

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
August 3, 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, F. Wesley Eubank, members; W. Daniel Boyd, Jr., 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 Mrs. Childs

Moved to approve the minutes of July 20, 2004, as presented.

Two corrections were made to the minutes: (1) Page 2, Citizen Input, Item 2, statement should be "In the opinion of the speaker, only 5 of 67 counties are following state statute." (2) Page 4, correct Florida Statute to 1006.

The question was called on the minutes as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to approve the minutes of Special Board Meeting of July 22, 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 August 3, 2004, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Childs attended the two-day middle school conference for middle school teachers and applauded staff for their efforts.

Chairman Sharpe attended the Back-to-School Information Fair at the Oaks Mall on Saturday, July 31, and commended staff for their efforts.

The Board extended condolences to the family and friends of former principal Harry Conner.

CITIZEN INPUT

A parent addressed the Board and expressed concern regarding school choice.

PRESENTATION(S)/
REPORT(S)

Budgeting/Financial Update

Mr. Keith Birkett, Deputy Superintendent, provided the Board with a copy of the Executive Summary Budget. He reminded the Board that an Informal Board meeting is scheduled August 9, 2004, 9 a.m. to discuss and review the budget.

Oasis Charter School Update

Mr. Birkett informed the Board that there is no additional financial information to provide since the last Board meeting. He noted that at the last Board meeting Oasis provided the names of 60 students, and district staff has verified 61 names being entered into their database. They are meeting the requirement and will have the additional students in the fall.

ADMINISTRATIVE
APPOINTMENT(S)

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Cawthon

Moved the superintendent's recommendation to appoint Jackie Johnson as Public Information Officer, effective August 16, 2004.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Motion by Mrs. Cawthon

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the superintendent's recommendation to appoint Vincente Perez as Principal of Buchholz High School, effective August 4, 2004.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

REVISIONS TO THE
CODE OF STUDENT
CONDUCT—SECOND
READING

Mrs. Kathy Black, director, Student Services, reported that a public hearing was held on revisions to the Code of Student Conduct July 20, 2004.

Following the public hearing the following revisions are recommended:

- Dress Code—Additional language has been added to clarify expectations;
- Notice of Prohibition, Exclusion from Extracurricular Activities— Clarifies expectations for parents and students of the principal's authority; and
- Notice of Wireless Communication Devices—(1) Definition, (2) Seven factors related to possession, display and use to clarify when students may be in possession or display wireless communication, and (3) Discipline policy that will be used at all schools related to violation of the policy.

Motion by Mrs. Cawthon

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the administration’s recommendation to adopt the revisions to the Code of Student Conduct as presented.

Mrs. Pinkoson expressed concern regarding the discipline section. She felt too many opportunities were afforded to students and that this will put an extra burden on staff to implement. She provided the Board with a copy of a suggested change, which provides students with only three opportunities.

Mr. Eubank agreed with Mrs. Pinkoson’s suggestions, but proposed increasing the confiscation period from one week to six weeks.

Mrs. Childs also supports Mrs. Pinkoson’s suggested changes to the discipline section, but preferred that the first offense or result be sterner and suggested combining items 1 and 2 and have the parents come to school to pick up the cell phone. She stated that cell phones are causing a disruption to the learning environment and interfering with teaching.

Mr. Eubank proposed that the first offense be for six weeks and the second offense the student would forfeit the cell phone for the remainder of the year. He also proposed that under the definition section the term “hand-held computing devices” be changed to “electronic devices.”

Mrs. Cawthon requested that the letter to parents explain what the consequences of the violation are.

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

**PUBLIC HEARING—TO
CONSIDER ADOPTION
OF THE TENTATIVE
MILLAGE AND
TENTATIVE BUDGET
FOR THE 2004-2005
FISCAL YEAR**

Mr. Birkett reviewed the requirements on the Rolled Back Rates for 2004-05:

- Required Local Effort (RLE) – 5.499 Mills
- Discretionary – 0.510 Mills
- Supplemental Discretionary – 0.173 Mills
- Capital Outlay (2 Mill) – 2.000 Mills
- Combined RLE, Discretionary, Supplemental Discretionary, and Capital Outlay – 8.182 Mills
- Total Millage Proposed – 9.224 Mills –6.25% decrease
- Impact to a homeowner with a house assessed at \$125,000 with a \$25,000 homestead exemption – (\$61.50) decrease in taxes for education

- Impact to a homeowner with a change in assessment – (\$49.75) decrease in taxes for education

General Fund - \$187,582,708
 Debt Service Funds - \$12,307,729
 Capital Projects Funds - \$72,325,631
 Special Revenue Funds - \$26,239,550

There was no public input.

Mr. Birkett read Millage Resolution #1 as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED TENTATIVE MILLAGE LEVY FOR THE 2004-2005 FISCAL YEAR:

	ROLLED BACK RATE MILLS	PROPOSED 2004-2005 MILLS	INCREASE/ -DECREASE MILLS	PERCENT CHANGE
REQUIRED LOCAL EFFORT	5.530	5.499	-0.031	-0.56%
DISCRETIONARY	0.487	0.510	0.023	
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCRETIONARY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT (2.000 MILLS)	1.908	2.000	0.092	
TOTAL	8.104	8.182	0.078	

THE TOTAL MILLAGE RATE TO BE LEVIED IS MORE THAN THE ROLLED BACK RATE COMPUTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 200.065(1), F.S., BY 0.96 PERCENT.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to approve the adoption of Millage Resolution #1 as read.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Mr. Birkett read Millage Resolution #2 as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED TENTATIVE MILLAGE LEVY FOR THE 2004-2005 FISCAL YEAR:

	ROLLED BACK RATE MILLS	PROPOSED 2004-2005 MILLS	INCREASE -DECREASE MILLS
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCRETIONARY	0.179	0.173	-0.006

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Cawthon

Moved to approve the adoption of Millage Resolution #2 as read.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Mr. Birkett read Millage Resolution #3 as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED TENTATIVE MILLAGE LEVY FOR THE 2004-2005 FISCAL YEAR:

	2003-2004 ACTUAL MILLAGE	PROPOSED 2004-2005 MILLS	INCREASE -DECREASE MILLS	PERCENT CHANGE
DEBT SERVICE	1.345	1.042	-0.303	-22.53%

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to approve the adoption of Millage Resolution #3 as read.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Mr. Birkett read the Budget Resolution as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, HEREBY ADOPTS THE TENTATIVE PROPOSED BUDGET DATED AUGUST 3, 2004, WHICH CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING FUNDS AND APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE 2004-2005 FISCAL YEAR:

<u>FUND</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
GENERAL	\$187,582,708.00
SPECIAL REVENUE	26,239,550.00
DEBT SERVICE	12,307,729.00
CAPITAL PROJECTS	<u>72,325,631.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$298,455,618.00</u>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, MAY EXPEND MONIES BASED ON ITS TENTATIVE BUDGET IN ACCORDANCE WITH F.S. 200.065 AND 1011.08.

Motion by Mrs. Childs

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to approve the adoption of Budget Resolution as read.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

RESOLUTION 04-05

Mr. Birkett read Resolution Number 04-05 as follows:

WHEREAS, the School Board of Alachua County, Florida, did pursuant to Chapters 200 and 1011, Florida Statutes, approve tentative millage rates for the fiscal year July 1, 2004, to June 30, 2005; and

WHEREAS, at the public hearing and in full compliance with Chapter 200, Florida Statutes, the School Board of Alachua County adopted the tentative millage rates for fiscal year 2004-2005 in the amounts of:

	<u>Tentative Millage Levy</u>
Required Local Effort	5.499
Basic Discretionary	0.510
Capital Outlay	2.000
Supplemental Discretionary	0.173
Additional	0.000
Debt Service	1.042

The total millage rate to be levied exceeds the roll-back rate by 0.96 percent.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the School Board of Alachua County adopted each tentative millage rate for the fiscal year July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005 on August 3, 2004, by separate vote prior to adopting the tentative budget.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Cawthon

Moved to approve the adoption of Resolution Number 04-05 as read.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

RESOLUTION 04-06

Mr. Birkett read Resolution Number 04-06 as follows:

WHEREAS, the School Board of Alachua County, Florida, did,

pursuant to Chapters 200 and 1011, Florida Statutes, approve tentative millage rates and tentative budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005;

WHEREAS, the School Board of Alachua County set forth the appropriations and revenue estimate for the budget for fiscal year 2004-2005; and

WHEREAS, at the public hearing and in full compliance with Chapter 200, Florida Statutes, the School Board of Alachua County adopted the tentative millage rates and the budget in the amount of \$298,455,618 for fiscal year 2004-2005.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the attached budget of the School Board of Alachua County, including millage rates as set forth therein, is hereby adopted by the School Board of Alachua County as a tentative budget for the categories indicated for the fiscal year July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Cawthon

Moved to approve the adoption of Resolution Number 04-06 as read.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

PUBLIC HEARING—TO
CONSIDER REVISIONS
TO POLICY 7.14,
TRAVEL EXPENSE
REIMBURSEMENT

Mr. Robinson reported that this revision will reflect the Board’s intent to reimburse employees and other authorized persons for travel expenses at specified levels consistent with recent revisions to Section 112.016, Florida Statutes.

There was no public input.

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

REVISIONS TO THE
CODE OF STUDENT
CONDUCT—SECOND
READING (continued)

Mrs. Pinkoson proposed the following disciplinary actions for discipline violations under the Notice: Possession/Use of Wireless Communications Devices:

A first infraction will result in confiscation of the device and suspension of the student’s right to possess that device while on school grounds for a period of six (6) weeks. A written warning shall be sent to the parent, guardian or legal custodian explaining that a subsequent infraction shall constitute a Level III violation of the Code of Student Conduct punishable as such. This warning shall be returned to the

appropriate school personnel by the parent, guardian or legal custodian. At this time, the device will be returned to the parent, guardian or legal custodian.

A second infraction shall constitute a Level III violation of the Code of Student Conduct punishable as such and the student shall forfeit his or her right to possess a wireless communication device for the balance of the existing school year.

Subsequent infractions shall constitute Level IV violations of the Code of Student Conduct, punishable as such.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to amend the suggested changes to the Discipline section of the proposed 2004-05 Code of Student Conduct by substituting the discipline consequences as read.

The question was called on the amendment.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to amend the motion to change the wording “other hand-held computing devices” to read “other electronic devices” in the definition.

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

REVISIONS TO
POLICIES 5.01, 6.11,
6.112, 6.81—FIRST
READING

Mr. Jim Robinson, staff attorney, reported that the Office of Equity and Access of the Department of Education regularly consults with districts on policies, procedures and practices for civil rights compliance and equity in education and proposed modifications/changes to the district’s existing policies to bring them into strict compliance with applicable law and regulation. These changes are a result of the recommendations made by the Office of Equity and Access.

Motion by Mrs. Cawthon Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to schedule a public hearing 6:30 p.m., August 17, 2004, to consider revisions to Policy 5.01, Equal Educational Opportunity; Policy 6.11, Unlawful Discrimination Prohibited; Policy 6.112, Prohibition of Race/National Origin Harassment by Employees; and Policy 6.81, Grievance Procedures, as presented.

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

HIGH SPRINGS
COMMUNITY SCHOOL
WAIVER REQUESTS

Mrs. Sandy Hollinger, deputy superintendent, reported that High Springs Community School is requesting a waiver of the deadline of March 15 for submission of waivers and a waiver from the contract requirement that 6th-8th grade teachers' schedule not exceed 250 contact minutes per day. The 6th-8th grade teachers' contact time will be up to 262 minutes four days a week and 205 minutes one day a week.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the administration's recommendation to approve High Springs Community School's timeline and contract waiver requests as presented.

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 1-17. (See Supplementary Minutes Book.)

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

Update at the September 7, 2004, School Board meeting on zoning changes and choice.

Mr. Eubank:

Update, as early as possible, on class size.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.