

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
June 2, 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 Susan Seigle, attorney for the Board.

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. School Board Meeting, May 19, 2009
2. Budget Workshop, May 19, 2009

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF AGENDA Motion by Mrs. Childs Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved to adopt the June 2, 2009, meeting agenda as amended.

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

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Childs:

- Made remarks on the heartfelt loss of longtime and valued District employee, Dr. Leonard Jackson.

Mrs. Sharpe:

- Congratulated Reading Rainbow winners and participants from Idylwild Elementary School.
- Congratulated Buchholz High School Athletes on their championships.

Mrs. Pinkoson:

- Introduced new School Board Attorney, Susan Seigle.

CITIZEN INPUT

A citizen addressed the Board with concern about graduation rates of Black students and Black history curriculum.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The Board and Superintendent honored Mr. James F. Lang with a gift and a Proclamation, marking his retirement after nearly forty years as School Board Attorney.

RECOGNITION

The Board recognized:

- Newberry High School PRIDE group for environmental accomplishments.
- Muna Oli, EHS, for Regional, State and International Science Awards.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1-14.

Regarding Item 1, Attachment A, Mr. Eubank pointed out the need to be cautious about employee contract extensions, in light of budget concerns.

Concerning Item 8, Leasing of Relocatable Classrooms for Project SBAC Q0901, Mrs. Roy requested information on the possibility of reducing numbers of relocatables.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

PROPOSED REVISIONS
TO POLICY 5111.01,
*HOMELESS EDUCATION
AND ENROLLMENT* –

The proposed revisions provide definitions and a dispute resolution process, in compliance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. §§11431-11436).

Motion by Mr. Eubank

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

SECOND READING

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the proposed revisions to Policy 5111.01, *Homeless Education and Enrollment*, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BID AWARD FOR
PROJECT SBAC R0804—
SIVIA CENTER ROOF
REPAIR/REPLACEMENT

Bids for the construction of this project were received on May 14, 2009.

Motion by Mr. Sharpe

Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the low base bid of \$91,000 and award a contract for construction to American Roofing, Inc., Gainesville, Florida. Completion of this project shall be within forty-five (45) consecutive calendar days from the date indicated in the "Notice to Proceed."

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CONTINUATION OF THE
2008-2009 SALARY
SCHEDULES

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to continue the existing 2008-2009 salary schedules for teachers, education support professionals (bargaining unit members), professional/technical personnel (non-bargaining unit members), administrative personnel, and other compensation be readopted, effective July 1, 2009, without provision for future amendments due to negotiations and/or salary schedule developments.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

SCHEDULE POLICY AND
INSURANCE WORKSHOP

The Board scheduled a Policy Workshop and an Insurance Workshop for July 28, 2009, at 2:30 p.m.

INFORMATION ITEM
VIRTUAL SCHOOL
PROVIDERS

Florida Statute requires each District to provide a K-12 virtual school program by the 2009-2010 school year. The District solicited proposals from DOE-approved virtual school vendors through the RFQ process. Based on staff review of their qualifications and price, the Superintendent recommends *K-12 Virtual School* as the provider for grades K-5, and *Educational Options* as the provider for grades 6-12.

Dr. Sandi Anusavice, Director, Secondary Curriculum, reviewed the criteria set forth in the RFQ, which included that the cost should not exceed the weighted FTE funding. *Florida Virtual School* and *Florida Connections* both exceeded the weighted FTE by approximately \$700 at the elementary level to approximately \$2500 at the secondary level.

Dr. Anusavice commented on credentials of the two selected vendors and responded to Board questions.

Mr. Eubank suggested the possibility of agreements with other counties that would allow student access to their virtual school vendors.

A parent addressed the Board in support of continuing with the *K-12 Virtual School*. While a decision is not being made until the June 16 meeting, it was noted that it would be difficult to justify exceeding the amount received in FTE funding per-student.

CITIZEN INPUT

There was no citizen input.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
REQUESTS

Mrs. Sharpe requested investigation of the possible benefits of using nitrogen in bus tires, with a report back to the Board.

Mr. Eubank requested staff investigate the viability of implementing a legislative option that allows the Board to levy a quarter-mill in property tax, by a super-majority vote. Concurrently, the Board would cut the local property tax for construction projects by an equivalent amount. This 'tax swap,' would create an increase in operating revenue without an increase on property tax bills.

Mrs. Childs questioned how this would be perceived by the public. Mrs. Sharpe conveyed a cautious approach, requesting thorough research by staff, including how this option would work with COPS. Mrs. Roy related that she has received information that most counties across the state are levying the quarter-mill. Mr. Eubank felt there is no reason that the option would ultimately result in repercussions from the state.

Mrs. Childs suggested decreasing Informal Board Meetings to every other month, feeling they have not fulfilled their intended purpose. Discussion was held, with the Chairman stating that a decision will be made after the scheduled June 9 Informal Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.