

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, AUGUST 13, 2009

The School Board of Escambia County, Florida, convened in Special Workshop at 3:00 p.m., in the Board Room, at the Dr. Vernon McDaniel Building, 215 West Garden Street, Pensacola, Florida, with the following present:

Chair: Mrs. Patricia Hightower Vice Chair: Mr. Gerald Boone

Board Members: Mr. Jeff Bergosh
Mrs. Linda Moultrie
Mr. Bill Slayton

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Malcolm Thomas

Meeting was advertised in the Pensacola News Journal on August 3, 2009 - Legal No. 14160980 IT

[General discussion took place among Board Members, the Superintendent, and staff throughout this meeting.]

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. OPEN DISCUSSION

District Recycling Program - Patty Hightower

Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, confirmed that the District did plan to take advantage of the recycling program that would be offered by the City of Pensacola and Escambia County. He noted that there would be no cost to the District for participating in this program, nor any financial incentive (reimbursement).

Employee Reaction to Four-Day Work Week – Patty Hightower

The Superintendent reported that employees from all classifications had responded favorably to the four-day work week that had been implemented over the summer; and because of that positive response and because of the cost-savings to the District, he would recommend that the same schedule be considered for next summer as well.

Escambia County Road Prison Program – Bill Slayton

Mr. Slayton had concerns with the recent decision to temporarily suspend the educational programs offered at the Escambia County Road Prison so that inmates could devote more time to road improvements. The Superintendent reported that there was conflict between the Escambia County Board of Commissioners and the Escambia County Sheriff's Office with regard to the Road Prison's current population. Apparently, the educational programs were suspended until the Road Prison's population grew large enough to ensure that necessary road maintenance was completed. The Superintendent stated that he and/or his staff would keep Board Members updated on the situation as more information was received.

School Liaison Officer – [Handout provided]

Mrs. Carissa Bergosh, School Liaison Officer (NAS Pensacola), gave a brief presentation on the military's new School Liaison Officer (SLO) Program that specializes in serving military-connected students and parents and offers a wide range of services to meet their needs.

Standards of Behavior – [appears as Item II.4 on the August 18, 2009 Regular Meeting agenda]

Ms. Kelly Krostag, Chairman of the Standards of Behavior Committee, introduced each member of the Committee and then reviewed the process that the Committee followed in developing the behavior standards. She noted that the Board would be asked to approve the standards at the August 18, 2009 Regular Meeting; and if approved, a copy of those standards would be provided to each employee in the District.

Update on High School Grading – [Handout provided]

Mrs. Carolyn Spooner, Director-High School Education, gave a brief update regarding the revised high school grading system that would begin with the 2009-2010 school year, pursuant to Senate Bill 1908.

Governmental Consolidation Update – [Handout provided]

Mr. Norm Ross, Deputy Superintendent, provided the Board with a brief update on the recent meetings of the Escambia County Consolidation Study Commission.

National School Lunch Program Provision 2

Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, announced that the District would participate in a Special Assistance Certification and Reimbursement Alternative, known as Provision 2 (Non-Pricing). Provision 2 allows schools serving high economically needy populations to offer student meals free of charge. For the 2009-2010 school year, students attending Spencer Bibbs Elementary, Hallmark Elementary, C.A. Weis Elementary, Montclair Elementary, Oakcrest Elementary, O.J. Semmes Elementary, and Allie Yniestra Elementary School would receive free breakfast and lunch regardless of meal benefit eligibility; and students attending Warrington Middle would receive free breakfast.

The following issues were also briefly addressed:

- Kindergarten Registration (2009-2010 School Year)
- Impact 100 Grant Application re: Installation of Rubber Track at West Florida High School

III. PRESENTATIONS

-None

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs. Hightower called for public forum; however, there were no speakers.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Special Workshop adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Superintendent

Chair