

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
June 17, 2008

The School Board of Alachua County, Florida, met in regular session duly called at 6 p.m. in the Boardroom, 620 East University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida. Present were: Janie Williams, Chairman; Tina Pinkoson, Vice-Chairman; Ginger Childs, F. Wesley Eubank, and Eileen F. Roy, members; W. Daniel Boyd, Jr., Superintendent; and James F. Lang, attorney for the Board.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Williams, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. A film highlighting the Take Stock in Children program was shown.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2008, School Board Meeting; the May 7, 2008, Budget Workshop; and the May 13, 2008, Informal Board Meeting, as presented.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA Motion by Mrs. Pinkoson Seconded by Mr. Eubank

Moved to adopt the June 17, 2008, meeting agenda as presented.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

RECOGNITION The Board recognized Dr. Doris Richardson, upon her retirement. Dr. Richardson has been a District employee for 56 years, and principal of Hidden Oak Elementary School for 26 years, since the school was opened. A resolution in her honor was read, conveying the high regard in which she is held and thanking her for her devoted service.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS Mrs. Pinkoson stated that the decisions made at this morning's Budget Workshop were not made lightly. She said it has been a very difficult process and encouraged citizens to continue to make their voices heard in Tallahassee.

PRESENTATION --
FLORIDA CREDIT UNION Recipients of Servin-Ellis Memorial Scholarships, sponsored by the Florida Credit Union, were introduced and each student informed the Board of their future academic plans.

CITIZEN INPUT There was no citizen input.

CONSENT AGENDA Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1-22.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5 – 0

ADMINISTRATIVE
APPOINTMENTS Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the appointment of Mr. James Frank Burns as principal of Hidden Oak Elementary School, effective June 18, 2008.

The Superintendent provided background information and introduced Mr. Burns.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5 – 0

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the appointment of Mrs. Diane Hill as principal of Lake Forest Elementary School, effective June 18, 2008.

The Superintendent provided background information and introduced Mrs. Hill.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5 – 0

REVISIONS TO THE
2008-09 ELEMENTARY
AND SECONDARY
CODES OF STUDENT
CONDUCT—

Florida law requires that the School Board adopt a Code of Student Conduct for all schools. The recommended changes to the Codes for the 2008-09 school year were presented.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Childs

FIRST READING

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to schedule a public hearing for 6:30 p.m., July 1, 2008, to consider revisions to the 2008-09 Code of Student Conduct.

Mr. Eubank noted that some items may be missing from the glossary.

Mrs. Roy felt the document was greatly improved. She believes the direct language is more effective, and the glossary references simplify understanding.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5 – 0

FIRST AMENDMENT
TO MICANOPY AREA
COOPERATIVE SCHOOL
CONTRACT

The School Board approved a revised contract with Micanopy Area Cooperative School on September 4, 2007. They are requesting that their charter be amended to include servicing children in a Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Program by serving between 24 and 36 children, with two sessions per school day. The school has submitted the required application to the Office of Early Learning, which will provide the state funding for their program.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the First Amendment to the Micanopy Area Cooperative School contract, as presented.

It was clarified that the addition of a VPK program will not increase the school's total enrollment.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5 – 0

FIRST AMENDMENT TO
HOGGETOWNE MIDDLE
SCHOOL CONTRACT

The School Board approved a charter school contract for Hoggetowne Middle School on December 2, 2002. The charter school's governing Board has requested that the school's enrollment cap be increased from 135 to 200 students, in grades six through eight.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the First Amendment to the Hoggetowne Middle School contract, as presented.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5 – 0

REQUEST FOR
RENEWAL
OF CHARTER
APPLICATION FOR
DESOTO HIGH SCHOOL

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Pinkoson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the request for renewal of the Charter Application for DeSoto High School, as presented.

Mrs. Childs suggested a two-year extension rather than five, as an indication to the school that the Board is monitoring their financial situation. She also stated that approval of the renewal does not mean approval of the school being housed on Archer Community School property. She expressed concern about that location.

Mrs. Roy questioned the status of plans for Desoto to relocate. Deputy Superintendent Hollinger stated that the District presently has a commitment to a lease agreement.

Mr. Eubank supported changing the five-year extension to two years, but since Desoto has not submitted a financial plan, he felt the issue should be tabled.

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved to table the request for renewal of the Charter Application for DeSoto High School until the next Board meeting.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5 – 0

REAPPOINTMENTS OF
SCHOOL-BASED AND
DISTRICT-LEVEL
ADMINISTRATORS FOR
2008-09 —
ATTACHMENT D

Motion by Mr. Eubank Seconded by Mrs. Childs

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the reappointment of School-Based and District-Level Administrators for the period of July 1, 2008, through July 31, 2008, as presented in Attachment D, in order to provide for reviewing test scores and other information, prior to the regular annual appointment.

Mrs. Childs stated that this is an unprecedented but prudent step, in light of the budget situation. Mrs. Williams concurred.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5 – 0

CITIZEN INPUT

A Duval music teacher addressed the Board, suggesting that budget cuts should be made in a more proportional way than cutting Music and Art programs in half.

Mrs. Childs stated that the legislature has acted irresponsibly, leaving the Board with this budget situation. She was clear that no one wants to cut music and art, but major cuts are required and the areas where they can be made are restricted by the state. She also cautioned that there is a possibility that further severe cuts may become necessary in the future. Mrs. Childs reviewed the many areas that have already had to be reduced and conveyed the value that the Board places on all those affected.

Mrs. Williams stated that the Board is doing all possible to keep cuts from the classroom and to keep employees from losing jobs.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
REQUESTS

Mr. Eubank:

Start the process as quickly as possible to address policy changes that must be made, due to recently passed legislation.

Mrs. Pinkoson:

Invite state legislators to the Board meeting where the budget will be adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.