

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA  
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
March 20, 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, led by students from Mebane Middle School.

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

Moved to approve the minutes of the Board meeting of March 6, 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 20, 2007, meeting agenda as amended.

Item H. 12, Florida Learn and Serve Grant, was added and Item I.3., Approval of Resolution No. 07-03, was deleted. Items H.3., Bids and Requisitions—Attachment C, and H.7., Inventory Droppage report, were pulled for separate discussion.

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

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mrs. Childs:
  - announced the passing of long-time ‘School Board family member’ John Dukes, and read a Proclamation in his honor. A scholarship has been set up in Mr. Dukes’ name through the Alachua County Public Schools Foundation.
- Mrs. Roy:
  - attended a meeting of Civics Education and the Future of Our Democracy at Gainesville High School and cited Carnegie Corporation and McKnight Foundation charges of ineffective civics education in public schools. Some prominent Floridians have mobilized to provide speaker resources to schools. Changes in public policy are being sought to support stronger civics programs, as well as adding civics to the FCAT.
  - reported that *Spotlight on Youth*, recently held at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, was an outstanding musical performance.
- Mrs. Williams
  - reminded everyone of Saturday’s March of Dimes Walk-a-thon and welcomed donations.

Mrs. Pinkoson:

- stated that the recent re-opening of Diamond Sports Park was exciting, with hundreds of students and parents in attendance.
- Reported that Westwood Middle School parents are working toward opening a Fit Kids for Life Center, a 2300 square foot building to be open before and after school.

Mrs. Williams:

- attended the adjudication of the first court case against parents of a truant student. The decision was that if the student did not attend school, the parents would be sentenced to five months and 28 days in jail.

#### CITIZEN INPUT

An appeal was made for financial assistance to replace lost grant funding for *Children Beyond Our Borders*, a program that helps children in foreign countries.

#### SCHEDULED AGENCIES

ALACHUA COUNTY  
EDUCATION  
ASSOCIATION

ACEA Field Director Sande Calkins commended Head Start instructor Phyllis Meredith, who has been named the 2006-07 Employee Support Person of the Year by the Florida Education Association. Ms. Meredith was congratulated by Board members.

#### PRESENTATIONS

MEBANE MIDDLE  
SCHOOL, *ONE BOOK,*  
*ONE SCHOOL,*  
*ONE COMMUNITY*

Mebane Middle School presented information on *One Book, One School, One Community*, a program that encourages family reading, strengthens student reading and brings the community a better understanding and appreciation of the importance of reading.

Mrs. Childs noted that Mebane was a recipient of one of the WalMart Grants, which in total, provided \$22,000 to our schools.

PREPARING  
FOR LIFE AFTER  
HIGH SCHOOL

Dr. Dave Edwards, Technical Education Director, conducted a presentation on the state of the District's Technology Education.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda as described in Items 1-12, with the deletion of Item 10, Student Cases. Items H.3. and H.7. will be discussed separately.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Regarding Item H.3., Attachment C., Mrs. Roy noted a correction, stating that the funding source is Buchholz AP monies and Tech Categoricals, rather than the General Fund. She also requested a response to several questions concerning the theft of laptop computers, as reported on Item H.7., Inventory Droppage Report.

Because of some confusion in reading the Droppage Report, Mr. Wayne Hackett, Purchasing Director, proposed to have it reformatted. Mr. Hackett also confirmed that site license software is required for the FCAT.

PROCLAMATION –

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Williams

APRIL AS  
JAZZ APPRECIATION  
MONTH

Moved to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt the proclamation declaring the month of April as *Jazz Appreciation Month* in Alachua County Schools.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

LOFTEN HIGH SCHOOL  
CLASSROOM AND  
MULTIPURPOSE  
BUILDING – SBAC A0505  
GUARANTEED  
MAXIMUM PRICE (GMP)

Subcontractor bid prices have been received and a proposal has been prepared for the School Board by the Construction Manager, PPI Construction Management, Inc., Gainesville, Florida, for the construction of this facility.

Mr. Ed Gable, Executive Director of Facilities, stated that the two-story building will have 16 classrooms. There will be a 3600 square foot multipurpose space in the center, with an adjacent full-service kitchen.

The design and construction team was introduced and Principal Chet Sanders addressed the Board.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$4,195,987 for the construction of this project. Completion shall be within three hundred (300) consecutive calendar days from the date indicated in the "Notice to Proceed."

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

AUTHORIZATION TO  
PROCEED WITH THE  
PROCESS FOR A  
POSSIBLE REFUNDING  
OF SERIES 1997A  
CERTIFICATES OF  
PARTICIPATION

In January, it was recommended to proceed with the process of refunding the 2001 and 2004 Certificates of Participation (COPS). It is now recommended by the District's underwriters and financial advisors to include a portion of the Series 1997A's with that refunding.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to proceed with the process for a possible refunding of Series 1997A Certificates of Participation.

In answer to a question from Mrs. Roy, it was stated that the amount of money saved by refinancing will not be known until the bonds are marketed. If there is not a significant savings, the process will not be completed.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION - RESOLUTION COP 07-03

Motion by Mr. Eubank      Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to adopt Resolution COP 07-03, “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE ON BEHALF OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, OF NOT EXCEEDING \$51,000,000 REFUNDING CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION, SERIES 1997A, 2001, and 2004, 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

DIAMOND SPORTS PARK NAME CHANGE

The motion to “approve the Superintendent’s recommendation that the School Board change the name of the Diamond Sports Park to the North Central Florida Sportsplex, effective immediately,” was tabled at the March 6, 2007, School Board meeting.

Motion by Mr. Eubank      Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to remove the motion from the table for action.

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

Mr. Charley Wise, Curriculum Supervisor, reviewed current and new names for Board consideration. He then offered a solution to the cumbersome names, which also clearly signifies that Alachua County Public Schools is the owner and the City of Newberry Parks and Recreation Department is the operator. This was unanimously approved by Board members, so the name Diamond Sports Park will be retained.

CITIZEN INPUT

ACEA President Gunnar Paulson requested clarifications on the Lofton construction project.

The writer of a recent Gainesville Sun column about changes at Lofton High School criticized statements a Board member made in an email response to a member of the public.

BOARD MEMBER/SUPERINTENDENT REQUESTS

Mrs. Roy requested that Board meetings be advertised in the Gainesville Sun Sunday Meetings column.

Mrs. Childs asked those who plan on attending Alachua County Legislative Day to please contact Ms. Ramos to register.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.