

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA  
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
May 5, 2009

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: Tina Pinkoson, Chairman; Wes Eubank, Vice-Chairman; Ginger Childs, Barbara Sharpe, and Eileen F. Roy, members; W. Daniel Boyd, Jr., Superintendent; and James F. Lang, attorney for the Board.

The Oak View Middle School percussion ensemble, *Fresh Trash*, performed under the leadership of Lori Pirzer.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pinkoson, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

Moved to approve the following minutes, as presented.

1. Informal Board Meeting, April 14, 2009
2. Special Board Meeting, April 14, 2009
3. School Board Meeting, April 21, 2009
4. Special School Board Meeting, April 24, 2009
5. Budget Workshop, April 28, 2009

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF AGENDA     The Chairman announced the addition of Consent Agenda Item H.10., Student Case #0809-11X.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe                     Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to adopt the May 5, 2009, meeting agenda as amended.

Mr. Eubank stated that he will be commenting on Consent Items 1 and 5.

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

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Eubank:

- By a special act of the legislature, Alachua County has been ranked as an academically high-performing school system, one of only 14 in the state. This designation will allow some flexibility in certain statute requirements.
- He and Mrs. Roy attended Alachua County Public Schools Foundation scholarship awards, a great event.
- The Department of Health and Human Services may soon rescind requirements that have prevented Medicaid reimbursement.

Mrs. Sharpe:

- Congratulated Middle School students recognized by Duke University for earning exceptionally high scores on SAT or ACT college entrance exams.
- Commended fellow Board member Ginger Childs, and all who took part in the recent World’s Greatest Baby Shower at Lincoln Middle School, co-sponsored by Kiwanis and the School Board.

Mrs. Roy:

- Congratulated band directors on fine work, particularly mentioning the recent Honor Band concert.
- Thanked Dr. Dave Edwards, Director, Career/Technical Education, for writing a grant that was awarded economic stimulus funding for 500 paid internships for low-income, at-risk or learning-disabled youths, age 16-24.

Mrs. Childs:

- Announced upcoming student Citizen of the Year awards.

RECOGNITION

The Board recognized:

- 2009 School-Related Employees of the Year
- Ninety-four recipients of the Class of 2009 Alachua County Public Schools Foundation Scholarships.

FLORIDA FUTURE EDUCATORS OF AMERICA

Eastside Senior Julian Kinsey, outgoing president of the state FFEA and founder of its professional academies chapter, conducted a presentation on the mission of the FFEA. The Superintendent and Board members commended Mr. Kinsey highly.

CITIZEN INPUT

Dr. Gunnar Paulson, president, ACEA, reported on status of the state budget and ongoing efforts to impact legislative decisions. He cautioned not to be complacent because the work has just begun.

Mrs. Childs suggested that a letter be written in rebuttal to the article that was in *The Gainesville Sun* today, which may seem to indicate that all is well with the budget.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Eubank                      Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1–10.

Regarding Item H.1., DROP extensions, Mr. Eubank expressed concern but was pleased they were for no more than one year. He expressed appreciation that the Professional Services fee for the Camp Crystal Roof Replacement is for a lump sum ‘not-to-exceed’ amount rather than a percentage of cost.

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

EDUCATIONAL PLANT  
SPOT SURVEY FOR  
SANTA FE HIGH SCHOOL

The Educational Plant Spot Survey, dated May 5, 2009, has been prepared for a ten-classroom addition at Santa Fe High School

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Spot Survey as presented for submission to the Department of Education.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CANCEL JULY 14, 2009,  
INFORMAL SCHOOL  
BOARD MEETING

By consensus, the Board cancelled the July 14, 2009, School Board meeting.

CITIZEN INPUT

There was no citizen input.

INFORMATION ITEM

Dr. Boyd presented information related to the High Springs Community School waiver request that was denied at the last Board meeting.

UPDATE ON HIGH  
SPRINGS COMMUNITY  
SCHOOL WAIVER  
REQUEST

Mr. Eubank stated that, understanding now that the contact time exceeds requirements, he would vote for this waiver, should it come back before the Board. Mrs. Roy concurred.

Mrs. Childs does not favor a re-vote, believing that the waiver is not in the best interest of the students. She feels the points made concerning transportation, lunch, and parent pick-up are not well-founded. In addition, she believes that staff development should be separated for elementary and middle school staff. Mrs. Childs feels it would be more appropriate to pilot an increase in elementary time, rather than to decrease middle school time.

After brief discussion, the Chairman requested the item be placed on the May 19, 2009, Board meeting agenda.

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
REQUESTS

Mr. Eubank:

- Recommended the City of Gainesville be informed that the Board will not pay stormwater fees, pending appeal of a lawsuit decided in the favor of Pinellas County School Board. Unpaid fees could be held in a restricted account.
- Requested information on what flexibility is allowed, as a designated academically high-performing school system.
- Requested a copy of the School Accountability Report and a Zoning report that includes zoning exceptions, Choice, AYP and Magnet exceptions.

Mrs. Roy and Mrs. Sharpe agreed with the request for clarification on flexibility allowed as an academically high-performing school. Mrs. Roy also requested information on the legality of withholding stormwater fees.

Mrs. Pinkoson reviewed dates of upcoming meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.