

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, OCTOBER 12, 2017

The School Board of Escambia County, Florida, convened in Special Workshop at 3:00 p.m., in Room 160, at the J.E. Hall Educational Services Center, 30 East Texar Drive, Pensacola, Florida, with the following present:

Chair: Mr. Gerald W. Boone (District II)
Vice Chair: Mrs. Patricia Hightower (District IV)
Board Members*: Mr. Kevin L. Adams (District I) – *arrived at 3:15 p.m.*
Mr. Bill Slayton (District V)

**School Board Member, District III: Vacant*

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Malcolm Thomas

Meeting advertised in *Pensacola News Journal* on September 14, 2017 - Legal No. 239161

NOTE: Minutes from this session have been prepared according to *Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised*.

Video from this session is available at <http://escambiacountysdfl.swagit.com/play/09142017-742>

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Boone called the Special Workshop to order at 3:00 p.m.

II. OPEN DISCUSSION

- Career Academy Presentation - Escambia High School Early Childhood Education Academy

Students enrolled in the Early Childhood Education Academy at Escambia High School addressed the School Board regarding their experiences in this program.

- Calendar

NOTE: School Board Member, Mr. Kevin L. Adams, District I, entered at 3:15 p.m. during discussion of this item. In addition to reviewing and discussing their monthly schedules of workshops/meetings, the School Board Members also reviewed and/or discussed events outlined on the School District's calendar.

There were no changes to the remaining schedule of School Board workshops/meetings for October:

- Regular Workshop, October 13, beginning at 9:00 a.m.*

Purpose: To discuss items on the October 17 Regular Meeting agenda

- Regular Meeting, October 17, beginning at 5:30 p.m.*

There were no changes to the schedule of School Board workshops/meetings for November:

- Regular Workshop, November 9, beginning at 2:00 p.m.*
Purpose: Open discussion & presentations; Discussion of items on the November 14 Regular Meeting agenda
- Regular Meeting, November 14, beginning at 5:30 p.m.*

There were no changes to the schedule of School Board workshops/meetings for December:

- Special Workshop, December 7, beginning at 9:00 a.m.*
Purpose: Open discussion & presentations
- Regular Workshop, December 8, beginning at 9:00 a.m.*
Purpose: Discussion of items on the December 12 Regular Meeting agenda
- Regular Meeting, December 12, beginning at 5:30 p.m.*

**To be held in Room 160 at the J.E. Hall Educational Services Center*

- Update on Transportation Problems – Slayton

(NOTE: *This matter was discussed at previous workshop sessions.*) At the request of Mr. Slayton, the Superintendent and Mr. Robert Doss, Director of Transportation, gave a brief update on the School District's efforts to recruit additional school bus drivers. The Superintendent said the School District was making progress and though the situation was no longer as desperate as it had been in months past, there was certainly still a need for additional drivers. Mr. Rob Doss, Director of Transportation, reported that the Transportation department had begun the school year forty (40) drivers short, but currently was down to twenty-two (22) short. Furthermore, five (5) additional drivers would be added within the next week, ten (10) individuals were beginning class the next week, eight (8) were currently in the "behind the wheel" phase of training, and four (4) others were currently obtaining CDL permits.

- FSBA Legislative Platform – Hightower

As the School Board's liaison to the FSBA Legislative Committee, Mrs. Hightower asked fellow School Board Members for input on the FSBA's annual Legislative Platform, which would be discussed at the October 26 Legislative Committee meeting. School Board Members expressed no concerns with the Platform as presented; however, the Superintendent requested the School Board ask the FSBA to consider an item addressing the current requirements for square footage for school construction.

- Strategic Plan - Superintendent

(NOTE: This matter was previously addressed at a previous School Board session. School Board Members received a copy of the 2016-17 Strategic Plan as revised for 2017-18 prior to this session.) Representatives of the Strategic Planning Committee introduced a new use-friendly format for the Strategic Plan and reviewed the various changes that had been made to objectives, metrics, and goals for each pillar. The Superintendent said the 2017-18 Strategic Plan would be submitted for School Board approval on the November Regular Meeting agenda.

III. PUBLIC FORUM

-None

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Special Workshop adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Superintendent

Chair

PENDING BOARD APPROVAL