

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
MINUTES OF BOARD WORKSHOP

BOARD PRIORITIES

November 7, 2006

The School Board of Alachua County, Florida, met in workshop session duly called at 9:30 a.m. at the Matheson Library, 513 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 staff members.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Eubank. He introduced Ms. Carolyn Kitchens, Meeting Facilitator.

DISCUSSION OF
DISTRICT MISSION
STATEMENT

At Mrs. Kitchens' request, discussion was held on the meaning of the Mission Statement: *We are committed to the success of every student!*
Comments included:

- Increase the potential of every child.
- Provide a broad spectrum of opportunities for students to access.
- Provide fiscal resources to support schools.
- Commit to identify high quality teachers.
- Provide equity of opportunity
- Provide resources necessary to students to succeed.
- Identify quality programs, using data.
- Give attention to whole child: social, emotional, academic, physical.

Board member goals were identified and discussed as follows:

1. Reallocation of Resources – Leadership Stability

- Put more resources in low-income schools.
- Review/redesign resources – Instructional Technology.
- Increased resources to classrooms (targeted)
- Evaluate/allocate resources to schools.
- Allocate funds to PROGRAMS.
- Resources to fund days **dedicated** to staff development.
- Reallocation of resources for curriculum programs.
- Increased time on task for targeted students.
- Each child has a mentor for support.
- Improved academic competency of the lower quartile students, grades 3-10.
- Make it convenient that all 3- and 4-year olds are in a program for learning.
- Improve facilities/materials for schools.
- Safety and security issues.
- Additional technology support personnel.

2. Recruitment and Retention of Staff

- Hire Bachelor's degree SLPs.
- Attract entry-level teachers.
- More support for "non-education" teachers
- Actively recruit teachers and other employees, i.e., bus drivers (may mean hiring a recruiter).
- Find ways to retain current employees (\$, incentives, morale boosters, etc.)
- Leadership sustainability with staff.
- Ensure that all staff are committed to mission.

3. Career-Technical Support/Promotion

- We are working toward education students that careers are valued.
- Promote opportunities offered (vocational programs).
- Make Career/Technical Education WORK!
- 6th grade option
- Building – 16 classrooms
- Online credits

4. Find additional resources/money (“transparent”).

- Reduce cafeteria waste (eliminate/reduce Styrofoam).
- Reduce energy waste dramatically.
- Seek additional/alternative \$ resources.
- Educate the community that we need to pass a 1 cent Sales Tax to support the system.
- Facility Needs (1/2 cent Sales Tax).
- Male teachers
- Resources needed – community
- EARS Program
- One-day Education Fair
- Fearnside Center – Childcare Subs Foundation
- Teacher Liaison to Homes
- Success by Six

5. Board work together as a leadership team, effectively.

- Improve Wellness Policy
- Trust-respect-cohesive

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 a.m.