

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA  
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
JANUARY 14, 2003

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: Jeannine Cawthon, chairman; Barbara Sharpe, vice-chairman; Ginger Childs, Wes Eubank and Tina Turner, members; Mary L. Chambers, superintendent; and James F. Lang, attorney for the Board.

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

APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved to approve the minutes of December 10, 2002, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved to adopt the agenda for the meeting of January 14, 2003, as presented.

Add to Action Item H.5., Schedule Workshops, the following: c., Schedule a School Board Informal meeting 1:30-3:30 p.m., January 28, 2003; d., Schedule a Budget Allocation workshop 9 a.m.-2 p.m., February 10, 2003, and at 10 a.m., February 11, 2003, following the already scheduled workshop on the Overview of Charter Schools and Development of Policy at 9 a.m.; and e., Change the February 4, 2003, Regular School Board meeting time from 7 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Add the following personnel to Consent Agenda Item 1., Employment of personnel, Attachment A, Page 1, as approval of \*out-of-field assignments is requested prior to the FTE reporting period February 3-7.

Cheree M. Cope, Hawthorne High School, Language Arts (.60) and Business Ed. (.40)\*, effective 1/9/03; and Karin H. Waldrop, Williams Elementary School, Kindergarten\*/First Grade, effective 1/6/03.

The question was called on the agenda as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board members announced events, activities and school district site visits and commended employees on their efforts.

It was noted that the County Commission has taken action to send a letter to the Superintendent requesting that the two boards schedule a joint meeting.

The School Board received a letter from the Midwest Clinic Board of Directors commending the Buchholz High School Wind Symphony on an outstanding performance at the International Band and Orchestra Concert, December 2002, in Chicago.

The student artwork posted in the Boardroom was recognized.

Alltel provided the district with 90 cell phones for use in the secondary schools for better communication with parents.

Condolences were extended on behalf of the School Board.

RECOGNITION(S)/  
PRESENTATION(S)/  
REPORTS

Character Education Student Artwork  
Students from Rawlings Elementary and A. Quinn Jones were recognized for their outstanding artwork depicting this month's character trait, "Cooperation."

National Board Certified Teachers  
Eighteen Alachua County teachers were honored for their efforts in completing rigorous criteria to achieve National Board Certification.

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

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PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was held on the proposed calendars for school years 2003-2004 and 2004-2005.

It was suggested having 90% of the grade over before the holidays and 10% of the grade during the two weeks in January where the teachers can do something they would love to do, such as intercessions, which is special for both the teachers and students.

The calendar committee recommendations for the proposed calendars included teacher workdays prior to when grades are due, which was also the recommendation of the on-line grading committee.

The calendar survey of teachers, overwhelmingly, recommends with UF Homecoming Friday, November 7, 2003, and Veterans Day Tuesday, November 11, that Monday, November 10, be scheduled as a pupil-teacher holiday. The survey also shows many requests for Wednesday, November 26, 2003, before Thanksgiving as a day off.

Mrs. Sharpe requested changes made to the proposed calendars be in italics or in some way to identify changes.

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

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RECOGNITION(S)/  
PRESENTATION(S)/  
REPORT(S) (cont'd)

YMCA Discussion Update  
An update on meetings held regarding the efforts to locate a YMCA on the property adjoining Wiles Elementary School and Kanapaha Middle School was presented. A marketing survey has been commissioned by the YMCA to assess recreational needs and gauge interest in the project from surrounding neighborhoods.

Budgeting/Financial Update  
A budgeting/Financial Update was presented based on the October 2002 FTE count. The information included revised revenue calculations along with prior year adjustments. The presentation also included the Department of Education's 2003-2004 budget request to the legislature compared to the 2002-2003 school district budget.

SCHEDULED AGENCIES There were no Scheduled Agencies.

CITIZEN INPUT The following requests/concerns/information were presented to the Board for consideration:

- A request the Board begin negotiating with career service. The bargaining in 2002 was for the two previous years.
- A statistical summary of the monthly Deans' Misconduct Report was shared with the Board.
- A petition was presented expressing concerns by teachers and career service employees regarding the proposed contract changes for school nurses and health assistants, particularly with regard to the rural schools, with their employment being transferred from the School Board to the Alachua County Health Department.
- Addressed the Board with information regarding African-American history curriculum in all schools.
- Disagreement was expressed with times suggested for workshops and meetings and informal meetings with no agenda.

BID AWARD FOR  
PROJECT SBAC CA932--  
NEWBERRY  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
NEW CLASSROOM  
BUILDING

Motion by Mr. Eubank                      Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe  
Moved to approve the administration's recommendation to accept the low base bid of \$688,888 and Additive Alternate #1 in the amount of \$6,000 and award a contract for construction totaling \$694,888 to Music Construction, Inc., Live Oak, Florida. Completion of this project shall be within three hundred fifteen (315) consecutive calendar

days from the date indicated in the "Notice to Proceed."

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

BID AWARD FOR  
PROJECT SBAC  
CA930—HIGH SPRINGS  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
NEW CLASSROOM  
BUILDING

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to approve the administration's recommendation to accept the low base bid of \$1,169,000 and Additive Alternates #1, 2, and 3 in the amount of \$73,800 and award a contract for construction totaling \$1,242,800 to Ric-Lon Enterprises, Jacksonville, Florida. Completion of this project shall be within three hundred twenty (320) consecutive calendar days from the date indicated in the "Notice to Proceed."

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

STUDENT CASE  
NO. 02-28-X

The student was charged with possession and sale of a controlled substance while at school. The parent has not requested a hearing.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe Seconded by Mrs. Turner

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to expel the student through the end of the 2002-2003 school year.

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

STUDENT CASE  
NO. 02-29-X

The student was charged with possession of a weapon while on campus. A hearing was held on December 19, 2002.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe Seconded by Mrs. Turner

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation that the student's suspension be extended through February 4, 2003.

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

STUDENT CASE  
NO. 02-31-X

No action on this student case was recommended at this time.

LEGISLATIVE  
PRIORITIES--2003

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe Seconded by Mrs. Turner

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2003 Legislative Priorities as presented.

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

SCHEDULE  
WORKSHOPS/

Motion by Mrs. Childs Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

CHANGE FEBRUARY 4,  
2003 BOARD MEETING  
TIME

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to schedule a workshop for a Strategic Planning Update, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, January 28, 2003.

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

Motion by Mrs. Turner Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to schedule a Facility workshop on COPs, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., January 30, 2003.

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

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to schedule an Informal meeting of the School Board, 1:30-3:30 p.m., January 28, 2003.

It was noted that the format of the informal meetings is for the Board members, possibly some staff, to discuss and express opinions on issues.

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

Motion by Mrs. Childs Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to schedule a Budget Allocation workshop, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., February 10, 2003, and at 10 a.m., February 11, 2003, following the already scheduled workshop on the Overview of Charter Schools and Development of Policy at 9 a.m.

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

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe Seconded by Mrs. Turner

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation that the February 4, 2003, Regular School Board meeting time be moved from 7 p.m. to 2 p.m.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to approve the consent agenda as described in items 1-14 with the addition of personnel to Consent Agenda Item 1., Attachment A, Page 1. (See Supplementary Minutes Book.)

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BOARD MEMBERS/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
REQUESTS

Mr. Eubank provided staff a spreadsheet of non-school positions. He would like to know the status of each position as to whether the district is actively trying to fill the position and when it may be filled.

He would also like for the Board to be provided copies of the school board salary schedules for the adjacent counties and, in addition, Leon, Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties.

Mrs. Sharpe noted that with regard to the issue with the nurses the district received notice just before the holidays, not allowing time to address the matter in a timely manner. She understands that the district has and is still working to place the personnel involved. She would like it conveyed to the school nurses that the district had no control over the situation, and also let them know what is going on.

Mrs. Childs requested a list of employees that have dropped and are due to terminate during the year 2003 and any other employees who have indicated their intent to retire, resign or otherwise leave during this calendar year.

Superintendent Chambers informed the Board that Mr. Leonard Dietzen, attorney, and Mrs. Kathy Black, Student Support Services, are currently working with the Health Department to try and resolve some of the outstanding issues regarding the nurses.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.