

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 18, 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 October 4, 2005, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF
AGENDA

Chairman Pinkoson announced that item G.6., Amendments to the 2005-06 Salary Schedule for Professional/Technical Personnel, is being removed from the agenda. It was also announced that an update of page 4, Attachment B, has been provided.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to adopt the October 18, 2005, meeting agenda as amended.

Mrs. Childs requested that Consent Agenda item H.5., Student Case 05-06-32-X, be discussed prior to vote. Mrs. Roy also requested discussion on this item.

The question was called on approval of the agenda as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Childs informed the Board about *Stuff the Bus*, a long-term Altrusa International project designed to provide clothing, school supplies and personal care items to homeless children attending Alachua County Schools. *Stuff the Bus* weekend is November 19-20, and it is hoped that the bus at Butler Plaza will be filled with items that guidance counselors can distribute to needy students.

Chairman Pinkoson reported that Lou Merrill, long-time Metcalfe teacher, passed away this week. She also reported that a child of Betsy Filippi, Archer Community School teacher, passed away this week. Condolences were extended to both families.

It was announced that in the last week of October, the Kenya's Star program will provide a star-shaped safety reflector to every Alachua County student, in remembrance of Kenya Wilson, a GHS student who lost her life while attempting to cross Archer Road. Public Information Officer Jackie Johnson was commended for her work on this campaign.

RETIREE
RECOGNITION

Superintendent Boyd named those employees who retired during the month of October, commended them for their service and wished them well in their retirement.

CITIZEN INPUT

There was no citizen input.

PROCLAMATION –
RED RIBBON WEEK
OCTOBER 24-28, 2005

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the administration's recommendation to proclaim the week of October 24-28, 2005, as Red Ribbon Week.

The Proclamation was read by Chairman Pinkoson.

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

DISTRICT FACILITIES
FIVE-YEAR WORK
PROGRAM

The District Facilities Five-Year Work Program is a five-year schedule that compares needed major repair, renovation, and capital outlay projects to projected revenues. The District must submit this program annually and may revise it at any time to reflect new priorities and available revenue. Ed Gable, Executive Director, Facilities, reviewed the document. This information will be supplemented by the School Plant Survey, which will be presented at the next Board meeting.

Several Board members voiced a need for discussing the priority order of the projects. Mr. Gable stated that he welcomes Board input and expects that a workshop will provide the appropriate venue. Brief discussion was held on the lack of PECO funds.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved the administration's recommendation to approve the District Facilities Five-Year Work Program for submission to the Department of Education.

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

MEMORANDUM OF
AGREEMENT WITH
THE ALACHUA
COUNTY PUBLIC
SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION

Superintendent Boyd reviewed the Memorandum of Agreement with the Alachua County Public Schools Foundation, stating that the Foundation is a direct support organization that exists exclusively to serve students and teachers. It has provided \$500,000 in total annual support the past two years. Staff benefits such as an annual 403b contribution would help with employee retention and overall

effectiveness. The proposed Memorandum of Agreement provides for an annual sum of \$25,000 to be used for administrative expenses. Payment is conditioned upon availability and annual budgeting.

Motion by Mrs. Williams Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the administration's recommendation to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the Alachua County Public Schools Foundation as presented.

Board Attorney Jim Lang confirmed that it is acceptable to use a Memorandum of Agreement rather than a contract. He agreed with Mr. Eubank that it would be advisable to look into whether the fingerprinting requirement should be included, and he will do so.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to amend the motion to add that in the event a Level 2 screening is required for Foundation employees, the fingerprinting fees will be waived.

There were no Board or public comments on the amendment.

The question was called on the amendment to the Motion.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

In response to a question from Ms. Childs, Foundation Director Mary Chance reported that mentors are screened and fingerprinted. However, it is a school-based mentoring program and unsupervised off-campus visits are not authorized.

The discussion of the Memorandum of Agreement with the Alachua County Public Schools Foundation was suspended and the Chairman moved on to the scheduled Public Hearing.

AMENDMENTS TO THE
SPECIAL PROGRAMS
AND PROCEDURES FOR
EXCEPTIONAL
STUDENTS DOCUMENT
FOR 2004-2005
THROUGH 2006-2007

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

A public hearing was held beginning at 6:30 p.m. to consider amendments to the Special Programs and Procedures for Exceptional Students Document for 2004-2005 through 2006-2007. This document reflects statutory and rule changes that govern the provision of services for exceptional students that became effective last fall in Florida.

There were no public comments.

At a question from Mrs. Roy, Mrs. Black explained the procedures for exit from the ESE program.

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:37 p.m. and the regular Board meeting was reconvened.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE ALACHUA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION
(continued)

The Chairman reopened discussion of the Memorandum of Agreement with the Alachua County Public Schools Foundation.

In regard to the service longevity of most of the Foundation Board members, Mrs. Childs posed the question of whether expanding the Board might open some new revenue sources.

The question was called on the original motion as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 6, 2005, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

Mr. Keith Birkett, Assistant Superintendent, explained the two Budget Amendments.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve Budget Amendments Nos. 1 and 2 as presented.

Mrs. Childs requested that the Board take part in the defibrillator training.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

AMENDMENT TO EXPRESSIONS CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT—REQUEST TO INCREASE STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Expressions Charter School is requesting an amendment to their contract to increase the school's maximum number of students from 75 to 85 students, in order to allow the school to include siblings of current students. The agreement was submitted under the new charter school contract. Included with the request was a copy of the old and new charter contracts, with changes highlighted.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the amendment to the Expressions Charter School contract as presented.

It was clarified that, for fiscal viability, new or renewing Charter Schools will be required to have 75 students.

In regard to the increase in the number of students as designated in the Expressions contract, Dr. Gunnar Paulson, ACEA President, commented that the word 'approximately' is too vague. Chairman

Pinkoson suggested a change to 'no more than.' The school director agreed with that change.

Motion by Mrs. Williams Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to amend the motion to change 'approximately' to 'no more than.'

At Mrs. Child's suggestion, it was agreed that the change from 'approximately' to 'no more than' should be applied to the contract template, not just the Expressions contract.

The question was called on the amendment to the motion.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

The question was called on the original motion as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

REVISIONS TO THE
PUPIL PROGRESSION
PLAN, 2005-2006 --
FIRST READING

Ms. Sandi Anusavice, Director, Secondary Curriculum, reported that there are no substantial changes to the Pupil Progression Plan. A few language changes were made, in accordance with DOE recommendations.

Motion by Mrs. Childs Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to schedule a public hearing for November 1, 2005, regarding the proposed revisions to the 2005-2006 Pupil Progression Plan.

In response to a question from Mrs. Williams, the procedures by which parents of ninth-graders are informed of graduation options were explained.

Mrs. Childs stressed that in counseling, as well as in all associated literature, it should be made clear that a standard diploma is not necessarily a college-ready diploma. Remedial classes at a community college may sometimes be required.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1-12.

During the adoption of the agenda, Item H.5., Student Case 0506-32-X,

which is a recommendation for expulsion from the Horizon Center, was pulled for discussion.

Mrs. Childs recommended that the student be required to appear before a Hearing Officer prior to being considered for reenrollment. The expulsion procedure was reviewed and it was noted that this is the first such recommendation from Horizon in three years. In response to Board members' questions, it was explained that as discipline procedures advance, students and parents are made aware of available options, including the Camp Challenge Academy.

The question was called on the motion, with the Chairman stating that the understanding is that the student in item H.5. will be required to appear before a Hearing Officer prior to being considered for reenrollment in the public school system.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CITIZEN INPUT

There was no citizen input.

DISCUSSION ITEM --
SCHEDULE A POLICY
REVIEW WORKSHOP

The Board contracted with NEOLA two years ago to review the Policy Manual and recodify it according to state statutes. The policies will soon be ready for Board review. In the process of discussing the scheduling of a Policy workshop, it was the consensus of the Board to change the time for all informal Board meetings from 9 a.m. to 8 a.m. The Policy workshop was then scheduled for Tuesday, December 13, immediately following the informal Board meeting. After a break for lunch, that workshop will reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
REQUESTS

Mrs. Sandy Hollinger responded to Mrs. Childs' questions on the Class Size Amendment. The final report will be available in approximately two weeks. Regarding FTE week, Mrs. Johnson was commended on the media coverage, and the principals were commended for their diligence in encouraging student attendance.

It was noted that Board members interested in attending the FSBA Conference should contact Mrs. Ramos.

Superintendent Boyd distributed information from the Facilities Department on the subject of school concurrency and invited local municipalities to upcoming meetings. He commended Mr. Tougaw and Mr. Gable for their leadership in this endeavor.

Chairman Pinkoson stated that Mr. Eubank has agreed to be appointed as the Board's representative to the School Concurrency Committee. Other Board members may attend as "concerned citizens," but Mr. Eubank will represent the Board.

Mr. Eubank suggested that when Board members attend meetings with staff and outside agencies, the meeting should be publicly noticed, to ensure Sunshine laws are not violated. He expressed concern that when Board members speak at such meetings, it appears that the comment is made on behalf of the Board. Therefore, if a Board member attends as a private citizen, it should be clearly stated at the meeting, and meeting attendance should not be coordinated with staff.

Mrs. Childs concurred that comments made in public are interpreted as representing the Board unless openly clarified otherwise.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0