

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, OCTOBER 11, 2018

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)  
Ms. Lee H. C. Hansen (District III)  
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 October 1, 2018 – Legal No. [3182475](#)

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

[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

- Escambia High School NFA-ACE Flight Academy – Superintendent

Students enrolled in the NFA-ACE Flight Academy at Escambia High School, addressed the School Board regarding their experiences in this program.

- Woodham/West Florida Signage Update – Superintendent

*In August 2019, West Florida High School of Advanced Technology would be moved from its current location on Longleaf Drive to Burgess Road, at the former location of Woodham High School/Woodham Middle School.* Project Manager, Mr. Keith Wasdin, provided the following update:

Memorial Exhibit - A memorial exhibit showcasing Woodham High School artifacts would be displayed in a prominent location inside the school. The exhibit would provide a brief biography on Dr. William J. Woodham and the history of Woodham High School, including a timeline of major events spanning from the school's opening in 1965 to its closing in 2007.

Monument - The 'Home of the Mighty Titans' marker created by the Woodham High School Class of 1981 would be relocated to the Marlin Bullock football stadium.

Campus Signage – Several options had been considered, but the Superintendent's recommendation was for the main campus sign to read 'West Florida High School of Advanced Technology' and beneath that, 'William J. Woodham High School 1965-2007'. The objective with this particular wording, was to envision

the campus as the new home of West Florida High School, while honoring the past home of Woodham High School. There were no objections to this recommendation.

Ms. Hansen asked that a special grand opening be organized for former Woodham High School faculty and students to see firsthand, that much effort was taken to ensure the Woodham High School spirit was still present.

The following individuals addressed the School Board regarding their desire to see Woodham High School honored through the new campus signage: Swinson Shipman and Ava Rich.

- Calendar

*In addition to reviewing and discussing their monthly schedules of workshops/meetings, School Board Members also reviewed and/or discussed various events posted on the School District's calendar.*

*-October 2018*

There were no changes to the remaining schedule of workshops/meetings for October.

*-November 2018*

Due to Fall Break being November 19 through November 23, the School Board made the following changes to their schedule of workshops/meetings for November\*:

-Special Workshop, date changed from November 15 to November 8

-Regular Workshop, date changed from November 16 to November 9

-Regular Meeting, date changed from November 20 to November 13

-Installation Ceremony & Organizational Meeting tentatively scheduled for November 20, 9:00 a.m.

*\*All sessions to be held in Room 160, at the J.E. Hall Educational Services Center, 30 East Texar Drive*

- Legislative Update – Adams

*[Handout provided]*

Mr. Adams briefly reviewed the 2019 Legislative Platform recently developed by members of the Florida School Boards Association. Mr. Adams said the list outlined the five greatest concerns, in no particular order as all were equally important to Florida school districts: keeping students safe, enhancing mental health services, investing in students and schools, providing students with high quality teachers and prioritizing workforce education.

- Personnel Shortage Update – Adams

Mr. Keith Leonard, Director of Human Resource Services, reported that there were currently six (6) instructional positions advertised and Ms. Elizabeth Oakes, Director of Personnel Services, reported 50-60 openings across all educational support areas. There was brief mention of some upcoming recruiting efforts. Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, noted that the lure of the recovery effort with Hurricane Michael would significantly impact the School District's ability to attract educational support personnel.

- Variety of Middle School Schedule – Slayton

At the request of Mr. Slayton, the Superintendent was to provide at the November Special "Open Discussion" Workshop, a presentation on the various middle school schedules and the impact of those schedules on teacher planning time.

- 2018-2019 Strategic Plan – Superintendent

Due to time constraints, the Superintendent elected to postpone this discussion topic to the October 12, 2018 Regular Workshop.

III. [PUBLIC FORUM](#)

-No registration forms submitted

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Special Workshop adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

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Superintendent

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Chair

PENDING BOARD APPROVAL