

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA  
UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
October 2, 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 meeting was called to order by Chairman Childs, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Williams                      Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to approve the minutes of the Board meeting of September 18, 2007.

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

ADOPTION  
OF AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Eubank                      Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Mrs. Childs announced the following changes:

- F.17., Agreement with FloridaWorks, will be deleted from the Consent Agenda.
- G.4., Employee Termination Case E-0708-01, will be added as an Action Item.

Moved to adopt the October 2, 2007, meeting agenda as amended.

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

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Board member or Superintendent announcements.

CITIZEN INPUT

A citizen addressed the Board concerning what he referred to as scientific evidence of God, explained in a document called *God Almighty's Grand Unified Theorem (GAGUT)*.

A citizen addressed the Board, claiming that the District does not follow state law regarding Required Instruction of African American History. He reported that he plans to seek funding for expansion of a related survey he has conducted and, based on the outcome, may enter into litigation.

An employee addressed the Board regarding a problem and was referred to the Human Resources Department.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Eubank                      Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as described in Items 1-16 and 18-21, with the deletion of Item 17..

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

AMENDMENTS TO  
SPECIAL POLICIES AND  
PROCEDURES FOR  
EXCEPTIONAL  
STUDENTS 2004-05  
THROUGH 2006-07, WITH  
EXTENSION FOR 2007-08  
--SECOND READING

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the amendments to the Special Policies and Procedures for Exceptional Students Document as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

DISTRICT FACILITIES  
FIVE-YEAR WORK  
PROGRAM

The District Facilities Five-Year Work Program has been prepared as required for submission to the Department of Education. The Program represents a five-year schedule of major repair, renovation and capital outlay projects together with projections of available revenue. The District must submit this program annually and may revise the program at any time to reflect new project priorities and available revenue.

Mr. Ed Gable, Executive Director, Facilities, conducted a PowerPoint presentation that included information on expenditures, revenues, project schedules, long-term capacity tracking and planning, and long-range plans.

Regarding the priority of the future projects, Mr. Eubank wanted it to be clear that the Board has only authorized projects for this year. He stated that the list of future projects will most certainly require adjustment, due to enrollments, cost effectiveness, etc. Mr. Gable agreed and noted that this document is only a planning tool, not a commitment. He reviewed some changes expected for next year's format.

Mr. Gable responded to questions from Mrs. Roy regarding auditorium seating and covered walkways.

Mrs. Williams was also concerned that schools might believe the future project list is a commitment. Mr. Gable explained that the DOE is specific about the format requirements of this report. Mrs. Child suggested that the copies not sent to Tallahassee should be stamped "Tentative."

Mr. Gable reported that a history of capital outlay projects has been completed and will soon be distributed to the Board.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the District Facilities Five-Year Work Program as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

APPROVAL OF  
CONTRACT FOR  
EMPLOYEE GROUP LIFE

There was a late submittal from the District's previous life insurance vendor that included a 63% cost increase. Upon review of the increase, a renewal recommendation could not be made. Bids were therefore solicited

INSURANCE FOR THE  
2008 BENEFIT YEAR

and eight companies responded. The lowest bid that met the requirements was submitted by MetLife. Mr. Dave Hotary, director, Risk Management and Benefits, reviewed the program details.

Mr. Eubank suggested that in the future, it would be preferable if the optional insurance had a two- or three-tier level rather than the single tier. Mr. Hotary agreed and said this has been discussed in the insurance committee.

Mrs. Roy commented that this is a wonderful improvement over the original proposal from the previous vendor.

Motion by Mr. Eubank                      Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Group Life Insurance contract with MetLife for the 2008 plan year.

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

EMPLOYEE  
TERMINATION  
CASE E-0708-01

Mr. Tom Wittmer, Staff Attorney, reviewed the facts of the employee case.

Motion by Mr. Eubank                      Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to suspend the employee without pay, pending termination proceedings.

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

The employee requested that he be allowed to address the Board. Mrs. Childs deferred the vote and allowed the employee to speak. He requested that he not be suspended. Mrs. Childs summarized that if the Board votes to suspend the employee without pay, he can then request a hearing and, should he prevail, back pay would be reinstated.

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

CITIZEN INPUT

There was no citizen input.

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
REQUESTS

Mrs. Roy requested that the matter of recycling in the schools be placed on a future Board meeting agenda as a discussion item.

Mrs. Childs requested that the Board be brought up to date on School Concurrency and Zoning issues through a Board meeting presentation or a workshop. She then gave a reminder of upcoming meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.