

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, JANUARY 12, 2017

The School Board of Escambia County, Florida, convened in Special Workshop at 3:00 p.m., in Room 160, at the J.E. Hall Educational Services Center, 30 East Texar Drive, Pensacola, Florida, with the following present:

Chair: Mrs. Linda Moultrie (District III)  
Vice Chair: Mr. Gerald W. Boone (District II)  
Board Members: Mr. Kevin L. Adams (District I)  
Mrs. Patricia Hightower (District IV)

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Malcolm Thomas

*School Board Member Mr. Bill Slayton (District V) was not present for this session.*

Meeting advertised in *Pensacola News Journal* on January 2, 2017 - Legal No. [1795608](#)

NOTE: The minutes from this session have been prepared according to *Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.  
The video from this session is available at <http://escambiacitysdf.com/play/01122017-697>

[*General discussion among School Board Members, the Superintendent, and staff occurred throughout this session.*]

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Moultrie called the Special Workshop to order at 3:00 p.m.

II. OPEN DISCUSSION

- Bellview Middle School IT Career Academy – *Superintendent*

Students enrolled in the Information Technology (IT) Career Academy at Bellview Middle School addressed the School Board regarding their experiences in this program.

- Calendar

*January 2017*

There were no changes to the School Board's schedule of workshops/meetings for January.

*February 2017*

Special Meeting re: Out-of-Field Teachers – At the request of the Superintendent, School Board Members agreed to schedule this session for February 3, beginning at 2:30 p.m., in the Superintendent's Conference Room, at the Dr. Vernon McDaniel Building, 75 North Pace Boulevard.  
Joint Meeting with Escambia County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) – The Superintendent said that County Administrator, Mr. Jack Brown, had contacted him regarding the Escambia County Board of County Commissioners' desire to host a joint meeting with the School Board for discussing common concerns of both agencies. School Board Members agreed to submit February 14, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and February 27, beginning at 5:30 p.m., as a potential dates/times for that session.

March 2017

The School Board made the following adjustments to their schedule of workshops/meetings in light of Spring Break (March 20 through March 24):

- March 21 Regular Meeting rescheduled to March 14
- March 17 Regular Workshop rescheduled to March 9
- March 16 Special “Open Discussion” Workshop canceled

- NSBA Conference March 25-27 – Moultrie

Mrs. Moultrie reminded her fellow School Board Members to let the assistant know if they planned to attend the National School Boards Association (NSBA) Conference, March 25-27, in Denver, Colorado.

- Feasibility of a Language Immersion School – Hightower

The Superintendent asked Mrs. Hightower to give his staff approximately sixty days to research the feasibility of establishing a language immersion school in Escambia County.

- Graduation Rate Presentation – Superintendent  
[Handout provided to School Board Members]

Two of School District’s graduation coaches, made a brief [presentation](#) regarding graduation rate. Ms. Lesa Morgan, Director of Secondary Education, credited the graduation coaches with helping to increase the graduation rate to 76.1% (a 10% increase over the past two years) by working closely with the schools. Following the presentation, the Superintendent responded to questions posed by School Board Members regarding various matters/topics affecting graduation rate. School Board Members expressed their appreciation for the information and data provided in the presentation and handout. Mrs. Moultrie asked that future reports on graduation rate highlight the graduation trend data for African-American students.

- AdvancED Update – Superintendent

At the request of the Superintendent, staff reviewed information with School Board Members intended to prepare them for the upcoming AdvancED Accreditation Team visit, February 5-8, 2017.

III. PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs. Moultrie called for public forum; however, no one had registered to address the School Board.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Special Workshop adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

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Superintendent

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Chair