

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
September 2, 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.

Mrs. Williams called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Motion by Mrs. Childs Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2008, Informal Board meeting, and the August 19, 2008, School Board meeting, as presented.

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA Consent Agenda Items F.2., Bids and Requisitions, Attachment B, and F.5., Agreement With the Alachua County Health Department, were pulled for questions.

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to adopt the September 2, 2008, meeting agenda as presented.

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

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Concerning the recently released SAT scores, Mr. Eubank noted that Alachua County is not only number one in the state, but when considering the percentage of students who take the test, is actually number one in the nation. He congratulated the students and parents, and all employees who worked so hard to prepare the students.

Mrs. Roy also extended congratulations on Alachua County test scores. She stated that she hoped more students would take the test, not just seniors, but sophomores and juniors, even though average scores might not be as high as this year. Mrs. Roy congratulated the Buchholz Math Team on their back-to-back national championships, and noted an increase in the District's ACT scores, despite a statewide decrease. She provided information on how the public may view the Florida Supreme Court proceedings of the lawsuit against the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission and commended the altruistic works of law professor Joe Little in this action.

CITIZEN INPUT

A citizen encouraged Board members to visit the *Inside Africa* History exhibit at the Florida Museum of Natural History before it closes this Sunday.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1 – 19, with Items F.2., Bids and Requisitions, Attachment B; and F.5., Agreement With the Alachua County Health Department, being pulled for questions.

Mrs. Pinkoson stated that she is impressed with the District Technology Plan.

Staff members responded to Mrs. Williams' questions regarding biomedical waste and health grants.

The question was called on the Consent Agenda, as presented.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

PROPOSED 2009-2010
SCHOOL CALENDAR –
FIRST READING

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to schedule a public hearing for 6:30 p.m., September 16, 2008, to consider the proposed 2009-10 School Calendar.

Discussion was held on whether to increase the number of flex days, with Mr. Eubank providing information regarding other counties. He felt it would be helpful to teachers and parents to add a footnote to the calendar, indicating the order in which flex days would be used.

Mrs. Childs prefers that any additional flex days be added at the end of the calendar, so work days are not taken from teachers during the year. Mr. Eubank pointed out that teachers would then not be certain of their last day of school.

Mrs. Roy stated that she likes the calendar as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

POLICY 7110.01,
INTERLOCAL
AGREEMENT FOR
PUBLIC SCHOOL
FACILITY PLANNING

Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt Policy 7110.01, Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning, as presented.

Mrs. Roy reviewed questions discussed prior to the meeting with Mr. Terry Tougaw, Community Planning Director. She requested a copy of the Five-Year Facilities Work Program. Mr. Tougaw then responded to further questions from Mrs. Roy, relating to matters of concurrency.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

RENEWAL OF
CONTRACTS FOR
HEALTH, LIFE, AND
125 PLAN AND
APPROVAL OF
DEPOSITORY FOR
125 FUNDS FOR THE
2009 PLAN YEAR

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve renewal of contracts for Health/Life, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida; and 125 Plan, Fringe Benefits Management Company; and approval of depository for the 125 Plan funds with Wachovia, N.A.

Mr. Jim Sumner, Risk Management, responded to a question concerning the ProShare Plus Plan.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

APPROVAL OF 2007-08
GENERAL PURPOSE
FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS AND
RELATED COST REPORT

Mr. Scott Ward addressed the Board concerning the financial statements and cost report.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2007-08 General Purpose Financial Statements and Related Cost Report for submission to the Department of Education.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CHANGE IN
COMPOSITION OF
ALACHUA COUNTY
VALUE ADJUSTMENT
BOARD, 2008

On March 4, 2008, Wes Eubank and Tina Pinkoson agreed to serve on the Alachua County Value Adjustment Board, with Eileen Roy serving as alternate.

The Florida Legislature has changed the composition of the Value Adjustment Board from two School Board members to one School Board member, and one citizen appointed by the School Board. The citizen appointed by the School Board must own a business that occupies commercial space within the school district.

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to continue the appointment of Wes Eubank and appoint Mr. Coy Bost, Owner/Agent, Coy R. Bost Insurance, to serve as citizen on the 2008 Alachua County Value Adjustment Board.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CITIZEN INPUT

A District employee felt that at the last meeting, appropriate thanks were not extended to school staff for their excellent efforts in preparing for the school year. Other comments:

- air conditioning is out of order at Ft. Clarke Middle School.
- employees feel underappreciated.
- teachers are upset at not receiving a raise, according to contract.
- money is still being spent for outside staff development presenters.
- there is money for everything except for those working with the children.

Mrs. Childs noted that her appreciation was extended to schools in general, when she specifically commended the Zoning Department at the last meeting. She expressed, however, that the Board knows the successful school opening would not have happened without the hard work of teachers and school staff.

Mrs. Roy stated that she checked on the staff development training with the outside consultant and found that this was a contractual commitment made some time ago.

INFORMATION ITEM –
FLEX DAYS

Deputy Superintendent Sandy Hollinger stated that after collaboration with the ACEA, it was felt that the days that would have the highest attendance and least impact on students were felt to be Friday, December 19, and Friday, February 13. Monday, November 10, was not selected, since students will be off Tuesday, November 11, for Veterans' Day, and would likely take Monday off as well, regardless of whether school is in session.

Board members were in agreement with the change.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
REQUESTS

Mr. Eubank:

- Cancel the Imagine Charter School workshop, since the school has already applied to Schools of Excellence in Tallahassee. There seemed to be general agreement.
- Review the contract with the County for use of schools as emergency shelters, to ensure the District is not held accountable for costs that are the responsibility of County government.
- Put school marquee signs on timers to conserve energy.

Mrs. Pinkoson - Mrs. Williams:

- Repair school air conditioning as quickly as possible.

Mrs. Roy:

- Send the County a bill for charges incurred when schools are used as emergency shelters.
- Address the problem of lights that are still being left on all night at some schools.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.