

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
April 22, 2008

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: 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 Lincoln Middle School Jazz Ensemble performed. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Williams and the students led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

Moved to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2008, Long-Range Planning workshop and the Board meeting of April 1, 2008, as presented.

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA Mrs. Williams announced the deletion of the following items:

- H.12., Interlocal Agreement for Recreational Facilities at A.Q. Jones Center (Consent).
- H.13., Memorandum of Understanding for the Reclaimed Water Feature at Kanapaha Middle School (Consent).
- I. 3., Waiver Request for Mebane Middle School.

Motion by Mrs. Childs Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to adopt the April 22, 2008, meeting agenda as amended.

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

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Pinkoson announced a Food Drive, *Hunger Doesn't Take a Summer Vacation*, to be held on May 10, 2008, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Oaks Mall. Many Alachua County students may benefit.

Mrs. Childs has asked Staff Attorney Tom Wittmer to investigate methods of attendance policy enforcement.

Mrs. Williams:

- Attended the Career-Tech Awards Reception.
- Visited the 2008 graduating class of Buchholz High School's Academy of Entrepreneurship and Academy of Finance.
- Attended the White Rose Luncheon where the LINKS organization presented a \$9100 check to Head Start.

RECOGNITION LEXUS ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGE	The Board recognized students from Newberry High School who won first place in the Lexus Environmental Challenge Contest, a national competition. Their accomplishment earned them a \$35,000 cash award, as well as \$10,000 for their school and \$5,000 for their science teacher.
SCHEDULED AGENCIES ACEA	Dr. Gunnar Paulson, president, ACEA, reported on recent attendance at a Tallahassee press conference in support of public education. He announced that a group, including some Board members and the Superintendent, will meet with Legislators and possibly the Governor on April 29 in Tallahassee.
CITIZEN INPUT	<p>A school nurse addressed the Board in support of the school nurse program.</p> <p>Chairman Williams expressed that the Board is very concerned about loss of the nurses. Mrs. Pinkoson reported that House Bill 5613 would extend the Medicaid Reimbursement Program through April 2009. She urged nurses and the public to contact federal legislators in support of this Bill.</p> <p>A citizen addressed the Board with questions concerning the nurses program.</p> <p>A citizen stated that school nurses are looking for other jobs and advocated that they be retained.</p>
CONSENT AGENDA	<p><u>Motion by</u> Mr. Eubank <u>Seconded by</u> Mrs. Pinkoson</p> <p><u>Moved the</u> Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1- 15, with the deletion of H. 12 and 13.</p> <p>Mrs. Pinkoson expressed a desire to find alternative sites for graduation ceremonies, believing the O'Connell Center costs are out of line. Mrs. Childs concurred. She feels they are not a good community partner with the School District. Mrs. Roy requested that an appeal be made for a reduced charge. A citizen suggested using Citizens Field.</p> <p>Regarding Attachment E, Consultant Services, Mrs. Roy remarked that the \$3500 fee and the \$2000 fee seem excessive for one-day seminars, especially in this difficult budget time.</p> <p>The question was called. <u>Upon Vote:</u> Motion passed 5-0</p>
WAIVER REQUEST FOR HIGH SPRINGS COMMUNITY SCHOOL	<p>High Springs Community School is requesting a waiver to Article IX, Section 12(c) of the collective bargaining agreement to allow for early dismissal on Wednesdays for all students in grades K-8. High Springs Community School is the only K-8 school in the District. The waiver request has been approved by the faculty, the School Advisory Council, and ACEA.</p> <p><u>Motion by</u> Mr. Eubank <u>Seconded by</u> Mrs. Pinkoson</p>

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the waiver request for High Springs Community School as presented.

Mrs. Childs feels it is difficult to approve early dismissal when the Board has been trying to get a longer school day. Even with the issue of coordination between elementary and middle, Mrs. Childs would rather see the day extended for elementary. Mrs. Williams concurred.

Mr. Eubank pointed out that the time is made up over the other four days and a transportation issue is also involved.

Mrs. Roy believes it would not be appropriate to exempt High Springs elementary students from early dismissal when all others are included.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 3 – 2

Yes: Eubank
Pinkoson
Roy

No: Childs
Williams

WAIVER REQUEST FOR
PROFESSIONAL
ACADEMIES MAGNET
AT LOFTEN

The Professional Academies is requesting a waiver to Article IX, Section 12(c) of the collective bargaining agreement in order to use a 4 x 4 block schedule. The faculty and the School Advisory Council have approved the waiver request.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the waiver request for the Professional Academies Magnet at Loftan as presented, provided the school can meet class size mandate within their earned allocation.

Mr. Eubank expressed concerns that this waiver would result in less student contact time. It was clarified that the understanding with this waiver is that no additional units will be provided.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BID AWARD FOR
PROJECT SBAC R0703 –

Bids for the construction of the project were received on March 25, 2008.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

PRAIRIE VIEW
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL ROOF
REPLACEMENT

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the low base bid of \$730,000 and additive alternate one in the amount of \$8,200 and award a contract for construction totaling \$738,200 to Cheesbro Roofing, Inc., Ormond Beach, Florida. Completion of this project shall be within one hundred twenty (120) consecutive calendar days from the date indicated in the "Notice to Proceed."

With options being considered for Prairie View, Mr. Eubank suggested that this project be done in phases.

Mrs. Roy questioned whether the Board should proceed with the roofing, with changes that are being considered for eastside schools. Mr. Ed Gable, Executive Director, Planning and Construction, stated that deterioration requires that some portions be done now. Perhaps phasing could be considered for other areas.

Mrs. Williams feels it is important to keep all facilities in good condition, regardless of future possibilities.

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

GUARANTEED
MAXIMUM PRICE FOR
PROJECT SBAC A0602 -
SANTA FE HIGH
SCHOOL NEW
SCIENCE CLASSROOM
BUILDING

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

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson. Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) of \$4,792,000 for construction of this project and enter into a Construction Management Contract with M. M. Parrish Construction Company, Gainesville, Florida. Completion shall be within three hundred sixty-five (365) consecutive calendar days from the date indicated in the "Notice to Proceed."

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

RESOLUTION 08-02
EDUCATIONAL
FUNDING

A resolution was presented that recounts the School Board's commitment to continuing to provide high quality education and informing the Governor and Legislature that their imposed financial limitations will ultimately require decisions that will adversely affect students' education opportunities.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt Resolution 08-02 as presented.

It was decided to deliver the Resolution in Tallahassee next week. Mrs. Williams suggested that all legislators be given a copy and that it should be published in the newspaper.

Noting that the state is paying less than 50% of the student FEFP cost for the first time ever, Mrs. Roy reviewed some of the losses that will result from state budget cuts. She encouraged everyone to express their concerns to legislators who are voting for the cuts.

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

SCHEDULE
WORKSHOPS

Workshops were scheduled as follows:

- Budget Workshop – May 7, 2008, 1:30 p.m.
- Insurance Workshop – May 29, 2008, 9 a.m.
- Long-Range Planning Workshop – June 10, 2008, 8:30 a.m.

CITIZEN INPUT

A District teacher cautioned against eliminating early release Wednesday, since the time is needed to complete various tasks for which no other time is available and that should not be done during class time.

Dr. Paulson requested that employees be sent an email with contact information for state officials involved with budget decisions.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
REQUESTS

Mrs. Pinkoson suggested the possibility of canceling attendance at the June FSBA meeting, due to budget constraints. Mr. Eubank stated that he has a separate meeting in Tampa that day, so he will attend.

Mr. Eubank clarified the meaning of comments he made about energy savings at a previous meeting. Mrs. Roy responded, expressing dissatisfaction with the energy consultant and questioning the seriousness of the District commitment to energy savings.

Mr. Eubank stated that his wife, a second-grade teacher, is a strong supporter of doing away with early release Wednesdays.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.