

Geiger has made tens of thousands of bookworms as bookmarks for our students.

The Superintendent noted that the best practices review team from the Office of Program, Policy and Governmental Accountability (OPPAGA) is here for the second visit. The team is scheduled for two additional visits and then will provide a report on best practices and how to improve the school district.

RECOGNITION(S)/
PRESENTATION(S)
REPORT(S)

District School Assistance Plan Update

Dr. Bill Cliett, deputy superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, reviewed district assistance given to one 'F' and three 'D' schools, and shared the report submitted by schools to the Department of Education on activities to increase student achievement.

Student Learning Gains

Dr. Cliett explained the purposes of FCAT and how it is used by the state to measure achievement on the Sunshine State Standards (SSS) and to evaluate instructional strategies. He also reported on the new state requirement that all third grade students scoring level 1 in reading on FCAT must be retained, with few exceptions.

Dr. Mel Lucas, director, Research and Evaluation, reviewed a comparison of Developmental Scale Score (DSS) gains of students' scores on FCAT Reading and Mathematics in years 2001 and 2002. Comparisons were presented for grades 4 through 10 for students qualified to receive free/reduced lunch and those not so qualified, and for students attending elementary, middle and high schools in East Gainesville, West Gainesville and Alachua County's rural areas. The results show that overall students qualifying for free/reduced lunch make gains in reading and mathematics approximately equal to students not so qualified. Students attending elementary, middle and high schools in East Gainesville make gains approximately equal to gains made by students in West Gainesville schools. Students attending schools in the rural areas tend to make higher gains than those attending Gainesville schools, although the difference does not appear to be substantial.

The regular Board meeting was recessed and a Public Hearing convened.

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was scheduled to receive input on consideration of the following issues:

- Contract for Hoggetowne Middle School, Inc. Charter School
- New Job Description—Technical Support Coordinator

There was no public input.

The Public Hearing was adjourned and the regular board meeting reconvened.

RECOGNITION(S)/
PRESENTATION(S)/
REPORT(S) CONT'D

Budgeting/Financial Update

Mr. Keith Birkett, deputy superintendent, Planning, Budget, and Systems Accountability, presented a summary of the findings on the Audited Financial Statements for Charter Schools. He also reviewed the two recently passed Constitutional Amendments--Voluntary Universal Pre-Kindergarten Education, to be implemented no later than the 2004-05 school year; and Class Size Reduction.

The average class size must be reduced by 2 for the 2003-04 school year at an estimated cost of \$3.4 million for teachers and \$.13 million for portables.

By the 2010-11 school year, the maximum number of students assigned to a teacher is 18 for K-3; 22 for grades 4-8; and 25 for grades 9-12. The estimated additional schools needed is 5 elementary, 1 middle and 1 high with approximately 230 additional teachers.

Mr. Terry Tougaw, executive director, Facilities, explained that in talking about facility utilization, the vocabulary will change and within the next several months, workshops will be scheduled to discuss many of the following issues: class size reduction; voluntary pre-K; zoning; school choice; school capacity as it relates to Florida Inventory of School Houses (FISH); permanent space; relocatable space as it relates to the new law as to the type of relocatable districts will be able to use; functional capacity; facility list; school plant survey; five-year plan; master plan; small schools relative to the new law passed as to the size of school districts can build; and classroom inventory in terms of number of classrooms and size, which will specifically relate to the class size reduction.

Mr. Tougaw pointed out that a portion of Policy 5.11, labeled School Choice Assignment Rules, would take effect in 2004-05. The Board also authorized a study of comprehensive rezoning of elementary schools for the 2003-2004 school year. A subcommittee of the Superintendent's Advisory Council will study the efforts of a previous task force on attendance zones and the history of rezoning for the county and other districts; make recommendations in terms of groups and individuals to be represented, with the goal to be as inclusive as possible of the many groups and school communities concerned while keeping the final number of the task force to a reasonable number in order to operate efficiently; and develop a communication plan so that

all meetings of the task force will be advertised and held at a suitable location, allowing concerned community members to observe the proceedings. The Superintendent will take those recommendations to the Board to appoint a task force to come back with recommendations that can be studied.

Mr. Tougaw noted that the district will be dealing in numbers such as functional capacity versus FISH capacity.

Mr. Ed Gable, director, Facilities, reviewed and explained permanent relocatable and functional capacity for the elementary schools. He estimated the cost to build five elementary schools, one middle school and one high school to be between \$65 million and \$75 million dollars.

CITIZEN INPUT

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

- Too many action items on the agenda for new Board members' first meeting; the task force to be formed to consider rezoning was not supposed to be done by the Superintendent; opposed to having workshops at 9 a.m.
- Presented a statistical summary of monthly Deans' Misconduct Report for the past seven years and a list of offenses for the years 1995-2001; suggested figures for the year 2002 be added; urged this research be extended to academic, budget, community involvement or lack of it, cost overruns, employee morale, resignations and terminations.
- Provided the Board with information on black history.
- Welcomed the new Board members and wished the entire Board success in its efforts in serving students; pay for part-time school board members not be more than that of a beginning full-time teacher; citizen comments be placed on the agenda after adoption of agenda.
- ACEA president and executive staff congratulated the new Board members, offered their assistance and applauded the new Board members' desire to accept salaries less than proposed.

APPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL BOARD ATTORNEY AND ESTABLISHMENT OF FEES

Superintendent Chambers noted that the Board had received a letter from Mr. Lang advising that he is willing to continue as the Board's attorney for another year. It also states that the rate of compensation was increased two years ago and, normally, is increased every other year. This is the year for a rate increase.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to reappoint Mr. Jim Lang as the attorney for the School Board

for the upcoming year.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF 2002-
2003 PROPOSED
SCHOOL BOARD
MEMBER SALARY
(\$30,928), PURSUANT
TO SECTION 1001.395,
FLORIDA STATUTES

Mr. Lang noted that the Legislature passed a new law that allows the elected school board members this year, in November, with approval of the full board or majority vote to set their own salary. There has been a publication in the newspaper as to the amount of the salary set forth that the two incumbent school board members would receive because they are under a different salary schedule statutorily prescribed in the past. He informed the new Board members they could go ahead and set their salaries at that amount or less, but not exceed that amount.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mrs. Turner

Moved to set the proposed School Board member salary.

Superintendent Chambers noted that the proposed salary noticed was \$30,928 based on the recommendation from the Florida School Boards Association Compensation Commission, an increase over the 2001-2002 salary of \$30,085.

The new Board members expressed concern coming in new and accepting a salary of \$30,928, a raise over last year.

The Board members discussed options on lowering the proposed salary.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Turner

Moved to amend the motion to set the salary at the current level of \$30,085 for the newly elected Board members.

The question was called on the amendment.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

The question was called on the original motion as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CONTRACT WITH JOY
FRANK & ASSOCIATES,
P.A.

This contract provides for lobbying services at all Florida state legislative sessions and before any committees and agencies.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to approve the Contract for Professional Services with Joy Frank & Associates, P.A., for the period January 19, 2003, and ending January 18, 2004.

PROPOSED
AMENDMENT TO
OTHER
COMPENSATION
SALARY SCHEDULE
FOR 2002-2003

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

This amendment provides for the salaries of the School Board Members to be established annually by the School Board as prescribed by Section 1001.395, Florida Statutes. Incumbent School Board member salaries shall be calculated pursuant to applicable provisions of Chapter 145, Florida Statutes.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved to approve the proposed amendment to the Other Compensation Salary Schedule for 2002-2003.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

REQUEST TO WAIVE
THE CAP FOR
CHARTER SCHOOLS

A request to waive the cap of 12 for charter schools within our district is to allow the individual applications of DeSoto High School, SIA Tech, and Richard Milburn Academy to be considered on their own merits.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the administration's recommendation to request the Florida Board of Education to waive the district cap of 12 charter schools for the specific and only purpose of conducting the proposal and contract phase for DeSoto High School, SIA Tech, and Richard Milburn Academy. The waiver of cap will occur only if one or more of the applications are approved.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CONFIRM INCUMBENT
SCHOOL BOARD
MEMBERS' SALARY

Board Attorney Lang felt the Board should vote to affirm the salaries of the incumbent School Board members based on the statutorily prescribed amount.

Motion by Mrs. Childs

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved that the salary of the incumbent School Board members be set at \$30,928 as prescribed by Florida Statute.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

APPOINTMENTS TO
COUNTY AND
MUNICIPALITY
PLANNING BOARDS

In accordance with Section 163.3174 of Florida Statutes, all local planning agencies or equivalent agencies that review rezoning and comprehensive plan amendments in each municipality and county shall include a representative of the school district approved by the School

Board as a nonvoting member.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved to appoint School Board members to serve as a nonvoting member on county and municipality planning boards as follows: Mrs. Cawthon, cities of Archer and Newberry; Mrs. Childs, cities of High Springs and La Crosse; Mr. Eubank, city of Micanopy and Alachua County; Mrs. Sharpe, cities of Waldo and Hawthorne; Mrs. Turner, cities of Gainesville and Alachua.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

SCHEDULE STRATEGIC
PLANNING TEAM
SESSION FOR
FEBRUARY 10-11, 2003

The Board was provided with an overview of the process for the original Strategic Planning Team and Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan needs an update to enable the administration to budget the Plan.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the administration's recommendation to schedule The Cambridge Group on February 10-11, 2003, for the Strategic Planning Team Session.

Dr. Chambers noted that the Strategic Plan was to give the Board direction from a community and district standpoint so priorities are clearly set when the district starts budgeting the Plan. OPPAGA best practices call for districts to have a strategic plan. The Auditor General's Office has complimented this district in having a strategic plan, and it is used for budgeting.

This training will provide an update to look at the mission, look at internal and external factors, and provide an opportunity to get a fresh start with this Board. The Strategic Plan helps set policy and direction when the district starts working on the budget.

Discussion followed with Board members making the following remarks:

- Supports the Strategic Plan
- Concern with the serious budget situation
- Look at ways to make it work without being so expensive
- Concern about having the staff do the training because of being understaffed and overworked
- Feels The Cambridge Group owes the district and wants this checked
- Would be good for the new Board members
- The Strategic Plan needs to be updated

- Believes the new Board members have a good idea of what this community wants, and if there is a way, delay this process and build on what has been learned in the past several months

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to amend the motion to operate from the current Strategic Plan for this year and take a look at an update of the Strategic Plan next year.

The question was called on the amendment.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

The question was called on the original motion as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

SCHEDULE/CANCEL
BOARD MEETINGS/
WORKSHOPS

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the administration's recommendation to schedule/cancel Board meetings/workshops as follows:

- Move December 3, 2002, meeting to December 10, 2002
- Cancel December 17, 2002, and January 7, 2003, meetings
- Move January 21, 2003, meeting to January 14, 2003
- Cancel April 1, 2003, meeting due to spring break

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mrs. Turner

Moved to schedule a workshop for an overview of Charter Schools and development of proposed policy on February 11, 2003, 9 a.m., Conference Room E.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to Schedule workshop for Legislative Priorities December 17, 2002, 9 a.m., Conference Room E.

The question was called

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Turner

Moved to Schedule workshop on Team Building January 8, 2003, 9 a.m., at the Matheson Center.

CONSENT AGENDA The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0
Motion by Mrs. Sharpe Seconded by Mr. Eubank
Moved the approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1-3.
(See Supplementary Minutes Book.)

BOARD MEMBERS/
SUPERINTENDENT
REQUESTS The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

There were no Board Members/Superintendent requests.

DISCUSSION ITEM Board Member Committee Assignments
New Board members were assigned to the following committees:
• Ginger Childs – Bid Protest Hearings; Student Discipline Hearings;
School Readiness Coalition
• Wes Eubank – Juvenile Justice Board, District 3; Juvenile Justice
Council for Alachua County; Black on Black on Black Crime Task
Force
• Tina Turner – Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee;
Alachua County Poverty Reduction Advisory Commission; Healthy
Community Initiative

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.