

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, MARCH 2, 2010

The School Board of Escambia County, Florida, convened in Special Meeting at 4:00 p.m., in the Board Room, at the Dr. Vernon McDaniel Building, 215 West Garden Street, Pensacola, Florida, with the following present:

Chair: Mr. Gerald W. Boone Vice Chair: Mr. Jeff Bergosh

Board Members: Mrs. Linda Moultrie
Mrs. Patricia Hightower
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 February 24, 2010 - Legal No. 1451664

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

I. CALL TO ORDER/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Boone called the Special Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Motion by Mrs. Moultrie, seconded by Mr. Bergosh, to adopt the agenda, was approved unanimously.

II. OPTIONS REGARDING PROPERTY BELONGING TO CLOSED CHARTER SCHOOL

The purpose of this meeting was for the School Board to consider General Counsel's recommendation to proceed with litigation against Reaching Your Dream, Inc. in order to settle the question of ownership with regard to the property of the now closed Dr. Ruby J. Gainer School for Reaching Your Dream (charter school), located at 1600 East Moreno Street, Pensacola, Florida. Mrs. Waters noted that the property was purchased by the charter school's board of trustees using state funds provided by the School District. In May 2009, due to decreasing enrollment and continued budget constraints, Reaching Your Dream, Inc. did not renew its Charter Agreement with the School District. Mrs. Water's interpretation of Sections 1002.33(8)(e) and 1013.62(1)(e), Florida Statutes (2008), was that upon the termination of a charter school, all property purchased with public funds would revert to full ownership by the School District. Because Reaching Your Dream, Inc. did not renew its Charter Agreement, Mrs. Waters believed the School District was now entitled to ownership of the Moreno Street property. She noted that the School District had received practically no response from requests and/or demands to allow access for inspection, appraisal, maintenance, and repair of the property and to transfer legal title of the property to the School District.

After lengthy discussion a motion was made by Mr. Slayton and seconded by Mr. Bergosh to accept General Counsel's recommendation to proceed with litigation against Reaching Your Dream, Inc. in order to settle the question of ownership with regard to the property of the now closed Dr. Ruby J. Gainer School for Reaching Your Dream, located at 1600 East Moreno Street, Pensacola, Florida. Motion was approved unanimously.

III. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

(Supplementary Minute Book, Exhibit "A")

- 1. Request approval of the amended 2009-2010 Student Calendar to reflect hurricane and snow days.

Motion was made by Mr. Slayton and seconded by Mrs. Moultrie, to approve the amended 2009-2010 Student Calendar to reflect hurricane and snow days. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Boone called for public forum; however, there were no speakers.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Special Meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Superintendent

Chair