

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, DECEMBER 9, 2016

The School Board of Escambia County, Florida, convened in Regular Workshop at 8:00 a.m., in Room 160, at the J.E. Hall Educational Services Center, 30 East Texar Drive, Pensacola, Florida, with the following present:

Chair: Mrs. Linda Moultrie (District III)
Vice Chair: Mr. Gerald W. Boone (District II)
Board Members: Mr. Kevin L. Adams (District I)
Mrs. Patricia Hightower (District IV)
Mr. Bill Slayton (District V)

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Malcolm Thomas

Meeting advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on December 1, 2016 - Legal No. 1756298

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://escambiacountysdfl.swagit.com/play/12092016-562>

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Moultrie called the Regular Workshop to order at 2:00 p.m.

II. OPEN DISCUSSION

- Calendar

School Board Members reviewed their schedule of workshops/meetings/events for December 2016, January 2017, and February 2017. Highlights for January 2017 included the Kingsfield Elementary School Groundbreaking Ceremony on January 20, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on the construction site east of Ransom Middle School. Highlights for February 2017 included AdvancED® SACS accreditation interviews with individual School Board Members on February 6, with times to be determined once the AdvancED® team arrived in town. The AdvancED® team would then present their exit report on February 8, around 2:00 p.m. in Room 160, at the J.E. Hall Educational Services Center.

- Committee Appointments – Moultrie

Mrs. Moultrie asked her fellow School Board Members to think about which committees/boards they wished to serve on as the School Board's appointee; decisions would be made at the December 13, 2016 Regular Meeting.

Escambia County Planning Board (current appointee: Patty Hightower)

Community Action Committee Board (current appointee: Linda Moultrie)

Early Learning Coalition Board (current appointee: Gerald Boone)

Escambia County Value Adjustment Board (current appointee: Jeff Bergosh)

Military Affairs Committee (current appointee: Jeff Bergosh)

- How is Staff Teaching Students to Recognize Truth from Fiction Online – Hightower

Mrs. Hightower inquired as to how staff was teaching students to recognize truth from fiction when dealing with online resources. Her concern stemmed from the increased reliance on online information and the prevalence of “fake news” often posted online. Mr. Brian Alaback, Director of Professional Learning, responded by explaining how teaching students to be critical thinkers when using traditional textbooks, media broadcastings, and online resources, was a part of the curriculum content. Dr. Michelle Taylor, Director of Workforce Education, responded from a Career Technology Education (CTE) and Workforce Technology perspective in terms of computer ethics and analyzing social media sources.

- Alternative Services for Elementary Students – Superintendent
[Handouts provided to School Board Members]

Ms. Vicki Mathis, Director of Alternative Education, narrated a brief PowerPoint [presentation](#) that outlined alternative services for elementary students. Ms. Teri Szafran, Director of Exceptional Student Education (ESE), addressed matters specific to ESE students.

Mr. Kevin Deal, Vice President of Operations at Camelot Education, addressed the School Board regarding a proposal to amend Camelot’s current contract with the School District such that Camelot would be permitted to provide its K-5 Alternative Pupil Services (KAPS) program to serve elementary students. (see Item V.b.1.A.1., [Amendment to the Contract for Educational Services Between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and Camelot Schools of Florida, LLC](#)) The Superintendent, Ms. Mathis, and Mr. Deal responded to a number of questions posed by School Board Members regarding various aspects of the KAPS program.

III. COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent outlined changes made to the December 13, 2016 Regular Meeting agenda since initial publication and prior to this session.

IV. MINUTES

-No items discussed

V. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

-No items submitted

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

-No items submitted

VII. NEW BUSINESS

a. PROPOSED ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT RULES

1. Rule(s) Adoption

2. Permission to Advertise

A. [Approval to Advertise NOI to Adopt Amendments to Rules and Procedures of the District School Board: Chapter 6, Student Transportation](#)

(5) *Drivers of Board Vehicles*

C. *Listed below are specific duties and guidelines that shall be followed by each employee who drives a Board vehicle. Failure to do so could affect the employee’s job evaluation and employment.*

11. *Operators of Board vehicles are permitted to use cellular and other personal electronic devices in Board vehicles only when the vehicle is safely pulled off of the roadway and is out of gear with the brake applied. Exception: Operators of Board vehicles other than school buses are permitted to use cellular devices in Board vehicles while being actively dispatched for work assignments via hands-free*

technology, provided such use does not require the operator to take his/her eyes off the forward roadway or otherwise distract him/her from the safe operation of the vehicle.

Mrs. Hightower questioned the necessity of the following verbiage under Section (5)(C)(11): “*provided such use does not require the operator to take his/her eyes off the forward roadway or otherwise distract him/her from the safe operation of the vehicle.*” Mr. Robert Doss, Director of Transportation, said the purpose of that particular verbiage, was simply to emphasize to operators of Board vehicles that under no circumstances are they to take their eyes off the forward roadway.

b. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Curriculum

A. Alternative Education

1. [Amendment to the Contract for Educational Services Between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and Camelot Schools of Florida, LLC](#)

This item was addressed earlier in the session under Section II, Open Discussion, *Alternative Services for Elementary Students.*

2. Finance and Business Services

E. Purchasing

18. [Change Notice #2 to Purchase Order #5421700040 - Construction Manager at Risk Services for Beulah Middle School](#)

Upon inquiry by Mr. Adams, Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, confirmed that the District was definitely in excess of what the original anticipated budget was, due to the current construction climate and cost.

3. Human Resource Services

-No items discussed

4. Operations

A. Facilities Planning

1. [Repurpose Woodham Middle School to West Florida High School](#)

At the request of Mr. Slayton, Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, took a moment to explain the particulars of the repurposing of Woodham Middle School in anticipation of the receipt of West Florida High School (WFHS).

c. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

These items were briefly mentioned earlier in the session under Section II, Open Discussion, *Committee Appointments.*

1. School Board Appointee to Escambia County Planning Board
2. School Board Appointee to Community Action Committee Board
3. School Board Appointee to Early Learning Coalition Board
4. School Board Appointee to Escambia County Value Adjustment Board
5. Reappointment of Gerald Adcox as the School Board’s Appointee to Escambia County Value Adjustment Board

d. ITEMS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

-No items discussed

- e. INTERNAL AUDITING
-No items submitted
- f. ITEMS FROM GENERAL COUNSEL
-No items submitted

VIII. PUBLIC FORUM
-None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Workshop adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Superintendent

Chair