

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, MARCH 15, 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 IV)

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Malcolm Thomas

Meeting advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on March 1, 2018 – Legal No. [2748341](#)

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/03152018-639>

[*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

- Calendar

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

*-March 2018*

There were no changes to the remaining schedule of workshops/meetings for March:

March 16 – Regular Workshop, 9:00 a.m., Room 160, Hall Center

March 20 – Regular Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Room 160, Hall Center

*-April 2018*

There were no changes to the schedule of workshops/meetings for April:

April 12– Special Workshop, 3:00 p.m., Room 160, Hall Center

April 13 – Regular Workshop, 9:00 a.m., Room 160, Hall Center

April 17 – Regular Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Room 160, Hall Center

*-May 2018*

There were no changes to the schedule of workshops/meetings for May:

May 10 – Special Workshop, 3:00 p.m., Room 160, Hall Center

May 11 – Regular Workshop, 9:00 a.m., Room 160, Hall Center

May 15 – Regular Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Room 160, Hall Center

- Safe School Legislation, SB 7026 – Adams

*(Handout provided to School Board Members)*

At the request of Mr. Adams, the Superintendent reviewed some important aspects of SB 7026:

*Safe Schools Add-On* – The Superintendent advised that the allocation for safe school funding, included in the School District’s FEFP, had essentially doubled to \$2.4 million for 2018-2019, yet the increased allocation was still not enough to provide for a school resource officer at every school in the District. *(Currently, only middle and high schools had school resource officers.)* If the Escambia County Board of County Commission did not match the School District’s 2018-2019 allocation, the Superintendent and his staff would have to explore other alternatives.

*Mental Health Allocation* – Also included in the FEFP, was an allocation over \$900,000 for mental health services. The Superintendent said this new allocation would be used to expand mental health resources, with an emphasis on ensuring that every high school had adequate coverage.

- K-12 Legislation, HB 7055 – Adams

*(Handout provided to School Board Members)*

At the request of Mr. Adams, the Superintendent reviewed some important aspects of HB 7055:

*Title One Funds* - The Superintendent said HB 7055 did not completely roll back the restrictions in Title I that were imposed in HB 7069, but had at least “taken a step backward” towards the School District which was helpful.

*Charter School Capital Outlay* – The Superintendent advised that HB 7055 eliminated the School District’s sharing of 1.5 capital millage with charter schools.

- Energy Savings Update – Superintendent

At the request of the Superintendent, Mr. Roger McGraw, Mechanical Engineer, gave a brief [update](#) on the success of the School District’s energy saving efforts.

- Escambia County Criminal Justice Academy – Superintendent

Students enrolled in the Escambia County Criminal Justice Academy addressed the School Board regarding their experiences in this program.

- Recruiting Update – Superintendent

Ms. Elizabeth Oakes, Director of Personnel Services, gave a brief update on the School District’s recruiting efforts including university/college job fair visits, advertising, and hiring events. *(Additional information available at [www.escambiaschools.org/teachecsd](http://www.escambiaschools.org/teachecsd))*

- District Website Update – Superintendent

Mr. Jim Branton, Coordinator of Technology Services, and Ms. Bonita Davey, Network Analyst, gave a preview of the School District’s new website design, which would “go live” within the next week. Mr. Branton noted that the new design was more mobile device friendly, included responsive design elements, and was Section 508 compliant.

- Raffles by Non-profit Organizations – Superintendent

*NOTE: Mrs. Hightower left the session at approximately 4:30 p.m. during the discussion on this item.*

Mr. Roger Mayo, District Athletic Director, took a moment to review a new [Standard Operating Procedure](#) that outlined guidance for booster clubs when conducting raffle fundraisers. It was noted that this was a great opportunity for those organization to raise funds for students.

III. PUBLIC FORUM

-No registration forms submitted

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Special Workshop adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

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Superintendent

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Chair