

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, JULY 15, 2014

The School Board of Escambia County, Florida, convened in Special Meeting at 5:30 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. Linda Moultrie

Board Members: Mr. Gerald W. Boone
Mr. Bill Slayton

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Malcolm Thomas

(NOTE: Vice Chair Patricia Hightower and Board Member Jeff Bergosh were not present for this session.)

Meeting was advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on June 26, 2014 - Legal No. 1626131

I. CALL TO ORDER/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mrs. Moultrie called the Special Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. She advised that Mr. Bergosh and Mrs. Hightower would not be attending this session as they were both out-of-the-country. She also advised that Mr. Bergosh had requested to participate via speakerphone. Mrs. Moultrie noted for the record that staff had attempted to contact Mr. Bergosh by phone but were unable to reach him. The Superintendent advised that Item III.a. had been added to the agenda after initial publication. Motion by Mr. Slayton, seconded by Mr. Boone, to adopt the agenda (as amended), carried 3 to 0, with Mrs. Hightower and Mr. Bergosh absent for vote.

II. PROPOSED ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT RULES

(Supplementary Minute Book, Exhibit "A")

- a. Notice of Intent to Adopt Amendments to the School District of Escambia County, Florida Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook

The following individuals registered to address the School Board as to thank them for considering the inclusion of "gender identity/expression" in the bullying and non-discrimination policies outlined in the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook:

- Leslie E. Owen, representing the Gay-Straight Alliance Club at Washington High School
- Reverend Ron Helms, speaking as an individual
- Reverend Booth Iburg, representing Holy Cross Metropolitan Community Church
- Reverend Patrick Roberts, representing UCC Pensacola

Motion was made by Mr. Boone and seconded by Mr. Slayton, to adopt amendments to the School District of Escambia County, Florida Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook (as outlined in the backup documentation provided for Item II.a.). Motion was approved 3 to 0, with Mrs. Hightower and Mr. Bergosh absent for vote.

III. PURCHASING
(Supplementary Minute Book, Exhibit "B")

ADD a. Bid Award: Breakfast and Lunch Entrees, RFP #142403

Motion was made by Mr. Slayton and seconded by Mr. Boone, to approve Item III.a., *Bid Award: Breakfast and Lunch Entrees, RFP #142403*, carried 3 to 0, with Mrs. Hightower and Mr. Bergosh absent for vote.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

The following individual registered to speak during Public Forum:

- James C. Nims, Jr., speaking as an individual, addressed the School Board and Superintendent regarding a number of issues addressed in the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook including: cell phones, suspensions, school grades, and the FCAT.
- Sara Latshaw, representing the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), thanked the School Board, the Superintendent, and the Superintendent's staff for their "hard work" on the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.
- Keyontay Humphries, representing the Escambia Youth Justice Council (EYJC), the Pensacola Alliance for Equality (PAE), and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), thanked the School Board, the Superintendent, and the Superintendent's staff for their "hard work" on the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Special Workshop was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Superintendent

Chair