

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, MARCH 11, 2010

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: 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

Mr. Boone called the Special Workshop to order at 3:00 p.m.

II. OPEN DISCUSSION

- UWF Lab Program – topic submitted by the Superintendent  
(Handout provided)

A brief presentation was given regarding the proposed Professional Development School (PDS) Partnership between Lincoln Park Elementary School (LPES) and the University of West Florida (UWF). The mission of the LPES-UWF PDS partnership would be to demonstrate successful research-based approaches and strategies to impact learning of low socioeconomic learners and to create a community-based program with the intent of increasing enrollment at LPES. During the presentation it was noted that a liaison would be hired to coordinate the work of the planning group and produce the plan for the PDS partnership that conforms to the guidelines of the National Professional Development School Association and the standards provided by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. The liaison would work under the leadership of the LPES principal and would initiate professional development activities for both faculties and serve as the on-site supervisor of UWF interns. Upon inquiry by Mrs. Hightower, Ms. Christine Nixon, principal of LPES, confirmed that the liaison would be hired by the School District using Title I Stimulus funds. It was noted that a recruitment drive for the LPES-UWF PDS would begin in Spring 2010 and would include various public relations activities beginning with registration mail outs to all families who have school-age students in the LPES school attendance zones but attend another school. Those families would also be invited to attend LPES community outreach activities to be scheduled in May and June 2010. Mr. Boone asked that Board Members be noticed regarding the specific dates of those community outreach activities.

- Discussion Regarding Upcoming Award Banquets and Selection of Site for Event – *topic submitted by Bill Slayton*  
Mr. Slayton initiated a discussion regarding the scheduling of major events (i.e., award banquets) and the selection of sites for such events. He asked that the parking situation be considered when selecting a site for a major event. Upon inquiry by Mr. Slayton, the Superintendent stated that staff would continue to work on a Master Calendar for all major events occurring throughout the School District.
- School Board Recognition Meetings – *topic submitted by Patty Hightower*  
Mrs. Hightower suggested the possibility of holding periodic televised meetings for the sole purpose of recognizing various student, school, and/or employee achievements. She also suggested that there be equity with regard to the manner in which various achievements were recognized.
- School Web Sites – *topic submitted by Patty Hightower*  
Mrs. Hightower initiated a discussion regarding the purpose of school websites. She noted the several problems with many school websites including: (1) the omission of important and helpful information and (2) the inclusion of information that was no longer useful (i.e., outdated). She suggested the possibility of putting together focus groups at each school to discuss the content of their school websites and also the possibility of using their websites as a marketing tool to promote their achievements and program offerings (i.e., career academies). Mr. Don Manderson, Director of Instructional Technology, stated that such topics could be incorporated into the website development training sessions that are provided to schools.
- Groundbreaking Ceremony for New Elementary School – *topic submitted by Linda Moultrie*  
Upon inquiry by Mrs. Moultrie, the Superintendent confirmed that an invitation to attend the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new elementary school would be extended to local dignitaries.
- Discussion Regarding Senate Bills #4 and #6 – *topic submitted by Jeff Bergosh (Handout provided)*  
Mr. Bergosh initiated a discussion regarding Senate Bill 4 and Senate Bill 6. As the School Board's legislative liaison to the Florida School Boards Association (FSBA), Mr. Bergosh was interested in obtaining a consensus from the Board Members as to their support or opposition to the proposed Senate Bills. The majority of the discussion focused on Senate Bill 6. Overall, Board Members expressed an opposition to many facets of Senate Bill 6 in its present form.  
The following speaker requested to address the Board regarding this topic: Ms. Kathy Breakall, representing the Escambia Education Association (EEA). Ms. Breakall reported that the National Education Association (NEA) was joining the Florida School Boards Association (FSBA) and the Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS) in opposition to Senate Bill 6.
- Focused Curriculum Update – *topic submitted by the Superintendent (Handout provided)*  
Staff presented an overview of recent attendance and discipline data for all grade levels, a status report on Warrington Middle School, and test data from Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading (FAIR).  
Mr. Bergosh inquired as to how he as a Board Member, could obtain log-on credentials to access the FAIR test database. Ms. Kelly Aeppli-Campbell, stated that she would need to check with the Department of Education-Florida Center for Reading Research regarding Mr. Bergosh's inquiry.
- Update on Move to Pace Boulevard Property – *topic submitted by the Superintendent*  
Due to time constraints, it was decided that this update would be postponed to the March 12, 2010 Regular Workshop.

III. PRESENTATIONS  
-None

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

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

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Special Workshop adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

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Superintendent

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Chair