

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, OCTOBER 16, 2009

The School Board of Escambia County, Florida, convened in Regular Workshop 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. Gerald Boone

Board Members: Mr. Jeff Bergosh  
Mrs. Linda Moultrie (*not present*)  
Mr. Bill Slayton (*not present*)

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Malcolm Thomas

*Meeting was advertised in the Pensacola News Journal on October 7, 2009 – Legal No. 1428212*

[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 9:02 a.m.

II. COMMENTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent reported that there had been no changes made to the October 20, 2009 Regular Meeting agenda since it was initially published.

Emerald Coast Honor Flight Month – Resolution  
*Item II.4, October 20, 2009 Regular Meeting agenda*

The Superintendent announced that the School District was to be the major sponsor of the Emerald Coast Honor Flight scheduled for April 2010. Additional information on this initiative was to be provided to the Board by the end of the day.

III. PROPOSED ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT RULES

Notice of Intent to Advertise to Amend School District Rule 6Gx17-2 – Human Resource Services  
*Item III.B.1, October 20, 2009 Regular Meeting agenda*

There was discussion among staff and Board Members as to whether or not the following verbiage should remain in policy: Section 2.02(3)(f): *Certificated instructional personnel shall not be appointed or reappointed to teach assigned courses which are outside the field of certification unless an acceptable candidate with the proper certification and expertise cannot be found.* No decision was reached on whether or not the verbiage should remain in policy.

Mrs. Hightower suggested the following revision to Section 2.12(3)(b): *In accordance with state law, parents will be represented on the District and School Advisory Councils. Additionally, school personnel will encourage parent involvement and participation in the deliberations of the School Advisory Councils in order to comply with the requirements of federal statutes regarding parent's rights to develop the school plan for the use of federal funds under Title I, Part A. Further, school personnel will encourage*

*parent involvement and participation in parent-teacher-student associations or organizations and parenting programs such as those offered by PTAs, PTOs, PALs and Title I. Parents of students eligible for Exceptional Students Education services will be notified of the additional availability of services and support of IDEA funded ESE Parent Liaisons.*

Mrs. Hightower suggested that the following verbiage under Section 2.12(4) not be stricken (as was proposed in the backup documentation): *(k) The District will conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of its parent involvement policies, programs, and practices: 1) To determine the effectiveness in increasing parent participation; 2) To identify barriers to greater parent participation; 3) To report the finding to the State Board of Education. (l) The District will use the findings of the evaluations in designing strategies for school improvement and revising, if necessary, the parent involvement policies, programs, and practices.*

#### IV. CONSENT AGENDA

##### A. Curriculum and Instruction

###### 1. 2009-2010 School Improvement and Educational Accountability Guidelines

Mr. Boone discovered several errors in the last paragraph of the “forward” page in the School Improvement and Accountability Guidelines. Ms. Sandra Edwards, Director of Comprehensive Planning, was to provide the corrected “forward” prior to the October 20, 2009 Regular Meeting.

###### 4. Learning for Life Character Education Program Contract for 2009-2010

Mr. Bergosh noted that the “signature page” for this contract provided only a generic signature line for Learning for Life, Inc. He believed it was always good to know the name of the representative(s) that one was doing business with; therefore, he requested that the contract be amended to list the actual name and title of the individual who would be signing the contract on behalf of Learning for Life, Inc. The Superintendent stated that the requested amendment would be provided prior to the October 20, 2009 Regular Meeting.

##### B. Finance

###### 5. Legal Services:

Risk Management Fund

b) Steven Baker, P.A.                      \$ 23,379.62

Upon inquiry by Mr. Bergosh, Mrs. Waters explained that the current invoice from Mr. Baker actually reflected an accumulation of fees that the School District had incurred over several months. Mrs. Waters said that she had tried, but had not yet been able to get Mr. Baker to bill the School District in a timely manner. Mr. Bergosh suggested that the issue of timely billing arrangements be addressed in Mr. Baker’s next contract renewal.

##### C. Human Resource Services

No specific items were discussed.

##### D. Purchasing

No specific items were discussed.

E. Operations

1. Facilities Planning

B. Miscellaneous

2. First Amendment to Contract and Final Closing Documents for Sales Agreement between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and Friendship Missionary Baptist Church – Brownsville Middle School

Upon inquiry by Mr. Bergosh, Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, confirmed that the proceeds from the sale of this property would be deposited into the Local Capital Improvement Fund (LCIF). Mr. Dennis advised the Board that if the sales agreement and associated closing documents for this transaction were not received prior to the October 20, 2009 Regular Meeting, then this item would be deleted from the agenda.

F. Student Transfers

No discussion was held.

G. Internal Auditing

At the request of Mrs. Hightower, Mr. David Bryant, Director of Internal Auditing, gave a brief overview of the process for conducting physical inventory of schools and/or departments.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

-No items submitted

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Items from the Board

-No items submitted

B. Items from the Superintendent

No items were discussed.

C. Items from the General Counsel

-No items submitted

VII. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

-No items submitted

VIII. PUBLIC FORUM

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

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Workshop adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

Attest:

Approved:

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Superintendent

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Chair