

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
May 16, 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 May 2, 2006, as presented.

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

ADOPTION
OF AGENDA

Chairman Eubank announced the following changes to the agenda:

- Attachment B, page 4 - Revised
- Attachment D, page 1, P109897, Lake Forest Project – Change
- Consent Agenda Item H.4., Student Cases a., b., and c – Added
- Executive Summary sheet for Consent Agenda Item H. 7., 2005-2006 Title I School Improvement Initiative Project Application – Revised
- Consent Agenda Item H.11., Credit Retrieval Contract with Educational Options, Inc. – Added
- Action Item I. 6., Appointment of Alicia Eubank Klettner - Added

Consent Agenda item H.7., 2004-05 Title I School Improvement Initiative, was pulled for separate discussion by Mrs. Roy.

Motion by Mrs. Childs Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to adopt the May 16, 2006, meeting agenda, as amended.

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

RECOGNITION --

Williams Elementary School Project Shade –

Certificates were awarded to fifth-grade students for their project of planting trees on the Williams Elementary Playground.

March of Dimes –

Schools raising the most money for the March of Dimes this year were Howard Bishop Middle School (\$11,153) and Gainesville High School (\$19,977). Total raised by all schools was nearly \$180,000.

Council For Exceptional Children (CEC) –

Paraprofessionals of the Year, Teachers of the Year and Rookie of the Year were recognized.

Alachua County Circle of Change –

Certificates were presented to Challenge Day leaders.

Alachua County Public Schools Foundation –

Over \$500,000 in scholarships were awarded this year to 131 graduates.

Commissioner’s Business Recognition Award Winners –

Gainesville Regional Utilities and Domino’s Pizza were the award winners.

Ben & Jerry’s “Free Scoop Day” –

Volunteers raised \$4,227 in tips for ACPS Foundation scholarships.

Retirees –

Retirees were not present, but were recognized by the Superintendent.

**BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. Pinkoson:

- commented that she hoped administrators would be reminded to strive for appropriate audience behavior at graduation.
- commended music teachers on a wonderful job, after having attended the Elementary Honors Chorus and Violin Concert.

Mrs. Williams:

- commended Prairie View Elementary School on a letter from the Governor stating that they were among the top 100 elementary schools in the state for progress in writing, as indicated by the 2006 FCAT.
- concurred with Mrs. Pinkoson’s commendation of music teachers.

CITIZEN INPUT

Citizens addressed the Board concerning:

- The significance of the School Concurrency Project
- Security procedures at Idylwild
- Lack of schools on the west side of Alachua County
- Sales tax proposal on fall ballot
- Staffing of music, art, and P.E. teachers
- African-American history

**PRESENTATION –
ALACHUA COUNTY
LEAGUE OF CITIES**

High Springs Commissioner Jim Gabriel and City of Alachua Mayor Jean Calderwood, representing the Alachua County League of Cities (Alachua, Archer, Hawthorne, High Springs, LaCrosse, Micanopy, Newberry and Waldo), addressed the Board regarding School Concurrency and urged the Board to follow a community-schools approach. Mr. Gabriel read a Resolution from the group, as well as from the Cities of Alachua, High Springs, and Waldo. (See Supplementary Minutes.)

Several Board members indicated their support for community schools and welcomed citizen input to meet the challenges of state funding constraints. Mrs. Childs spoke in support of the sales tax proposal, and the fact that, prior to the referendum, communities will have information on the projects slated for their schools.

Mrs. Calderwood requested that the Board, staff and legal counsel carefully review the references to “districtwide” in the Interlocal

Agreement. She believes a show of good faith to the outlying communities would be for the School Board to adopt the Resolution from the Alachua County League of Cities.

Discussion was held on complexities of the School Concurrency issue.

Dr. Gunnar Paulson, ACEA president, stated that, historically, the School Board has demonstrated 'above-and-beyond' support of community schools, and he is convinced that will continue.

The importance of convincing the rural areas of the need for a sales tax was noted. Mr. Eubank requested that meetings be scheduled as soon as possible in outlying areas, as previously discussed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda, with item H.7., 2004-2005 Title I School Improvement Initiative Project Application, being pulled for discussion.

Mrs. Roy questioned the process used for the selection of schools for the School Improvement Initiative grant. Dr. Charles Hall, Title I Director, explained that the state Department of Education identified and allocated the grant funds, based on these schools having the highest percentage of students who scored Level 1 in reading. Should Oasis not open next year, Dr. Hall stated that he can request that their funding go to the school next on the list, but he is of the understanding that, in the past, such requests have not been granted. Discussion was held on how these extra funds will be used, with Mrs. Childs requesting information on the plans for the Horizon Center, as it will be helpful to her in her role as Hearing Officer.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE
APPOINTMENT –

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mrs. Williams

MEBANE MIDDLE
SCHOOL

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the appointment of Veita Jackson-Carter as Principal of Mebane Middle School, effective June 7, 2006.

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

BID AWARD FOR
PROJECT SBAC H0508 –
J. J. FINLEY
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
AIR CONDITIONING
REPLACEMENT,
BUILDINGS 1, 3 AND 4
(PHASE 1)

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the low-base bid of \$1,989,000 and award a contract for construction to R. Hyden Construction, Inc., Gainesville, Florida. Completion shall be within ninety (90) consecutive calendar days from the date indicated in the "Notice to Proceed."

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

Approved June 6, 2006

REAPPOINTMENT OF
INSTRUCTIONAL AND
ADMINISTRATIVE
PERSONNEL (ANNUAL
AND PROFESSIONAL
SERVICES CONTRACTS)
FOR 2006-2007 –
ATTACHMENT E

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the reappointment of instructional and administrative personnel (annual and professional services contracts) for 2006-07 – Attachment E.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BUDGET AMENDMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD OF
MARCH 1 THROUGH
MARCH 31, 2006

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to approve Budget Amendment No. 16 – General Fund; Budget Amendment No. 17 – Capital Projects Funds; and Budget Amendment No. 18 – Special Revenue Funds, which includes changes for the period of March 1, 2006, through March 31, 2006.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

SCHEDULE WORKSHOP
TO REVIEW OASIS
CHARTER SCHOOL
APPLICATION

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to schedule a workshop on June 5, 2006, at 2 p.m., to review the Oasis Charter School application.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

APPOINTMENT OF
ALICIA EUBANK

Motion by Mrs. Childs

Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2006-07 Professional Services Contract for Alicia Eubank Klettner.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-0

[This item was handled separately from the other appointments, as Mr. Eubank is related to the employee and thus required to abstain from the vote.]

CITIZEN INPUT

Mr. Al Carnegie, NAACP, spoke on behalf of a bus driver scheduled for a hearing and referred to other Transportation Department issues. Several other bus drivers voiced various complaints. Mr. Eubank requested that Assistant Superintendent Keith Birkett, look into payroll concerns. Mrs. Williams requested that staff review the Transportation issues and resolve them. Mrs. Roy called for accountability.

Mrs. Childs also expressed concern and asked Mr. Githens, Transportation Director, to comment. He reported that in response to complaints at a previous meeting, he developed a survey and is now in the process of compiling the information. He feels he has the authority and support to handle the situation and maintains an open-door policy to his employees. He cautioned, however, that it will be an ongoing process.

Approved June 6, 2006

In response to a citizen question, Mr. Eubank stated that no action could be taken on the matter of the bus driver's suspension because the item was not on the agenda.

Mr. Eubank requested that the Superintendent provide some feedback on the Transportation Department situation in the near future.

One of the bus drivers pointed out that the matters of complaint all happened prior to Mr. Githens' tenure.

The citizens were thanked for coming to the meeting to share their concerns.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
REQUESTS

There were no Board member or Superintendent requests.

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 8:42 p.m.