

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, NOVEMBER 16, 2007

The School Board of Escambia County, Florida, convened in Workshop Meeting 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: Mrs. Patricia Hightower Vice Chair: Mr. Pete Gindl, Sr.

Board Members: Mr. Jeff Bergosh
Mr. Gerald Boone
Mrs. Claudia Brown-Curry

School Board General Counsel: Mrs. Donna Sessions Waters

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Jim Paul (*entered at 9:20 a.m.*)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Hightower called the Regular Workshop to order at 9:05 a.m.

Due to time constraints, the following item was moved forward for discussion:

Change Notice #1 to Purchase Order #293738
(*Item V.D.22 on November 27, 2007 Regular Meeting agenda*)

It was noted that this was a request to issue Change Notice #1 to Purchase Order #293728 in order to increase the contract with Southern Management, Inc. by \$363,602.76 due to the following:

- An increase in square footage to be cleaned at each of the eight schools originally contracted. This increase in area is the result of the movement of modular classrooms and re-measurement of the space actually cleaned by the contractor. *Additional expenditure: \$62,452.02*
- The addition of Workman Middle School, Scenic Heights, O.J. Semmes and A.K. Suter Elementary Schools (the remaining one third of Zone 3 schools) to the agreement with Southern Management, Inc. effective January 1, 2008. *Additional expenditure: \$301,150.74*

The following speakers requested to address the Board regarding Southern Management, Inc.: Aggie Bauer, Principal-Cordova Park Elementary; Dr. Pat Kerrigan, Principal-Brown-Barge Middle School; Brian Alaback, Principal-Brentwood Elementary School; Clinton Lott, Assistant Principal-Washington High School; and Rhonda Shuford, Principal-Ferry Pass Elementary School. Each of these speakers expressed their satisfaction with the custodial services provided by Southern Management, Inc.

(NOTE: *The Superintendent entered the meeting at 9:20 a.m.*)

The following speaker requested to address the Board regarding this item: David Pittman. Mr. Pittman expressed his concerns regarding in-house versus contracted custodial services.

NOTE: *A presentation regarding the Escambia County School District's Partnership for Inmate Rehabilitation occurred at this time. (See "Time Certain Items")*

A. Open Discussion

1. Budget Process

(This issue appeared on the October Regular Workshop agenda but was pulled due to time constraints)

The following issues were addressed regarding the budget process:

Mrs. Brown-Curry requested a monthly meeting with Finance staff, beginning hopefully in December, to discuss matters regarding the budget.

To help condense the rather voluminous information associated with the budget, Mrs. Barbara Linker, Assistant Superintendent for Finance, offered to provide Board Members with a summary sheet from each of the budget books.

Knowing that there was a "dismal [financial] picture" for the next several years, Mrs. Hightower suggested a different approach to developing the budget by "building the budget from the bottom up" beginning with those expenditures that were absolutely necessary in order to keep the District operating and adding other items only when affordable.

Mrs. Hightower asked for information regarding the possible impact that the proposed constitutional amendment, Amendment I, (January 29th ballot) might have on the School District.

2. Procedure for Noticing School Board Members of Various Issues

It was noted that the correct procedure for noticing Board Members of various issues was for the Superintendent's Office staff to contact Mrs. Linda West, Coordinator of Board Affairs, either by office phone or personal cell phone (as agreed to by Mrs. West); and in turn, Mrs. West would notify individual Board Members.

Due to time constraints, the following issue was moved forward for discussion:

Adoption of the 2008-09 student calendar

(Item V.C.I.g.8 on November 27, 2007 Regular Meeting agenda)

Mr. Bergosh took a moment to thank the Human Resources Services staff for changing the phrase "Winter Break" to "Christmas Break" on the proposed 2008-09 student calendar.

3. Development of Policy Regarding Public Input at School Board Workshops

Mrs. Waters was tasked with drafting a policy regarding public input at School Board Workshops. Board Members agreed that such input should be limited to only those issues listed on the workshop agenda and that a time limit of two (2) minutes for each speaker should be imposed.

4. District Hiring Practices
(*This issue was previously addressed at the October 16, 2007 Special Workshop*)

It was noted that several Board Members had individually submitted a written list of questions to the Human Resource Services staff regarding the District hiring practices. Brief discussion took place regarding the recruitment and retention of minority teachers. A request was made by Mrs. Hightower that staff use the term “minority” when referring to any ethnic group not a part of the majority.

II. COMMENTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent had no comments on the agenda as presented.

III. TIME CERTAIN ITEMS

1. The Escambia County School District’s Partnership for Inmate Rehabilitation (*9:30 a.m.*)

Mr. Jeff Bohannon, Superintendent-Escambia County Road Prison, gave a brief presentation regarding the formal education training programs that were available to inmates and were provided under contract with the Escambia County School District and George Stone Vocational Center:

- Horticulture/Landscaping
- Welding
- Carpentry

Mr. Bohannon noted that the inmates received certifications at each level achieved just as they would were they attending the vocational school at their own expense. Eventually, inmates in each of the educational training programs are assisted with their transition back into society with job placement opportunities provided through a partnership with Vocational Rehabilitation. In addition to providing inmates with opportunities to learn a trade, the Escambia County Road Prison engages in a “whole man” concept in an effort to change the inmate’s priorities and perspectives by providing programs such as “40 Days of Purpose,” parenting classes, and bible study classes. (It was noted that such programs are strictly voluntary and well received by the inmates). Mr. Bohannon closed his presentation by thanking the Board, the Superintendent, and District staff, for their continued support of the Escambia County Road Prison.

IV. PROPOSED ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT RULES

Revisions to School District Chapter 7 – Student Affairs

It was noted that although the backup documentation for the Pupil Progression Plan (PPP) had been submitted separately, it was to be included as part of *Revisions to School District Chapter 7 – Student Affairs*. Staff members responded to questions posed by Board Members regarding various aspects of the PPP as outlined in the backup documentation. Mrs. Hightower suggested that the PPP outline specific guidelines regarding students who wish to transfer classes during the 7th or 8th week of school. Her belief was that students should be permitted to change classes only at semester break.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Curriculum and Instruction

2. Boys & Girls Club Mentoring Services Grant

Upon inquiry by Mrs. Brown-Curry, Ms. Sandra Edwards, Director of Comprehensive Planning, School Improvement & Grants Management, explained that the primary instructional activity that would be implemented as a part of this grant was Smart Tutor, a K-5 web-based

advanced learning system that had been used successfully by other Boys & Girls Clubs throughout the State.

B. Finance

No discussion was held.

C. Human Resource Services

1. Instructional/Professional

a. Appointments

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>WORK LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Bast, Donald	Law Enf Ins (PT)	George Stone	10/04/07
Cornacchione, Frank	Law Enf Ins (PT)	George Stone	08/15/07
Cortes, Michelle	Teacher	Washington	10/04/07
Cox, Jerry	Law Enf Ins (PT)	George Stone	10/08/07
Day, Clifton	Teacher	George Stone	09/13/07
Gindl, Francis	Teacher	Ernest Ward	10/15/07
Gore, James	Law Enf Ins (PT)	George Stone	10/04/07
Green, Terri	Teacher	Westgate	11/01/07
Gulley, Debra	Teacher	Bellview Mid	11/02/07
Hinds, Raymond	Teacher	Washington	10/23/07
Kattau, Kathryn	Educational Data Spec	Special Education	11/05/07
Kattau, Paul	Teacher	Ransom	10/15/07
Lynes, Kathryn	Senior Financial Analyst	Budgeting	11/13/07
Madison, Charlyn	Teacher	Carver/Century	10/25/07
Mate, Lindsay	Teacher	Tate	10/15/07
McCrackin, Sidney	Teacher	Warrington Mid	10/22/07
McDaniel, Caroline	Teacher	Tate	10/01/07
McMahan, Danee	Teacher	Blue Angels	10/04/07
Patton, Lindsay	Teacher	Warrington Elem	11/01/07
Provenzano, Frank	Teacher (PT)	George Stone	10/08/07
Ramos, Frency	Teacher	Tate	10/01/07
Ray, Barbara	Teacher	Warrington Mid	10/08/07
Sanders, Rick	Law Enf Ins (PT)	George Stone	10/26/07
Ulman, Karen	Teacher	Warrington Mid	10/24/07
Ward, Zachary	Law Enf Ins (PT)	George Stone	10/29/07

Mrs. Hightower referred to an individual listed in this section who would be supervised by his/her relative. She noted that Board policy addressed similar situations involving married personnel (*See Chapter 2 – Section 2.11 Married Personnel*) but failed to address situations involving other relatives, citing examples such as a child supervising a parent, or a parent supervising a child. At the request of Mrs. Hightower, the Superintendent indicated that he and his Senior Staff would address this issue at their next meeting.

The Regular Workshop was recessed at 12:35 p.m. and reconvened at 12:48 p.m., with Mrs. Hightower, Mr. Gindl, Mr. Boone, Mrs. Brown-Curry, the Superintendent, and Mrs. Waters present. (NOTE: *Mr. Bergosh was not present.*)

- g. Special Requests
 - 8. Adoption of the 2008-09 student calendar.

[NOTE: *This item was also addressed earlier in the meeting. (See “Open Discussion”)*] Mr. Boone cited several areas of concern with the proposed 2008-09 student calendar, primarily those that would impact high school students. He suggested postponing this item until a later date, possibly February 2008, in order to allow for additional time to develop a calendar that was in the best interest of all students at all grade levels.

- D. Purchasing
 - 22. Change Notice #1 to Purchase Order #293738

This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

- E. Operations

No discussion was held.

- F. Student Transfers

No discussion was held.

- G. Internal Auditing

No discussion was held.

- VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - No items submitted

- VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Items from the Board
 - No items submitted

- B. Items from the Superintendent

- 1. Student Recommendations

- 1. Recommend that the previous expulsion recommendation for student number 07-137-1251 for the remainder of the 2006-2007 school year and all of the 2007-2008 school year be rescinded and the expulsion be for the remainder of the 2006-2007 school year through November 1, 2007 of the 2007-2008 school year.

Mr. Darriel White, Court Liaison, responded to questions posed and concerns expressed by several Board Members regarding the recommendation for student number 07-137-1251.

- C. Items from the General Counsel

- 3. Charter Schools – Exclusive Authority

Mrs. Waters gave a brief explanation regarding this item by reviewing information outlined in the backup documentation.

VIII. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS
-No items submitted

IX. PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs. Hightower called for public forum; however, there were no speakers.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Workshop adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Superintendent

Chair