

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA  
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
April 20, 2004

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: Barbara J. Sharpe, chairman; Tina Turner Pinkoson, vice-chairman; Jeannine M. Cawthon, Virginia S. Childs and F. Wesley Eubank, members; Sandra H. Hollinger, 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 Mrs. Cawthon                      Seconded by Mr. Wes Eubank

Moved to approve the minutes of Special Board Meeting of March 11, 2004, and Regular Board meeting of March 16, 2004 , as presented.

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson                      Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to adopt the agenda for the meeting of April 20, 2004, with the deletion of Action Item 21, Employee Cases, and Consent Agenda Item 12, Bus Use Agreements. Discuss item 1. Attachment D, page 3, prior to voting on the Consent Agenda.

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

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Pinkoson invited all to come and participate in “A Grown-up’s Day to Play” at O2B Kids May 2, 2004, from 5-8 p.m. The Alachua County Public School Foundation is hosting the event to help raise money for teachers and classrooms in Alachua County.

Superintendent Hollinger noted a reception for retirees, with the theme “Education is a Team Effort,” would be held May 24, 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the Culinary Arts Institute at Eastside High School.

Chairman Sharpe read the following statement into the minutes:

*It is very unfortunate that an article by Douane James appeared in The Gainesville Sun today prior to our regular Board meeting regarding our superintendent finalist. It was never the Board’s intention for any prospective candidate to read in the newspaper regarding interviews before we had a chance to finish the process and in a professional manner write each applicant informing them of the final results.*

RECOGNITION(S)

**Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl State Championship**

The Alachua Elementary School's Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl team has achieved the state championship for the fifth consecutive year. The team's score of 1250 surpassed every other competing elementary school in the state of Florida and all but two middle schools. The student teams compete in a computerized exam of math, literature, social studies, science, and current events questions.

The team, coached by Shirley Tanner, includes the following students and their areas of concentration for the Quiz Bowl Team:

- Kelley Bennett                      Children' Literature & Language Arts
- Katie Evers                              Government & History
- Jared Gainey                           Sports & Leisure & Music
- Jonathan Price                        Geography & Miscellaneous
- Stephen Tapia-Ruano                Mathematics & Science

Principal Jim Brandenburg invited members of the Board and staff to a special ceremony at the school on Thursday, April 29, 1 p.m.

**Council for Exceptional Children**

The Council for Exceptional Children presented the 2004 ESE Teachers and Paraprofessionals of the Year to the Board in recognition of their dedication to students.

CITIZEN INPUT

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

- Feels major topics should not be discussion items at an informal board meeting.
- The Board was presented with a petition by residents of the Black Oaks neighborhood requesting that adequate on campus parking be provided for students and faculty at Buchholz High School.

Chairman Sharpe responded for the record that an informal meeting of this School Board is a lawful format for Board members to get together and talk about any educational issue they see fit. It is not a voting process or anything of that kind, but it is the only lawful format that the board can have. She wants people to know that it is within the law. It is something that this school board, on reorganization, decided it would be a way to get together and discuss educational matters.

She noted that the story in the paper today would really be good headlines for tomorrow after the meeting tonight.

SCHEDULED AGENCIES    There were no scheduled agencies.

PRESENTATION(S)/  
REPORT(S)

**Budgeting/Financial Update**

Mr. Jim Utley, Information Resources, gave a brief overview of the current Bitech software system, which was selected over another system referred to as Terms for finance and human resources payroll. The finance package was implemented in 1999, but due to multiple year setbacks, implementation of the human resources payroll package did not happen. In the fall of 2003, it was noted there are several risks with continuing to use the existing human resources payroll software, as it is not a supported product. There is a risk that we may not be able to accommodate possible future rule changes; another risk would be if the system malfunctioned or failed, we would not be able to get a payroll out.

Staff is looking at software packages for both human resources and finance and has contacted a company called CrossPointe about acquiring the CrossPointe Terms system referred to as the Florida system. The pros are they have a very large Florida user base; personnel in finance and payroll are very much in favor of the system; and it is not a very flexible system. The cons of the system--has a very high initial cost; a very high recurring cost; not very flexible, and the company is under new management, which explains the higher costs.

Mrs. Childs noted that she does not want to spend another fortune on something that is not more user friendly and more able for employees to have inservice to learn it. Mr. Utley noted that it is very important for users to be comfortable with a system.

Mr. Eubank noted a need to consider the credibility the software has with the users; the second factor to include in the equation is the high human resource cost; and then the point of possibly getting a package that doesn't work. Hopefully, we would have a contract with a mainframe upgrade where there is some type of performance requirements.

Mrs. Pinkoson, referring to computers, pointed out that it is very frustrating when you look at all the money that is put into technology and it is obsolete in four years.

Mr. Utley stated the initial startup cost would be \$1,000,000.

Mr. Utley informed Mrs. Cawthon that if we don't go with the new system we could give people more training inservice on a regular basis; we have cured some of the problems in finance; and we would then implement the human resources payroll part of Bitech. His cost estimate for this is about \$100,000. The Bitech software system is not obsolete. The Terms system now called CrossPointe is not obsolete.

Mr. Tougaw noted that as we go through the budget process, the Board may want to consider taking a look at transferring the lighting retrofit, which would be paying off the remainder of retrofitting the schools, into 2 mill and perhaps keep the allocation that is currently in the operating budget to pay for a lease finance on some sort of new software system. Those dollars would pay for the cost of the system and the maintenance for five years.

**Oasis Charter School Update**

Mr. Trainor noted that no financial information has been received for the March update.

Ms. Patricia West, chairman, Oasis Board of Directors, noted that a copy of the report was presented to the district today and apologized that Mr. Trainor did not receive it in time. To address some of the financial concerns, she reported that two members of the staff have been cut, thereby decreasing the budget; they will now be paying teachers monthly; they met with School Board staff members for ideas on concluding the end of this year and to start planning toward next year, and received some good ideas they are starting to work on. She is bringing in a management company from Tallahassee that is not only proficient in dealing with charter schools but also with not-for-profit organizations, as it could help bring in some funds they traditionally would not get as a charter school by existing as a not-for-profit organization.

Chairman Sharpe requested that the reports be received in a timely manner to allow review before the Board meeting. Ms. West noted that it was actually due today, which just happened to fall on a meeting day.

Mrs. Cawthon questioned how cutting staff has affected the class size. Ms. West stated because they are a very small group, they have started team teaching where both teachers teach the subject areas they are proficient in and the staff member can step in and teach that subject area and also the principal is certified in language arts and has been helping.

Mrs. Childs asked the following questions with Ms. West responding:

- Is current staff aware of the tenuous state of your finances on a month-to-month basis and are the parents aware? (The staff members are aware as are the parents. The parents have gotten together to do fund raisers to help.)
- Has any paperwork come from the Department of Juvenile

Justice for a grant? (Confirmed that a grant was promised, however, DJJ is going through their own financial difficulties and those funds promised may not get to them this year, however, July 1 that grant will kick in. It is like an accountability board for juvenile justice deterrents. She has not received anything in writing but did speak with them today and they are to get back with her.)

- How many students do you have and how many people do you have teaching on a full-time basis? (We had 52 at FTE week and 3 full-time staff teaching and the principal teaches part time.)
- After meeting with our staff and talking about the financial difficulties you all are experiencing this year, do you actually believe that next year you are going to be in a position to not have to be concerned about making payroll each month? (Yes, I certainly do, we have gotten some creative ideas from School Board staff for reducing our expenditures, such as taking the 6<sup>th</sup> grade out of the full population and having just one 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and team teach the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. We realize we need to work on enrollment for next year.)
- Is there a mechanism in place now so that if there is a problem at the school with their finances so that the school will call you immediately to resolve the problem before it endangers the school and the students? (Absolutely, Mr. Lewis has all of my numbers.) It should be the school's responsibility to contact you. Make sure the school knows to let you know immediately if there is any problem so you can step in and help resolve it.

Chairman Sharpe thanked Ms. West for coming to meet with the Board and noted that we, as a School Board, support our charter schools, but there is an expectation of us and an expectation from us to the charter school; and when we have a liability problem, that is an emergency. The School Board can help with technical assistance but not with finances. She is glad to hear parents are coming forth with fund raising and offered this bit of advice—Do not count on grants before you get them.

PROCLAMATION—  
NATIONAL LIBRARY  
WEEK, APRIL 18-24,  
2004

Motion by Mrs. Cawthon

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to adopt the Proclamation proclaiming the week of April 18-24, 2004, as national Library Week.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

PROCLAMATION—  
CHILD ABUSE  
PREVENTION MONTH

Motion by Mrs. Cawthon

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to adopt the Proclamation proclaiming the month of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

PROCLAMATION—  
HAZARDOUS  
MATERIALS  
AWARENESS WEEK,  
APRIL 26-MAY 1, 2004

Motion by Mrs. Cawthon

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to adopt the Proclamation proclaiming the week of April 26 through May 1, 2004, as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

RATIFICATION OF THE  
TEACHERS  
BARGAINING  
AGREEMENT, 2003-2006

Dr. Gunnar Paulson, president, Alachua County Education Association, reported that the vote for ratification by the teachers was 832 yes and 98 no.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the superintendent's recommendation to ratify the negotiated agreement between the School Board and the Alachua County Education Association for Instructional personnel, 2003-2006, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF THE  
2003-2004 TEACHER  
SALARY SCHEDULE

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to Adopt the Teacher Salary Schedule as presented. It is further recommended that the salary schedule adopted continue from year-to-year until amended by action of the Board.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BID AWARD—PROJECT  
SBAC B0307—DUVAL,  
METCALFE, PRAIRIE  
VIEW AND WALDO  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
COURT COVERS

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to approve the administration's recommendation and accept the low base bid of \$274,774 and Additive Alternate No. 1 in the amount of \$20,000 and award a contract for construction totaling \$294,774 to Holton Construction, Inc., Gainesville, Florida. Completion of this project shall be within one hundred (100) consecutive calendar days from the date indicated in the "Notice to Proceed."

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BID AWARD—PROJECT

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Cawthon

SBAC A0034—HOWARD  
BISHOP MIDDLE  
SCHOOL SCIENCE  
LABORATORY  
BUILDING

Moved to approve the administration’s recommendation and accept the low base bid of \$1,093,300 and Additive Alternate No. 1 in the amount of \$18,000 and award a contract for construction totaling \$1,111,300 to Robert Kelly Construction, Inc., Gainesville, Florida. Completion of this project shall be within two hundred four (204) consecutive calendar days from the date indicated in the “Notice to Proceed.”

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

BID AWARD—PROJECT  
SBAC J0046—  
BUCHHOLZ/EASTSIDE/  
NEWBERRY HIGH  
SCHOOLS TENNIS  
COURTS

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to approve the administration’s recommendation and accept the low base bid of \$262,497 and Additive Alternates No. 1 and No. 2 in the amount of \$40,552 and award a contract for construction totaling \$303,049 to George burns Enterprises, Inc., Gainesville, Florida. Completion of this project shall be within one hundred (100) consecutive calendar days from the date indicated in the “Notice to Proceed.”

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

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
FACILITIES LIST

The Elementary School Facilities List, incorporating Class Size Reduction requirements, has been prepared for the 2004 Spot survey as well as for the 2004-2009 School Plant Survey.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to approve the Elementary School Facilities List as presented.

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

SPOT SURVEYS FOR  
ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOLS

The 2004 Spot Surveys have been prepared for classroom additions at six elementary schools (Chiles, Talbot, Hidden Oak, Wiles, Norton, and Newberry).

Motion by Mrs. Childs

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to approve the Spot Surveys as presented.

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

BUDGET  
AMENDMENTS

Budget Amendment No. 12 – General Fund; Budget Amendment No. 13 – Capital Projects Funds; and Budget Amendment No. 14 – Special Revenue Funds, include all budget changes in these funds for the

period of February 1, 2004, through February 29, 2004.

Motion by Mr. Eubank                      Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to approve Budget Amendments No. 12, No. 13, and No. 14 as presented.

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

CLASSROOMS FOR  
KIDS PROGRAM, 2003-  
2004

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) has allocated capital outlay funds in the amount of \$3,290,000 to the School Board for participation in the 2003-2004 Classrooms for Kids Program. The funds were allocated pursuant to Section 1013.736, F.S., and will be provided through the issuance of Lottery Revenue Bonds.

Motion by Mr. Eubank                      Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to approve the Project Allocation List as presented for submission to FDOE.

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

DISTRICT EFFORT  
RECOGNITION  
PROGRAM, 2003-2004

The FDOE has allocated capital outlay funds in the amount of \$420,000 to the School Board for participation in the 2003-2004 District Effort Recognition Program. The funds were allocated pursuant to Section 1013.736, F.S., and will be provided through the issuance of Lottery Revenue Bonds.

Motion by Mrs. Cawthon                      Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to approve the Project Allocation List as presented for submission to FDOE.

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

CLASSROOMS FIRST  
BOND PROCEEDS

There is a balance of \$1,679,000, including interest, in the capital outlay funds allocated to the School Board by FDOE for participation in the Classrooms First Bond Program.

Motion by Mr. Eubank                      Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to approve the Project Allocation list as presented for submission to FDOE.

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

AUDIT REPORT NO.  
2004-155 OF ALACHUA  
COUNTY DISTRICT  
SCHOOL BOARD  
FLORIDA EDUCATION  
FINANCE PROGRAM  
(FEFP) FULL-TIME  
EQUIVALENT (FTE)  
STUDENTS AND  
STUDENT  
TRANSPORTATION FOR  
THE FISCAL YEAR  
ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

Mr. Richard Trainor, director, Finance, noted that the FTE audit indicated several instances of non-compliance with one repeated finding. The district had significant difficulty in properly reporting FTE for the hospital/homebound program. This finding alone represents almost a \$200,000 reduction of funds expected from the audit adjustment. Procedures were not in place to ensure matrix changes were made in a system for students returning to their school from the hospital/homebound program. Subsequently, several FTE were reported at the much higher weighted hospital/homebound program weight than should have been. New procedures have since been put in place.

Mr. Trainor presented a summary of adjustments from the audit. Of the unweighted FTE, there were 11.5 that were related to the homebound. Of a total of 91, there were 64 of these related to the homebound program, which is the highest dollar figure of reduction. There was only a reduction of about 4 students in unweighted FTE, however, taking into account the cost factor, that comes into a weighted FTE of about 115, a good estimate of how much that is going to cost the district is the base student allocation multiplied by that number. The district is going to experience a \$408,000 reduction in funding next year.

Mr. Trainor noted in transportation the largest adjustment was 194 student riders up due to how they were reported for the June survey. There were some negative adjustments, which brought the net adjustment down to 130 students.

Responding to Mrs. Childs, Mr. Trainor stated that in the audit report comments appeared several times that ESOL students were in a class of primarily basic students and those teachers were not qualified to be teaching ESOL students.

Mr. Russ Bedell, Information Resources, reported that each school receives a report that indicates students being served in each area. A list is provided that shows which students in which class are in ESOL classes—a student FTE schedule.

Mrs. Childs suggested a second check and balance in place to ensure ESOL students are in classes with certified teachers.

Superintendent Hollinger noted that a pretty high percentage of teachers could be teaching out of field for ESOL. As soon as an ESOL student comes and you get that student, you are out of field. This is also part of the reason for the ongoing ESOL training. Procedures are being tightened up for getting status forms in correctly.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved that Audit Report No. 2004-155 of Alachua County District School Board Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Students and Student Transportation for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2003, as presented to the School Board, be filed as part of the public records of the School Board.

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

AUDIT REPORT NO.  
2004-157, FINANCIAL  
AND FEDERAL SINGLE  
AUDIT REPORT OF THE  
ALACHUA COUNTY  
DISTRICT SCHOOL  
BOARD FOR FISCAL  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30,  
2003

Mr. Trainor noted that there were no audit adjustments that affected the fund balance, that the district complied materially with all legal authority and had established an effective internal control. There was one finding noted in information technology. Improvements are needed in the district's information technology access, systems development and maintenance controls. The district is working on this as resources become available. The district complied materially with all federal program requirements in the federal programs tested.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved that Audit Report No. 2004-157, Financial and Federal Single Audit Report of the Alachua County District School Board for fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003, as presented to the School Board, be filed as part of the public records of the School Board.

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

COMPONENT UNIT  
AUDIT REPORTS—  
CHARTER SCHOOLS  
AND ALACHUA  
COUNTY PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS  
FOUNDATION, INC.,  
FISCAL YEAR ENDED  
JUNE 30, 2003

Mr. Trainor reported that this Component Unit Audit Report represents the ten charter schools in operation and the Alachua County Public Schools Foundation. These audits and findings were presented to the Board in September.

Mrs. Pinkoson pointed out that Board members do read through charter school reports and look at financial situations and have a good feel for what the schools are doing. This Board wants to make sure that money is spent in ways that will benefit students. She feels it is important that charter schools know that, as a Board, the members are concerned about the financial situations and whether procedures are followed and may make a strong suggestion as to how the charter schools should be functioning.

Responding to Mr. Eubank, Mr. Trainor will follow up on whether any negative findings on charter schools would reflect against the district.

Mrs. Cawthon noticed that fund balances varied a great deal and asked if there was a concern about this. Mr. Trainor noted, except for Oasis, all the charter schools have been operating within their budgets.

Mrs. Childs asked if reporting practices, requirements for the district, timeliness of reports, and professional conduct at all times could be tightened up when writing contracts for charter schools or when they come back to the Board for extensions on their charters.

Mrs. Sharpe noted it is frustrating at times, but it is important to remember charter schools come under the School Board and they have to be held accountable to the School Board. There are consequences and the School Board is responsible for what is going on with the charter schools. She feels there is a need to take a second look at the schools on ten-year contracts, and that the district needs to get a better grip on making sure everything is in order. The School Board does have the last word.

Motion by Mrs. Childs

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved that the Component Unit Audit Reports for the Charter Schools and Alachua County Public Schools Foundation, Inc., for the year ended June 30, 2003, be filed as part of the public records of the School Board.

Superintendent Hollinger stated that she is going to work with staff and communicate the Board's concerns to the governance boards of the charter schools.

Mr. Eubank asked what control the School Board has when it sees a report it doesn't like. Mr. Robinson, staff attorney, noted that strengthening the contract language and at the staff level developing a closer working relationship with the governing bodies can perhaps ward off some of the financial/management crises being seen.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

PROPOSED NEW AND  
REVISED JOB  
DESCRIPTONS—FIRST  
READING

Mr. Robinson noted that the new job description for Administrator on Special Assignment would facilitate reassignment of administrative personnel on an ad hoc basis with duties to be assigned. The revision of the job description for Director of Personnel Services will more accurately reflect the appropriate job title and description for the director position in Personnel Services.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to schedule a public hearing 6:30 p.m., May 4, 2004, to consider the proposed new and revised job descriptions.

Mrs. Childs questioned under the Performance Responsibilities the exclusion of "Work beyond the normal 40 hour week may be required." Mr. Robinson felt it was understood for administrators but it could be included for consistency.

Mrs. Childs expressed concern with someone who would be overseeing hiring teachers and not having any school-based experience and asked her fellow Board members if she is the only one concerned that someone that has never been in a school may be making decisions over recognizing good teachers.

Mr. Robinson stated that the ideal candidate would be a person who happens to have principal experience and familiar with the laws, policies and practices of human resource management.

Mr. Eubank takes the opposite position and feels this is an area that we need to work on; feels the director of personnel services is not the one that needs to recognize good teachers, but the staff under the director. He would like to see a highly functional human resources or personnel department. Would lean toward someone who had a great human resources background and understood personnel and could hire the right people to go and hire the teachers. Also, this may be the time to take a look at the pay grade and compare with other districts to be sure we have the right pay grade for this position.

Mrs. Pinkoson believes the principal recognizes the good teachers and is the one who makes the recommendation for employment.

Mr. Eubank clarified that the job description for Administrator on Special Assignment was designed for situations where a position may not be available for a short period of time or a transition type position for someone that may be retiring and provide overlap.

Mrs. Childs suggested under "Qualifications" the language, "Holds an administrative position within the district."

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

AMENDMENT TO JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER (SUPERVISOR, COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT)—  
SECOND READING

A public hearing was held march 2, 2004, to consider amendments to the job description for the Public Information Officer.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to adopt the job description as amended for the Public Information Officer.

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

STUDENT CASE  
NO. 04-11-SB

Mr. Robinson reported that the student is charged with threatening the bus driver while riding the school bus. The parent did not request a hearing.

Motion by Mrs. Childs Seconded by Mrs. Cawthon

Moved to suspend the student's bus riding privileges for the remainder of the 2003-2004 school year.

Mrs. Pinkoson expressed concern with the incidents on the buses and the message of zero tolerance must be sent out.

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

STUDENT CASE  
NO. 04-12-SB

Mr. Robinson reported that the student is charged with threatening and pushing the bus driver while riding the school bus. The parent did not request a hearing.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Cawthon

Moved to suspend the student's bus riding privileges for the remainder of the 2003-2004 school year.

Board members voiced concerns that the penalty was too lenient for the incidents in this situation. The Chairman noted Board members can address their concerns during review of the Code of Student Conduct.

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

STUDENT CASE  
NO. 04-13-X

Mr. Robinson reported that the student is charged with fighting. The hearing has been postponed until May 4, 2004, pursuant to the parent's request.

Motion by Mrs. Cawthon Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to extend the student's suspension through May 4, 2004.

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

INTERNAL ACCOUNTS  
AUDIT REPORT—  
FISCAL YEAR ENDED  
JUNE 30, 2003

Mr. Trainor noted in the past these audits were performed by the district's internal audit department, which has been eliminated. Davis Monk and Company performed the audit. He noted that from July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004, the dollar amount in these funds throughout the district went up about \$260,000 and it is almost at \$3,000,000.

There were four reportable conditions—segregation of duties; financial transaction cutoff; various annual reports; EDEP procedures. Concerns expressed with these conditions are being addressed.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved that the Internal Accounts Audit Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003, be filed as a part of the public records of the School Board.

SELECTION OF THE  
SUPERINTENDENT  
FINALIST

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Chairman Sharpe reported that a workshop was held earlier with consultants Dr. Wayne Blanton and Dr. Max Schmidt with the Florida School Boards Association, who presented background checks on the four impressive applicants for the superintendent position. Only one met the Board's qualifications. The Board has offered to interview Dr. Dan Boyd and he has agreed to the Board's itinerary.

She noted that the finalist would spend two days interviewing with Board members, touring schools, and meeting with various community and employee groups. The finalist will be a special guest at a community reception to be sponsored by the Alachua County Council of PTAs, and is open to the public. The public is also invited to attend the Board's interview with the finalist. The interview will be held in the Kirby-Smith Boardroom in the late afternoon to allow citizens to attend. Although citizens will not be able to ask questions at this time, the Board will ask the candidate questions submitted by the public.

Chairman Sharpe announced the times, dates and locations of the community reception, the news conference, the public forum and the School Board group interview, and that they have been legally advertised.

The Chairman noted that the Board decided to do an instate search only and received four impressive applications. The first one was from out-of-state and the second application was from Dr. Boyd. Dr. Boyd is deputy commissioner for the Florida High School Athletic Association and is well known and respected around the state. It is felt many prospective applicants did not apply because the district had such a strong candidate. The third and fourth applications were from out of town and local, respectively. She noted that Dr. Boyd was the only candidate that met all of the qualifications.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved that he is pleased to put in nomination as finalist for Superintendent of the Alachua County school system Dr. William Daniel Boyd.

Board members reviewed their resume screening sheets of the four candidates, confirming Dr. Boyd was the only candidate that met the criteria set by the Board.

Chairman Sharpe suggested that each Board member prepare 10-12 questions and select only 5 questions from the list to ask the candidate during the School Board group interview 3:30-5:30 p.m., on April 27.

Mr. Eubank suggested that this item be placed on the May 4, 2004, School Board meeting agenda.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Cawthon Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1-13.

Mr. Eubank requested discussion on item 1 of Attachment D, Page 3, requisition for Gainesville Ford. He noted that he had a list from maintenance with around 70 plus vehicles and asked staff if they had a feel for the number of other vehicles, other than buses, throughout the district that might be in similar conditions. Staff noted that maintenance is the largest fleet in the district. He compared information from the city and 61 of the 69 vehicles on the list would have been trashed if the city owned them, 36 are at least 15 years old, one particular vehicle is 32 years old.

Mr. Eubank's concern is we are replacing five vehicles and it looks like we need to reevaluate our whole fleet. He has concern for the safety and the working conditions of employees driving these 32-year-old vehicles. Hopefully staff can work some magic and come back with some type of replacement cycle more often than every 32 years in the future.

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

CITIZEN INPUT (cont'd)

There was no additional citizen input.

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
REQUESTS

Mrs. Childs referred to a list of new developments and the current zones for these locations, several of which are zoned to schools that are over crowded. She requested that action be taken at the next School Board meeting to Zone these subdivisions to the schools that have capacity. These developers need to know where they are being reassigned.

She also requested that a process be put in place so that as soon as zoning is aware of a new development, it automatically is brought to the Board for reassignment to schools that have capacity.

Mrs. Pinkoson noted that when Board members hear of future developments at Plan Board meetings make sure this information gets to staff.

Mr. Eubank feels the key is that developers need to know that, basically, they are not assigned. He also feels that a number of the developments on the list could be reassigned to Archer.

Mrs. Childs asked if there is anything that can be done to help the parking situation at Buchholz High School.

Mr. Gable noted that parking on site at Buchholz High School meets and exceeds the state requirements for parking on site. It doesn't meet or exceed the need at Buchholz. It's a code situation versus the number of high school students at a school like Buchholz that are going to drive. The school is working on a couple of things—trying to get the message out about the behavior of the kids and to look at some sort of decal system similar to what was done at Finley. We need to continue to look at the acquisition of property adjacent to Buchholz. Some satellite parking is a possibility.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.