



Superintendent Chambers attended a meeting sponsored by the Action Network, which has worked for more than a year to bring after-school programs to Alachua County middle school students. The school system was presented with a proclamation of thanks, along with the city and county for ensuring that after-school activities are available for middle school students. The program is scheduled to begin at the Mebane and Westwood Middle Schools.

CITIZEN INPUT

Several citizens addressed the Board with the following concerns/requests:

- A representative from Citizens for Responsible Choices in School Rezoning presented the Board with a public records request for rezoning information.
- Urged the Board to allow current high school students to remain at their high schools due to their involvement in extra-curricular activities.
- Concerns were expressed over property taxes and the way the School Board is spending money. Urged the Board to refrain from adding wings to six elementary schools, air conditioning gymnasiums, or building a new Horizon Center. Suggested that the funds saved by eliminating these projects, be used to build a new elementary school in west Alachua County.
- Urged the Board to use qualified legal staff and eliminate the extra expenditure of \$200,000 for an attorney to bargain with teachers.
- Suggested the Board pair up Wiles and Chiles as K-2 and 3-5 combinations.

RECOGNITION(S)  
2003 EDUCATION'S  
UNsung HEROES  
AWARD

Mr. Steven Noll, teacher, Sidney Lanier, was recognized as one of the nation's most innovative educators in the 2003 Education's Unsung Heroes Award program, presented by ING for his "Digitized Literacy" project. His project uses technology in a variety of ways to increase literacy in a population of at-risk learners.

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

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PUBLIC HEARING—  
PROPOSED NEW  
POLICY 9.13, FAMILY  
INVOLVEMENT

Staff Attorney Jim Robinson presented a revised version to proposed Policy 9.13, Family Involvement, which addresses the Board attorney's concern over the use of the term "partnership," and changes the word "intent" to "desire" in paragraph (2).

There was no public input.

PROPOSED  
AMENDMENT TO  
POLICY 7.31,  
PURCHASING AND  
BIDDING

There was no public input.

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

SCHEDULED AGENCIES

ACEA: Dr. Gunnar Paulson, president, ACEA, urged the Board to postpone their vote to close Prairie View Elementary School, and expressed concern with the high cost of health insurance coverage for employees. He provided the Board with information related to high school utility consumption and requested staff research this issue.

PRESENTATION(S)/  
REPORT(S)

Budgeting/Financial Update: Staff presented information on the October 2003 FTE.

Zoning Update: A final public hearing on the proposed rezoning will be held on Thursday, November 13, 2003, 6 p.m., Gainesville High School auditorium. Revised maps will be placed on the district's website and available for the public to review prior to the public hearing.

Staff pointed out that the district is not adding additional students to any existing schools, but will be decreasing the number of students at overcrowded schools.

Mr. Eubank suggested, as the district looks at the high school level, allowing Sophomores and Juniors to be grandfathered-in with Seniors at their current schools, and that they be responsible for providing their own transportation.

Mrs. Turner agreed with Mr. Eubank and voiced her support of grandfathering-in Sophomores at the high school level in order to avoid impacting as few students as possible.

INTERLOCAL  
AGREEMENT FOR  
PUBLIC SCHOOL  
FACILITY PLANNING

Mr. Ed Gable, executive director, Facilities, reported that in accordance with the requirements of Section 163.31777 Florida Statutes, staff has developed an Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning between the School Board of Alachua County, the Commission or Council of the Cities or Towns of Alachua, Archer, Gainesville, Hawthorne, High Springs, LaCrosse, Micanopy, Newberry, and Waldo and the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning for submission to the Department of Community Affairs.

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

BUDGET  
AMENDMENTS

Motion by Mrs. Childs Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to approve Budget Amendments Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 as presented.

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 1-7. (See Supplementary Minutes Book.)

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

DISCUSSION ITEM—  
YMCA UPDATE

Mr. Gable reported on the approximately 15 acres of property located between Kanapaha Middle and Wiles Elementary Schools that the YMCA has expressed interest in for a joint-use project or a southwest facility. He reported that a value appraisal was completed of the 15 acres and the value was determined at \$40,000/acre (\$600,000) single-family or \$55,000/acre (\$825,000) multi-family based on the type of zoning. He noted that neither type of zoning classification is what the YMCA would be able to use. Staff received conceptual designs from the YMCA, but has not heard anything back from them and requested direction from the Board on how to proceed.

Mrs. Cawthon requested Mr. Gable contact the YMCA on the status of the property east of Wiles Elementary.

Mrs. Sharpe noted that a presentation was made a while ago and she had requested research information on the pros and cons when staff presents information.

CITIZEN INPUT(cont'd)

Additional citizens addressed the Board with the following requests/suggestions:

- A citizen expressed concern with employee morale, problems with academics and nepotism.
- A resident from the Cobblefield subdivision urged the Board to provide options and follow the Board's zoning policy.
- An intern from Lofton High School invited Board members to visit Lofton.
- Residents from Fairfield and Parkside subdivisions urged the Board

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to allow their children to continue to attend Chiles Elementary School.

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
REQUESTS

There were no Board requests.

Chairman Cawthon reminded the Board of the Executive Session scheduled on Wednesday, November 5, at 2:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.