

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, AUGUST 18, 2020

The School Board of Escambia County, Florida, convened in Regular Meeting at 5:30 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

*Also present: Mr. Joseph L. Hammons, Esquire - Hammons Law Firm*

*Not present: Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters, School Board General Counsel*

Meeting advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on August 3, 2020 – Legal No. [4305947](#)

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Hightower called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

a. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

(NOTE: *It is the tradition of the Escambia County School Board to begin their business meeting with an invocation or motivational moment followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.*) Mrs. Hightower called for a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

b. Adoption of Agenda

The Superintendent listed all changes made to the agenda since initial publication. Mrs. Hightower advised that Florida Statutes and School Board Rule require that changes made to an agenda after publication be based on a finding of good cause, as determined by the person designated to preside over the meeting, and stated in the record. Motion by Mr. Slayton, seconded by Mr. Adams, to adopt the agenda *as amended*, carried unanimously.

c. Committee/Departmental Reports

1. PTA Presentation

Remarks by Samarys Kervin, President-Escambia County Council PTAs/PTSAs and Dr. P. Michelle Greer-Hall.

II. PUBLIC FORUM

The following individuals registered to address the School Board during Public Forum:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Special Problem/Issue*</u>
Richard Hunter	COVID-19
Chelsea Alberda	MOU Negotiations
Cynthia Brown	
Debbie Springer	Remote/Blended Instruction
Kim Garman	Cameras in Classrooms
Marguerite Moloney	Return to School
Darzell Warren, Escambia Education Association	Wearing of Face Coverings

\*As specified by the individual on registration form submitted to the School Board.

**THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS MOVED FORWARD:** V.c.1., *Selection of Appointed Superintendent Finalists*

Ms. Andrea Messina, Executive Director-Florida School Boards Association (FSBA) and lead on the FSBA Superintendent Search Team, guided the School Board through the process of selecting finalists for the position of Superintendent of Schools. She advised that Dr. Vincent Kotter, Semi-Finalist #23, had withdrawn from consideration. Individual School Board Members identified those semi-finalists whom they wished to select as finalists:

Mr. Adams (District I):

- Semi-Finalist #6 - Marques Stewart
- Semi-Finalist #18 - Dr. Timothy Smith
- Semi-Finalist #19 - Keith Leonard

Mr. Fetsko (District II):

- Semi-Finalist #13 - Dr. Earl Johnson
- Semi-Finalist #18 - Dr. Timothy Smith
- Semi-Finalist #19 - Keith Leonard

Dr. Edler (District III):

- Semi-Finalist #6 - Marques Stewart
- Semi-Finalist #13 - Dr. Earl Johnson
- Semi-Finalist #17 - Keith Rittel
- Semi-Finalist #18 - Dr. Timothy Smith

Mrs. Hightower (District IV)

- Semi-Finalist #13 - Dr. Earl Johnson
- Semi-Finalist #17 - Keith Rittel
- Semi-Finalist #18 - Dr. Timothy Smith

Mr. Slayton (District V):

- Semi-Finalist #17 - Keith Rittel
- Semi-Finalist #18 - Dr. Timothy Smith
- Semi-Finalist #19 - Keith Leonard

Motion by Mr. Slayton, seconded by Mr. Adams, to name Dr. Earl Johnson (Semi-Finalist #13), Keith Rittel (Semi-Finalist #17), Dr. Timothy Smith (Semi-Finalists #18), and Keith Leonard (Semi-Finalist #19) as finalists to the position of Superintendent of Schools, carried 4 to 1, with Dr. Edler voting "No."

III. MINUTES

- a. [07-20-20 Regular Workshop](#)
- b. [07-21-20 Regular Meeting](#)
- c. [07-28-20 Special Meeting](#)

Motion by Mr. Slayton, seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to approve the minutes as listed (Items a through c), carried unanimously.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

-No items submitted

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. PROPOSED ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT RULES

1. Rule(s) Adoption

A. [Notice of Intent to Adopt Amendments to the School District of Escambia County Student Progression Plan](#)

Mrs. Hightower called for public hearing on this item; however, no individuals wished to speak. Motion by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mr. Adams, to adopt amendments to the *School District of Escambia County Student Progression Plan*, carried unanimously.

2. Permission to Advertise

A. [Approval to Advertise Notice of Intent to Adopt Amendments to the District School Board Exceptional Student Education Policies and Procedures \(SP&P\)](#)

Motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Slayton, to approve advertisement of *Notice of Intent to Adopt Amendments to the District School Board Exceptional Student Education Policies and Procedures (SP&P)*, carried unanimously.

b. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Slayton, seconded by Mr. Adams, to approve the Consent Agenda (*as amended*). The following items pulled for separate vote: V.b.3.C.1 for an individual who registered to address the School Board; and Item V.b.4.A.2.c. by Dr. Edler. Motion to approve the Consent Agenda (*as amended*) minus items pulled, carried unanimously.

1. Curriculum
  - A. Alternative Education
    - No items submitted
  - B. Continuous Improvement
    1. [School Choice Student Transfers](#)
    2. [Turnaround School Supplemental Services Application \(TSSSA\) Warrington Elementary School](#)
    3. [Turnaround School Supplemental Services Application \(TSSSA\) Ensley Elementary School](#)
    4. [Turnaround School Supplemental Services Application \(TSSSA\) Warrington Middle School](#)
    5. [Turnaround School Supplemental Services Application \(TSSSA\) Global Learning Academy](#)
    6. [Turnaround School Supplemental Services Application \(TSSSA\) Holm Elementary School](#)
    7. [Turnaround School Supplemental Services Application \(TSSSA\) Navy Point Elementary School](#)
  - C. Elementary Education
    - No items submitted
  - D. Evaluation Services
    - No items submitted
  - E. Exceptional Student Education
    - No items submitted
  - F. High School Education
    - No items submitted
  - G. Middle School Education
    - No items submitted
  - H. Professional Learning
    - No items submitted
  - I. Student Services
    - No items submitted
  - J. Title I
    1. [Memorandum of Understanding Between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and the School Board of Washington County, Florida](#)
  - K. Workforce Education
    1. [Adult Education and Family Literacy Adult General Education Fiscal Year 2020-2021](#)
  - L. Other
    - No items submitted

AMEND

2. Finance and Business Services

- A. Finance
  1. [Legal Services - General Fund](#)

a. The Hammons Law Firm	\$ 4,007.50
b. The Hammons Law Firm	\$ 197.50
c. The Hammons Law Firm	\$ 1,312.50
d. The Hammons Law Firm	\$ 1,780.60
e. Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell	\$ 520.00
f. Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell	\$ 1,100.00
g. Carver, Darden, Koretzky, Tessier, Finn, Blossman & Areaux LLC	\$ 2,047.50
h. Resolutions in Special Education	\$ 532.50
i. Akerman	\$ 1,095.00
  2. [Legal Services - Risk Management Fund](#)

a. The Hammons Law Firm	\$ 15,922.50
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- B. Accounting Operations
  - 1. [Check Register for July 2020](#)
- C. Budgeting
  - 1. [Recap of General Fund Reserves \(Non-Categorical\)](#)
  - 2. [Resolutions to amend District School Budget:](#)
    - a. Resolution 11 – General Operating Fund
    - b. Resolution 11 – Special Revenue – Federal Program
    - c. Resolution 11 – Capital Projects Fund
    - d. Resolution 1 – Special Revenue - Food Service Fund
    - e. Resolution 1 – Debt Service Fund
  - 3. [Scrap List I for August 2020](#)
  - 4. [Auction List I for August 2020](#)
  - 5. Financial Statements by Fund – no item submitted pending FYE Financial Statements

- D. Payroll and Benefits Accounting
  - 1. [Financial Status Report: Employee Benefit Trust Fund](#)

E. Purchasing

*ITEMS PREPARED BY PURCHASING:*

- 1. [Bid Renewal: Chiller Preventative Maintenance, RFP #172503](#)
- 2. [Annual Agreement: Chiller Preventative Maintenance](#)
- 3. [Annual Agreement Renewal: Claims Management Software for the Risk Management Department](#)
- 4. [Fiber Network Maintenance and Optic Cable Location Services](#)
- 5. [Full Service Uniform Rental for the Maintenance Department](#)
- 6. [Apple Computer Equipment for Escambia High School](#)
- 7. [Dell Computer Equipment for Camelot Academy](#)
- 8. [Software Licenses for Middle School Information Technology Certification Programs](#)
- 9. [Software Licenses for Technology Literacy and Certification Programs](#)
- 10. [Zendesk Software User Licenses](#)
- 11. [Accreditation Renewal](#)
- 12. [Professional Services Agreement: Marketing Services](#)
- 13. [Emergency Purchase of Antimicrobial Wipes, Dry Wipes, and Non-Toxic Disinfectant](#)
- 14. [Mitel Phone System for Escambia High School](#)
- 15. [Mitel Phone System for Jim C. Bailey Middle School](#)
- 16. [Mitel License Upgrades and New Licenses for Virtual Teaching](#)
- 17. [Video Surveillance Security System for Ferry Pass Middle School](#)
- 18. [Video Surveillance Security System for Workman Middle School](#)
- 19. [Video Surveillance Security System for Bellview Elementary School](#)
- 20. [Change Notice #2 to Increase Purchase Order #6332000010 – School Psychologist](#)

*ITEMS PREPARED BY FACILITIES PLANNING:*

- 21. [Annual Agreement Renewal: District-Wide Roofing Maintenance, Repair and Replacement Services](#)
- 22. [Bid Award: J.E. Hall Center Window Replacements](#)
- 23. [Bid Award: N.B. Cook Elementary School – Building Envelope Repair](#)
- 24. [Change Notice #1 to Purchase Order #5422000089 – Architectural/Engineering Services for C.A. Weis Elementary School Roof Replacement](#)
- 25. [Change Notice #1 to Purchase Order #5422000168 – Architectural/Engineering Services for Tate High School Agriscience Building](#)
- 26. [Change Notice #8 to Purchase Order #5421700145 - Construction Manager at Risk Services for Repurpose Woodham Middle School to West Florida High School \(E. Burgess Road\)](#)
- 27. [Enhanced Commissioning Services for the Pleasant Grove Elementary School Replacement](#)
- 28. [Water Cooler Replacements – District Wide](#)

- 3. Human Resource Services
  - A. Instructional/Professional

1. [Appointments](#)
  2. [Reappointments](#)
  3. [Transfers](#)
  4. [Out-of-Field](#)
  5. [Resignations/Retirements/Other](#)
  6. [Leaves of Absence](#)
  7. Special Requests
    - a. [For Board Information: Report the death of Charlene U. Pinto, Administrative Specialist – School Food Services at District Office Food Services, on July 17, 2020](#)
- B. Educational Support Personnel
1. [Appointments](#)
  2. [Temporary Promotions](#)
  3. [Resignations/Retirements/Other](#)
  4. [Terminations](#)
  5. [Leaves of Absence](#)
  6. Special Requests  
-No items submitted
- C. Risk Management
1. [Benefits Administration/Software Platform](#)  
 Motion made by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mr. Slayton, to approve Item V.b.3.C.1., *Benefits Administration/Software Platform*. Mr. David Faulkenberry, President-FBMC advised of his company’s intent to file protest. He requested the School Board delay voting on this item until the School District had addressed questions/concerns regarding the procurement process. The Superintendent advised that services\* provided under this contract were essential to the operation of the School District. (\*Employee and retiree benefits administration enrollment platform and administrative services including by not limited to ACA reporting, billing services, COBRA administration, direct billing services, open enrollment and new hire enrollment services, etc.) As suggested by Mr. Hammons, Mr. Fetsko offered an amendment to the motion, adding that approval was subject to the outcome of any timely filed protest. Motion to amend seconded by Mr. Slayton and carried unanimously. Motion to approve Item V.b.3.C.1., *Benefits Administration/Software Platform*, subject to the outcome of any timely filed protest, carried unanimously.
  2. [Workers' Compensation Settlement](#)
- D. Employee Services
1. [Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Escambia County School District and the Escambia Education Association and the Union of Escambia Education Staff Professionals concerning changes to the sick leave annual payout provisions for the 2020-2021 school year](#)
- E. Affirmative Action  
-No items submitted
4. Operations
- A. Facilities Planning
1. Final Payments
    - a. [Athletic Improvements for West Florida High School –Woodham Campus](#)
    - b. [ECSD Hall Center – ESE Renovation](#)
    - c. [Lincoln Park Elementary School – HVAC Upgrades](#)
  2. Miscellaneous
    - a. [Deed of Conservation Easement – Pleasant Grove Elementary School Replacement](#)
    - b. [Hold Harmless Agreement – Pensacola High School](#)
    - c. [Lease Agreement between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and Community Action Program Committee, Inc. with a Purchase Option](#)

PENDING BOARD APPROVAL

Motion made by Mr. Adams and seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to approve Item V.b.4.A.2.c. Motion carried 4 to 0, with Dr. Edler abstaining\* from vote. \*Dr. Edler abstained from voting on this item, given she was a board member for the Early Learning Coalition.

- B. School Food Services
  - 1. [Affiliation Agreement between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and Priority Nutrition Care LLC](#)
- C. Maintenance and Custodial Services
  - No items submitted
- D. Transportation
  - No items submitted
- E. Central Warehouse
  - No items submitted
- F. Information Technology
  - No items submitted
- G. Protection Services
  - No items submitted
- H. Energy Management
  - No items submitted

c. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

- 1. Selection of Appointed Superintendent Finalists
  - Handled earlier in the meeting

d. ITEMS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

- 1. Administrative Appointments
  - No items submitted
- 2. Student Discipline
  - No items submitted
- 3. Employee Discipline
  - No items submitted
- 4. Other Items
  - No items submitted

e. INTERNAL AUDITING

-No items submitted

f. ITEMS FROM GENERAL COUNSEL

-No items submitted

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Meeting adjourned 6:52 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair