

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, MARCH 30, 2009

The School Board of Escambia County, Florida, convened in Special Meeting at 5:30 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 March 23, 2009 - Legal No. 1391653 IT*

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Hightower called the Special Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. On motion by Mr. Slayton, seconded by Mrs. Moultrie, adoption of the agenda (as amended), was approved unanimously.

II. PROPOSED ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT RULES

(Supplementary Minute Book, Exhibit "A")

A. Permission to Advertise

1. Notice of Intent to Modify, Change, and/or Delete School Attendance Zone Boundaries (closing of Edgewater Elementary)

**AMENDED**

*SUMMARY: To close Edgewater Elementary School beginning with the 2009-2010 school year and to modify, change, and/or delete school attendance zone boundaries for elementary schools, impacting Navy Point Elementary School, Warrington Elementary School, and West Pensacola Elementary School beginning with the 2009-2010 school year.*

Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, gave a brief review of the process that the School Attendance Zone Advisory Committee (SAZAC) followed in developing two (2) viable options for consolidating west side schools by closing either Edgewater Elementary or Navy Point Elementary.

The Superintendent then reviewed the major reasons for his decision to recommend the realignment of attendance zones that would result in the closure of Edgewater Elementary School:

- Impacts the fewest number of students
- Impacts the fewest number of schools
- Impacts no schools outside the original study area
- Provides capacity to accept students for 2009-2010 with limited movement of portables
- Provides the most permanent capacity of the facilities
- Provides the best level of service percentages after consolidation
- Provides equitable distribution of students after consolidation  
(*Edgewater solution spreads approximately 500 students per school*)
- Maintains facility improvements at Navy Point

*(Media Center and cafeteria area benefits for keeping the Navy Point facility operational)*

- Provides resources for student support similar to what is currently available at Warrington Elementary
- Provides acreage for future growth
- Offers the best potential for savings after consolidation

Motion was made by Mr. Boone and seconded by Mr. Bergosh, to advertise a Notice of Intent to Modify, Change, and/or Delete School Attendance Zone Boundaries (closing of Edgewater Elementary).

The following speakers expressed their feelings about the proposed closure and/or posed questions regarding the Superintendent's recommendation to close the school: Jeri Wood, Daniel Roberts, and Toni Franchetti.

Motion carried unanimously. It was noted that a final decision on the closure of Edgewater Elementary School would be made at the May 11, 2009 Regular Board Meeting.

2. Notice of Intent to Adopt Policy Revisions and/or Amendments to School District Rule 6Gx17-2.34 – Retirement Incentive

*SUMMARY: The goal of these proposed revisions was to update Chapter 2 of the Rules and Procedures of the District School Board by adding a Special Retirement Incentive.*

Motion was made by Mr. Bergosh and seconded by Mr. Slayton, to advertise a Notice of Intent to Adopt Policy Revisions and/or Amendments to School District Rule 6Gx17-2.34 – Retirement Incentive. Motion carried unanimously.

III. PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs. Hightower called for Public Forum; however, there were no speakers.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Special Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

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Superintendent

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Chair