

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 17, 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. Childs

Seconded by Mrs. Cawthon

Moved to approve the minutes of August 3, 2004, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Cawthon

Moved to adopt the agenda for the meeting of August 17, 2004, as presented.

Change the assignment of the first appointment on Attachment A, Page 2, from 60% Psychologist to 60% Psychology.

The question was called on the agenda as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Sharpe passed on to the superintendent a brochure prepared specifically for the district by Aramark for facility services.

Mrs. Sharpe announced that Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.—Boca Raton had sent a scholarship donation in the amount of \$1,000 to assist in providing higher education scholarships to needy and deserving students and, on behalf of the Board, thanked them.

Mrs. Pinkoson pointed out that she had spent some time in the schools during the day, and the district has a very full bucket in Alachua County. We have wonderful schools, teachers, staff and volunteers to help children in our system, and as we start the new school year we need to remember this is a great place to be, a great place to work and a great place to be in school. She suggested that those who have a copy of the book on the theory of the Dipper and the Bucket share it with as

many people as possible so that we all can gain a better understanding of our impact on others and make things better.

Chairman Sharpe received a letter from U. S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige thanking the School Board on its efforts and support toward making the *No Child Left Behind* Summer Reading Achievers celebration at the Boys and Girls Club July 13 such an outstanding success. He also looks forward to hearing about how many students in Gainesville reach and exceed the ten-book goal.

CITIZEN INPUT

If possible, it was suggested that the Public Information Officer attend the FEEL (Florida Education Legislative Liaison) meeting scheduled September 8 following the Florida School Boards Legislative Platform meeting. FEEL is a group of people that lobby for all districts. Important to attend these meetings to find out what FSBA is deciding on its legislative program and to see what FEEL's goals are this year and how they are going to operate.

PRESENTATION(S)/
REPORT(S)

Budgeting/Financial Update

Mr. Keith Birkett gave a brief update and clarification on proposed budget items discussed at the Informal Board meeting August 9.

- Clarified that internal audits for \$139,500 is for two components--\$45,000 is for school internal account audits and \$94,500 is for the district audit for two years out of three years.
- Testing--\$395,000. The Stanford test, which is used for early assessment, is not required for grades one and two. If this is stopped, it would save about \$40,000. The rest is for advanced placement and IB tests.
- Cell Phones--purchase orders for \$63,105 were issued for service and equipment in 2003-04. The 2004-2005 revised budget item is for \$60,242. Staff is looking at creative ways to pay for cell phones and, hopefully, come up with some revenue generating ideas. Criteria will be established as to who should have cell phones and for what purpose.

Mr. Birkett noted recommended adjustments made in the budget. The worksheet shows about \$1.7 million available for enhancements along with the adjustments recommended in order to reach the estimated \$2,000,000 proposed for instructional and career service salary increases.

Oasis Charter School Update

There was no financial update at this time. The school had 55 students in attendance today, and it looks like the criteria will be met, starting the year off on a positive note.

STUDENT CASE NO.
0405-02-RHC

The student has committed numerous violations of the Code of Student Conduct, including defiance, skipping, and classroom disruptions. While attending the sixth grade, the student has accumulated 16 discipline referrals. A hearing was held on July 27, 2004.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Cawthon

Moved the superintendent's recommendation to enter a Final Order adopting and approving the hearing agent's Recommended Order dated July 29, 2004, which reassigns the student to the Horizon Center at least until January of the 2004-2005 school year, until such time as the staff at the Center determines, in accordance with their normal practices, that the student is ready to return to the zoned school.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Mrs. Childs, as the hearing officer, commented that she is very pleased with what the Horizon Center has done and the turn around she has seen in that school site. She feels good to be able to say to the parents that they are getting a wonderful opportunity for their child to be able to go to the Horizon Center and maybe salvage something rather than their child being kicked out of school. She is thankful that the center was created as an alternative for the schools and the students, and she is pleased the option is there and that she doesn't have to put students out of school when they come before her.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Cawthon

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

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

There were no board member/superintendent requests.

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

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was held 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 Procedure, for

compliance with the Department of Education

Dr. Gunnar Paulson, president, ACEA, noted that there is a complaint grievance process in the contract. Would like to see if there is any conflict between the revision of Policy 6.81 and the contract.

Mr. Jim Robinson, staff attorney, noted that the new language is designed to afford the same grievance protection to applicants for employment and also to guard against any harassment or retaliation.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.