

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, MAY 13, 2011

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. Bill Slayton

Board Members: Mr. Jeff Bergosh  
Mrs. Linda Moultrie  
Mrs. Patricia Hightower

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Malcolm Thomas

*Meeting was advertised in the Pensacola News Journal on May 3, 2011 - Legal No. 1520920*

[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 9:02 a.m.

II. COMMENTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT

Budget Update

Mr. Terry St. Cyr, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Business Services, gave a brief budget update by reviewing information outlined in a packet he had provided to Board Members entitled “*Public School Funding – The Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP), Fiscal Year 2011-2012, Conference Committee Report on SB 2000, May 3, 2011.*”

III. PROPOSED ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT RULES

Notice of Intent to Advertise Amendments to School District 6Gx17-7.02, Code of Conduct: *Student Rights & Responsibilities Handbook Revisions 2011-2012*

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Board Members requested the following revisions: *Gerald Boone* should be changed to *Gerald W. Boone*; *Patricia Hightower* should be changed to *Patty Hightower*; and *William Slayton* should be changed to *Bill Slayton*.

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The Superintendent said the phone number (850) 432-6131 would be corrected to (850) 469-6130.

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Mrs. Hightower requested the following revision:

*Chapter 1: Rights and Responsibilities*

A. *Student Rights and Responsibilities*

2. *Responsibility: Students have the responsibility to respect their teachers, ~~and~~ other adults, and classmates. They must conduct themselves so that others may learn in a positive climate.*

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Mrs. Hightower suggested the following revision:

*Chapter 2: Attendance*

A. *Compulsory Attendance*

*Excusable absence includes*

- *that which has the sanction of both parents/guardians and principal. This agreement should be made prior to the absence. ~~An absence related to vacation will not be excused.~~*

After lengthy discussion, the Superintendent suggested the following revision instead: (Bold) **All students are expected to attend school each day except for reasons indicated under excusable absence.** (Plain) An absence related to vacation will not be excused.

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Mrs. Hightower suggested the following revision:

*Chapter 4: Transportation Services*

A. *Establishing School Bus Stops*

5. *Center-to-Center Transportation – Center-to-center routing may be provided for some students attending a school outside their attendance zone in a manner consistent with School Board Rules. Parents/guardians are responsible for the timely drop-off and pick-up of center-to-center bus riders. Parents/guardians must read and sign the necessary forms acknowledging that they understand the supervisory limits of the District. District responsibility is defined as a reasonable time before and after the student is on the premises for attendance at school or for authorized participation in a school-sponsored activity. Students must not arrive more than thirty (30) minutes before the scheduled pick up time school or a school activity. Students must leave within thirty (30) minutes of school dismissal or the end of an on-campus activity. 1003.31, F.S.*

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Mrs. Hightower suggested the following revision for clarification purposes:

*Chapter 5: Student Conduct*

C. *Serious Breach of Conduct (Elementary)*

11. *violating the District's computer rules (Acceptable Use of District Information Systems Document);*

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Mrs. Moultrie requested the following revision for clarification purposes:

*Chapter 8: Discipline Strategies*

B. *Interventions and Consequences*

19. *referral to School Accountability Board (Restorative Justice)*

Mrs. Hightower suggested the following revision:

*Chapter 10: Dress Code*

*C. Uniforms – Procedures for Adopting*

*During the fourth year of implementation of the school-wide uniform policy, the principal shall confer with the school's School Advisory Counsel (SAC) to determine whether there is a continued interest in the school-wide uniform policy at the school.*

Notice of Intent to Advertise to Adopt Amendments to Rules and Procedures of the District School Board: Chapter 2, Human Resource Services (6Gx17-2.05 – Ethics)

Dr. Alan Scott, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resource Services, explained that the purpose of this proposed policy, "Employee Use of Social Media" was to address employees' use of publicly available social media networks. He noted that the proposed policy was guided by the principle of personal responsibility and accountability and was not intended to restrict an employee's participation, but rather to provide both a caution and guidance for an employee choosing to engage in online activities.

Notice of Intent to Advertise to Adopt Amendments to Rules and Procedures of the District School Board: Chapter 2, Human Resource Services (6Gx17-2.47 – Tobacco-Free Hiring Policy)

(NOTE: *This item was previously addressed at the May 12, 2011 Special Workshop.*) Mrs. Hightower questioned whether or not electronic cigarettes were considered a tobacco product as for the purpose of the proposed policy. Dr. Alan Scott, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resource Services, was to forward this question to Mr. Kevin Windham, Director of Risk Management, for an appropriate response.

The Regular Workshop recessed at 11:18 a.m. and reconvened at 11:38 a.m., with Mr. Boone, Mr. Bergosh, Mrs. Hightower, Mrs. Moultrie, the Superintendent, and Mrs. Waters present. Mr. Slayton was not present.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Curriculum and Instruction

4. Amendment to the Charter Contract between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and Byrneville Elementary School, Inc.

Upon inquiry by Mr. Bergosh, Ms. Vicki Mathis, Director of Alternative Education, clarified that the only revision made to the Charter Contract with Byrneville Elementary School, Inc. was with regard to the projected FTE for the 2011-2012 school year.

9. 2011-2012 Mobile Dental Clinic Contract Renewal for the School Board of Escambia County, Florida

Upon inquiry by Mr. Bergosh, Ms. Karen Thoennes, Health Services Coordinator, clarified that the preventive and diagnostic dental health program provided for under the Mobile Dental Clinic Contract was available for all elementary schools whose principals choose to participate but limited to only those students who were eligible for Medicaid.

B. Finance

3. Resolutions to amend District School Budget:
  - f) Resolution 8 - Targeted ARRA Stimulus Fund

At the request of Mr. Bergosh, Mrs. Laura Shaud, Director of Budgeting, gave a brief explanation regarding the original budget of \$1,992,198.51 for Expenditure Function 7800 (Pupil Transportation Services) and the present budget of only \$19,421.32.

C. Human Resource Services

1. Instructional/Professional

g. Special Requests

1. Amend the following page in the 2011-2012 Department Personnel Planning Document:  
Page 38 – Alternative Education (4408)

Upon inquiry by Mrs. Moultrie, Ms. Vicki Mathis, Director of Alternative Education, explained that one (1) Teacher on Special Assignment position in the Alternative Education department was being deleted due to lack of funding.

4. Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Escambia County School District and the Escambia Education Association concerning the Successful Teachers Assisting Rising Teachers (START) Program.

Upon inquiry by Mrs. Hightower, Dr. Karen Owen, Director Staff Development, confirmed that a “consulting” teacher would still be required to work the normal 7 ½ hour work day, but would be permitted to adjust their start/end times to accommodate a “novice” teacher’s availability and/or time preference for meeting (i.e., during planning time, before/after school).

D. Purchasing

6. Sharp Copiers for the Global Learning Academy

Upon inquiry by Mrs. Moultrie, the Superintendent advised that there would be no “outside” service/maintenance agreement for these Sharp copiers; as with all Sharp copiers owned by the School District, maintenance/service would be handled by “in-house” technicians.

11. Lease Payments for Dell Computers at West Florida High School of Advanced Technology

12. Dell Computer Lease for West Florida High School of Advanced Technology

In response to a question posed by Mr. Boone, Mr. Don Manderson, Director of Instructional Technology, clarified that at any point in time, West Florida High School was actually engaged in three separate leases for Dell computers.

E. Operations

-No items discussed

F. Student Transfers

-No items discussed

G. Internal Auditing

-No items submitted

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

-None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Items from the Board

-No items submitted

B. Items from the Superintendent

-No items discussed

C. Items from the General Counsel  
-No items submitted

VII. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS  
-None

VIII. PUBLIC FORUM

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

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Workshop adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

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Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

PENDING BOARD APPROVAL