

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
WORKSHOP MINUTES
Long-Range Planning
June 10, 2008

The Board met in workshop session duly called at 8:30 a.m. in the Boardroom, 620 East University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida. Present were: Janie Williams, Chairman; Tina Pinkoson, Vice-Chairman; Ginger Childs, F. Wesley Eubank, and Eileen F. Roy, members; W. Daniel Boyd, Jr., Superintendent. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Williams.

INTRODUCTION Superintendent Dan Boyd noted that this meeting is a follow-up to the March 19, 2008, Long-Range Planning Workshop, where Board members delineated goals they desired to focus upon. He then turned the meeting over to Deputy Superintendent Sandy Hollinger.

Before beginning the presentation, Mrs. Hollinger reported that Mr. Keith Birkett, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, must address the Board regarding millage referendum ballot language, prior to delivering the document to the County Commission office today.

Mr. Birkett suggested two minor changes to the ballot language, as recommended by the County, to make a challenge less likely. It was the consensus of the Board to follow the recommendation by changing the word *critical* to *necessary* and removing the word *quality*. Punctuation changes were discussed and included.

PRESENTATION Mrs. Hollinger pointed out that the Objectives in this plan have been made deliberately broad, so that the Plan does not end up to be merely a 'laundry list' of items. After the Board's review and approval at this meeting, Action Plans (strategies) will be developed by the appropriate departments.

Mrs. Hollinger conducted a PowerPoint presentation of a proposed Long-Term Plan, with Goals concerning Student Performance, Teachers and Staff, Learning Environment and Effective Operations. Objectives were included for each Goal.

BOARD DISCUSSION Discussion was held on the area of student performance, particularly at the kindergarten level. Mrs. Hollinger briefly reviewed the continuous performance model, in which teachers have recently been trained. Mrs. Williams emphasized the importance of parents understanding what is required for their child to meet performance goals.

Discussion resulted in suggestions that Dropout Rate be more clearly defined. It should also be clarified that the Graduation Rate definition is four years.

Mrs. Roy believed the targeted graduation rates for African-American students are too modest. After discussion, Mrs. Hollinger noted that this Plan will be reviewed annually and can be adjusted.

Discussion was held on how the average daily attendance rate appropriately relates to the unique situation of Horizon Center students.

It was generally agreed that the proposed energy conservation goal is too low. Mr. Eubank suggested a reduction of at least 4-5% per year.

Regarding Maintenance of Facilities, Mr. Eubank felt that efficiency should be more of a target than *work orders completed* compared to *work orders submitted*. The goal indicates there is presently only an 88% completion rate. Mrs. Hollinger stated that she will obtain additional data.

Mrs. Childs wanted to be sure that school budgets would not be affected by increasing the District fund balance.

Mrs. Hollinger stated that reports to the Board will be presented annually in the summer, after state data has been received. Interim updates can also be made.

Regarding developing strategies that include technical resources, Mrs. Childs pointed out that the resources must be equitably distributed.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.