

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
January 20, 2009

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: Tina Pinkoson, Chairman; Wes Eubank, Vice-Chairman; Ginger Childs, Barbara Sharpe, 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 Pinkoson, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Motion by Mrs. Sharpe Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to approve the following minutes, as presented.

- Energy Workshop – November 25, 2008
- Informal Board Meeting – December 9, 2008
- Joint Meeting with City Commission – December 9, 2008
- School Board Meeting – December 16, 2008

Mrs. Roy requested corrections to her comments as registered in the December 9 Informal Board Meeting minutes.

Motion by Mrs. Roy Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved to approve the December 9 Informal Meeting minutes as amended.

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

The question was called on the original motion as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF AGENDA Mrs. Pinkoson announced the addition of Action Item I.7., Student Case 0809-01-RHC.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to adopt the January 20, 2009, meeting agenda as amended.

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

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Sharpe made a statement in recognition of today's Presidential Inauguration:

As we all know, today the world watched in awe and celebration as our first African American, Barack Hussein Obama, was sworn in as the 44th President of the United States of America! While this extraordinary historical moment in time is extremely significant to Black Americans everywhere, let us be reminded that it is also a very important moment in history for all Americans, regardless of race, color or creed, who make up our entire country and the world.

I thought that I would never live to see this day, but today I have a renewed spirit in humankind. Things will be tough for awhile, but with so much good will and hope for the world behind our new president, I truly believe that we all can look to brighter days ahead, and to a new beginning. Let there be peace on earth with all nations.

Let there also be a message to all children that they must stay in school, work hard, prepare themselves, education- and otherwise; dream big; pursue those dreams and excellence to accomplish your goals. President Obama is an outstanding example. May God Bless America.

RECOGNITION –

NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS

Thirteen teachers were recognized for becoming certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. This brings the District number of active National Board-Certified teachers to 189.

SIDNEY LANIER MUSIC PROGRAM

Dr. Donald DeVito, Sidney Lanier Music Director, reported that drum set player Lyndon White received the Yes I Can! Award in the Arts category from the National Organization for Special Education Teachers. The award is presented to students who overcome their disabilities.

OTHER AGENCIES –

ALACHUA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT FLU-MIST INITIATIVE

Dr. Parker Small, Professor Emeritus, UF College of Medicine and Mrs. Jean Munden, Director, Alachua County Health Department, presented information concerning protecting the community from the flu through school-based nasal-spray immunization. Ten thousand doses will be received from the state through the Vaccine for Children's program, with funds being raised for additional doses. A \$100,000 grant is also pending from the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Foundation. The goal is to immunize 70% of K-8 students.

Mrs. Childs suggested the use of PTA letters to parents, including tear-off permission forms. Mrs. Pinkoson suggested that the permission form also be placed online for the convenience of parents.

CITIZEN INPUT

Hawthorne Mayor Deloris Roberts and a group of citizens from the Hawthorne area addressed the Board in response to hearing reports that Shell Elementary School might be closed. Mayor Roberts presented historical information on the school and posed the following questions:

- Are monies being distributed to the City of Hawthorne?
- Can a magnet program come to the City of Hawthorne?
- Can they get some incentives in the City of Hawthorne?

Other citizen comments included:

- Education at Hawthorne is valued; community and family are also valued.
- Students would be disadvantaged elsewhere, without community and family support.
- What message would be sent regarding the value of small communities?
- Community resources are an element of stability and support to students in difficult circumstances.
- To sacrifice the school for the temporary economic repair of the District would have a serious negative impact.

- Schools are the heart of the community.
- Smart, amazing and very talented children in Hawthorne. In 2007, 49% went to college.
- Request that Hawthorne School Advisory Councils be part of any planning.
- A letter will be forthcoming with ideas resulting from creative thinking in the community.
- Do not want migration to private or out-of-county schools, to the detriment of the community.
- There is great pride in the community.

While many ideas have been mentioned in relation to budget cuts, Mrs. Pinkoson assured the group that if at any time the School Board might consider changes in Hawthorne, the citizens will be the first to be contacted. She expressed appreciation to the citizens for speaking out about their concerns.

Superintendent Boyd expressed his appreciation for the leadership of Mayor Roberts and stated that he had informed her of the possibility of budgetary constraints that could impact Shell Elementary and the high school. He suggested to her the possibility of working with the community to integrate into a K-12 school. In that event, he inquired whether the City of Hawthorne would be interested in use of the Shell property. He understands that both schools are great resources to the Hawthorne Community and he would make no recommendation without full research and involvement of the citizens. He stated that he has no intention of ignoring the wishes of the people, and added that all district operations are being considered, in light of the budget.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Superintendent requested that Student Case 08-09-01-X be moved from the Consent Agenda to Action Item I.8.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to Student Case 08-09-01-X be moved from the Consent Agenda to Action Item I.8.

The motion and second were withdrawn.

Moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1 – 12, with Item 5 being changed to an Action Item.

The question was called on the Consent Agenda as presented.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

RATIFICATION OF AMENDMENTS:

Dr. Gunnar Paulson, ACEA President, first made a statement concerning funding cuts and planned initiatives to impact state legislators. He encouraged citizen involvement in an upcoming Rally in Tallahassee.

2006-2009 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT FOR

Dr. Paulson then announced the results of Ratification:

- Ratification of Amendments to the 2006-2009 Collective Bargaining

INSTRUCTIONAL
PERSONNEL

Agreement for Instructional Personnel: 900 For - 10 Against

- Ratification of Amendments to the 2007-2010 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Education Support Professionals: 967 For - 11 Against

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to ratify the 2008 agreements and amendments to the 2006-2009 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Instructional Personnel, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

2007-2010 COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING
AGREEMENT FOR
EDUCATION SUPPORT
PROFESSIONALS

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to ratify the 2008 agreements and amendments to the 2007-2010 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Education Support Professionals, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF 2008-09
SALARY SCHEDULES

Motion by Mrs. Childs

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to adopt the Teacher, Education Support Professionals (bargaining unit members), Professional/Technical (non-bargaining unit members), Administrative, and Other Compensation Salary Schedules for 2008-2009 as presented.

Mrs. Pinkoson expressed disappointment at not being able to continue the progress that was being made on teacher salaries.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BUDGET DEVELOPMENT
TRIM CALENDAR

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2009-2010 Tentative TRIM Calendar, establishing July 21, 2009, for approval of the tentative budget for advertising; July 28, 2009, 5:30 p.m., as a Special Board meeting for the public hearing and adoption of the Tentative Budget and Millage; and September 15, 2009, 6:30 p.m., for the public hearing and adoption of the Final Budget and Millage.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

PROPOSED POLICIES
1419.03, 3419.03 AND
4419.03, CERTIFIED
DOMESTIC PARTNERS –
SECOND READING

The First Reading of these policies was held on November 18, 2008.

These proposed policies were recommended by the Health Insurance Committee, in conjunction with the Board's Health Insurance Carrier. The Policies will allow a Certified Domestic Partner of an employee and their dependents to be covered under the Board's health insurance plan, beginning in 2009. The proposed policies define domestic partners and establish

eligibility criteria and processes for enrollment and for termination of a partner relationship.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt proposed Policies 1419.03, 3419.03 and 4419.03, *Certified Domestic Partners*, as presented.

Mr. Eubank felt some clarification was needed and suggested the following underlined wording be added to the last sentence: Beginning with the 2009 year and subject to agreement with the Board's insurance carrier, the Board may provide health insurance benefits for the Certified Domestic Partner of an employee and their dependents, *on the same basis as it provides benefits for an employee's spouse and other dependents.*

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to amend the motion by adding the following wording at the end of the last sentence: *on the same basis as it provides benefits for an employee's spouse and other dependents.*

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

The question was called on the original motion as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CANCEL JULY 7, 2009,
SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING

It is recommended the July 7, 2009, meeting be cancelled.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to cancel the July 7, 2009, School Board meeting.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF AGENDA
TO ADD CASE 0809-01-X
AS ACTION ITEM I.8.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved to add Student Case 0809-01-X as Action Item I.8.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

STUDENT CASE
0809-01-RHC

A hearing was held on December 12, 2008. The parent submitted exceptions to the Hearing Officer's Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law but was not present at this meeting.

Exception to Paragraph 3:

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved to concur with the Hearing Officer's Findings of Fact.

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

Exception to Paragraph 4:

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved to concur with the Hearing Officer's Findings of Fact.

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

Exception to Paragraph 6:

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved to concur with the Hearing Officer's Findings of Fact.

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

Exception to Paragraph 10:

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved to concur with the Hearing Officer's Conclusion of Law.

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

The Staff Attorney affirmed to the Chairman that the student will now be assigned to the Horizon Center, per the Hearing Officer's recommendation.

STUDENT CASE
0809-01-X

The student case was considered in closed session.

Motion by Mrs. Childs Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to assign the student to the Horizon Center, on probation, with the following stipulations: no unexcused absences, must maintain a 2.0 GPA, and no Level I or II discipline referrals. If any of these stipulations are violated, the recommended expulsion will be reinstated.

Mrs. Childs explained the requirements in detail to the parent.

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

CITIZEN INPUT

One citizen made comments to the Board.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
REQUESTS

Mrs. Sharpe requested that discussion be held at an Informal Board meeting, pertaining to leaves of absence at Charter schools.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.