

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, NOVEMBER 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. William E. 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 (Incoming): Dr. Timothy A. Smith

Advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on October 19, 2020 – Legal No. 4411653

General discussion occurred throughout this session amongst School Board Members, the Superintendent, and staff.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Hightower called the Special Workshop to order at 3:07 p.m.

II. DISCUSSION:

Beulah Middle School Culinary Arts Academy

Students enrolled in the Culinary Arts Academy at Beulah Middle School, provided a virtual presentation regarding their experiences in this program.

Calendar

November 2020 – No changes to the remaining schedule of workshops/meetings for November 2020.

December 2020 – No changes to the current schedule of workshops/meetings for December 2020.

Public Forum Update

-None

Chair/Vice-Chair Selection

There was brief discussion regarding the selection of Chair/Vice-Chair for 2021-2022. Mrs. Hightower said she intended to nominate Mr. Slayton to serve as Chair and Mr. Fetsko said he intended to nominate Mr. Adams to serve as Vice Chair.

Board Committee Commitments

Mrs. Hightower initiated a brief discussion regarding Board committee appointments. There being no objection, current committee appointments would remain. Mrs. Hightower advised that in December, School Board Members should be prepared to discuss an appointment to the Escambia Children's Trust.

Citizen Appointee to VAB

Mrs. Hightower asked that School Board Members make it known if they wished to consider someone other than Mr. Gerald Adcox as the School Board's Citizen Appointee to the Value Adjustment Board.

Legislative Issues - Adams

Mr. Adams, as the School Board's representative/designated to the Florida School Boards Association (FSBA), gave a brief update on recent revisions to the FSBA's proposed 2021 Legislative Platform (legislative priorities) – platform items that were submitted/selected for inclusion in the final FSBA Legislative Platform. The FSBA Legislative Committee.

Capacity & Site 8 New School - Adams

Progress update provided to School Board Members. The School Board was advised that Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent-Operations, and Mr. Keith Wasdin, Director-Facilities Planning, were scheduled to meet with the County on November 18, 2020 regarding the School District's request that acreage be set aside for the purpose of constructing a new school on the area formerly known as Outlying Field (OLF) 8. Staff was to provide an update to the School Board after that November 18, 2020 meeting.

COVID-19 Update

Dr. Smith advised that the School District would keep COVID-19 restrictions in place until at least January 2021. (The district planned to review restrictions concerning visitors, volunteers and mentor on November 13; however, COVID-19 data on current patterns and trends indicates the School District would continue following the restrictions currently in place.)

III. PUBLIC FORUM

-No registration forms submitted

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Special Workshop adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

PENDING BOARD APPROVAL