

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, APRIL 16, 2010

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: 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 March 27, 2010 - Legal No. 1456721*

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Boone called the Regular Workshop to order at 9:10 a.m.

II. 2010-2011 BUDGET

*[Handout provided]*

Mrs. Laura Shaud, Director of Budgeting, reviewed information pertaining to the 2010-2011 budget. She noted that staff would continue to review budgetary information as it became available.

III. COMMENTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent listed the changes that had been made to the April 20, 2010 Regular Meeting agenda since its initial publication. The Superintendent distributed a flyer to Board Members that outlined a schedule of SmartBoard training sessions. (NOTE: *This information was provided in response to a previous request made by Mr. Slayton for a demo on SmartBoards.*) Mrs. Holley DeWees, Administrative Recording Secretary, was tasked with placing the appropriate advertisement of these training sessions in the local newspaper.

The following report was moved forward on the agenda:

- Report from Jacqueline Harris Preparatory Academy  
*[Handout provided]*

As requested by the Board at the March 12, 2010 Regular Workshop, representatives of Jacqueline Harris Preparatory Academy, provided a written response to each of the following questions: (1) *What steps have been taken to resolve the \$110,000.00 liability with the employee leasing company mentioned in the school's audit from Hurd & Finley?* (2) *What steps are being taken to ensure that the school will not be in a deficit fund balance situation at the end of the fiscal year (June 2010);* (3) *How does the school plan to insure that its fund balance is at least 2% of the prior year annual revenue?* There were no additional questions posed by the Board.

#### IV. PROPOSED ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT RULES

##### Notice of Intent to Advertise Amendments to Rules and Procedures of the District School Board: Chapter 7, Student Affairs

Mrs. Hightower initiated a discussion regarding middle school students who possess a driver's license. It was the Board's desire that no middle school student should be allowed to park on any middle school campus, whether during the school day or after school hours during extra-curricular activities. Mrs. Hightower suggested that this issue should be addressed in Board policy; however, the Superintendent suggested that it be incorporated into the Secondary Student Rights & Responsibilities Handbook, noting that students would receive a copy of the Handbook.

#### V. CONSENT AGENDA

##### A. Curriculum and Instruction

2. Memorandum of Agreement between Community Action Program Committee, Inc. (CAPC) and the School Board of Escambia County, Florida

Upon inquiry by Mrs. Moultrie, Mr. Carl Leiterman, Director of Workforce Education, confirmed that the five-month contract period of April 20, 2010 through September 30, 2010 was correct. The reason for the partial contract period was because the CAPC would begin a new fiscal year on October 1, 2010.

4. Florida Public Charter School Grant Program (2010-2013) Escambia Charter School of Excellence

It was noted that this item would be amended to change the following information: on page 2 of 38, the answer to the question "Is the school affiliated with a university or community college?" would be changed from "yes" to "no."

7. Amendment of Cooperative Agreement between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and Pensacola Electrical Apprenticeship, Group Non-Joint

It was noted that this item was directly associated with Item V.B.10, *2009-2010 Miscellaneous Salary Schedule*.

9. Title II, Part D: Enhancing Education through Technology Project Application (EETT)

It was noted that this item would need to be corrected, as the Executive Summary sheet and the first page of the grant indicated that only six (6) high schools as participating in this project when actually all seven (7) high schools would be participating.

12. Memorandum of Understanding between the School Board of Escambia County and Studer Group Education

Board Members were advised that the purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding was simply to formalize the continued partnership between the School District and the Studer Group Education team. Implementation Plan: *The Studer Group Education will work directly with Dr. Karen Owen, Director of Staff Development, to coordinate services which will hardwire a culture of excellence in staff satisfaction, parent satisfaction and student achievement. The fees will be waived for the term of this engagement from April 20, 2010 through March 31, 2012. This is equivalent to an annual fee of \$125,000 per year for two years (\$250,000). In addition, tuition cost for "Taking You and Your Organization to the Next Level" will be waived for district leaders. All costs of the Leader Evaluation Manager™ will be waived.*

15. Dale Hickam Excellent Teaching Program

Upon inquiry by Mrs. Hightower, Mrs. Laura Shaud, Director of Budgeting, confirmed that the funding for the bonuses that would be issued to personnel eligible under the Dale Hickman Excellent Teaching Program (National Board Certified Teachers) in the 2009-2010 fiscal year was being provided from ARRA-Stabilization funds. A grant application was required to receive funds from the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE). Upon approval of the grant application by FLDOE, bonuses would be paid out in accordance with applicable statute.

18. Amendments to 2010-2011 Staffing Allocation Table

[NOTE: *This item was previously addressed at the April 15, 2010 Special Workshop.*] The Superintendent noted that with the adjustments made to the Staffing Allocation Table, the District would begin the 2010-2011 school year in compliance with Class Size as specified by the Constitutional Amendment that would be on the November 2010 ballot. If the Class Size Amendment failed, the District would then be prepared to make additional adjustments at the beginning of the second semester. Upon inquiry by Mr. Bergosh, the Superintendent stated that he supported the Class Size Amendment and would be recommending to the community that they support it as well, as he believed it was the “prudent thing” for taxpayers and the “right thing” for education. Mrs. Hightower suggested that the District should promote the cost for failure of the Class Size Amendment so that community members would have all the facts prior to casting their vote.

The Regular Workshop was recessed at 11:00 a.m. and reconvened at 11:20 a.m., with all Board Members, the Superintendent, and Mrs. Waters present.

B. Finance

10. 2009-2010 Miscellaneous Salary Schedule

It was noted that the 2009-2010 Miscellaneous Salary Schedule approved by the Board on February 16, 2010, was being resubmitted to reflect an increase to the hourly rate for the Apprenticeship Committee Coordinator effective January 1, 2010. This increase was requested by the Pensacola Electrical Apprenticeship, Group Non-Joint. The additional salary cost will be paid by the Pensacola Electrical Apprenticeship, Group Non-Joint. The additional cost to the District for the current year will be \$92 for FICA and retirement. [See: *Item V.A.7, Amendment of Cooperative Agreement between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and Pensacola Electrical Apprenticeship, Group Non-Joint* for amendment to contract.]

12. Issuance of State Board of Education Capital Outlay Bonds, Series 2010

Upon inquiry by Mr. Bergosh, Mrs. Laura Shaud, Director of Budgeting, stated that the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) had notified the District of a new issue of State Board of Education Capital Outlay Bonds. The bond capacity for the District for the current fiscal year had been calculated at \$225,000, which would provide financing for capital outlay projects with school purposes.

C. Human Resource Services

1. Instructional/Professional

g. Special Requests

2. Approval of the 2010-2011 Department Personnel Planning Document.

Mrs. Hightower requested a separate listing for Stimulus positions, similar to the listing provided the previous year, as she found it difficult to identify those positions funded by Stimulus positions within the Personnel Planning Document (PPD) as

presented. The Superintendent noted that probably in July or August, after the fiscal year closed out, he would update the Board on Stimulus funding (i.e., what had been spent, what was left) at a discussion workshop.

3. Approval of the following Instructional job description: *Teacher on Special Assignment for Professional Development School – Lincoln Park/UWF Liaison*

Mrs. Hightower questioned why the Teacher on Special Assignment for Professional Development School–Lincoln Park/UWF Liaison position had been designated as an instructional position rather than administrative, noting that this person would be working with staff and not directly with students. Mrs. Marcia Nowlin, Director of Title I, responded simply, that the “planning committee” for the professional development school had felt that an instructional position would be the most appropriate.

4. Approval of the following job description on the Professional Salary Schedule, effective July 1, 2010: *Manager VI – GIS Transportation*

Mrs. Hightower asked that she be provided the salary information of the Manager VI-GIS Transportation, once the position had been filled.

#### D. Purchasing

2. Bid Renewal: As Needed Real Estate Services, RFP #062701

Mrs. Hightower requested an update on the total expenditures for real estate and consulting services provided to the District since the original award was approved by the Board on May 16, 2006.

3. Annual Agreement: Educational Mentoring Program

Upon inquiry by Mrs. Hightower, Ms. Sandra Edwards, Director of Comprehensive Planning, clarified that over 50 at-risk students from among each of the participating schools would be served by this program.

5. DimensionM Gaming Software

Mrs. Hightower requested a listing of all mathematics software programs that the District currently owns or uses, including information as to why those programs had been selected. She also requested data regarding the learning gains of those students who had used the DimensionM Gaming software.

6. Kagan Structures for Success Institute

Mr. Bergosh wanted to know which schools would be participating in this training. Mrs. Marcia Nowlin, Director of Title I, stated that she would not have this information until schools had actually registered.

7. Digital Cameras for Various Schools

8. Apple Computers, iPads, and iPods for Various Schools

Mrs. Hightower and other Board Members asked to see the current procedures being used by schools to secure items such as those listed in Item V.D.7 and Item V.D.8 (digital cameras, iPads, and iPods). Mrs. Hightower also asked for a list of schools that had benefitted from the Microsoft Settlement.

17. Teachscope Professional Services: Early Childhood Program of Study

Upon inquiry by Mrs. Hightower, the Superintendent confirmed that Title I Stimulus funds would be available for both years of this two year program.

18. Change Notice #1 to Purchase Order #303012 – Exceptional Student Education

Mrs. Hightower requested the total amount that had been spent on Landrum Staffing Services. Information was to reflect the type of service(s) provided by each staff person secured through Landrum and the amount charged by Landrum for those service(s). Information was also to include a list of those positions listed on the Personnel Planning Document as being “held vacant” but which were actually filled with staff secured through Landrum. Mr. John Dombroskie, Director of Purchasing, indicated that he would provide that information.

E. Operations

-No items discussed

F. Student Transfers

-No items discussed

G. Internal Auditing

-No items submitted

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

-No items submitted

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Items from the Board

-No items submitted

B. Items from the Superintendent

-No items discussed

C. Items from the General Counsel

1. Final Order Adopting the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the Administrative Law Judge (with Recommended Order: Escambia County School Board vs. Erica Adams-Brown, Case No. 09-3952/Escambia County School Board vs. Joe Nathan King, Case Nos. 09-3953 and 09-4998)

Upon inquiry by Mr. Bergosh, Mrs. Waters reported that the hearing officer had said that although some fairly significant allegations had been made by these two employees, they were unable to present any evidence showing that there was any act of discrimination by the School District.

VIII. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

1. Report from Jacqueline Harris Preparatory Academy

This item was handled earlier in the meeting.

IX. PUBLIC FORUM

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

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Workshop adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair