

Approved March 1, 2005

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 15, 2005

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: Tina Pinkoson, chairman; F. Wesley Eubank, vice-chairman; Virginia S. Childs, Eileen F. Roy and Janie S. Williams, members; W. Daniel Boyd, Jr., superintendent; and James F. Lang, attorney for the Board.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pinkoson, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Childs

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to approve the minutes of February 1, 2005, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Childs

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to adopt the agenda for the meeting of February 15, 2005, as presented.

Change the amount in Action Item 2, Certificates of Participation, to \$24,500,000 and also make this change at the Leasing Corporation meeting immediately following this meeting. Delete Consent Agenda Item H. 9, Subcontract with University of Florida.

The question was called on the agenda as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Walk for East Gainesville, sponsored by Kiwanis Clubs and other community organizations, with the help and assistance of the School Board, raised over \$7,000 for the Baby Shower scheduled in April. The Baby Shower is for soon-to-be mothers and mothers with up to 3 or 4 year olds. There will be educational programs and nice door prizes.

It was noted that a resolution from the Board was presented at the funeral of Mrs. Thelma M. Jordan, a lifelong educator who shaped the lives of generations of young people while serving as a teacher, the first black female principal in Alachua County, and as a district administrator during a career spanning nearly fifty years.

The Chairman thanked the community for gifts and donations made to the Teacher of the Year Program. The teachers of the year received \$500 each.

RECOGNITION(S)

Outstanding School Volunteers, 2004-2005

Outstanding School Volunteers for 2004-2005 were recognized and presented to the Board as follows: Senior Category—Richard Dolder, Littlewood Elementary School; Youth Category—Peter Sidhom, Chiles Elementary School; Adult Category—Judy Lundell, Wiles Elementary, Kanapaha Middle School and Buchholz High School. Ms. Lundell was also selected as the Outstanding Volunteer of the Year for Region II by the Department of Education’s Bureau of Family Community Outreach and will be recognized in April at the State Partners in Education Conference.

School Related Employee of the Year, 2005

Mr. Stanford Moore, Horizon Center, was recognized as the district’s 2005 representative to the Florida School Related Employee Recognition Program.

CITIZEN INPUT

The following suggestions/recommendations/requests were presented:

- ACEA president addressed the Governor’s proposal to amend the class size reduction amendment -- Will the \$2000 for teachers not affected by the raise in the beginning teacher’s salary to \$35,000 be legislatively mandated, which is not a part of the amendment and is an unfunded mandate; are we as a district in favor of an unfunded mandate? Suggested talking about a proposal with specifics -- requiring all the districts’ to have as their average teacher salary at least equal or greater than the national average; fund education at the level before the lottery and set a percentage of the state budget going to public education. Finally, a catchy name--no teacher/employee left behind.
- Parent requested that daughter be allowed to take the person of her choice to the school prom regardless of age.
- Archer Community School teacher excited about the magnet school program for the gifted to be implemented; cafeteria workers’ hours were cut 45 minutes--look at adding 30 minutes back to their time as the numbers are up. For the safety of students, review with appropriate persons putting some type of signal at the east entrance to the Public Shopping Center across from the bank on Archer Road near Tower Road. .

RESOLUTION--ROTARY INTERNATIONAL 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Motion by Mrs. Williams

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to approve the Resolution recognizing and congratulating Rotary International on its 100th anniversary.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION – RESOLUTION COP-05-01

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved the adoption of Resolution Cop-05-01, “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE ON BEHALF OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, OF NOT EXCEEDING \$24,500,000 REFUNDING CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION, SERIES 2005, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REFINANCING CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES LEASED TO THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA; APPROVING AMENDED LEASES AND OTHER MAJOR FINANCING DOCUMENTS; APPROVING A NEGOTIATED SALE OF THE CERTIFICATES TO THE PURCHASERS, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.”

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

REVISION OF THE 2005-06 SCHOOL CALENDAR AND PROPOSED 2006-07 SCHOOL CALENDAR – FIRST READING

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to schedule a public hearing 6:30 p.m., March 1, 2005, to consider the revision of the 2005-06 School Calendar and the proposed 2006-07 School Calendar.

The calendars provide for three storm days as teacher-pupil holidays; a holiday the Wednesday before Thanksgiving; and high school graduation the first week of June, with summer programs ending the last week in June.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR PERIOD NOVEMBER 1, 2004 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2004

Budget Amendment No. 5 – General Fund; budget Amendment No. 6 – Capital Projects Funds; and Budget Amendment No. 7 – Special Revenue Funds, include amendments for the period November 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004.

It was noted the General Fund amendment includes elementary reading coaches’ grant; funds for middle school sports; and school recognition monies.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to approve Budget Amendments Nos. 5, 6, and 7 as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

FINANCIAL AND FEDERAL SINGLE AUDIT REPORT OF THE ALACHUA COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL

Staff reported there were no material weaknesses or reportable conditions noted. The auditor made recommendations for improvement to procedures in the management report, and their suggestions are currently being addressed.

February 15, 2005

BOARD FOR FISCAL
YEAR ENDING JUNE 30,
2004

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved that the Report of Independent Certified Public Accountants prepared by Ernst & Young LLP, for the year ended June 30, 2004, and accompanying management letter be filed as part of the public records of the School Board.

Mr. Eubank requested a copy of the report on Information Resources.

Chairman Pinkoson noted that as of fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, there were 1180 students enrolled in charter schools having a budgetary impact on the general operating budget of \$2.5 million.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

INTERNAL ACCOUNT
AUDITOR'S REPORT –
FISCAL YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 2004

Staff reported there were no material weaknesses noted, however, the auditors did note two reportable conditions: (1) lack of proper separation of duties—auditor did acknowledge that personnel may not always be available to permit a separation of duties and makes no further recommendations; (2) lack of procedures for properly adjusting accounts receivable for delinquent accounts for the Extended Day Enrichment Program—procedures are currently being implementing to follow their recommendation.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved that the Independent Auditor's Report prepared by Davis Monk & Co., for the School Board of Alachua County Internal Accounts, for the year ended June 30, 2004, be filed as part of the public records of the School Board.

There was Board consensus to revise the internal accounts procedures to reflect two days rather than one day lapse of time between teachers collecting and depositing funds. Also, to be consistent across the board in holding schools and charter schools accountable with internal accounts.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

LAWSUIT AGAINST
THE TAX COLLECTOR,
DEPARTMENT OF
REVENUE AND THE
PROPERTY APPRAISER
BY OWNER OF
UNIVERSITY HOTEL
AND CONFERENCE
CENTER

The owner of the University Hotel and Conference Center contests the Property Appraiser's determination that the real property improvements (the hotel and associated infrastructure) valued at \$18.5 million should be subject to ad valorem taxes because the land on which it is located is state-owned and tax exempt.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mr. Roy

Moved to authorize the staff attorney to file a motion to intervene in

the lawsuit on behalf of the School Board and in support of the Property Appraiser's position.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved to approve the consent agenda as described in items 1-10, with the deletion of item 9. (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 requested an update on the process being used with regard to building permits filed with the county and the request to the system about space, and who gets this request. What are people being told—we have space in the system; where the proposed area is currently zoned, leading them to believe they will attend that zoned school. Where the zoned school is already too crowded, are we telling them where we would send kids as an alternative or letting them assume the overcrowding issue is not insurmountable? Would like to see the district not overcrowd a school by more than 10%.

Update on progress regarding charter school achievement goals. Dr. Lucas share expectations and how we would measure them with regard to gain scores. Make sure gain score benchmarks are included in the new contract for charter schools.

Board members share Mrs. Childs concerns with regard to an update on the follow-up process to building permits requested by developers. Chairman Pinkoson also expressed a need for a written check-off list for the school system as is done for the county.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.