

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
February 6, 2007

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: Virginia S. Childs, Chairman; Janie S. Williams, Vice-Chairman; F. Wesley Eubank, Tina Pinkoson, and Eileen F. Roy, members; W. Daniel Boyd, Jr., Superintendent; and James F. Lang, Attorney for the Board.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Childs, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Mrs. Childs announced that Board members begin using an electronic agenda for this meeting. The audience or broadcast viewers can follow along from the School Board Website.

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

Moved to approve the minutes of the Board meeting of January 16, 2007, as presented.

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to adopt the February 6, 2007, meeting agenda.

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

RECOGNITION
2006-2007
OUTSTANDING
SCHOOL
VOLUNTEERS

The Board recognized and congratulated the District's 2006-2007 Outstanding School Volunteers:

Kathy Davis, Hidden Oak – Senior Category
Jonathon Gillespie, Fort Clarke Middle School – Adult Category
Sierra Watson, Hawthorne High School – Youth Category

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Williams:

- congratulated Dr. David Edwards and staff on a successful Career and Technical Education open house.
- congratulated Teacher of the Year finalists.
- congratulated three new principals on their successful transitions: Lina Bedoya, Irby Elementary; Judy Black, Chiles Elementary; and Barbara Henry, Prairie View Academy.
- announced March of Dimes Walk-a-Thon and requested support.

Mrs. Roy:

- informed the Superintendent and Board of a new UF initiative, *Focus the Nation*, which addresses climate change. A committee has been formed on how to incorporate global warming teaching into school instruction. Board members were invited to the next meeting.
- commended Dr. David Edwards on the District showing at the recent day-long meeting of the Workforce Development Board.

- congratulated Billy Devlin, a senior at the Institute of Culinary Arts, on more than \$30,000 in scholarship funds, as well as being featured in Florida Trend magazine. Mrs. Roy pointed out that being enrolled in a career/technical track is not inconsistent with taking challenging academic courses, as Mr. Devlin is doing.

Mrs. Pinkoson:

- noted that the School Board Website may be checked for information and the deadline date for submitting Career/Technical program applications.

Mrs. Childs:

- represented the Board on the occasion of the Gainesville Sports Organizing Committee becoming the Gainesville Sports Commission. Dr. Boyd and the Board were recognized for leadership and support in contributing to health and recreation opportunities for young people.
- congratulated Ms. Billie Denunzio, on the outstanding performance of her students when the Kiwanis Club recently visited the Institute of Culinary Arts.

CITIZEN INPUT

A citizen addressed the Board concerning Black History Month events.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda as described in Items 1-12.

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

SCHEDULE WORKSHOPS

The following workshop dates were discussed:

MAGNET
TRANSPORTATION
AND POLICY
DEVELOPMENT

- Magnet Transportation Workshop: February 14, 2007, 9 a.m. The Informal Board meeting to be held immediately following, rather than on February 13, as presently scheduled.
- Policy Workshops: February 20 (Administration, Instructional Staff, and Support Staff); March 27 (Students); May 1 (Instruction); and May 22 (Other sections as needed). All workshops will begin at 9 a.m.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to approve the workshop schedule as discussed.

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

BID AWARD FOR
PROJECT SBAC R0505 –
GAINESVILLE HIGH
SCHOOL ROOF
REPLACEMENT

The low base bid was withdrawn by the Bidder.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to reject the second low base bid for failure to comply with the specified qualification/experience requirements. Therefore, it is recommended that the Board accept the

third low base bid of \$1,380,000 and award a contract for construction to R. F. Lusa & Sons, Lakeland, Florida. Completion shall be within two hundred ten (210) consecutive calendar days from the date indicated in the "Notice to Proceed."

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

SCHEDULE SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS PERTAINING TO THE STAR PLAN

The Special Teachers Are Rewarded (STAR) performance pay plan must be submitted to the State Board of Education by March 1, 2007. The teachers' ratification vote is scheduled for February 14 and 15, 2007. If that vote is in favor of ratification, then the Board can ratify the Plan at its regular meeting on February 20, and adoption will be complete. However, if the teachers vote not to ratify the Plan, in order to meet the March 1 deadline, it will be necessary that the Board hold two special meetings in February:

- Wednesday, February 21, 6 p.m., to convene as the legislative body, hold a public hearing and resolve disputed impasse issues, if there are any.
- Tuesday, February 27, 6 p.m., to vote to ratify the STAR Plan.

The meetings will be cancelled if they are not necessary.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to schedule the two special meetings on the STAR Plan, as presented.

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

CITIZEN INPUT

A teacher on the school's technology committee requested help in solving a problem with technology assistance at her school.

BOARD MEMBER/SUPERINTENDENT REQUESTS

Superintendent Boyd stated that the schools will be surveyed soon on their technology needs and a workshop will be scheduled.

Mr. Eubank commented on the excessive cost of tutoring sessions required by the No Child Left Behind program, stating that the cost of tutoring only nine children for ten sessions is equivalent to 36 days of a qualified teacher's salary. In addition, the tutoring does not address the purported issue of helping prepare students for FCAT, as it is not done in a timely manner. He suggested that, in the future, parents be provided more extensive information on the tutoring and that feedback be sought from them. He believes the funding could be far better used by having qualified teachers provide after-school tutoring to a larger number of students.

Mrs. Childs suggested that the issue be examined by Deputy Superintendent Hollinger and Dr. Charles Hall, director of the Title I program.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.