

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, OCTOBER 19, 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)

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Ellen D. Odom

Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Timothy A. Smith

Advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on September 22, 2021 – Legal No. [4923660](#)

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.*) Dr. Edler introduced Dr. Isaac L. Williams, Pastor of Greater True Vine Baptist Church, located at 1390 North Pace Boulevard, in Pensacola, Florida. Dr. Williams delivered the invocation and Dr. Edler 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. Chair Slayton said he found the changes were for good cause. There being no objections to the changes, motion made by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mr. Adams, to adopt the agenda *as amended*, carried unanimously.

c. Committee/Departmental Reports

1. PTA Presentation

Representatives 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

The Superintendent made the following announcement: *It is my pleasure this evening to announce the Stellar Employee for the month of October is Ms. Kathy Wynn. The Escambia County School District's Office of Community Involvement is proud to recognize Ms. Kathy Wynn as the Stellar Employee for the month of October 2021. Kathy Wynn has been a friendly voice and face at West Florida High School for the last eight years. Many parents, students and community members know her voice and feel her smile before they see her. She has worked tirelessly at the school in many roles, including attendance clerk, front office secretary and currently, as the Administrative Secretary III – otherwise known as the principal's secretary. Kathy Wynn completes whatever tasks are needed - big or small. She works diligently to beautify the campus, speak words of encouragement, and most importantly, helps keep the principal organized! Of recent importance, Ms. Wynn wanted to find a*

way to express her gratitude to substitute teachers, so she had an idea to have a breakfast for substitute teachers during pre-school. Ms. Wynn pulled together the support staff team to solicit donations from local retailers. She then sent invitations and organized a breakfast just for the substitute teachers! To this day, these dedicated substitutes still thank Ms. Wynn for the breakfast and tell her how much the meal and small gifts made them feel appreciated. These are a few examples of things Ms. Wynn does every day. Ms. Wynn goes about her exemplifying composure and encouragement. West Florida High School is honored to have Ms. Wynn as a part of their team. She is a living example of doing things the "West Florida way," setting goals and accomplishing them with excellence - day in and day out - no matter who is watching. Thank you, Ms. Wynn, for always taking care of the students, staff and community of West Florida High School! Kathy Wynn is stellar because of her excellent work ethic and dedication to the staff and students throughout the Escambia County School District. She exemplifies the pillars of "people" and "service" and it is for these reasons, and so many others, that she has been selected as our Stellar Employee of the month of October 2021. Ms. Wynn received a plaque and pin from the School District and a check for \$100 from Member's First Credit Union.

3. 2021 Energy Incentive Top Award Recipients

Superintendent Smith made the following announcement: *Our Energy Management Program was established 16 years ago. The program has helped the district avoid millions of dollars in utility costs. The success of the energy program has been driven not only by the efforts of our energy management, maintenance and facilities planning departments, but also by the staff, faculties and students at all of our campuses. This is the 9th year of our energy incentive program. This initiative recognizes and rewards schools for changing their behavior to comply with energy management guidelines. This year 100% of our schools will receive a monetary award ranging from \$525 to \$1,225. Tonight, our energy managers, Tiffany Clark and Jackie Smith, will be recognizing the schools that received the maximum energy incentive award.*

4. [Education Support Professionals' Day Resolution](#)

Superintendent Smith read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Education Support Professionals Day was first established in 1987 after the National Education Association (NEA's) Representative Assembly called for the creation of a way to honor contributions of school support staff; and

WHEREAS, Public schools are the backbone of our democracy, providing young people with the tools they need to maintain our nation's precious values of freedom, civility, and equality; and

WHEREAS, by equipping young people with both practical skills and broader intellectual abilities, traditional public schools give them hope for and access to a productive future; and

WHEREAS, schools are a community that bring together adults and children, educators and volunteers, business leaders, and elected officials in our common goal of creating safe Public Schools for Every Child; and

WHEREAS, Education Support Professionals are an integral part of the education process; and

WHEREAS, Education Support Professionals provide a safe and healthy learning environment for staff and students; and

WHEREAS, Education Support Professionals work tirelessly to serve our children and community with care and professionalism.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the School Board of Escambia County, Florida does hereby recognize November 17, 2021, as

EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS' DAY

and recognizes and acknowledges the importance of Education Support Professionals in our public schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the regular board meeting of the Escambia County School District and a copy be tendered to David Elzbeck, President, Union of Escambia ESP (Education Staff Professionals).

Motion by Mr. Fetsko, seconded by Mrs. Hightower, to adopt a resolution recognizing November 17, 2021 as Education Support Professionals' Day, carried unanimously.

5. [National Bullying Prevention Month Resolution](#)

Superintendent Smith read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, bullying is physical, verbal, sexual, or emotional harm or intimidation intentionally directed at a person or group of people; and

WHEREAS, bullying occurs in neighborhoods, playgrounds, schools, and through technology, such as the Internet and cell phones; and

WHEREAS, various researchers have concluded that bullying is the most common form of violence, affecting millions of American children and adolescents annually; and

WHEREAS, targets of bullying are more likely to acquire physical, emotional, and learning problems; and

WHEREAS, students who are repeatedly bullied often fear such activities as riding the bus, going to school, and attending school and community activities; and

WHEREAS, children who bully are at greater risk of engaging in more serious violent behaviors; and

WHEREAS, children who witness bullying often feel less secure, more fearful, and intimidated; and

WHEREAS, The State of Florida and the School District of Escambia County commit their resources to ensure the success of the national theme: United for a Kinder, More Accepting and Inclusive World.

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

National Bullying Prevention Month

and encourages students, parents and staff of the School District of Escambia County, Florida to engage in a variety of awareness and prevention activities designed to make our schools and community safer for all children and adolescents.

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 Dr. Patti Thomas and Connie Farish, Directors of Elementary Schools, Dr. Michael Roberts, Director of Middle Schools, Lesa Morgan, Director of High Schools and Kerri Coots, Director of Alternative Education.

Motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to adopt a resolution recognizing the month of October 2021 as National Bullying Prevention Month, carried unanimously.

II. [PUBLIC FORUM](#)

-No registration forms submitted

III. MINUTES

- a. [09-16-21 Special Meeting](#)
- b. [09-16-21 Special Workshop](#)
- c. [09-17-21 Regular Workshop](#)
- d. [09-21-21 Regular Meeting](#)

Motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mrs. Hightower, 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
 - No items submitted

b. CONSENT AGENDA

The following item was pulled from the Consent Agenda for separate vote: Item V.b.4.G.1., 2021-2022 FSSAT School Security Risk Assessment Recommendations. Motion by Mrs. Hightower, seconded by Mr. Adams, to approve the Consent Agenda (*as amended*), minus item pulled, carried unanimously.

1. Curriculum

- A. Alternative Education
 - No items submitted
- B. Continuous Improvement
 - 1. School Choice Student Transfers
 - 2. [DoDEA Military Grant Award: The Knowing and Embracing World Language \(KEWL\) Project](#)
- C. Elementary Education
 - 1. [Agreement Between the School Board of Escambia County, Florida and the University of Alabama](#)
- 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
 - No items submitted
- K. Workforce Education
 - 1. [School Affiliation Renewal Agreement Between Baptist Health Care Corporation 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 \$ 87.50
 - b. Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell \$ 2,891.00
 - c. Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell \$ 1,320.00
 - d. Carver, Darden, Koretzky, Tessier, Finn, Blossman & Areaux LLC \$ 1,505.00
 - 2. [Legal Services - Risk Management Fund](#)
 - a. The Hammons Law Firm \$ 3,377.50
- B. Accounting Operations
 - 1. [Check Register for September 2021](#)
- C. Budgeting
 - 1. [Recap of General Fund Reserves \(Non-Categorical\)](#)
 - 2. [Resolutions to amend District School Budget:](#)
 - a. Resolution 1 – General Operating Fund
 - b. Resolution 1 - Special Revenue – Federal Program

- c. No item submitted – Capital Projects Fund
- d. No item submitted – Special Revenue - Food Service Fund
- e. No item submitted - Debt Service Fund
- f. Resolution 1 – Cares Act and CRRSA Act Funds
- 3. [Scrap List I for October 2021](#)
- 4. [Auction List I for October 2021](#)
- 5. Financial Statements by Fund – No item submitted pending FYE Financial Statements
- 6. [Donation of Surplus Bus to Escambia County Emergency Medical Services](#)
- D. Payroll and Benefits Accounting
 - 1. Financial Status Report: Employee Benefit Trust Fund – no item submitted pending FYE Financial Statements
- E. Purchasing
 - ITEMS PREPARED BY PURCHASING:*
 - 1. [Bid Renewal: Diplomas, RFP #200602](#)
 - 2. [Bid Renewal: Dispensing System for General Cleaning Supplies, RFP #151702](#)
 - 3. [Bid Renewal: Dispensing System for Toilet Tissue and Hand Towels, RFP #151602](#)
 - 4. [Bid Renewal: Custodial Supplies, Bid #170703](#)
 - 5. [Amendment I: Fire Alarm Inspection and Maintenance, RFP #150402](#)
 - 6. [IT Technical Support Agreement](#)
 - 7. [Dell Computer Equipment for George Stone Technical College](#)
 - ITEMS PREPARED BY FACILITIES PLANNING:*
 - 8. [Annual Agreement Renewal: Portable Moving Services Throughout the District](#)
 - 9. [Architectural/Engineering Services for Multiple School Project Improvements \(Capital Outlay\)](#)
 - 10. [Change Notice #1 to Purchase Order #5422100121 – Ernest Ward Middle School – Gymnasium Heating Hot Water](#)
 - 11. [Change Notice #1 to Purchase Order #5422100137 – Architectural/Engineering Services for Montclair Elementary School – Window Replacements](#)
 - 12. [Change Notice #1 to Purchase Order #5422100138 – Architectural/Engineering Services for West Pensacola Elementary School – Window Replacements](#)
 - 13. [Change Notice #2 to Purchase Order #5422100139 – Tate High School – New Tennis Courts](#)
 - 14. [Change Notice #5 to Purchase Order #5422100065 – C.A. Weis Elementary School – Roof Replacement](#)
 - 15. [Chiller at N.B. Cook Elementary School – ESSER II](#)
 - 16. [Professional Mechanical Engineering Services – Blue Angel Elementary School – Outside Air Unit Replacement – ESSER II](#)
 - 17. [Professional Mechanical Engineering Services – Navy Point Elementary School – Outside Air Unit and Boiler Replacement – ESSER II](#)
 - 18. [Professional Mechanical Engineering Services – Pine Forest High School – Chiller and Cooling Tower Replacement – ESSER II](#)
 - 19. [Roof Replacement for Global Learning Academy – Section 1G](#)
 - 20. [Roof Replacement for Hall Center Annex – Sections 1L and 1M](#)
 - 21. [Roof Restoration on Cafeteria at West Florida High School](#)
 - 22. [Miscellaneous Controls Upgrades at Multiple Facilities - ESSER II and III](#)

ADD

- 3. Human Resource Services
 - A. Instructional/Professional
 - 1. [Appointments](#)
 - 2. [Reappointments](#)
 - 3. [Transfers](#)
 - 4. Out-of-Field
 - No items submitted
 - 5. [Resignations/Retirements/Other](#)
 - 6. [Leaves of Absence](#)

7. Special Requests
- a. [Amend the 2021-2022 Department Personnel Planning Document for cost center 4406-Continuous Improvement & School Choice \(2 pages\)](#)
 - b. [For Board Information](#) – Report the deaths of:
 - James A. Jones, II, Teacher at George Stone Technical College, on September 20, 2021
 - Edward Sizemore, Teacher at George Stone Technical College, on September 10, 2021
- B. Educational Support Personnel
1. [Appointments](#)
 2. [Temporary Promotions](#)
 3. [Resignations/Retirements/Other](#)
 4. [Terminations](#)
 5. [Leaves of Absence](#)
 6. Special Requests
 - a. [For Board Information](#) – Report the death of:
 - Elmer L. Cobb, IV, Carpenter II at Maintenance Services, on September 9, 2021
- 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. [A/E Services for Holm Elementary – Storm Repairs](#)
 - b. [Holm Elementary – Storm Repairs](#)
 - c. [Longleaf Elementary School – Covered Play Area and Multipurpose Room](#)
 2. Miscellaneous
 - a. [Renewal of Pre-Qualified Contractors](#)
 - B. School Food Services
-No items submitted
 - C. Maintenance and Custodial Services
-No items submitted
 - D. Transportation
 1. [2021-2022 Bus Routes](#)
 - E. Central Warehouse
-No items submitted
 - F. Information Technology
-No items submitted
 - G. Protection Services
 1. [2021-2022 FSSAT School Security Risk Assessment Recommendations](#)
 Motion made by Mrs. Hightower and seconded by Mr. Fetsko, to adopt Item V.b.4.G.1., *2021-2022 FSSAT School Security Risk Assessment Recommendations*. As required by s. 1006.07(6)(a)(4) F.S., Mr. Kyle Kinzer, Coordinator-Protection Services, outlined the District’s recommendations in response to the 2021-2022 FSSAT School Security Risk Assessments. Motion carried unanimously.
 - 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 affirm the Superintendent's recommendations for student discipline as outlined in Item V.d.2.A., carried 4 to 1, with Dr. Edler voting "No."

B. Expulsions

1. Recommend that consistent with the decision of the due process committee, student discipline number 22-16-281 be placed on extended suspension, pending court adjudication, from all public schools of Escambia County for the remainder 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 recommendations for student discipline as outlined in Item V.d.2.B., carried unanimously.

3. Employee Discipline

~~No items submitted~~

A. Recommend that employee #0000001136 is suspended without pay beginning Wednesday, October 20, 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.

ADD

4. Other Items

~~No items submitted~~

A. Recommend approval of the Settlement Agreement between the School District of Escambia County and the Union of Escambia Education Staff Professionals regarding employee #0000005487

ADD

Motion by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mrs. Hightower, to accept the Superintendent's recommendations as outlined in Item V.d.3.A and Item V.d.4.A., carried unanimously.

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 6:12 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Superintendent

Chair