

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, JUNE 2, 2008

The School Board of Escambia County, Florida, convened in Special Meeting at 4:00 p.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. Pete Gindl, Sr.

Board Members: Mr. Jeff Bergosh
Mr. Gerald Boone
Mrs. Claudia Brown-Curry

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Jim Paul

I. CALL TO ORDER/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mrs. Hightower called the Special Meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. Motion by Mr. Gindl, seconded by Mr. Boone, to adopt the agenda (*as amended*), was approved unanimously.

II. PROPOSED ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT RULES
(Supplementary Minute Book, Exhibit "A")

A. Permission to Advertise

CORRECTED 1. Revisions to School District Rule 6Gx17-7.09 – Student Progression Plan

The following speaker requested to address the Board regarding this item: Cathy Boehme. Ms. Boehme expressed her concerns with the following statements: "*For the 2008-2009 school year, a student who misses three (3) days during the first semester must pass the semester exam to be eligible to earn credit. During the second semester, a student who misses thirteen (13) days must pass the semester exam to earn credit.*" Mr. Paul Fetsko, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, responded to Ms. Boehme's concerns by explaining the mathematical sequence that was used to determine the number of absences that would be permitted during each semester before a student was required to pass the semester exam to be eligible for credit. (NOTE: *Further explanation for the proposed revisions is provided in the backup documentation for this item.*) Motion by Mr. Bergosh, seconded by Mr. Boone, to advertise revisions to School District Rule 6Gx17-7.09 – Student Progression Plan, was approved unanimously.

2. Revisions to School District Rule 6Gx17-7.02 – Code of Conduct: Elementary Rights and Responsibilities Handbook (2008-2009)

Motion was made by Mr. Bergosh and seconded by Mr. Boone, to advertise revisions to School District Rule 6Gx17-7.02 – Code of Conduct: Elementary Rights and Responsibilities Handbook (2008-2009). Board Members cited several typographical and formatting errors in the backup documentation that would need to be corrected prior to this policy being presented for adoption.

Mr. Bergosh commented that he was unable to locate a reference to the ‘safe harbor’ provision in either the Elementary or Secondary Rights & Responsibilities Handbooks (as presented); while it was understood that ‘safe harbor’ was a practice that was followed throughout the District, he believed it should be specifically outlined in both handbooks.

Motion was approved unanimously.

3. Revisions to School District Rule 6Gx17-7.02 – Code of Conduct: Secondary Rights and Responsibilities Handbook (2008-2009)

Motion was made by Mr. Bergosh and seconded by Mrs. Brown-Curry, to advertise revisions to School District Rule 6Gx17-7.02 – Code of Conduct: Secondary Rights and Responsibilities Handbook (2008-2009). Board Members cited several typographical and formatting errors that would need to be corrected prior to this policy being presented for adoption. Motion was approved unanimously.

4. Revisions to School District Rule 6Gx17-6.02(2) – Eligibility for Transportation

Motion was made by Mr. Gindl and seconded by Mr. Boone, to advertise revisions to School District Rule 6Gx17-6.02(2) – Eligibility for Transportation. Mr. Gindl asked for a list of those students in District 5, who would be affected by the change in walking distances. Motion was approved unanimously.

III. ITEMS FROM THE GENERAL COUNSEL

1. *Discussion only:* Escambia Education Association (EEA) v. Escambia County School Board, CA 2008-042 (Unfair Labor Practice, 6 out of 7 class periods)

Mrs. Waters advised that she had received and responded to an Unfair Labor Practice complaint that was made against the Board with regard to high school teachers teaching 6 out of 7 class periods. (NOTE: 6 of 7 was one of several budget reduction recommendations made by the Superintendent for the 2008-2009 school year and was approved by the Board on April 29, 2008 as part of the Staffing Allocation Table.) General discussion regarding this issue ensued for a moment, but it was quickly determined that any additional discussion would be inappropriate during this type of setting.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

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

There being no further business, the Special Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Superintendent

Chair