

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, MARCH 11, 2016

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. Bill Slayton

Board Members: Mr. Jeff Bergosh
Mr. Gerald Boone
Mrs. Patricia Hightower

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Malcolm Thomas

Vice Chair Linda Moultrie was not present for this session.

Meeting was advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on March 1, 2016 – Legal No. 1654534

NOTE: The minutes from this session have been prepared according to *Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.
The video from this session is available at <http://escambiacycountysdfl.swagit.com/play/03112016-513>

[*General discussion among School Board Members, the Superintendent, and staff occurred throughout this session.*]

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Slayton called the Regular Workshop to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

- Musical Performance Assessment (MPA) – The Superintendent commented on the “great performances” by middle school bands during the recent Concert Band MPA.
- Congressional Art Competition – The Superintendent announced that two (2) Escambia County students had placed in the recent Congressional Art Competition: First Place - Abigail Culver of Escambia High School; First Runner-Up - Jennifer Sublett of West Florida High School.
- Improvements to School Registration Presentation – The Superintendent said staff would provide a full briefing and demonstration on the improved school registration process during the April 14, 2016 Special “Open Discussion” Workshop.
- 2016-2017 Budget – [*Handout provided*] Mr. Terry St. Cyr, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Business Services, gave a brief update on the budget situation for 2016-2017.

III. MINUTES

-No items discussed

IV. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

-Charter School Quarterly Report (AMENDED)

A copy of the Charter School Quarterly Report for March 2016 (as amended) was provided to School Board Members prior to this session. Ms. Vicki Mathis, Director of Alternative Education, reported that the only school with a Progress Monitoring Plan in place was Jacqueline Harris Preparatory Academy. She noted

that the School Board was previous noticed of an isolated “bus incident” that caused the need for the monitoring plan. There were no questions posed by School Board Members regarding any of the information outlined in the Charter School Quarterly Report for March 2016 (as amended).

The Superintendent mentioned that Ms. Lewis had recently received the Champion of Education Award from the United Negro College Fund Group. The Superintendent and School Board congratulated Ms. Lewis for her leadership in the education of students at Jackie Harris.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

-None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. PROPOSED ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT RULES

1. Rule(s) Adoption

A. Notice of Intent to Adopt Amendments to Rules and Procedures of the District School Board:
Chapter 7

Upon inquiry by Mr. Bergosh, the Superintendent confirmed that SESIR incident codes were now located in the Student Rights & Responsibilities Handbook rather than Chapter 7 policy.

2. Permission to Advertise

-None

b. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Curriculum

C. Elementary Education

1. [The School District of Escambia County, Florida Summer School Programs - 2016](#)

The Superintendent and his staff responded to various questions posed by School Board Members regarding the summer learning opportunities for 2016.

2. Finance and Business Services

A. Finance

3. [Statement from Florida School Boards Association for 2016-2017 annual dues](#)

Mr. Bergosh noted that in the past, he had made it clear that he was no longer interested in being a member of the Florida School Boards Association (FSBA). He noted that there was legislation currently being considered, that would change the assessment of membership association dues which were paid with public funds, giving an individual public officer the option to refrain from joining such membership association. In light of that proposed legislation and given that the FSBA 2016-17 annual dues were not due until July 1, 2016, Mr. Bergosh requested that this item be postponed until the following month as he believed that by that time, the legislation perhaps would be passed and would allow him to pull out his portion of those dues and redirect those funds elsewhere.

E. Purchasing

10. [Emergency Purchases - February 2016 Tornado](#)

The Superintendent advised that this \$185,531.85 in emergency purchases represented expenses that were over his spending limit and as such, required School Board approval. He noted that the total amount of damage incurred by the recent tornado was actually around \$250,000.00. Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, advised that the majority of the damages were to Workman Middle School. He noted that a roof peel-back at Workman had affected four classrooms in terms of flooding and in addition, there were awning peel-backs that resulted in structural implications.

3. Human Resource Services

-No items discussed

4. Operations

-No items discussed

c. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

-No items submitted

d. ITEMS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

2. Student Discipline

A. Disciplinary Reassignment

Mr. Bergosh questioned whether the race for student 16-180-862 was correct given a statement that the student reportedly made against that particular race. Mr. Jeremy Tompkins, Court Liaison, confirmed that the student's race was correct as listed.

e. INTERNAL AUDITING

-No items submitted

f. ITEMS FROM GENERAL COUNSEL

-No items submitted

VII. PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Slayton called for public forum; however, there were no speakers.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Workshop was adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Superintendent

Chair