

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
November 20, 2007

The School Board of Alachua County, Florida, met in regular session duly called at 9:05 a.m. in the Boardroom, 620 East University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida. Present were: Janie Williams, Chairman; Tina Pinkoson, Vice-Chairman; Ginger Childs, F. Wesley Eubank, 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 Williams, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved to approve the minutes of the Board meeting of November 6, 2007, as presented.

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

ADOPTION Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mr. Eubank
OF AGENDA

The following items were deleted from the agenda:

- Item G. 3, Charter Application for Gainesville Arts and Technology Academy, Inc., Charter School.
- Item H. 7., Reverter Clause in 1980 Deed from the School Board to the Town of Micanopy.

An item from Attachment A of the Consent Agenda was pulled for separate discussion.

Moved to adopt the November 20, 2007, meeting agenda as amended.

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

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Roy reported that she represented the Board at Congresswoman Corrine Brown's Book Club award ceremony and reception, where 25 children from the Eden Park housing project were given free computers and printers from Walmart, for the accomplishment of reading a minimum of 25 books each. The Gainesville Regional Airport and Atlantic Southeast Airlines provided mentors for the children, and the Alachua County Library District and Jennings Development Group were also project supporters.

Mr. Eubank congratulated Mrs. Kathy Shewey, Supervisor, Special Teacher Programs, on being presented the Distinguished Educator Award by the National Middle School Association.

Dr. Boyd stated that staff will schedule public input sessions concerning the

possible rezoning of some areas to address overcrowding situations in some schools. It is anticipated that a final Board vote will be held at the February 19, 2008, School Board meeting. In the future, recommendations may be made concerning construction of new facilities in the western part of the county.

Mrs. Pinkoson congratulated the Buchholz Volleyball Team on winning the state championship.

Mrs. Childs expressed appreciation to staff for scheduling timely public input sessions on the attendance zone issue. At a question from Mrs. Roy, plans for the public input process were reviewed. Mr. Eubank suggested the phone-home system be implemented as one of the means of informing parents.

CITIZEN INPUT

- A citizen announced the Anti-Racism Coalition’s Annual Summit, Saturday, December 1, at 9 a.m. This year’s focus is on education.
- ACEA president Gunnar Paulson announced that the vote on negotiations will be conducted today. He also expressed displeasure that the Board did not follow the rotation process in the election of vice-chairman.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to approve the amended Consent Agenda as described in items 1-10, with Attachment A being pulled for discussion.

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

At a question from Mrs. Roy, Deputy Superintendent Hollinger explained that the appointment from the Professional Academies at Lofton to Project Development is a student engagement coach, which is a teaching position.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT(S)

Superintendent Boyd reviewed the extensive biography of Mr. James Speer, assistant principal, Kanapaha Middle School, whom the Superintendent recommended for appointment to the principalship of the Horizon Center.

There was a unanimous motion and second.

Moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to appoint Mr. James Speer as principal of the Horizon Center, effective November 21, 2007.

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

The Chairman conveyed congratulations to Mr. Speer. Mrs. Childs stated that she looks forward to working with Mr. Speer, should the Board continue her role as Hearing Officer.

APPOINTMENT OF
November 20, 2007

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mrs. Roy

SCHOOL BOARD
ATTORNEY AND
ESTABLISHMENT
OF FEES

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to reappoint Mr. James F. Lang as attorney for the School Board at the hourly rate of \$165 per hour.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

RATIFICATION OF
AMENDMENT TO THE
2007-2008 COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING
AGREEMENT FOR
INSTRUCTIONAL
PERSONNEL

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to ratify the agreements and amendments to the collective bargaining agreement for Instructional Personnel, 2007-2008, as presented, pending ratification by the members of the bargaining unit.

Mr. Eubank expressed appreciation to both bargaining teams, stating that he hoped the process next year could be completed earlier. Mrs. Roy also congratulated the teams and expressed appreciation for the long hours they put in. Mrs. Childs concurred.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

RATIFICATION OF THE
2007-2008 COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING
AGREEMENT FOR
EDUCATION SUPPORT
PROFESSIONALS

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to ratify the negotiated agreement between the School Board and the Alachua County Education Association for Education Support Professionals, 2007-2010, as presented, pending ratification by the members of the bargaining unit.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF
THE 2007-2008
SALARY SCHEDULES

Motion by Mrs. Childs

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt the Teacher, Education Support Professionals (bargaining unit members), and Other Compensation Salary Schedules for 2007-2008, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Mr. Eubank suggested the possibility of considering increased compensation for bargaining staff.

DISCUSSION --

COMMITTEE
ASSIGNMENTS FOR
BOARD MEMBERS

Mrs. Roy stated that, at some point, she would like to be considered for either the Library Governing Board or the Student Hearing Officer. Mrs. Childs stated that she is in the middle of the Chairmanship of the Library Board, but perhaps next year a change could be made.

No changes were made to the Board Committee assignments.

CITIZEN INPUT

There was no citizen input.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent recommended that the Board convey their directives on employee insurance directly to the Employee Benefits staff. This will take

REQUESTS

place during the Informal Board meeting on December 11 at 9 a.m. Because of state budget cutbacks and FTE changes, Mr. Eubank remarked on the need to prepare for 'belt-tightening' measures. His suggestions included the elimination of positions through attrition and considering changes to school starting times, to eliminate triple bus runs. He noted that Marion County has saved significantly by changes to their transportation system.

Regarding Mrs. Roy's noticing that the language on the District's employee application is not consistent with policy, Mr. Eubank suggested that Human Resources staff check the online version to be sure it is correct when it begins in January.

At Mrs. Childs' request, Deputy Superintendent Hollinger explained the status of the application for a new charter school, Gainesville Arts and Technology Academy. She stated that a formal request for an extension to the application process has been received. Staff will set a deadline, and a recommendation is tentatively expected to be brought to the Board at the January 15 Board meeting.

Also in response to Mrs. Childs, it was noted that the staff attorney is presently reviewing an FTE issue concerning Love to Learn Charter School.

In regard to the 'belt-tightening' that Mr. Eubank referred to, Mrs. Childs suggested that all budgets be reviewed. Mrs. Williams concurred. Mr. Keith Birkett, Assistant Superintendent for Finance, stated that he will develop a schedule of budget meetings to present in January.

Mr. Eubank requested an updated report on school enrollments.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.