

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, MAY 14, 2021

The School Board of Escambia County, Florida, convened in Regular Workshop at 9:00 a.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)

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Ellen D. Odom

Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Timothy A. Smith

Advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on April 30, 2021 – Legal No. [4693648](#)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Slayton called the Regular Workshop to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Terry St. Cyr, Assistant Superintendent-Finance & Business Services, reviewed information outlined in a handout entitled, [Escambia County School District – Fourth FEFP Calculation, For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021](#). Ms. Theresa McCants, Director-Budgeting, reviewed important dates as noted on the proposed [TRIM calendar](#) for 2020-2021.

III. MINUTES

-No items discussed

IV. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

-No items discussed

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

-No items submitted

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. PROPOSED ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT RULES

1. Rule(s) Adoption

-No items submitted

2. Permission to Advertise

A. [Approval to Advertise Notice of Intent to Adopt Amendments to the School District of Escambia County, Florida Rights and Responsibilities Handbook](#)

The following changes were requested by the School Board:

Page 11 – delete the first sentence on #14

14. Which offenses have to be reported to Law Enforcement Officers?

Answer: ~~The Escambia County School District has the responsibility to report incidents to Law Enforcement.~~ The following require consultation with Law Enforcement: alcohol, arson, battery, breaking and entering/burglary, disruption on campus-major, drug sale/distribution excluding alcohol, drug use/possession excluding alcohol, hazing, homicide, kidnapping,

physical attack, robbery, larceny/theft, sexual assault, sexual battery, sexual offenses (other), threat/intimidation, trespassing, vandalism, weapons possessions, other major.

Page 19 – add “residential” to the sentence – The residential public school the student could choose to attend according to the controlled open enrollment provisions.

Students enrolled in Home Education, Full Time Florida Virtual School, Charter School, and/or an alternative program may participate at one of the following:

- 1) *The student’s residentially zoned public school, or*
- 2) *The residential public school the student could choose to attend according to the controlled open enrollment provisions. 1002.31. F.S.*

Page 22 – change “as directed by a teacher” to “when directed by a teacher” in the third bullet statement

- *Students are allowed to bring electronic communication devices that can access the Internet for educational purposes as determined by the Principal and the classroom teacher.*
- *Each campus will develop procedures for use and management.*
- *For safety purposes, headphones and ear buds are not to be used in common areas or hallways. Students may bring headphones or ear buds to use in class ~~as~~ when directed by a teacher.*

Page 25 – add clarifying language in the copyright violations section

Copyright Violations. *Downloading or using copyrighted information without following approved District procedures is prohibited. District procedures can be found in the School Board section of the district web site-“Rules and Procedures of the District School Board of Escambia County, Florida”, Section 4.09.*

Page 29 – add bullet in excusable absence section

If a parent/caregiver is unable to access or print the Absence Verification Form, a note may be written requesting an absence be excused and should include the student name, the date(s) of absence, reason, and parent’s/caregiver legal name.

b. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Curriculum

A. Alternative Education

5. [Partnership Agreement Between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and Acceleration Academies, LLC](#)

Mr. Mark A. Graves, President-Acceleration Academies, LLC gave a brief overview and then responded to questions regarding the educational services that Acceleration Academies was prepared to provide in order to re-engage and educate students who remain eligible to receive District services, but who have dropped out of school. In response to Mrs. Hightower’s request for tracking student progress, Mr. Fetsko suggested that a report from Acceleration Academies be combined with the report from charter schools as facilitated quarterly by Ms. Kerri Coats, Director-Alternative Education.

2. Finance and Business Services

A. Finance

3. [2020-2021 Miscellaneous Salary Schedule](#)

Mrs. Hightower wanted to know the cost for raising the daily substitute teacher pay between \$83 (BA degree) and \$115 (targeted schools only, pilot initiative). Ms. Kelly Krostag, Director of Human Resource Services, confirmed that staff planned to report on the substitute teacher situation next month.

[AMEND](#)

C. Budgeting

6. [Disposal and Demolition of Portables #151 at Pensacola High School and #476 at Ferry Pass Elementary](#)

There were no questions specific to this item; however, Mr. Adams did pose questions to Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent-Operations, regarding the disposal and demolition process for portables.

E. Purchasing

Although not a topic related to any item on this particular agenda, Mr. M. Keith Wasdin, Director-Facilities Planning, responded to Chair Slayton's positive remarks about the recent single room air conditioners installed in Building 1 at Bratt Elementary School.

3. Human Resource Services

D. Employee Services

1. [Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Escambia County School District and the Union of Escambia Education Staff Professionals concerning DOT Physicals](#)
2. [Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Escambia County School District and the Escambia Education Association concerning placement of retired educators](#)
3. [Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Escambia County School District, Escambia Education Association, and the Union of Escambia Education Staff Professionals concerning compensation and working conditions for Warrington Middle School for the 2021-2022 school year](#)

Mrs. Hightower and Mr. Adams each expressed appreciation to all individuals who helped create these MOU's between the School District and the employee unions.

4. Operations

-No items discussed

c. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

1. [Appointment of School Board Member to the FSBA Board of Directors](#)

Chair Slayton advised that the School Board would need to appoint a Board Member to serve as the alternate director representing District 1 (Escambia/Santa Rosa region) on the FSBA Board of Directors.

d. ITEMS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

-No items discussed

e. INTERNAL AUDITING

1. [Inventory Adjustment Reports twenty-six cost centers](#)

Mr. David Bryant, Director-Internal Auditing, briefly commented on this item. There were no concerns from School Board Members.

f. ITEMS FROM GENERAL COUNSEL

1. Final Order Of the School Board, Student Discipline No. 21-82-411

Mrs. Odom briefly commented on this item. She asked School Board Members to contact her with any questions regarding this confidential student discipline matter.

VII. [PUBLIC FORUM](#)

-No registration forms submitted

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Workshop adjourned at 11:18 a.m.