

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
June 5, 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.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to approve the minutes of the Board meeting of May 15, 2007, as presented.

The question was called on the minutes as presented.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Childs noted that Item I.5., Howard Bishop Middle School Waiver Request, is being deleted from the agenda.

Motion by Mrs. Williams Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to adopt the June 5, 2007, meeting agenda as amended.

Mr. Eubank requested that Item H.11., Contract with D.E.S., be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate vote and added as Action Item I.7. By consensus, the request was accepted as part of the motion to adopt the agenda.

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

PRESENTATION

Florida Credit Union presented their annual Servin-Ellis scholarships to five outstanding high school graduates.

RECOGNITION

The Board recognized the commitment of O2B A Kid Again! for helping to build a strong foundation for Alachua County students. Mrs. Mary Chance, Executive Director of the Alachua County Public Schools Foundation, announced that more than \$40,000 was raised at their annual fundraising event and recognition was given to schools for their assistance. The money will be used for classroom grants.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Pinkoson recognized retiring teacher Bonnie Jernigan and thanked her for her more than 41 years of teaching service.

Mrs. Roy commented on the recent graduations she attended and the student speakers who expressed appreciation for their teachers throughout their school years.

The Superintendent expressed condolences to the family of long-time School Board employee Beverly Cannon, who recently passed away. She is remembered fondly and a scholarship fund has been set up in her name through the Alachua County Public Schools Foundation.

CITIZEN INPUT

A citizen expressed his position on African-American History needs.

As a citizen, Board member Mrs. Roy read a letter from Dr. Suzy Colvin, concerning her reassignment from Talbot to Littlewood Elementary. (*See Supplementary Minutes Book.*)

The Board recessed. Prior to reconvening, Mrs. Childs requested that participants operate with decorum. The meeting was then reconvened.

Multiple citizens expressed support for Dr. Colvin to continue at Talbot.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as described in Items 1-14, with the exception of Item 11, which will be voted on separately.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT(S)

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the appointments of Dr. Harrell Harrison as Director of Transportation, Mr. Brad Burklew as principal of W. S. Talbot Elementary School, Mrs. Katherine Munn as principal of Littlewood Elementary School, and Mr. Bill Powell as principal of Waldo Community School.

The Superintendent introduced his appointees and provided background information.

Mrs. Roy informed the public that the Superintendent is authorized to assign principals and the Board is not involved in the decision. She stated that Mr. Burklew would make a fine principal.

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

2007-08 CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT REVISIONS – FIRST READING

Florida law requires that the School Board adopt a Code of Student Conduct for all schools. The recommended changes to the Code for the 2007-2008 school year are editorial revisions to make the Code easier to understand for students and to harmonize with the School Board's new policies. The recommended revisions do not contain substantive changes.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2007-08 Code of Student Conduct, as presented, for advertisement and schedule a public hearing for 6:30 p.m. on June 19, 2007.

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

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ZONE LINE CHANGE – FIRST READING

The Superintendent recommended approval of a school attendance zone line change for advertisement and scheduling of a public hearing for 6:30 p.m. on June 19, 2007. The Superintendent explained where the area of the zone line change is and a map was displayed. Approximately eleven

students are involved.

At a question from Mrs. Roy, Mr. Terry Tougaw, Director, Community Planning/Zoning, stated that he believed the parents of the affected students had been notified, and no feedback has been received. The parents will now be sent a letter by mail concerning the change.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the school attendance zone line change for advertisement, as presented, and schedule a public hearing for 6:30 p.m. on June 19, 2007.

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

REPEAL OF EXISTING BOARD POLICIES AND ADOPTION OF NEW BOARD POLICIES – FIRST READING

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the repeal of the existing policies and adoption of the new policies for advertisement, as presented, and schedule a public hearing for 6:30 p.m. on June 19, 2007.

Regarding Bylaw 0142.4, Compliance With Board Procedures, Mr. Eubank stated that after discussion with the Staff Attorney, he recommends removal of the last paragraph, as being unnecessary.

Mrs. Roy spoke against this policy, favoring its removal in entirety.

Motion by Mrs. Roy

Moved to amend the original motion by striking Bylaw 0142.4, Compliance With Board Procedures.

Motion died for lack of a second.

ACEA President Gunnar Paulson supported the removal of the last paragraph of Bylaw 0142.4, seeing it as divisive. Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Pinkoson agreed with deletion of the last paragraph.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Williams

Moved to strike the last paragraph of Policy 0142.4, Compliance With Board Procedures.

Mrs. Roy stated that the removal of only the last paragraph is insufficient and she reiterated the need to strike the whole policy.

Mr. Eubank referred to a past situation wherein he felt the District could have lost its accreditation. He believes having this policy in place would avoid any such risk in the future.

Mrs. Roy disagreed with Mr. Eubank's interpretation of the situation

referred to and did not accept his rationale for inclusion of this policy.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-1

Yes: Childs
Eubank
Pinkoson
Williams

No: Roy

Mrs. Roy spoke against Bylaw 0149.3 d., Request for Information by Board Members, as defying the Freedom of Information Act and possibly being unconstitutional.

Motion by Mrs. Roy

Moved to strike from the proposed Bylaws Policy 0149.3 d., Request for Information by Board Members.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Eubank stated that the policy directs information requests to be made through the Superintendent. It does not require Board approval of such a request.

The question was called on the original motion as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-1

Yes: Childs
Eubank
Pinkoson
Williams

No: Roy

BID AWARD FOR
PROJECT SBAC D0602 –
HIGH SPRINGS
COMMUNITY SCHOOL
BUS DRIVE

Bids for the construction of this project were received on May 29, 2007.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to accept the low base bid of \$398,797 and Additive Alternate One in the amount of \$23,597 and award a contract for construction totaling \$422,394 to Andrews Paving, Gainesville, Florida. Completion of this project shall be within forty-five consecutive calendar days from the date indicated in the “Notice to Proceed.”

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CONTRACT WITH DES
OF FLORIDA, LLC

The current contract with DES of Florida, LLC, provides a means for administrators and professional/technical employees to retire when they complete DROP and be subcontracted by the School Board, if pre-approved by the Superintendent. This contract ends June 30, 2007. The proposed new contract would be open-ended, with a provision that either party may terminate the contract with thirty- (30) days written notice.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve continuation of the contract with DES of Florida, LLC, which allows administrators and professional/technical employees to retire when they complete DROP and be subcontracted by the School Board, if pre-approved by the Superintendent.

Mr. Eubank believes the contract should not be continuing, but rather reviewed by the Board each year. He also believes it is not appropriate for persons under DES contract to be paid for 50 days out of the year that they do not work, since they do not qualify for vacation and sick benefits. Further, he has a general philosophical difference with administrative personnel being retained through DES, potentially delaying appointments of administrative pool candidates. Would like to see criteria developed so that the decisions as to which people are brought back are very straight-forward, and there would be no question as to how the selection was made.

Dr. Longstreth, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, informed the Board that the portion of the recommendation dealing with the continuation of the contract was made so that employees under DES, who all have different contract dates, do not have to have their contract renewed each June when the DES contract expires.

Motion by Mrs. Williams

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to table the subject of contract with DES of Florida, LLC, until the next General Business meeting.

For purposes of further discussion, Mrs. Williams withdrew her motion and Mr. Eubank withdrew his second.

Dr. Longstreth explained how an employee's accrued leave time is handled at the end of DROP.

Motion by Mrs. Williams

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to table the contract with DES of Florida, LLC, with discussion to be held at the June 12 informal meeting and action at the June 19 meeting.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CITIZEN INPUT

Multiple citizens expressed their displeasure with the process and the reassignment of Dr. Suzy Colvin from Talbot Elementary School.

BOARD MEMBER/ SUPERINTENDENT REQUESTS

There were no Board member or Superintendent requests.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.