

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, MARCH 12, 2020

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: Mrs. Patricia Hightower (District IV)
Vice Chair: Mr. Bill Slayton (District V)
Board Members: Mr. Kevin L. Adams (District I)
Mr. Paul Fetsko (District II)
Dr. Laura Dortch Edler (District III)

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Malcolm Thomas

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters

Meeting advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on February 28, 2020 – Legal No. [4073504](#)
Minutes prepared according to *Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised*

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Hightower called the Special Workshop to order at 3:00 p.m. She reminded those who wished to speak during public forum, to submit a registration form.

II. OPEN DISCUSSION

- Beulah Middle School Agriscience Technology Academy

Students enrolled in the Agriscience Technology Academy at Beulah Middle School addressed the School Board regarding their experiences in this program.

- 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.*

- *June 2020*

Canceled: June 11 Special "Open Discussion" Workshop

Rescheduled: June 12 Regular Workshop to June 15 (agenda to include "open discussion" segment)

- *July 2020*

Canceled: July 16 Special "Open Discussion" Workshop

Rescheduled: July 17 Regular Workshop to July 20 (agenda to include "open discussion" segment)

- Public Forum Update

The Superintendent advised there were no public speakers that required follow-up from the month of February.

- COVID-19 Preventative Measures

The Superintendent reported on current best practices related to Corona Virus COVID-19 as outlined in a district-wide email sent earlier in the day. The Superintendent advised that he and his staff would continue to work closely with both local and state health officials to monitor actions and best practices related to COVID-19.

- Legislative Update – Adams

Mr. Adams provided a brief update on current legislative matters relevant to public education.

- Graduation Rate Presentation – *Superintendent*
Ms. Lesa Morgan, Director-High School Education, gave a brief presentation regarding the School District’s 84.8% graduation rate (2,292 students receiving diplomas in 2018-2019).
- General Fund Income Statement Overview – *Superintendent*
Ms. Theresa McCants, Director-Budgeting, provided a brief “training” for School Board Members regarding the various components of the School District’s General Fund income statement.
- Priority Schools Update - *Superintendent*
School Board Members received updates from the following “priority” schools currently in the Differentiated Accountability process: Holm Elementary School (principal Terri Fina); Warrington Elementary (principal Tim Rose); Warrington Middle School (principal Brent Brummet); and Workman Middle School (principal Traci Ursrey).

III. PUBLIC FORUM

-No registration forms submitted

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Special Workshop adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

PENDING BOARD APPROVAL