

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
August 1, 2000

The School Board of Alachua County, Florida, met in regular session duly called at 7 p.m. in the Boardroom, 620 East University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida. Present were: Barbara Sharpe, chairman; Judy Brashear, vice-chairman; Bill Cake, Bev Carroll, and Chester Leathers, members; Lawrence L. Marazza, superintendent; and James F. Lang, attorney for the Board.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sharpe, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Cake

Seconded by Dr. Leathers

Moved to approve the minutes of July 18, 2000, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Carroll

Seconded by Mrs. Brashear

Moved to adopt the agenda for the meeting of August 1, 2000, as presented.

Add Alachua County Education Association under Scheduled Agencies, and delete Recognition Item 7.a., Recognition of "A" Schools and Gain Scores.

The question was called on the agenda as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BOARD MEMBER
ANNOUNCEMENTS/
DISCUSSION

Mrs. Brashear reported that she has been asked to participate on the strategic planning committee for the Black on Black Crime Task Force and requested this committee be added to her community agency participation list. She also welcomed Board input and comments related to this group.

Mrs. Carroll reported that the School Readiness Coalition has divided into committees and she has been assigned to the committee for school readiness. She urged kindergarten teachers and parents of preschoolers, who are interested in sharing their expertise and input on this issue, contact the Superintendent's Office.

ALACHUA COUNTY
EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION

Mr. Gunnar Paulson, President, ACEA, expressed the following concerns for Board consideration:

- Urged the Board to move quickly on the implementation of the Career Service Salary Study in conjunction with the teacher salary study.
- Recommended that the budgeted money being used for capital outlay

projects, such as field lighting and air conditioning gyms, be put off for a year and instead be used for salaries or in the classroom.

- Urged the Board to not renew the contract with Chance Charter School.

RECOGNITION—
EMPLOYEE SERVICE
RECOGNITION

Mr. Ed Smith, former director, Compensatory Education, was recognized by the Horizon/New Pathways Center, the Regional Juvenile Detention Center and the School Board for his leadership and 13 years of dedicated service provided to the students of Alachua County.

CITIZEN INPUT

The following suggestions/recommendations were presented to the Board for consideration:

- Mr. Mark Walker, Buchholz High School band parent, updated the Board on the costs involved for Buchholz High School to participate in the Macy's Day Parade. He requested the Board's assistance and support in contributing \$10,000 to cover the expenses for needy students. He also informed the Board that he intends to approach the city and county for assistance.

Chairman Sharpe encouraged staff to find a way to make it possible to assist Buchholz with travel expenses.

Mr. Cake requested staff present a recommendation to the Board as soon as possible for Board action. He also suggested challenging the city and county to match the contribution amount.

Mrs. Carroll suggested staff develop a policy to address national competitions of this nature as soon as possible. She also informed the Board that the district's grant coordinator is currently working on petitioning the state for available grant opportunities.

- Ms. Jeannine Cawthon, School Board candidate, expressed concern with proposed budgetary expenditures related to recurring items that are covered out of nonrecurring funds, and asked how this will affect the current year's budget and future budgets. She suggested that the funding designated for items listed on the budgetary request list, which include additional personnel, I.D. cards and a four-wheel drive vehicle, should be spent on teacher salaries and improved facilities. She also suggested that the Strategic Plan be placed on hold and expressed concern how the money will be designated and the affect on the overall budget.
- Mr. Roger Brower, citizen, referred to the Board's policy which strictly prohibits political activities from occurring on Board property.

He informed the Board that he is in possession of a copy of an invoice related to the purchase of shirts to be used in Mrs. Brashear’s School Board campaign. The invoice is billed to the School Board of Alachua County, which conflicts with Board policy. He expressed concern with the amount of staff time that was necessary to review this situation.

Dr. Mary Chambers, assistant superintendent, Business Services, responded that the invoice in question was brought to her attention several weeks ago. The finance office immediately called the company in question and staff was informed that the shirts were ordered and charged at regular price (no discount was taken). It appeared to be an honest mistake on the company’s part for sending the bill to the School Board.

Mrs. Brashear responded that the company made a mistake by sending the bill to the School Board because her home address is not published in the phone book.

- Mrs. Barbara Gallant, Pro-kids Consult, suggested the Board improve the outside appearance of Sidney Lanier for students as they arrive for the first day of school by budgeting \$5,000 to landscape the school. She also urged the Board to not allow Chance Charter School to reopen and also not allow any new charter schools to open.

Mrs. Carroll informed the public that the Board did not renew the contract with Chance Charter School, but the decision was appealed and the state sent the decision back to the School Board for final reconsideration.

Mrs. Brashear requested staff attorney Tom Wittmer write a memo explaining the process and the action that has been taken to date related to the request to renew the contract with Chance Charter School.

Mr. Wittmer briefly explained the process and the status of Chance Charter School.

BID AWARD FOR
PROJECT SBAC CB909—
EASTSIDE HIGH
SCHOOL ROOF
REPLACEMENT

Mr. Ed Gable, director, Facilities, reported that bids for the construction of this project were received on July 26, 2000.

Motion by Mr. Cake

Seconded by Dr. Leathers

Moved that the Board accept the low base bid of \$1,293,303 and additive alternate nos. 1 and 2 in the amount of \$222,500 and award a contract for construction totaling \$1,515,803 to Southeast Enterprise Group, Inc., Jacksonville, Florida. Completion of this project shall be within three hundred thirty (330) consecutive calendar days from the date indicated in the

“Notice to Proceed.”

Mr. Gable provided the Board with information related to local roof contractors, and noted that the Board is receiving the necessary guarantees.

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

Chairman Sharpe stated that Action Item B.2.b., Student Case No. 00-05-X, will be moved to the end of the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Cake Seconded by Mrs. Carroll

Moved to approve the consent agenda as described in items 1-9. (See Supplementary Minutes Book.)

A citizen referred to item 6., Agreement with the American Red Cross Alachua County Chapter, and staff informed the Board that this agreement allows for a service with district’s schools, but it is not an exclusionary agreement and anyone can provide the service.

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

INFORMATION ITEM—
UPDATE ON PARKING
REQUEST BY CLERK OF
THE COURT BUDDY
IRBY

Mr. Terry Tougaw, assistant superintendent, Facilities/Transportation, reported that the city parking lot is undergoing renovations and he has met with the Clerk of the Circuit Court to discuss the possibility of allowing jurors to temporarily park at Kirby-Smith. Staff is currently working with the Clerk’s Office to allow jurors to park on the east side of Kirby-Smith until they can find another location. He noted that this may be a long-term temporary situation.

Chairman Sharpe reported that she has also met with the Clerk of the Circuit Court and encouraged the Board to assist the county and taxpayers by accommodating the jurors and allowing them to temporarily park at Kirby-Smith. She also suggested the possibility of charging the county for the use of the parking area.

Mr. Tougaw stated that the county will assist with providing signage and additional law enforcement.

Mrs. Brashear requested that staff work to preserve the grass in the area and to communicate this information to the Duck Pond neighborhood.

Mr. Tougaw stated that he will keep the Board members up to date on this issue.

SUPERINTENDENT
REQUESTS

in front of Kirby rather than travelling to school campuses as it was designed.

Superintendent Marazza responded that the mobile technology lab was previously at Lincoln Middle School, but has now been included as part of the curriculum for the history room field trips and teacher training in conjunction with the Teacher Learning Center.

Chairman Sharpe questioned if it was more economical to bus students to Kirby rather than moving the mobile unit from campus to campus.

Mr. Tougaw stated the mobile unit visits schools, but during the summer it is not utilized until August when school begins. The tech lab has been located at Kirby-Smith to work in conjunction with the history room field trips, but should become mobile around the district when school begins.

The Superintendent noted that a report will be provided to the Board on usage of the mobile technology lab.

The regular Board Meeting was recessed for Student Case No. 00-05-X to allow the parent to address the Board.

The regular Board Meeting reconvened.

STUDENT CASE
NO. 00-05-X

Motion by Mrs. Carroll

Seconded by Mrs. Brashear

Moved that the Board expel the Respondent from the Alachua County schools for the remainder of the 1999-00 year and all of the 2000-2001 school year, including the extended school year. However, if the respondent is enrolled through the Department of Juvenile Justice in a full-time diversion program, during the 2000 year, and completes such program, then the student may return to the public schools at the start of the second semester of the 2000-2001 year, in January 2001 and be reassigned to the alternative center.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.