

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, MARCH 14, 2019

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. Patricia Hightower (District IV)
Vice Chair: Mr. Bill Slayton (District V)
Board Members: Mr. Kevin L. Adams (District I)
Mr. Paul Fetsko (District II)
Dr. Laura Dortch Edler (District III)

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Malcolm Thomas

Not present: School Board General Counsel, Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters

Meeting advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on February 19, 2019 – Legal No. 3391654

NOTE: Minutes from this session have been prepared according to *Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.

Video available at <http://escambiacountysdf1.swagit.com/play/03142019-742>

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. OPEN DISCUSSION

ADD - Escambia High School Culinary Arts Academy

Students enrolled in the Cooking Arts Academy at Escambia High School, addressed the School Board regarding their experiences in this program.

- Calendar

In addition to reviewing and discussing their monthly schedules of workshops/meetings, School Board Members also reviewed and/or discussed various events posted on the School District's calendar.

-March 2019

There were no changes to the remaining schedule of workshops/meetings for March.

-April 2019

There were no changes to the schedule of workshops/meetings for April.

-May 2019

There were no changes to the schedule of workshops/meetings for May.

-June 2019

Canceled: June 13 Special Workshop

Rescheduled: Regular Workshop from June 14 to June 17 (*will include open discussion" segment*)

- First Grade Retention Policy Data – *Hightower*

Mrs. Hightower noted that on the 2018-2019 1st Grade Retention Report 1st/2nd 9 weeks, it appeared that schools had done a good job during the 1st nine weeks in terms of conducting conferences; however, for the 2nd nine weeks, not so much. The Superintendent said one would need to keep in mind that with the 1st nine weeks, schools had the benefit of a full passage of time; whereas, during the 2nd nine weeks, there was a deadline for submitting data. In other words, schools may not have been finished conducting conferences at the time the data was due and as such, even though they would have continued to conduct conferences, those conferences would not be reflected in the percentages.

- Middle School Early Warning System – *Superintendent*

At the request of the Superintendent, Ms. Holly Busse, Educational Resource Teacher, narrated a brief PowerPoint® [presentation](#), regarding the School District’s Middle School Early Warning System. The Superintendent prefaced the presentation by reminding the School Board that they had received a similar presentation on the High School Early Warning System just over a year ago.

- Mental Health Referral Process – *Superintendent*

At the request of the Superintendent, Mr. Steve Marcanio, Assistant Superintendent – Curriculum & Instruction, narrated a brief PowerPoint® [presentation](#) that outlined the School District’s Mental Health Referral Process. The Superintendent prefaced this presentation by commenting that the School District had long provided resources to support students with mental health needs; but this year, for the first time, the Legislature also recognized this was a need and provided funding.

III. PUBLIC FORUM

-No registration forms submitted

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Special Workshop adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Superintendent

Chair