

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA  
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
MAY 18, 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, interim 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. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Cawthon

Moved to approve the minutes of May 4, 2004, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Cawthon

Moved to adopt the agenda for the meeting of May 18, 2004, as presented.

Delete from Attachment A, Page 12, the Data Communications Manager listed under District-Level Administrators by division, because it is a Professional/Technical position. Add as Action Item H. 6., Resolution No. 04-03, Commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Brown vs. Board of Education. Delete Action Item H. 5., Student Case No. 04-13-X.

Pull from the Consent Agenda for separate vote the following items: I.7., Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technical Education Grant; I.15, Contract #733A-04-013 with NFEC, and I.19., Leasing and Re-leasing of Relocatable Classrooms for Project SBAC A0421.

The question was called on the motion as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Superintendent Hollinger announced that the district has once again won the "2004 What Parents Want Award" for meeting the needs of families choosing schools.

Chairman Sharpe received a letter from the Department of Emergency Management regarding hurricane season and pre-event planning. They have scheduled a 2004 Hurricane Season Kickoff briefing on

Wednesday, June 2, 2004. The briefing will be held at 9:30 a.m. at the Emergency Operations Center. The purpose of the briefing is to inform senior leadership officials at county and municipal levels of current hurricane season predication; and familiarize local officials with Emergency Management operations, tools, and procedures.

She announced that the Board attended the Alachua County Public Schools Foundation Class of 2004 Scholarship presentation, which provided 78 college scholarships.

The Board extended their condolences to the family of Flake Allen Parker, a long time Alachua resident, who served on the School Board from 1956-1960.

RECOGNITION

**Community Volunteers -Scoliosis Screening**—The Board recognized Dr. John Johnston and the volunteers from the Trinity United Methodist Women’s Club for volunteering their time by assisting school nurses in screening 7<sup>th</sup> grade students for scoliosis. It was noted that without their assistance, the screening would not have been accomplished.

**Class of 2004 Scholarship Awards**—A reception sponsored by the Alachua County Public Schools Foundation Scholarship Program was held prior to the Board meeting, and 78 students were presented with college scholarships.

**Special Art Work**—The Board recognized the art work of Mr. Keith Brown, Head Custodian at Kirby-Smith, for his creation of a special piece of art work in honor of former deputy superintendent Mr. John Dukes.

CITIZEN INPUT

A parent requested assistance with obtaining a refund for the annual Washington, D.C., Safety Patrol trip.

Superintendent Hollinger responded that staff will work with the parent to come up with a resolution by the end of the week.

Board members were urged to refrain from micromanaging schools.

PRESENTATION(S)/  
REPORT(S)

**Budgeting/Financial Update**

Mr. Keith Birkett, deputy Superintendent, and Mr. Terry Tougaw, Budget Officer, presented a summary of the budget workshop that was held May 6, 2004. Several issues discussed included: Board priorities, budgetary concerns, timelines, legislative funding update, Class Size Implementation Plan, Capital Outlay Construction/Remodeling, and Capital Outlay Funding Options.

Budgetary concerns included: Increasing insurance costs, increasing fuel and utility costs, anticipating state proration as well as any adjustments related to class size. The district is recommending the Board establish additional reserves for the contingency, but also to add reserves for the FTE audit as well as the 2004-05 FTE adjustments.

Mrs. Childs pointed out that there are \$200 million dollars worth of needs over the next five years, and the district is only receiving \$4.6 million from the state.

**Oasis Charter School Update**

Mr. Richard Trainor, director, Business Services, presented financial information on the Oasis Charter School and reported that for the month of March Oasis was on target with the budget provided to the district.

Chairman Sharpe requested a financial update from Oasis Charter School at every Board meeting, and also that a representative from Oasis be present to provide information. She also requested a letter from the chairman of the Board of Oasis Charter School regarding relinquishment of pay in order to avoid any future retro pay.

Mrs. Childs referred to a letter the Board received from Oasis Charter School requesting they be removed from future Board agendas. She requested a letter be sent to Oasis inviting them to continue to attend Board meetings to provide a financial update to the Board.

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

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PUBLIC HEARING—TO  
CONSIDER PROPOSED  
2005-06 SCHOOL  
CALENDAR AND  
AMENDMENTS TO THE  
2004-05 SCHOOL  
CALENDAR

Staff reported that amendments to the 2004-05 calendar include:  
- Preplanning begins on Tuesday, August 10  
- School begins for students on Tuesday, August 17  
- Add Wednesday, November 24, 2004 as a Thanksgiving holiday  
- School ends June 1<sup>st</sup> (two days after Memorial Day)

There was no public input on the school calendars.

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

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RENEWAL OF ONE  
ROOM SCHOOL HOUSE,  
INC., CHARTER  
SCHOOL CONTRACT

Mrs. Cawthon left the meeting to attend another function.

Staff reported that the One Room School House, Inc., Charter School has requested a ten-year renewal of its contract. Florida Statute

requires school boards to declare, at least 90 days before the ending of the contract, whether or not it intends to renew. Review of the charter school by all district divisions indicates that the school is eligible for renewal.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the administration's recommendation to declare its intent to renew the One Room School House, Inc., Charter School contract.

Mr. Neil Drake, principal, One Room School House, thanked the Board and staff for their support.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-0

REAPPOINTMENT OF  
INSTRUCTIONAL AND  
ADMINISTRATIVE  
PERSONNEL

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the superintendent's recommendation to approve the reappointment of Instructional and Administrative Personnel (Annual and Professional Services Contracts) for 2004-2005 as presented in Attachment A.

Superintendent Hollinger announced that Mr. Jeff Means, principal of High Springs Elementary, has been appointed as principal of the new K-8 High Springs Elementary/Spring Hill Middle School, which will become a model for the state. A non-traditional site analysis visit was held with the faculty and community to share their vision of a K-8 school.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-0

PROPOSED NEW JOB  
DESCRIPTIONS AND  
REVISION OF JOB  
DESCRIPTIONS—FIRST  
READING

Mr. Jim Robinson, staff attorney, reported that new job descriptions are being proposed for Payroll Specialist, Accounts Payable Specialist, and Coordinator, Employee and Labor Relations. Revisions of job descriptions for Financial Computing Specialist, Certification Analyst, and Personnel Specialist/Employee Relations are proposed to more accurately reflect the appropriate job titles and descriptions.

Motion by Mrs. Childs

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to schedule a public hearing 6:30 p.m., June 1, 2004, to consider the proposed new job descriptions and the revision of job descriptions as presented.

Chairman Sharpe expressed concern with the new descriptions for Personnel. She preferred waiting for Dr. Boyd to begin his new

position as Superintendent and have a thorough discussion with Mr. Robinson about his reorganization plans for personnel. She recommends that the Board delay the recommendation for a public hearing until Dr. Boyd has had a chance to take a look at the current organization. She believes that he needs to be involved in making these decisions.

Mrs. Childs noted that at the last Informal Board meeting, board members indicated that they did not want to fill any positions until Dr. Boyd got on Board so that he would have a chance to look at the organization. She expressed concerns with the following job descriptions:

**Payroll Specialist Job Description**

- Require more than a high school diploma or equivalent
- Require coursework and specific experience
- Require an AA Degree

**Accounts Payable Specialist**

- Require more than a high school diploma
- Require coursework and more specific experience
- Require an AA Degree
- Demonstrated experience with computer mainframes

**Coordinator for Employee and Labor Relations**

- Concerned that it is an additional position

**Financial Specialist**

- Concerned that it is an additional position

Mr. Eubank expressed the same concerns.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to postpone the Public Hearing until the Board meeting after August 1, 2004.

Other Board members also expressed concerns with moving forward with the job description changes prior to the new Superintendent having an opportunity to look at the situation and the budgetary implications. It was also noted that several of these job descriptions had recently been revised.

A citizen supported the Board's decision to postpone the public hearing on the job descriptions.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-0

EMPLOYEE CASE  
NO. AI 03-04-10E

Mr. Robinson reported that the employee is charged with striking a student, in violation of Board Policy 5.41, and Board Policy 6.52, which incorporates the Professional Code of Ethics, 6B-1.006(3)(a) and (f).

Motion by Mrs. Childs                      Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the superintendent's recommendation to terminate the employee effective May 19, 2004.

The question was called.                      Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-0

RESOLUTION NO 04-03  
50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSITY OF  
BROWN VS. BOARD OF  
EDUCATION

Motion by Mrs. Childs                      Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to adopt Resolution No. 04-03, Commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Brown vs. Board of Education, as presented.

The question was called.                      Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-0

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Eubank                      Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1-20, with separate action on items 7, 15 and 19. (See Supplementary Minutes Book.)

The question was called.                      Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-0

ITEM 19 – LEASING  
AND RE-LEASING OF  
RELOCATABLE  
CLASSROOMS FOR  
PROJECT SBAC A0421

Mr. Ed Gable, director, Facilities, reported that the budget and estimated expenditure for this year includes the cost for returning relocatable units. The district plans to remove an estimated 30 units this school year, and another 30 the following school year. He noted that the removal cost is included in the lease—\$4,600 annual lease vs. \$1,800 removal costs.

Motion by Mr. Eubank                      Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the administration's recommendation to approve the lease agreement with Williams Scotsman for leasing and re-leasing of relocatable classrooms from July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005.

The question was called.                      Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-0

ITEM 7 – CARK D.  
PERKINS VOCATIONAL  
AND APPLIED  
TECHNICAL

Dr. Dave Edwards, director, Vocational Education, reported that the purpose of this grant is to develop more fully the academic, career and technical skills of secondary students who elect to enroll in career and technical education programs.

EDUCATION GRANT

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the administration’s recommendation to approve the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technical Education Grant as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-0

ITEM 15 – CONTRACT #733A-04-013 WITH THE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PUTNAM COUNTY ON BEHALF OF NEFEC

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the administration’s recommendation to approve the contract with the District School Board of Putnam County on behalf of the North East Florida Educational Consortium (NEFEC) Region II Title I program to provide professional and technical support with implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act for the sum of \$12,960.20.

Dr. Charles Hall, director, Title I, reported that the district is the fiscal agent for the Region II, Title I Office, and normally DOE funds that office and reimburses the district quarterly. In December 2003, the Region II Office was notified that their budget had been cut significantly (by \$115,000), and as a result there would be a shortfall. Members of the consortium who were receiving assistance and the Region II Office decided that the services were valuable, and about 20 districts decided that they would give a fair portion to recoup the part that was not funded. The majority of districts have agreed to pay their fair share and will reimburse the district. The amount of \$12,960.20 is the district’s fair share and this money will return to the district.

Mrs. Childs stated that she was hesitant to put this money out until the district had actually gotten all of it back in from the other counties.

Mr. Hall assured the Board that the district will be reimbursed for the full amount.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-0

DISCUSSION ITEM— ZONING UPDATE— REASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS

Staff presented the new zoning map and indicated some of the new developments that have impacted schools.

Superintendent Hollinger stated that she did not believe that the impact of the new developments would be as significant this coming year, but recommendations would be brought back to the Board to deal with concerns. Conversations will continue to take place with contractors and developers to find solutions to avoid reassignment of students.

Mr. Eubank stated that he preferred to wait for Dr. Boyd to be involved. He suggested assigning developments to schools where there is capacity and allow zoning exceptions this year.

Mrs. Childs stated that she does not mind zoning exceptions, but feels that the Board cannot back out now and not rezone these areas because it would be a disservice to everyone who has gone through the process. She feels the Board needs to be proactive and move forward, and prefers moving ahead and assigning developments to zones where there is space. She feels the Board should go forward and indicate to which areas these developments are zoned. She prefers to utilize schools for the best educational purposes for students and realizes that another school needs to be built, with the help of developers and a bond issue.

Mrs. Childs stated that she does not mind waiting until July when Dr. Boyd comes on board, but does not want homebuyers to buy in these areas under the assumption that they are attending a certain school, and she feels they need to know up front.

Staff stated that they intend to work with the city, county and developers.

Several developers addressed the Board and offered their assistance to staff to seek solutions to do a better job.

The Board agreed that working together with the city, county and developers is a move in the right direction.

CITIZEN INPUT (cont'd)

There was no additional citizen input.

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
REQUESTS

Mrs. Pinkoson requested staff schedule a meeting with the Mayor of Alachua regarding courtesy busing in order to provide these students with transportation. She indicated that she also would be willing to attend the meeting to assist.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.