

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, FEBRUARY 15, 2008

The School Board of Escambia County, Florida, convened in Workshop Meeting at 9:00 a.m., in Room 160, at the J.E. Hall Educational Services Center, 30 East Texar Drive, Pensacola, Florida, with the following present:

Chair: Mrs. Patricia Hightower Vice Chair: Mr. Pete Gindl, Sr.

Board Members: Mr. Jeff Bergosh  
Mr. Gerald Boone  
Mrs. Claudia Brown-Curry

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters (*was not present*)

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Jim Paul

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Hightower called the Regular Workshop to order at 9:05 a.m. It was noted that the Regular Workshop would recess at approximately 10:30 a.m. so that Board Members could attend a Founders' Day Luncheon hosted by the PTA.

The following section was moved forward on the agenda:

PUBLIC FORUM (*Section IX*)

The following speaker requested to address the Board:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Issue</u>
Ron Beermunder	Trespass Warning issued by the School District

Investment Resolutions and Authorizing Agreements  
(*Item V.B.11, February 19, 2008 Regular Meeting agenda*)

Mrs. Barbara Linker, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Business Services, explained that the approval of this item would allow for the opening of money market accounts whereby the District could diversify investments and earn the maximum possible yield while still safeguarding the principal and providing for sufficient liquidity. Mr. Mitchell York, Manager of the Core Fund, responded to questions posed by Board Members regarding this item and explained how his firm would assist the School District in monitoring these money market investments.

Retreat for Board Members, Superintendent, and Senior Staff

(NOTE: *This issue was previously addressed at the January 18, 2008 Regular Workshop.*)

Mrs. Hightower noted that there were three options as to the location of the March 15, 2008 retreat: 1) Landrum Consulting (Pensacola); 2) Portofino Medical & Day Spa (Gulf Breeze); and 3) Andrews

Institute (Gulf Breeze). She asked that each Board Member contact Mrs. Linda West, Coordinator of Board Affairs, regarding their individual preference on those three options.

The following item was moved forward on the agenda:

Discuss Public School Facilities Element (PSFE) [Item VIII.1]

Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, provided a brief synopsis of the data and analysis portion of the Public School Facilities Element (PSFE) draft document. It was noted that the final version of this document would be presented for Board approval at the March Regular Board Meeting.

A. Open Discussion

- 1) Update on LaptopGiving.org Program – Jeff Bergosh  
(NOTE: *This issue was previously addressed at the January 18, 2008 Regular Workshop.*)

Mr. Bergosh indicated that he was still conducting research on the “One Laptop Per Child” program and would bring forth additional information as it was acquired.

The following issues were also addressed during *Open Discussion*:

Formulation of Plan to Study Implementation of University Lab School Program  
(*Item VII.A.2 on February 19, 2008 Regular Meeting agenda*)

Mr. Bergosh briefly reviewed information he had provided regarding this item. He asked the Board to consider his recommendation, which was to formulate a plan of action, including forming a study committee, to pursue the establishment of a University Lab School Program. (NOTE: *The issue of establishing a University Lab School Program was previously addressed at the January 18, 2008 Regular Workshop.*)

Establishment of a Band Program at West Florida High School of Advanced Technology  
(NOTE: *This issue was previously addressed at the January 18, 2008 Regular Workshop.*)

Comments from Mr. Bergosh prompted a discussion regarding the establishment of a band program at West Florida High School (WFHS), separate from the current joint program with Pine Forest High School (PFHS). It was noted that the Superintendent and his staff were in the process of determining the feasibility of a band program at WFHS beginning with the 2008-2009 school year.

The Regular Workshop recessed at 10:40 a.m. and reconvened at 2:00 p.m., with Mrs. Hightower, Mr. Gindl, Mr. Boone, Mrs. Brown-Curry, and Mr. Norm Ross, Deputy Superintendent (representing the Superintendent) present. (NOTE: *The Superintendent and Mr. Bergosh were not present for the remainder of the meeting.*)

*Open Discussion* continued with the following issues:

- 2) Request Update on Bus Radio Program – Claudia Brown-Curry

Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, stated that all site surveys had been conducted and that rollout of the Bus Radio program would occur soon after all hardware installation was complete.

3) Request Report on Savings Realized from Closing and Consolidation of Schools – Claudia Brown-Curry

Staff indicated that this information would be provided in March.

Use of Civic Center for High School Graduation Ceremonies

Mr. Ross indicated that a contract with regard to usage of the Pensacola Civic Center for 2008 high school graduations would be presented at the March Regular Meeting.

Presentation re: “Zero Tolerance” Concept

Mr. Steve Marcanio, Director of Middle School Education, gave a brief presentation regarding the concept of “zero tolerance” as outlined in State Statute and School District policy. Mrs. Brown-Curry stressed the importance of relaying this information to school staff and to the community.

Rescheduling of April Board Workshop

The Board agreed to change the date of the April Board Workshop from Friday, April 11, 2008 to Monday, April 14, 2008; and to change the location from Room 160 at the J.E. Hall Educational Services Center to the Board Room at the Dr. Vernon McDaniel Building. (*Time to remain at 9:00 a.m.*) It was noted the Mr. Gindl would chair the meeting in Mrs. Hightower’s absence.

II. COMMENTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Ross listed the additions, deletions, corrections and amendments to the February 19, 2008 Regular Meeting agenda.

III. TIME CERTAIN ITEMS

-No items submitted

IV. PROPOSED ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT RULES

No discussion was held.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Curriculum and Instruction

2. Escambia County School District Strategic Plan 2006-2012 Mid-Point Evaluation

Staff members responded to general questions posed by Board Members by reviewing information outlined in the backup documentation for this item.

B. Finance

3. Budget Amendments:

a) Resolution 5 - General Operating Fund

The backup documentation for this item mentions the “School Safety/Emergency Preparedness Service” project. Upon inquiry by Mrs. Hightower, Mrs. Barbara Linker, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Business Services, confirmed that this project referred to the Connect Ed service.

C. Human Resource Services

1. Instructional/Professional

g. Special Requests

3. Approve to revise the job description of Surplus Inventory Manager.

Upon inquiry by Mrs. Brown-Curry, Dr. Alan Scott, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resource Services, stated that the only revisions to the job description of Surplus Inventory Manager was that of: 1) who this position would report to: Director II-Maintenance Services (previously reported to Manager II-Inventory and Warehouse Operations; and 2) who this position would supervise: Storekeepers, Equipment Operators, and Maintenance Workers (previously supervised Storekeepers only).

4. Adoption of one of the two 2008-09 student calendars.

Upon inquiry by Mrs. Brown-Curry, Dr. Alan Scott, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resource Services, stated that at the request of the Calendar Committee, the Superintendent had presented the Board with two separate options for the 2008-09 student calendar. It was noted that both calendar options met all employee contractual issues. Discussion took place among Board Members and staff regarding various aspects of each calendar option.

D. Purchasing

5. Annual Agreement Renewal: District-Wide Grade Book, Student Records and Parent Portal Software

Mr. Don Manderson, Director of Instructional Technology, responded to questions posed by Mr. Boone regarding the features of the Grade Book software application.

14. Engineering Services for Camera Surveillance Systems at Various Schools

Upon inquiry by Mrs. Hightower, Mr. Ron Peacock, Director of Facilities Planning, advised that the sources of funding for this particular purchase (\$49,602.47) were as follows:

- PECO Maintenance – Security Systems (\$25,153.45)
- PECO New Construction – Security Systems (\$20,006.22)
- Half Cent Sales Tax Fund – Holm Elementary (\$4,442.80)

15. Change Notice #1 to Purchase Order #293602

19. Bid Award: West Florida High/George Stone Center Greenhouses

It was noted that both Item 15 and Item 19 addressed the West Florida High/George Stone Center greenhouses project. Referring to the backup documentation provided for each item, Mrs. Hightower posed questions regarding the fee increase requested by Townes + Architects. Mr. Ron Peacock, Director of Facilities Planning, explained that the backup documentation for Item 15 currently listed a fee increase calculation was based on a “revised estimate of probable cost,” however, per the request of Mrs. Hightower, that documentation would be amended to calculate the fee increase based on the “actual cost of construction” instead.

24. Bid Award: Brown Barge Middle School HVAC Renovations, Buildings 1 & 3

25. Bid Award: Brown Barge Middle School HVAC Renovations, Building 4

Upon inquiry by Mrs. Hightower, Mr. Ron Peacock, Director of Facilities Planning, explained that while both of these bid awards were related to the Brown Barge Middle School

HVAC renovations, the funding was from two separate sources: Half Cent Sales Tax – AC Window Units Replacement; and Half Cent Sales Tax – HVAC Renovations.

Mrs. Hightower requested that future backup documentation regarding “change notices” specify the associated department(s) and/or school site(s) in the description area of the “executive summary” sheet.

E. Operations

2. Transportation

A. Miscellaneous

1. Field Trip Rate Revisions (Information to the Board only)

In response to questions posed by Board Members, staff gave a brief review of the information outlined in the backup documentation for this item.

4. Protection Services

A. Miscellaneous

1. Site License Agreement (SLA) for the Installation and Operation of Electronic Meteorological Observation Equipment

Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, responded to general questions posed by Mrs. Hightower, by reviewing information outlined in the backup documentation for this item.

F. Student Transfers

No discussion was held.

G. Internal Auditing

No discussion was held.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

-No items submitted

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Items from the Board

2. Formulation of Plan to Study Implementation of University Lab School Program

This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

B. Items from the Superintendent

No discussion was held.

C. Items from the General Counsel

No discussion was held.

VIII. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

1. Discuss Public School Facilities Element (PSFE)

This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

IX. PUBLIC FORUM

This section was handled earlier in the meeting.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Workshop adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

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Superintendent

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Chair