITION --

ALACHUA ELEM  
SCHOOL –  
QUIZ BOWL STATE  
CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

Alachua Elementary students were recognized and commended for earning first place in the Annual Florida 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl. They will now go on to the national competition.

NATIONAL MERIT  
SCHOLAR FINALISTS

National Merit Scholarship Finalists were recognized and commended for their high academic achievement.

RETIREEES

Superintendent Boyd expressed appreciation for the retirees' years of dedicated service.

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Childs:

- Congratulated Marilyn Shaw, Oak View Middle School English teacher, on the publication of her first book, *Solomon*.
- Expressed appreciation to the Altrusa Club for their annual Read-In.
- Announced the Kiwanis/SBAC's World's Best Baby Shower, which will be held at Lincoln Middle School on Saturday, May 6, at 9 am.
- Read a letter from the Florida Department of Education, which reported that findings from the 2005 Educational Plant Survey indicate that facility needs significantly outweigh projected funds.

Mr. Eubank announced:

- Information concerning the memorial service for Michael Varosi, a Westwood student who recently lost his life in a tragic accident.
- Dede McClain, Alachua County Employee of the Year, will be honored at the May 2 Board meeting.
- Cyanne Williams, Archer Community School 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, is one of five winners of the U.S. Department of Agriculture award: *National Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture*.

ORATION --

JONI PERKINS,  
THIRD GRADE,  
DUVAL ELEMENTARY

Mrs. Williams introduced Joni Perkins, Duval Elementary School third-grader, who presented the oration, *Ain't I a Woman*, as delivered by Sojourner Truth in 1851 at the Women's Convention in Akron, Ohio.

CITIZEN INPUT

Archer teacher Chris Ott expressed concern about cuts to needed speech and hearing programs at Archer Community School. He related them to the approximately 80 students who are zoned for but do not attend Archer.

Teresa Axon, citizen, addressed the Board concerning her conviction that prayer in school must be restored.

Debbie Snyder, SFHS parent, enumerated facility needs at SFHS. Mrs. Pinkoson expressed the Board's commitment to moving on the Master Plan as quickly as possible. Ms. Williams expressed hope that Ms. Snyder will express these needs to the public when the time comes to pass the proposed sales tax.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to approve Consent Agenda items 1 – 15, with separate discussion to be held on Items 5, 10, 11.a. and 11.b.

Item 5: Mrs. Pinkoson expressed her feeling that new classrooms do not necessarily require new furniture. Mr. Eubank, Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Roy concurred.

Item 10, 11.a., 11.b.: Mr. Ed Gable, Executive Director, Facilities, confirmed to Mrs. Williams that these projects are no longer on the capital outlay list, but are listed as current projects.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

PROCLAMATION --

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Roy

APRIL AS LIBRARY  
APPRECIATION  
MONTH

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to proclaim the month of April as Library Appreciation Month.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

AMENDMENT TO  
2006-2007 SCHOOL  
CALENDAR --  
SECOND READING

A public hearing was held March 7, 2006, to consider amendments to the 2006-2007 School Calendar.

Deputy Superintendent Sandy Hollinger reviewed the changes that were presented at the March 21 public hearing. She cautioned that it could become necessary to revise this calendar, since the legislature may yet establish a required school starting date.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt the 2006-2007 School Calendar as amended.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

AMENDMENTS TO  
POLICY 6.111,  
PROHIBITION OF  
SEXUAL HARASSMENT  
BY EMPLOYEES,  
AND REPEAL OF POLICY  
6.112, PROHIBITION OF  
RACE/NATIONAL  
ORIGINAL  
HARASSMENT --  
SECOND READING

A public hearing was held March 21, 2006, to consider the proposed amendments to Policy 6.111, Prohibition of Sexual Harassment by Employees, and Repeal of Policy 6.112, Prohibition of Race/National Origin Harassment by Employees.

Staff Attorney Tom Wittmer stated that changes have been made according to input at the First Reading and the Public Hearing.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt Policy 6.111 as amended and repeal Policy 6.112.

Mrs. Williams expressed concern that sexual harassment training include examples of subtle types of harassment, in order to ensure that students/employees have a complete understanding.

Upon a question from Mrs. Roy, it was noted that training for instructional and support staff takes place at orientation, as well as through a required online component. Students are informed via the Code of Student Conduct, as well through a guidance syllabus.

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

EXTENDED SCHOOL  
YEAR PACKET--  
SUMMER 2006

Extended School Year information was submitted with a description and guidelines for programs that will be offered during the summer of 2006.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Extended School Year packet for the summer of 2006 as presented.

Mrs. Hollinger reviewed elements of the new Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten program. Teacher training will be held in May.

Mrs. Childs requested a wording change in a section of the Online Credit Retrieval Program (CROP) information that states '*as seats become available.*' It was agreed that the wording will be clarified.

Dr. Gunnar Paulson, ACEA president, commented on CROP concerns that he has discussed with staff.

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

BUDGET AMENDMENTS  
FOR FEBRUARY 1, 2006,  
THROUGH FEBRUARY  
28, 2006.

Budget Amendment No. 13 – General Fund; Budget Amendment No. 14 – Capital Projects Funds; and Budget Amendment No. 15 – Special Revenue Funds, include changes for the period of February 1, 2006, through February 28, 2006.

Mr. Birkett, Assistant Superintendent, was pleased to report that an unexpected increase in transportation revenues are expected to offset fuel increases. He reviewed the budget amendments.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve Budget Amendment Nos. 13, 14, and 15 as presented.

At a question from Mrs. Roy, Mr. Birkett stated that the Title I amendment is an adjustment to allocation, not a shortfall.

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

BID AWARD FOR  
PROJECT SBAC GFA  
(PREVIOUSLY PROJECT  
SBAC S0505) --  
05-06 HURRICANE  
SHELTER RETROFITS

Bids for the construction of this project were received on April 11, 2006.

Motion by Mrs. Roy

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the low-base bid of \$265,642 and Additive Alternates 1, 2, 3, and 6 in the amount of \$182,196 and award a contract for construction totaling \$447,838 to Phoenix Architectural Products, Atlanta, Georgia. The "Notice to Proceed" shall be issued on or before April 28, 2006, and the project is to be Substantially Complete by August 1, 2006.

Mr. Gable responded to Board member questions.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

FIRST AMENDMENT TO  
CHARTER CONTRACT --  
THE ALACHUA  
LEARNING CENTER, INC.

The Alachua Learning Center, Inc., has requested to serve students in Kindergarten. The Charter currently provides only for grades 1-8. The amendment will not change the number of students at the school.

Motion by Mrs. Roy

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the proposed amendment to the charter contract for the Alachua Learning Center, Inc., effective for the 2006-2007 school year.

Dr. Diana Lagotic, Director, Elementary Curriculum, responded to Board member questions, clarifying that this amendment is to correct a typographical error in the original contract.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

JULY BOARD MEETINGS

Motion by Mrs. Williams

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to cancel the July 4, 2006, Board meeting.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Mrs. Roy questioned whether the July 18 meeting could be changed to July 11, leaving the remainder of the month for travel. Board Attorney Jim Lang stated that this would require following the Rulemaking process, since the schedule was so established. Mrs. Pinkoson stated that she has made plans according to the present calendar. Mrs. Childs requested a light agenda on July 18, if possible.

Mr. Lang explained that two members may be on remote call-in for the Board meeting, but at least three must be physically present.

EMPLOYEE CASE  
NO. E- 0506-04

The employee is charged with immorality, misconduct in office and moral turpitude, based on having made inappropriate physical and sexual contact with a student, as outlined in the notice of charges. The employee has been informed that based on charges, termination will be recommended.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson                      Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to grant a hearing and suspend the employee with pay for a period of ninety (90) calendar days, pursuant to Article VI, section 9(b) of the collective bargaining agreement, the suspension to continue thereafter without pay, pending the outcome of the hearing.

Mrs. Childs stated that, due to the seriousness of the situation, she wants to move with all due speed to resolve the case.

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

EMPLOYEE CASE  
NO. E- 0506-05

The charges against the employee are as stated in the Notice of Recommendation for Termination dated March 29, 2006. The employee is charged with violations of School Board Policy 6.52, Staff Ethics, 9.10, Civility, and the Transportation Department Procedures and Regulations. The employee has been informed that based on the charges, she will be recommended for termination.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson                      Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to suspend the employee without pay, effective April 19, 2006, pending the outcome of the grievance process.

Several citizens, co-workers and an NAACP official spoke on the employee’s behalf. Mr. Eubank suggested that interested parties attend the grievance hearing, with the permission of the grievant. Complaints were raised concerning the Transportation Department. Staff Attorney Tom Wittmer clarified the grievance process.

Board members unanimously favored looking into circumstances at the Transportation Department, as referred to by the persons addressing the Board. Confidence was expressed in Director Steve Githens’ ability to resolve the issues.

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

RESOLUTION –  
E-COMP  
EFFECTIVENESS  
COMPENSATION PLAN

Mr. Eubank read a Resolution that urges lawmakers to reject the E-Comp Effectiveness Compensation Plan.

Motion by Mrs. Childs                      Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to adopt Resolution 06-02, E-Comp Effectiveness Compensation Plan.

Dr. Paulson briefly reported on the rally against E-Comp, which is scheduled for 4-6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 25, at Westside Park.

Motion by Mrs. Childs

Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to amend the motion by inserting a clause in the Resolution that advocates that funds earmarked for E-Comp be given to the districts for salaries. [Mr. Wittmer will develop specific language.]

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

CITIZEN INPUT

There was no citizen input.

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
REQUESTS

Mrs. Pinkoson urged that legislators be contacted concerning issues of importance to the district. She also expressed frustration that the diligent effort of our Project Development department results in significant grant monies going to Charter Schools.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. Williams

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.