

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
February 7, 2006

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: F. Wesley Eubank, chairman; Virginia S. Childs, vice-chairman; Tina Pinkoson, 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 Eubank, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Motion by Mrs. Roy Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to approve the minutes of January 17, 2006, as presented.

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

ADOPTION
OF AGENDA

Chairman Eubank announced changes to the agenda as follows: Item E, Recognitions, will be placed before Board Member/ Superintendent Announcements; Item H, Consent Agenda, will be placed before Item G, Action Items. In addition, the following items are being deleted: Action Item G.7., Employee Case; Consent Agenda Item H.8.a., Bus Use Agreement with University of Florida Student Government Association; and pages 16-18 of Consent Agenda Item H.11., National Academy Foundation Agreement.

Motion by Mrs. Childs Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to adopt the February 7, 2006, meeting agenda as amended.

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

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

RECOGNITION –
GOVERNOR’S
HIGH SCHOOL
ALL-STAR

Jennifer Ann Vettel, GHS student, earned the Governor’s All-Star Award, which honors high-school juniors for academic excellence, leadership and community activism.

NATIONAL
BOARD-CERTIFIED
TEACHERS

Twenty-six teachers were recognized for becoming National Board-Certified. This brings the total number in Alachua County to ninety-six.

OUTSTANDING
SCHOOL
VOLUNTEERS

Cammie Devlin, Norton Elementary, and Cindy Walker, Buchholz High, were named School Volunteers of the Year, with Janet Jenke, Prairie View, being named Senior Volunteer of the year.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Superintendent Boyd announced that a report concerning past energy initiatives and future plans has been compiled by Ed Gable, Executive Director, Facilities. He provided a brief review of that information. Mr. Gable recommends that the Superintendent direct staff to engage the services of an energy conservation specialist. Mr. Eubank commended staff on past savings and the present initiatives.

Mrs. Childs congratulated teachers and students on the recent successful Science Fair. She expressed regret that she will not be able to attend the Teacher of the Year celebration, but offered her congratulations.

Mrs. Roy congratulated all those involved in the Science Fair. She also expressed appreciation to Mr. Gable for compiling the Energy Report and favors the hiring of an energy consultant.

CITIZEN INPUT

Dr. Gunnar Paulson, president, ACEA, was pleased at the compilation of the energy report.

At Mrs. Roy's request, Mr. James Coates presented information on his educational television series entitled James Coates Magic World, which airs every Saturday at 10 a.m. It uses magic and illusion to teach science, nature, values and safety. The educational content is heavily scrutinized by the FCC and overseen by Florida DOE and has been broadcast on Discovery, ABC, NBC, and CBS. Mr. Coates has developed this program with his own funds and is not asking for finances. The program is in the process of going national but will be based in Alachua County.

Kali Blount, citizen, addressed the Board regarding African-American curriculum issues.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

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

BUDGET DEVELOPMENT/
TRIM CALENDAR

Mr. Keith Birkett, Assistant Superintendent, reviewed the Truth in Millage compliance procedure.

Motion by Mrs. Childs Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2006-2007 Tentative TRIM Calendar, establishing July 24, 2006, 3 p.m., as a Special Board meeting for approval of the tentative budget for advertising; August 1, 2006, 6:30 p.m., for the public hearing and adoption of the Tentative Budget and Millage; and September 5, 2006, 6:30 p.m., for the public hearing and adoption of the final budget and Millage.

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

FINANCIAL AND
FEDERAL SINGLE AUDIT
REPORT OF THE
ALACHUA COUNTY
DISTRICT SCHOOL
BOARD FOR FISCAL
YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 2005

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Report of the Independent Certified Public Accountants prepared by Ernst & Young LLP, for the year ended June 30, 2005, and that the accompanying Management Letter be filed as part of the public records of the School Board.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

INTERNAL ACCOUNT
AUDITOR'S REPORT –
FISCAL YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 2005

Motion by Mrs. Childs

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation that the Independent Auditor's Report prepared by Davis Monk & Company, for the School Board of Alachua County Internal Accounts, for the year ended June 30, 2005, be filed as part of the public records of the School Board.

Mrs. Williams questioned how teachers could appropriately be reprimanded for not turning in money in the required time period, thereby causing the District to continue to be cited by the Auditors. Mrs. Childs suggested that it be determined if the problem is widely scattered or limited to specific schools.

Mrs. Pinkoson expressed concern about a specific school and requested that it be made known that the Board takes a serious view of noncompliance to budget procedures.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CONTRACT WITH DES OF
FLORIDA, LLC, TO
PROVIDE POST-DROP
EMPLOYMENT FOR
ADMINISTRATIVE AND
PROFESSIONAL/
TECHNICAL PERSONNEL

At the meeting of January 17, 2006, the School Board voted to table approval of a one-year contract with DES of Florida to provide post-DROP employment for Administrative and Professional/Technical personnel.

Motion by Mrs. Roy

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to remove from the table the matter of approving the one-year contract with DES of Florida, LLC, to employ administrative and professional/technical personnel who are pre-approved by the Superintendent to be subcontracted by the School Board.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Discussion was held on various aspects of the program, including possible financial impact and the need to focus on targeted critical positions.

The question was called on the original motion from January 17, 2006, that the School Board approve a one-year contract with DES of

Florida, LLC, to employ administrative and professional/technical personnel who are pre-approved by the Superintendent to be sub-contracted by the School Board.

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

REASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS FOR THE 2006-07 SCHOOL YEAR -- FIRST READING

On May 4, 2004, the School Board approved the reassignment of students in three new developments to schools other than their zoned schools, due to the projected enrollments approaching or exceeding the capacities at Glen Springs and Rawlings Elementary schools. After a current review of this situation, it appears that the zoned schools can now accommodate the number of students coming from these neighborhoods.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation that the School Board schedule a public hearing for February 21, 2006, 6:30 p.m., in regard to the reassignment of students for the 2006-2007 school year.

Mr. Tougaw stated that, since there are few students involved, should they wish to stay at their present school, zoning exceptions could be offered. Mrs. Childs requested that parents be so informed prior to the public hearing.

Mr. Eubank suggested that transportation be offered at Uptown Village and Walnut Creek, since transportation is already in place for the Foster magnet.

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

SCHEDULE WORKSHOPS - The following workshops were scheduled:

- CAPITAL OUTLAY - Capital Outlay, Tuesday, Feb. 28, 9 a.m.
- NEOLA - Policy: Section 7000, Property - Feb. 24, 9 a.m.
Section 8000, Operations – Mar. 17, 9 a.m.
Section 9000, Comm. Relations – Apr. 14, 9 a.m.
- BUDGET DEVELOPMENT - Budget Development: Mar. 16, 1:30 p.m.; Apr. 20, 1:30 p.m. and tentatively May 25, 1:30 p.m.

CITIZEN INPUT There was no citizen input.

BOARD MEMBER/SUPERINTENDENT REQUESTS Mrs. Pinkoson reported that she will be in Washington, D.C., the week of March 5-8 and will speak to legislators, using the National School Boards Association platform. There will be no cost to the district.

Mrs. Williams was pleased with the progress on the energy issue, which allows for moving forward with other Board business.

Mrs. Childs suggested that those responsible for individual cost centers review their budgets for possible cuts. Mr. Eubank concurred, suggesting that unfilled positions might be scrutinized.

Mrs. Childs is awaiting the Administrative Salary Study. She also wants to ensure that budgets are being set as equitably as possible, with consideration to schools in the lower socioeconomic level, as agreed upon by the Board in the last rezoning process. In addition, Mrs. Childs reported that she had reviewed the Hospitality/Tourism Industry plan that was deleted from tonight's agenda and was very interested in it. She requested that Curriculum staff evaluate such a program.

Mrs. Pinkoson referred to someone she knows who might be of assistance, with internships a possibility. Mrs. Williams also expressed enthusiasm for a Hospitality/Tourism curriculum.

Superintendent Boyd stated that such a program may be able to be integrated into the curriculum, pointing to the minimal cost factor. He stated that the possibilities will be examined.

New resident Evan Pitts felt that a suggestion program might be of assistance in targeting ways to reduce the budget. Mr. Eubank stated that such a program was being worked on by the previous staff attorney and he believes it is an excellent idea.

Mrs. Roy also favors implementation of a suggestion program.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. Williams

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to adjourn the meeting.

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.