

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, OCTOBER 13, 2017

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. Gerald W. Boone (District II)
Vice Chair: Mr. Patricia Hightower (District IV)
Board Members*: Mr. Kevin L. Adams (District I)
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://escambiacycountysdfl.swagit.com/play/10132017-523>

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent listed the changes made to the [October 17, 2017 Regular Meeting agenda](#) since publication and prior to this session.

III. MINUTES

School Board Members expressed no concerns with the minutes as presented; however, Mrs. Hightower did ask that School Board Members be mindful in phrasing motions appropriately, as motions would be recorded in the minutes exactly as had been stated.

IV. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

-Escambia Charter School

Discussion under this section focused on Escambia Charter School's on-going financial troubles. The School's principal, Ms. Taravell McKinnies, and Ms. Jacquelyn Smith, Board Chair-Escambia Charter School were present to respond to questions posed by the Superintendent and School Board Members. Ms. Vicki

Mathis, Director of Alternative Education, provided School Board Members several handouts, intended to illustrate Escambia Charter's current financial situation and outline steps the School would be taking in order to increase revenues, decrease expenses, find new funding sources, and maintain more consistent student enrollment. School Board Members and the Superintendent offered suggestions of their own. Mr. Terry St. Cyr, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Business Services, along with Mrs. Melissa Weekley, Coordinator I-Cost Analysis, highlighted specific concerns within the School's financial statements and responded to questions posed by the School Board. The Superintendent suggested, and School Board Members agreed, that it was time for Escambia Charter School to begin monthly reporting to the School Board regarding the School's finances. Mr. Adams and Mrs. Hightower indicated they wished to review the minutes from Escambia Charter's next Board meeting. Ms. Mathis was to forward those once received. The Superintendent and individual School Board Members expressed their concerns about the viability of the School, but also their desire to see the School succeed.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

-No items submitted

VI. NEW BUSINESS

b. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Curriculum

F. High School Education

1. [Cooperative Agreement Between the School Board of Escambia County and Beasley College Prep, LLC](#)

Mr. Steve Marcanio, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, confirmed for Mrs. Hightower that Washington High School was the only school Beasley College Prep, LLC (BCP) had agreed to provide ACT/SAT prep materials to, free of charge. (NOTE: *This was actually the second year of this offering from BCP.*) Upon inquiry by Mrs. Hightower, Mr. Marcanio clarified that BCP required an agreement approved by the School Board, prior to implementation.

2. Finance and Business Services

E. Purchasing

3. [School Buses](#)

The Superintendent confirmed for Mrs. Hightower that all of the buses under this purchase were air-conditioned. Upon inquiry by Mr. Slayton, Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, clarified that none of the buses under this purchase were the "extremely long" flat-fronted 84-passenger buses that the School District had purchased in the past.

6. [Architectural/Engineering Services for the Escambia Westgate Adaptable Play Facility](#)

Upon inquiry Mr. Slayton, Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, clarified that this adaptive play facility was essentially the School District's typical elementary covered play area yet, specially modified for adaptive use at Escambia Westgate.

7. [Canopy Replacement at Woodham Middle School](#)

Upon inquiry by Mr. Slayton, Mr. Anthony Noles, Director of Facilities Planning, explained that damaged and unrepairable canopies on the east and west side of the main courtyard on the Woodham Middle School campus would be replaced; and confirmed that the canopy replacements would be adaptable to high school students once West Florida High School was relocated to that campus.

3. Human Resource Services

A. Instructional/Professional

- f. [Amend the 2017-2018 Department Personnel Planning Document for cost center 4406 – Continuous Improvement & School Choice.](#)

Mr. Marcanio said the School District had received a new third DODEA grant that had a requirement of having a 0.5 time (20 hours per week) coordinator to manage the grant (i.e., Coordinator – Grants Management position) – so, this amendment to the DPPD was to add that position to cost center 4406-Continuous Improvement & School Choice. Pointed out the footnotes for all three DODEA grants which clearly indicated that should that funding go away, the positions would go away.

4. Operations

-No items discussed

c. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

-No items discussed

d. ITEMS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

-No items discussed

e. INTERNAL AUDITING

-No items submitted

f. ITEMS FROM GENERAL COUNSEL

-No items submitted

VII. [PUBLIC FORUM](#)

-None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Workshop adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Superintendent

Chair