

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 16, 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 Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved to approve the minutes of August 2, 2005, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF
AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Williams Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to adopt the agenda for the meeting of August 16, 2005, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Eubank announced that it looks like the district is off to a good start so far. He had been visiting schools the last two days and the students are excited, staff members in the middle schools with scheduling problems were friendly, patient and caring, and the bus drivers are happy with how smoothly everything is going.

He noted that Mr. Peter Rebmann is active in school concurrency and clarified that the article in the paper asking for donations is not associated with the school system.

Recent amendment to the Code of Student Conduct regarding military access to student directory information and the parents' right to opt out was clarified.

The Board and Superintendent recognized the secretary to the superintendent in charge of administrative/board relations and governance on her retirement and 35 years of service.

CITIZEN INPUT

There was no citizen input.

PRESENTATION(S)/
REPORT(S)

Alachua County Public Schools Foundation

Mrs. Margaret Boonstra, installed as president in June for a two-year term, presented the Board with a list of the 23 Foundation board members and a quick update of the current activities and projects. More than a quarter million dollars in scholarships have been awarded to 91 district high school graduates this year.

Chairman Pinkoson congratulated the Buchholz High School Mu Alpha Theta math team on placing second overall at the national competition in Honolulu, Hawaii.

ADMINISTRATIVE
APPOINTMENT

Motion by Mrs. Childs

Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to approve the superintendent's appointment of Ms. Alexandra Branaman as the District Security Chief, effective August 17, 2005.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

FINGERPRINTING
FEES

The Jessica Lunsford Act requires each school district to fingerprint and screen all vendors, contractors, anyone who is on a school campus when students are present; anyone who has direct contact with students; or anyone who has access to or control of school funds. Level 2 screening includes fingerprinting, statewide criminal and juvenile justice records checks through the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and federal criminal records checks through the FBI. The fee of \$85 includes the basic fee (\$61) for the actual fingerprinting and an additional \$24 for storage of the prints for the next subsequent four years.

Motion by Mrs. Childs

Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to approve the fee of \$85 for fingerprinting, screening, and processing all vendors and contractors.

Board members expressed concern that the fees would only cover the external costs and not internal costs.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to amend the motion that the fee be \$100.

A representative of the Big Eight Sports Officials Association

expressed concern with officials being required to have the level 2 background check done in each county they serve. They are seeking a cooperative venture among the school districts that would allow them to register in one county and officiate in another county.

Superintendent Boyd noted that a technical assistant paper was received from DOE the day before relative to their interpretation of the duties of the districts. In the passage of the Jessica Lunsford Act, not once did any of this go through a senate or house education committee for input.

He assured that on the issue of our officials, many of whom officiate in five or six counties, Alachua County will not be a county that insists that each official that officiates here from Putnam, Gilchrist, Dixie or Bradford come through our office to get another fingerprint analyzed. If it has been done in one county, this district will reciprocate and accept that.

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

PROPOSED
EXTENDED DAY
ENRICHMENT
PROGRAM EMPLOYEE
DISCOUNT 2005-2006

The Extended Day Enrichment Program (EDEP) is a K-5 program supported solely by parent fees. A 15% discount is being proposed for Alachua County School Board employees whose children are enrolled in the Extended Day Enrichment Program, effective October 1, 2005.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to approve the Extended Day Enrichment Program employee 15% discount, effective October 1, 2005.

It was suggested that the word "employee" be defined, e.g., part time, half time or full time.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

EMPLOYEE CASE
#E-0506-01

The staff attorney explained that the superintendent has issued a notice of charges against the employee and recommended the employee's employment be terminated. The employee has exercised the right to have the matter referred to the Division of Administrative Hearings for an administrative trial on the

charges, and the Administrative Law Judge appointed to hear the case will issue to this Board a recommended order. The Board will then take the recommended order and consider whether to adopt the conclusions of law or whether it quarrels with any of the findings of fact and will issue a final order on the recommended order, which will then be appealable by the employee to the district court of appeals.

Because this matter will come back to the Board for consideration of a recommended order, the Board should be insulated from contact with either party in discussion concerning the merits of the charges or the employee's defense.

Motion by Mrs. Childs

Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to accept the Superintendent's Notice of Charges and employee's request for a formal administrative hearing, and referral of same to the Division of Administrative Hearings.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

FINAL BUDGET
AMENDMENTS FOR
PERIOD MAY 1, 2005 –
JUNE 30, 2005

Budget Amendment No. 11 – General Fund; Budget Amendment No. 12 – Debt Services Funds; Budget Amendment No. 13 – Capital Projects Funds; and Budget Amendment No. 14 – Special Revenue Funds, include final changes for the period May 1, 2005 through June 30, 2005.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to approve Budget Amendment Nos. 11, 12, 13, and 14 as presented.

Mrs. Roy suggested more detail when referring to various other support function accounts, e.g., itemize the function and object; and to make it less confusing as to whether something has been over or under budgeted, possibly include a column for actual expenditures in the last budget amendment.

Mr. Eubank suggested since all the information requested is available that the report format be left as is and that the Board continue to have access to the information and go to staff with questions and review reports.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED WITH THE PROCESS FOR ISSUANCE OF QUALIFIED ZONE ACADEMY BONDS (QZABs)

The Florida Department of Education has completed its review of the district's applications for participation in the Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) program. An allocation of \$1,794,140.00 may be borrowed interest free for eligible projects at Chiles and Norton Elementary Schools, Ft. Clarke and Kanapaha Middle Schools, and Eastside and Gainesville High Schools.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to proceed with the process for issuance of Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZABs).

It was noted that to be eligible for QZABs, it is required that the school population be 35% free and reduced lunch. High Springs 6-8th grade, Buchholz and Santa Fe High Schools and Talbot Elementary School do not qualify and will be compensated with district technology money or other sources.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1-15 . (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 noted that discussion was held during the budgeting process to possibly extend a senior clerical position at the middle schools to a twelve-month position rather than having to employ someone for the summer to help with the records in guidance, registering students and the phones, etc., and feels the ball was dropped on this issue.

There was consensus of the Board to extend a senior clerical position at the middle schools to a twelve-month position.

Mrs. Childs will be meeting with staff regarding the housing development areas coming on line. She is concerned this may be getting out of hand and wants to see the letters being sent to the district asking where they will be zoned and the letters from the district.

AUGUST 16, 2005

Chairman Pinkoson requested a report to the Board on this issue, possibly, at an informal session.

Mrs. Childs suggested that toward the end of the school year students be recognized for their outstanding accomplishments in academics, extra-curricular activities, sports, etc., and for bringing recognition to their schools. This can be done at one Board meeting or over two or three meetings.

She also suggested, for next year, only one copy of the School Improvement Plans made available for review by the Board in the Superintendent's Office or maybe place on line for easy access.

Mrs. Williams suggested that Board members possibly receive the section showing the improvements made in needed areas.

Mr. Eubank requested a copy of the daily student counts and a later update on what the numbers look like in the breakout.

Mrs. Williams complimented staff and teachers on the orientation sessions provided for new teachers.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.