

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, MARCH 23, 2021

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

Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Timothy A. Smith

Advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on February 24, 2021 – Legal No. [4604316](#)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Slayton 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.*) Mr. Adams called for a moment of silent prayer. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

b. Adoption of Agenda

Superintendent Smith listed changes made to the agenda since initial publication and prior to this session. Mr. Slayton 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. Adams, seconded by Mrs. Hightower, to adopt the agenda *as amended*, carried unanimously.

c. Committee/Departmental Reports

1. PTA Presentation

Representatives of Escambia County Council PTA (ECCPTA) addressed the School Board regarding the recent and upcoming activities of the ECCPTA.

2. Stellar Employee of the Month

School Board Members joined Superintendent Smith in recognizing Ms. Audy Roper, Bilingual Teacher Assistant at Ensley Elementary School, as the Escambia County School District's Stellar Employee for the month of March. Ms. Roper received a plaque and pin from the School District and a check for \$100 from Members First Credit Union.

3. ECSD Art in the Capital

School Board Members joined Superintendent Smith in congratulating Gillian Zukoski, eighth grade student at Beulah Middle School, as the 2021 Escambia County Art in the Capital Competition winner. Gillian's painting will remain on display at the Florida Capitol building in Tallahassee until the end of March.

4. [Military Child Month Resolution](#)

Superintendent Smith read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola provides social, cultural, and financial benefits to the Pensacola community; and

WHEREAS, research shows that military families experience frequent relocations where families often move an average of every 2.9 years and children of military personnel can attend up to nine different schools by graduation; and

WHEREAS, deployments, which are necessary to the mission of our armed forces and are a normal cycle of the military lifestyle, can impact the educational outcome of children; and

WHEREAS, educators play a special role in the lives of children and school can serve as an oasis of stability for children, especially during a parent's deployment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Escambia County, Florida, does hereby recognize the month of April 2021, as

MILITARY CHILD MONTH

and calls upon families, schools, businesses, and communities to be our partners in announcing this resolution and to become active in celebrating our military children.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the regular meeting of said Board and that a copy be tendered to Captain Timothy Kinsella, Commanding Officer of NAS Pensacola, and Carissa Bergosh, School Liaison Officer, NAS Pensacola.

Motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mrs. Hightower, to adopt a resolution recognizing the month of April 2021, as Military Child Month, carried unanimously.

5. [Youth Success Week Resolution](#)

Superintendent Smith read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice supports a balanced approach to juvenile justice and is committed to protecting Florida's citizens; responding to victims of juvenile crime, preventing juvenile crime, meeting the treatment needs of juvenile offenders, diverting youth from a life of crime and returning youth to their communities as productive citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Department's targeted services, coupled with appropriate consequences, accountability and treatment for juveniles who commit serious crimes, have resulted in significant reductions in juvenile crime; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement, the court system, program providers, local boards and councils, schools, volunteers, and other juvenile justice partners – including parents – work tirelessly with young offenders, leading to declining juvenile crime rates; and

WHEREAS, juvenile justice programs have assisted juvenile offenders in remaining crime free, leading to fewer crimes and more saved lives; and

WHEREAS, we as part of the community believe that working together, we can make a difference in our students' lives; and

WHEREAS, the Escambia County School District is commemorating its twenty-seventh year of collaborating with the Department of Juvenile Justice in providing services to the citizens of Florida, and the District has adopted and proclaimed "Hope, Encouragement, Love, and Patience (HELP)" to be the theme for Youth Success Week 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the School Board of Escambia County does hereby recognize the week of April 5 – 9, 2021 as

YOUTH SUCCESS WEEK

and calls upon families, schools, religious and civic organizations, businesses and communities to become our partners in encouraging, celebrating, motivating, and empowering our youth for success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the regular meeting of said Board and a copy be tendered to Kerri L. Coats, Director of the Department of Alternative Education and the Chief Probation Officer for Circuit One, Department of Juvenile Justice.

Motion by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mrs. Hightower, to adopt a resolution recognizing the week of April 5 – 9, 2021 as Youth Success Week, carried unanimously.

6. [School Library Month Resolution](#)

Superintendent Smith read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, school library programs are an important asset in the education of the youth of the state; and

WHEREAS, school library programs significantly contribute to student achievement by providing instructional support resources and services; and

WHEREAS, school libraries provide access to information in a variety of formats within the school as well as to digital resources outside the school; and

WHEREAS, learning to become effective users of information and ideas is essential as Florida's youth prepare for a future filled with challenges and change; and

WHEREAS, promoting competencies in using new and emerging technologies is an integral part of school library programs; and

WHEREAS, school library programs promote literacy and the enjoyment of reading; and

WHEREAS, school librarians are instructional partners and consultants in the teaching and learning process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Escambia County, Florida, does hereby recognize the month of April, 2021 as

SCHOOL LIBRARY MONTH

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the regular meeting of said Board and that a copy be tendered to Michelle White, Coordinator, Media Services.

Motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to adopt a resolution recognizing the month of April, 2021 as School Library Month, carried unanimously.

II. [PUBLIC FORUM](#)

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Special Problem/Issue*</u>
Cor'Darius Jones, School Bus Operator	Transportation
Kevondre Brown, School Bus Operator	<i>Yielded time to Cor'Darius Jones</i>
Kimberly Munro, School Bus Operator	Marathon Wellness Center
Saralynn Young, School Bus Operator	
Anna Hench, School Bus Operator	<i>Yielded time to Saralynn Young</i>
Arabia Emmons, School Bus Operator	<i>Yielded time to Saralynn Young</i>

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

III. MINUTES

- a. [02-11-21 Special Workshop](#)
- b. [02-12-21 Regular Workshop](#)
- c. [02-16-21 Regular Meeting](#)
- d. [03-03-21 Special Workshop](#)
- e. [03-03-21 Special Meeting](#)

Motion by Mrs. Hightower, seconded by Mr. Adams, to approve the minutes as listed (Items a through e), 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. [Resolution to Name the Sports Complex at Pensacola High the David M. Williams Sports Complex](#)

Motion made by Mrs. Hightower, seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to adopt a resolution naming the sports complex at Pensacola High the David M. Williams Sports Complex. Mr. Slayton called for public hearing. Mr. Gerald Cox, Math Teacher at Pensacola High School, thanked the School Board in advance, for honoring principal David M. Williams in this manner. Superintendent Smith read the resolution aloud:

WHEREAS, Pensacola High School's School Advisory Council, alumni, faculty, staff and colleagues do hereby recognize the substantial influence and significant impact Mr. David M. Williams has made to the Pensacola High School community over the past thirty-five years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams first entered the halls of Pensacola High School as a student in 1973, where he excelled in both academics and athletics; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Mr. Williams returned to Pensacola High School to join the faculty, teaching and coaching for the next eighteen years, where he was honored as Coach of the Year four times and was selected Pensacola High School's Teacher of the Year in 2004; and

WHEREAS, in 2004 Mr. Williams was appointed Assistant Principal at Pensacola High School, and from 2008 to 2021 served as the Principal of Pensacola High School; and

WHEREAS, for the 2016-2017 school year, David Williams represented all Escambia County principals as the district's Principal of the Year; and

WHEREAS, the lives of thousands of young people have been positively impacted by David Williams as he strived to instill in them the importance of character, hard work, community service, education and life-long learning; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams has mentored students and adults about the importance of giving an "A" effort every day and how to be a "step above the rest," resulting in many former players and students going on to lead corporations and becoming successful coaches, teachers, administrators, district leaders, and business professionals both nationally and internationally; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams' thirty-five years of dedicated service to Pensacola High School, and the lives he has impacted, will resonate for generations to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the School Board of Escambia County, Florida, by this resolution, do hereby recognize the contributions of Mr. David M. Williams to Pensacola High School and the surrounding community, and support naming the sports complex at Pensacola High School the

DAVID M. WILLIAMS SPORTS COMPLEX

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the regular meeting of said School Board and that a copy be tendered to Mr. David M. Williams and the Pensacola High School administration.

Motion to adopt a resolution naming the sports complex at Pensacola High the David M. Williams Sports Complex carried unanimously.

2. Permission to Advertise

-No items submitted

b. CONSENT AGENDA

[No items pulled for separate vote.] Motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to approve the Consent Agenda (as amended), carried unanimously.

1. Curriculum

A. Alternative Education

-No items submitted

B. Continuous Improvement

1. [School Choice Student Transfers](#)

DELETE

- C. Elementary Education
 - No items submitted
 - D. Evaluation Services
 - No items submitted
 - E. Exceptional Student Education
 - 1. ~~Cooperative Agreement Between Autism Pensacola and the School Board of Escambia County, Florida~~
 - 2. [Transportation Reimbursement Request](#)
 - F. High School Education
 - No items submitted
 - G. Middle School Education
 - No items submitted
 - H. Professional Learning
 - 1. [2020-2021 Instructional Materials Adoption Escambia County School District](#)
 - I. Student Services
 - No items submitted
 - J. Title I
 - No items submitted
 - K. Workforce Education
 - 1. [Computer Science Certification Grant](#)
 - 2. [Fourth Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding Between Workforce Escasosa, Inc. DBA CareerSource Escasosa and the School Board of Escambia County, Florida](#)
 - L. Other
 - No items submitted
2. Finance and Business Services
- A. Finance
 - 1. [Legal Services – General Fund](#)
 - a. The Hammons Law Firm \$ 4,497.50
 - b. The Hammons Law Firm \$ 122.50
 - c. The Hammons Law Firm \$ 805.00
 - d. Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell \$ 6,411.74
 - 2. [Legal Services - Risk Management Fund](#)
 - a. The Hammons Law Firm \$ 9,462.14
 - 3. [Escambia School District Employee Benefit Trust Audit Report: Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020 and 2019](#)
 - B. Accounting Operations
 - 1. [Check Register for February 2021](#)
 - C. Budgeting
 - 1. [Recap of General Fund Reserves](#) (Non-Categorical)
 - 2. [Resolutions to amend District School Budget:](#)
 - a. Resolution 6 and 7 – General Operating Fund
 - b. Resolution 6 – Special Revenue – Federal Program
 - c. Resolution 6 – Capital Projects Fund
 - d. No item submitted – Special Revenue - Food Service Fund
 - e. No item submitted – Debt Service Fund
 - f. Resolution 6 – Cares Act Fund
 - 3. [Scrap List I for March 2021](#)
 - 4. [Auction List I for March 2021](#)
 - 5. [Financial Statements by Fund](#)
 - 6. [Disposal and Demolition of Portables #316, #321, and #466 at Bratt Elementary and Portables #241 and #423 at Ferry Pass Elementary](#)
 - 7. [Donation of Obsolete Functional Computers](#)

- D. Payroll and Benefits Accounting
 - 1. [Financial Status Report: Employee Benefit Trust Fund](#)
- E. Purchasing
 - ITEMS PREPARED BY PURCHASING:*
 - 1. [Bid Award: Grounds Maintenance, RFP #211303](#)
 - 2. [Bid Award: Food Processing: USDA Commodities, RFP #210902](#)
 - 3. [Amendment III to Annual Agreement: School Health Services](#)
 - 4. [Amendment II to Chiller Preventative Maintenance, RFP #172503](#)
 - 5. [Football Helmets](#)
 - 6. [Dell Chromebook Refresh for Various Schools](#)
 - 7. [Trucks for Maintenance Department](#)
 - 8. [Hurricane Sally Purchases](#)
 - ITEMS PREPARED BY FACILITIES PLANNING:*
 - 9. [Annual Agreement Renewal: Professional Architectural Services](#)
 - 10. [Annual Agreement: Professional Civil Engineering Services](#)
 - 11. [Annual Agreement: Professional Electrical Engineering Services](#)
 - 12. [Annual Agreement: Professional Mechanical Engineering Services](#)
 - 13. [Annual Agreement: Professional Structural Engineering Services](#)
 - 14. [Annual Agreement: Professional Land Surveying Services](#)
 - 15. [Annual Agreement: Professional Roofing Consultant Services](#)
 - 16. [Annual Agreement Renewal: Professional Building Commissioning Services](#)
 - 17. [Annual Agreement Renewal: Professional Environmental Consultant Services](#)
 - 18. [Annual Agreement Renewal: Professional Land Surveying Services](#)
 - 19. [Bid Award: Ernest Ward Middle School – Gymnasium Heating Hot Water](#)
 - 20. [Change Notice #2 to Purchase Order #5422000187 – Longleaf Elementary School – Covered Play Area & Multipurpose Room](#)
 - 21. [HVAC Replacement at Bratt Elementary School, Building 1](#)
 - 22. [Energy Savings Performance Contract – Bellview Middle School](#)
- 3. Human Resource Services
 - A. Instructional/Professional
 - 1. [Appointments](#)
 - 2. Reappointments
 - No items submitted
 - 3. Transfers
 - No items submitted
 - 4. Out-of-Field
 - No items submitted
 - 5. [Resignations/Retirements/Other](#)
 - 6. [Leaves of Absence](#)
 - 7. Special Requests
 - No items submitted
 - 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
 - No items submitted
 - D. Employee Services
 - No items submitted

- E. Affirmative Action
-No items submitted

4. Operations

A. Facilities Planning

1. Final Payments

- a. [Bratt Elementary and Ernest Ward Middle Schools-HVAC Upgrades](#)
- b. [Brown-Barge Middle School Renovations - Sam Marshall Architects](#)
- c. [Brown-Barge Middle School Renovations - Hewes and Company, LLC](#)
- d. [Navy Point Elementary School - Chiller Replacement](#)

2. Miscellaneous

- a. [Certification of Florida Inventory of School Houses \(FISH\)](#)

B. School Food Services

-No items submitted

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. [General Counsel Contract](#)

Motion by Mrs. Hightower, seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to approve Item V.c.1., General Counsel Contract, carried 4 to 1, with Dr. Edler voting “No.”

d. ITEMS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

1. Administrative Appointments

-No items submitted

2. Student Discipline

A. [Disciplinary Reassignments](#)

Motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mrs. Hightower, to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation for student discipline as outlined in Item V.d.2.A., *Disciplinary Reassignments*, carried unanimously.

B. [Expulsions](#)

Motion by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mr. Adams, to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation for student discipline as outlined in Item V.d.2.B., *Expulsions*, carried unanimously.

- 1. Recommend that consistent with the decision of the due process committee, student discipline number 21-72-281 be placed on extended suspension, pending court adjudication, from all public schools of Escambia County for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year and all of the 2021-2022 school year with the option to enroll, if qualified and if space is available, in an alternative educational program exclusive of regular school placement. Placement to be at the discretion of the Superintendent and to be available as an alternative during the full expulsion time frame.

2. Recommend that consistent with the decision of the due process committee, student discipline number 21-95-211 be expelled from all public schools of Escambia County for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year and all of the 2021-2022 school year with the option to enroll, if qualified and if space is available, in an alternative educational program exclusive of regular school placement. Placement to be at the discretion of the Superintendent and to be available as an alternative during the full expulsion time frame.

3. Employee Discipline

A. That employee #0000005487 is terminated effective Wednesday, March 24, 2021, based on misconduct as more specifically identified in the notice letter to the employee.

B. Recommend that employee #0000003579 is suspended without pay beginning Wednesday, March 24, 2021, based on misconduct as more specifically identified in the notice letter to the employee.

Motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mrs. Hightower, to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation for employee discipline as outlined in Item V.d.3.A and Item V.d.3.B, carried unanimously.

ADD

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 at 6:50 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Superintendent

Chair

