

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, APRIL 20, 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) – *entered at 5:32 p.m.*
Mrs. Patricia Hightower (District IV)

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Ellen Odom

Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Timothy A. Smith

Advertised in the Pensacola News Journal on March 18, 2021 – Legal No. 4642874

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. Fetsko 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. Chair 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. There being no objections to the changes, motion made by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to adopt the agenda *as amended*, carried unanimously.

c. Committee/Departmental Reports

1. PTA Presentation

A representative of the 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 Mrs. Donna Mogle, Data Clerk II at Hellen Caro Elementary, as the Escambia County School District's Stellar Employee for the month of April. Mrs. Mogle received a plaque and pin from the School District and a check for \$100 from Members First Credit Union.

3. Florida School Related Employee of the Year

School Board Members joined Superintendent Smith in recognizing Mrs. Teresa Cardwell, Teacher Assistant within the Alternative Education Department, as the Escambia County School District's nominee for the 2021 Florida School-Related Employee of the Year Program. Mrs. Cardwell received a plaque from the School District.

ADD

4. Commissioner's Business Recognition Award

School Board Members joined Superintendent Smith in recognizing Fishbein Orthodontics as the Escambia County School District's Business Partner of the Year for 2020-2021 and as its nominee for the State of Florida's 2021 Commissioner's Business Recognition Award. Representatives of Fishbein Orthodontics received a plaque from the School District.

II. PUBLIC FORUM

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

Keri Carroll, parent

Problem/Issue*: Allow PHS faculty & staff to attend parent-sponsored IB Convocation on May 27

Nicole Endacott, parent - *Yielded time to Keri Carroll*

Charlie Wine, student

Problem/Issue*: Cancellation of Performing Arts

Theresa Morehouse, parent

Problem/Issue*: Cancellation or prohibiting concerts and banquets

Tonya Burson, School Bus Operator

Problem/Issue*: Marathon Health

Annie Howell, School Bus Assistant - *Yielded time to Tonya Burson*

Nicholas Sauer - *Yielded time to Tonya Burson*

Suzanne Spence, parent

Problem/Issue*: Activity of Students

Amber Seitz, School Bus Operator

Problem/Issue*: Transportation

Teresa Davis, School Bus Assistant

Problem/Issue*: Marathon Health

Leon Davison - *Yielded time to Teresa Davis*

Cor'Darius Jones, School Bus Operator

Problem/Issue*: Transportation

Keavondre Brown, School Bus Operator - *Yielded time to Cor'Darius Jones*

Cassandra Langley, parent

Problem/Issue*: Tate Band Concert/Banquet

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

III. MINUTES

- a. 03-11-21 Special Workshop
- b. 03-12-21 Regular Workshop
- c. 03-23-21 Special Workshop
- d. 03-23-21 Regular Meeting

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

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

-No items submitted

V. 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~~

DELETE

b. CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Hightower requested that Item V.b.1.C.1., *The School District of Escambia County, Florida Summer School Programs – 2021*, be pulled from the Consent Agenda for separate vote. Motion by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mr. Adams, to approve the Consent Agenda (as amended) minus item pulled, carried unanimously.

1. Curriculum

A. Alternative Education

1. Contract Between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and CDAC Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.
2. Cooperative Agreement Between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and CDAC Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.

B. Continuous Improvement

1. School Choice Student Transfers
2. Contract for External Operator for Holm Elementary School Between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and the Rensselaerville Institute
3. Contract for External Operator for Warrington Elementary School Between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and the Rensselaerville Institute
4. Contract for External Operator for Warrington Middle School Between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and Learning Sciences International

C. Elementary Education

1. The School District of Escambia County, Florida Summer School Programs - 2021

Motion made by Mrs. Hightower to approve Item V.b.1.C.1., *The School District of Escambia County, Florida Summer School Programs – 2021*. Mr. Adams seconded the motion for discussion. Mrs. Hightower thanked the Superintendent and his staff for their effort to accommodate as many students as possible in summer school. She hoped that parents would take advantage of this opportunity for their children. Motion carried unanimously.

AMEND

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

1. Memorandum of Understanding Between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company 2021-2026

2. Memorandum of Understanding Between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and Savvas Learning Company LLC 2021-2026
 - I. Student Services
 1. Cooperative Agreement Between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and Children's Home Society of Florida – Western Division
 - J. Title I
 - No items submitted
 - K. Workforce Education
 - No items submitted
 - L. Other
 1. School District of Escambia County, Florida 2021-2022 School Calendar - Amended
2. Finance and Business Services
 - A. Finance
 1. Legal Services – General Fund
 - a. The Hammons Law Firm \$ 2,327.50
 - b. The Hammons Law Firm \$ 437.50
 - c. Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell \$ 6,939.65
 - d. Carver, Darden, Koretzky, Tessier, Finn, Blossman & Areaux LLC \$ 1,697.50
 2. Legal Services - Risk Management Fund
 - a. The Hammons Law Firm \$18,136.75
 3. Statement from Florida School Boards Association for 2021-2022 annual dues
 - B. Accounting Operations
 1. Check Register for March 2021
 - C. Budgeting
 1. Recap of General Fund Reserves (Non-Categorical)
 2. Resolutions to amend District School Budget:
 - a. Resolution 8 – General Operating Fund
 - b. Resolution 7 – Special Revenue – Federal Program
 - c. Resolution 7 – Capital Projects Fund
 - d. No item submitted – Special Revenue - Food Service Fund
 - e. No item submitted – Debt Service Fund
 - f. Resolution 7 – Cares Act Fund
 3. Scrap List I for April 2021
 4. Auction List I and II for April 2021
 5. Financial Statements by Fund
 6. Disposal and Demolition of Portable #451 at Pine Forest High School
 - D. Payroll and Benefits Accounting
 1. Financial Status Report: Employee Benefit Trust Fund
 - E. Purchasing

ITEMS PREPARED BY PURCHASING:

 1. Bid Award: COVID-19 Supplies, Bid #211203
 2. Bid Award: Breakfast and Lunch Entrees, Bid #211402
 3. Bid Renewal: Travel Agency Services, RFP #153303
 4. Bid Re-Award: Food Processing: USDA Commodities, RFP #210902, Item #6
 5. Bid Extension: Bread for Direct Delivery to School Cafeterias, RFP #192602
 6. Bid Renewal: Security and Crossing Guard Services, RFP #170603
 7. Drug Screening Services
 8. Dell Computer Equipment for Tate High School
 9. Video Surveillance Security System for C.A. Weis Elementary School
 10. Annual Agreement Renewal: i-Ready Diagnostic and Instruction Software and Services Agreement
 11. Fingerprint Processing and Record Retention
 12. Video Surveillance Security System for Judy Andrews Center

13. Amendment 1 to Master Purchase & Services(s) Agreement with MorseCom
14. Agreement: Use License Agreement for Pensacola Bay Center
15. Annual Agreement Amendment: Group Medical Benefits (Including Prescription Drugs)
16. Change Notice #2 to Increase Purchase Order #8062100017 – Emergency Removal of Tree Debris
ITEMS PREPARED BY FACILITIES PLANNING:
17. Architectural/Engineering Services for Cordova Park, Montclair and West Pensacola Elementary Schools - Window Replacements
18. Bid Award: ECSD Central Warehouse – Generator Replacement
19. Bid Award: Oakcrest Elementary School – New Tennis Courts
20. Bid Award: Tate High School – New Tennis Courts
21. Canopies at Various Sites (Capital Outlay)
22. Change Notice #2 to Purchase Order #5422000091 - Escambia Westgate Adaptive Play Facility
23. Change Notice #2 to Purchase Order #5422100023 – N.B. Cook Elementary School – Building Envelope Repair
24. Change Notice #3 to Purchase Order #5422000185 – Beulah Elementary School – Covered Play Area and Multipurpose Room
25. Change Notice #3 to Purchase Order #5422000186 – Pine Meadow Elementary School – Covered Play Area & Multipurpose Room
26. Change Notice #4 to Purchase Order #5422000133 – Pensacola High School Tennis Courts and Bus Loop
27. Flooring for Lakeview/Judy Andrews Renovation
28. Outside Air Unit (OAU) Replacement at O.J. Semmes Building 9
29. Roof Replacement for Camelot Academy (McMillan)
30. Roof Replacement for Lakeview/Judy Andrews Renovation

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
 - a. For Board Information: Report the death of Andrew M. Rappold, Teacher at Escambia High School, on February 25, 2021
 - b. Approve the following job description on the Administrative Salary Schedule, effective July 1, 2021: Coordinator – Marketing and Public Relations
 - c. Approve the following job description on the Educational Support Personnel Salary Schedule, effective July 1, 2021: Lead Painter
 - d. Approve to amend the following job description on the Professional Salary Schedule, effective July 1, 2021: Coordinator – Cost Analysis (amended to Coordinator – Budget Analysis and Reporting)
 - e. Approve to amend the following job description on the Administrative Salary Schedule, effective July 1, 2021: Coordinator – Student Services (amended to Director – Student Services)
 - f. Approve the 2021-2022 Department Personnel Planning Document

B. Educational Support Personnel

1. Appointments

AMEND

2. Temporary Promotions
 3. Resignations/Retirements/Other
 4. Terminations
 5. Leaves of Absence
 6. Special Requests
-No items submitted
 - C. Risk Management
 1. Plan Member 457(b) Savings Program
 - D. Employee Services
 1. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Escambia County School District and the Escambia Education Association related to Priority Transfer
 2. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Escambia County School District and the Union of Escambia Education Staff Professionals related to summer employment of food service employees
 - E. Affirmative Action
-No items submitted
4. Operations
- A. Facilities Planning
 1. Final Payments
 - a. J.E. Hall Center Window Replacements
 - b. Miscellaneous Sitework Improvements at Multiple Facilities District Wide
 - c. Tate High School – Chiller Plant
 2. Miscellaneous
 - a. Purchase Agreement between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and Joseph and Bambi L. DeJesus
 - 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
-No items submitted
- 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

1. Recommend that consistent with the decision of the due process committee, student discipline number 21-103-862 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.

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.

3. Employee Discipline

- A. Recommend that employee #0000059101 is suspended without pay beginning Wednesday, April 21, 2021, with suspension without pay to continue until the employee satisfies and successfully completes all terms and conditions of a return-to-work agreement as a result of misconduct more specifically identified in the notice letter to employee.
- B. Recommend that employee #0000018890 is suspended without pay for five working days beginning April 21, 2021, based on misconduct as more specifically identified in the notice letter to the employee.

Motion by Mrs. Hightower, seconded by Mr. Adams, 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.

4. Other Items

- A. Recommend that employee #0000030576 is suspended without pay beginning Wednesday, April 21, 2021, based on conduct as more specifically identified in the notice letter to the employee.
- B. Recommend that employee #0000059606 is suspended without pay beginning Wednesday, April 21, 2021, based on conduct as more specifically identified in the notice letter to the employee.

The following individual(s) registered to address the School Board regarding recommendations outlined under Section V.d.4., *Other Items*: James McCoy, Jr., represented by his attorney, Gene E. Mitchell.

Motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to accept the Superintendent's recommendations as outlined in Item V.d.4.A and Item V.d.4.B, carried unanimously.

e. INTERNAL AUDITING

1. Inventory Adjustment Reports twenty-four cost centers

Motion by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mrs. Hightower, to approve Item V.e.1., *Inventory Adjustment Reports for twenty-four cost centers*, carried unanimously.

f. ITEMS FROM GENERAL COUNSEL

-No items submitted

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Prior to adjournment, Mrs. Hightower advised that School Board Members had received a request to make an official statement on SB-86 as it related to the Bright Futures Scholarship program. She offered the following motion as a statement from the School Board: *The Escambia County School District opposes removing the Bright Futures Scholarship promise to pay tuition. The District also opposes removing the promise to provide a textbook funding stipend for students who receive the Academic Scholars award. Under proposed SB-86, the Bright Futures program promise to pay 100% of tuition for Academic Scholars, and 75% to 100% of tuition for Medallion Scholars, would be broken. Instead, the amount of these awards would be determined year-to-year during the state budgeting process. The Bright Futures Scholarship Program promise should be kept in law, as is, so that students who receive awards and their parents can depend on consistent scholarship funding while attending a college or university in Florida.* Motion seconded by Mr.

Fetsko. Mrs. Odom advised that since this matter had not been advertised as part of this agenda, the School Board would first need to determine whether this matter warranted emergency action. Mrs. Hightower withdrew her motion and Mr. Fetsko withdrew his second.

Mrs. Hightower moved that the School Board consider making a statement on SB-86 as an emergency matter, given the Legislative session would end in two weeks. Motion seconded by Mr. Adams and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Hightower offered the following motion as a statement from the School Board: *The Escambia County School District opposes removing the Bright Futures scholarship promise to pay tuition. The District also opposes removing the promise to provide a textbook funding stipend for students who receive the Academic Scholars award. Under proposed SB-86, the Bright Futures program promise to pay 100% of tuition for Academic Scholars, and 75% to 100% of tuition for Medallion Scholars, would be broken. Instead, the amount of these awards would be determined year-to-year during the state budgeting process. The Bright Futures Scholarship Program promise should be kept in law, as is, so that students who receive awards and their parents can depend on consistent scholarship funding while attending a college or university in Florida.* Motion seconded by Mr. Fetsko and carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Superintendent

Chair