

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA  
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
November 2, 1999

The School Board of Alachua County, Florida, met in regular session duly called at 7 p.m. in the Boardroom, 620 East University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida. Present were: Bill Cake, chairman; Barbara Sharpe, vice-chairman; Judy Brashear, Bev Carroll, and Chester Leathers, members; Lawrence Marazza, superintendent; and James F. Lang, attorney for the Board.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cake, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES

Motion by Dr. Leathers Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved to approve the minutes of October 19, 1999 and Special Board meetings July 22 and 29, 1999, as presented.

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe Seconded by Dr. Leathers

Moved to adopt the agenda for the meeting of November 2, 1999, as presented.

Add as Action Item B.1.h., Report on Extended 210-Day School Year.

The question was called on the agenda as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BOARD MEMBERS/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Leathers attended the Poverty Summit and urged the group to provide input on their issues during the strategic planning process.

Mrs. Carroll made the following announcements:

- Attended the Entrepreneurship Conference and commended the Buchholz High School students on their behavior during the conference.
- The Teen Outlet Council Board will be working in conjunction with the school district on a career fair.
- The Alachua County Public Schools Foundation is selling coupon books for scholarships.

Mrs. Brashear informed the Board that as the Board's federal issues liaison she intends to share pending budget information. She also announced that the Children's Expo Museum will hold a fundraiser to auction playhouses.

Mrs. Sharpe reported that she has served for the past three years as Chairman of the March of Dimes and recently attended a conference in Arlington, Virginia.

The Board presented Chairman Cake with a plaque commending him for dedication and service as Board chairman for the past year.

RECOGNITION—1998-99  
SCHOOL BUS DRIVER  
OF THE YEAR

Mr. Terry Tougaw, assistant superintendent, Facilities/Transportation, recognized Ms. Dean Mainor as the 1998-99 School Bus Driver of the Year and read a proclamation in her honor.

CITIZEN INPUT

The Board was urged to attend a meeting at City Hall on November 8, 1999, 6 p.m., and support the 2 a.m. closing of downtown establishments

RESOLUTION—  
AMERICAN  
EDUCATION WEEK  
NOVEMBER 14-20, 1999

Ms. Grace White, Public Information Officer, read a resolution announcing the week of November 14-20, 1999, as American Education Week and Community Back-to-School Week.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Dr. Leathers

Moved the superintendent's recommendation to adopt the resolution as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

DISTRICT FACILITIES  
WORK PROGRAM

Mr. Ed Gable, director, Facilities, reported that the District Facilities Work Program has been prepared as required by section 235.185(F.S.) for submission to the SMART Schools Clearinghouse. The program represents a five-year schedule of major repair, renovation and capital outlay projects together with projections of available revenue. The district must submit this program annually and may revise the program at any time to reflect new project priorities and available revenue. He presented a brief overview of the program.

Motion by Dr. Leathers

Seconded by Mrs. Brashear

Moved the superintendent's recommendation to approve the District Facilities Work Program as presented for submission to the Clearinghouse.

Mrs. Brashear referred to page 2, Lofton and Santa Fe High Schools and advised the Superintendent and staff to reexamine and reconsider due to the frustration factor of making people plan and wait two to four years. She suggested a review of the curriculum and programs at Lofton and reconsideration of the roof at Mebane.

Mrs. Sharpe also felt it important for the Superintendent and staff to carefully consider the frustration and evaluate, and make sure the

frustration is not removed from one group to another.

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

BID AWARD FOR  
PROJECT SBAC CB634—  
MEBANE MIDDLE  
SCHOOL ADDITIONS  
AND RENOVATIONS

Mr. Ed Gable, director, Facilities, reported that bids for construction of this project were received on October 14, 1999.

Motion by Mrs. Brashear Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved to accept the low base bid of \$2,469,000 and additive alternates Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 in the amount of \$268,200 and award a contract for construction totaling \$2,737,200 to J.A. Standridge Construction, Inc., Gainesville, Florida, with completion of the project to be within five-hundred forty (540) consecutive calendar days from the date indicated in the "Notice to Proceed."

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

BID AWARD FOR  
PROJECT SBAC CC712—  
SANTA FE HIGH  
SCHOOL ANIMAL  
SCIENCE CLASSROOM  
BUILDING

Mr. Gable reported that bids for the construction of this project were received on October 27, 1999.

Motion by Mrs. Brashear Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved to accept the low base bid of \$957,300 and additive alternate No. 1 in the amount of \$102,000 and award a contract for construction totaling \$1,059,300 to Robert L. Kelly Construction Company, Inc., Gainesville, Florida, with completion of this project to be within one-hundred eight (180) consecutive calendar days from the date indicated in the "Notice to Proceed."

Motion by Mrs. Brashear Seconded by Mrs. Carroll

Moved to amend the motion to include alternates Nos. 2 (tennis courts \$60,000) and 3 (resurface track \$27,000) increasing the bid by \$87,000.

Mrs. Brashear felt it was a good time to make this decision based on the fact that Santa Fe High School's track and tennis courts are in poor condition and this is an outlying school. Students on both the boys and girls tennis and track teams must drive to Gainesville to practice.

The question was called on the amendment.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

The question was called on the original motion as amended.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

STUDENT CASE  
NO. 99-54-X

Mr. Tom Wittmer, staff attorney, reported that the student is charged with battery on another student and possession of a weapon (knife) while on campus.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mrs. Brashear

Moved the superintendent's recommendation to extend the student's suspension through November 16, 1999.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

AMENDMENT TO  
POLICY 3.41, CHARTER  
SCHOOLS—SECOND  
READING

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mrs. Carroll

Moved the superintendent's recommendation to adopt Policy 3.41, Charter Schools, as amended.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

STRATEGIC PLAN—  
SECOND READING

Motion by Mrs. Brashear

Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved the superintendent's recommendation to approve the Strategic Plan including the mission statement, objectives, parameters, beliefs and strategies.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

PUBLIC SCHOOL  
CHOICE OPEN  
ENROLLMENT  
PLANNING GRANT  
PROPOSAL

Dr. Donna Omer, supervisor, Project Development, reported that a proposal has been prepared for submission to the Florida Department of Education for a Public School Choice Open Enrollment Planning Grant. Funds are requested to begin the process to provide parents with options for Public School Controlled Open Enrollment School Choice. Project objectives include investigating how choice has been addressed in other districts, developing strategies to keep parents informed and involved, and developing a cost-effective transportation plan. A total of \$100,000 is requested for consultants, travel, printing, supplies and clerical support.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mrs. Carroll

Moved the superintendent's recommendation to approve the Public School Choice Open Enrollment planning grant proposal for submission to the Florida Department of Education.

Superintendent Marazza informed the Board that this process will run parallel to the strategic planning process.

Chairman Cake suggested scheduling a workshop if the Board obtains the grant to discuss ramifications and address Board concerns.

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

REPORT—210-DAY  
EXTENDED SCHOOL  
YEAR

Mrs. Ginger Childs, assistant superintendent, Instruction, reported that the Governor vetoed the extended year implementation funds, but planning funds have been assigned to seven of the districts eligible schools and these planning grants must be in place by January 1. District staff is working with faculty and parents to assist in designing plans that meet the specific needs of their students and also encouraging them to get their plans submitted prior to the winter holidays. Staff will continue to update the Board on the progress of each school.

REPORT—GRADING  
FLORIDA PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS

Ms. Betty Franks, Research Associate, presented an extensive summary of the Florida Public Schools grading system.

Superintendent Marazza and the Board commended Ms. Franks for a very informative presentation.

Superintendent Marazza stated that information on the School Block Talk program, which involves public engagement and parental involvement, will be presented to the Board in the near future.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe Seconded by Mrs. Carroll

Moved to approve the consent agenda as described in items 1-20. (See Supplementary Minutes Book.)

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

BOARD MEMBER  
CONCERNS/REQUESTS

There were no requests.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.