

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

MINUTES, AUGUST 17, 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 (*was not present*)

Superintendent of Schools: Mr. Norm Ross, Deputy Superintendent (*represented Mr. Jim Paul*)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Hightower called the Regular Workshop to order at 9:05 a.m. It was noted that the Regular Workshop would either recess or adjourn at approximately 11:20 a.m., so that Board Members and Mr. Ross could attend a luncheon honoring the School District.

A. Open Discussion

1. Status of School Attendance Zone Advisory Committee (SAZAC)

It was noted that the School Attendance Zone Advisory Committees' tenure had ended as of July 2007; therefore, it was no longer necessary to place an "update" from SAZAC on the Board's regular monthly meeting agendas.

The following issues were also briefly addressed during *Open Discussion*:

- Preparations for the Start of School on August 20, 2007
- Student Enrollment
Mr. Paul Fetsko, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, indicated that student enrollment information would be provided to Board Members as soon as it was available.
- Executive Session re: Collaborative Bargaining
An Executive Session (re: Collaborative Bargaining) was scheduled for September 21, 2007, at the J.E. Hall Educational Services Center, with room location to be determined based on availability.
- September Regular Workshop
The time of the September 14, 2007 Regular Workshop was changed from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

- Special Workshop re: Strategic Plan
A Special Workshop (re: Strategic Plan) was scheduled for September 14, 2007, immediately following the 8:00 a.m. Regular Workshop, in Room 160, at the J.E. Hall Educational Services Center.
- September 13, 2007 Special Meeting (Re: Public Hearing/Adoption of Final Millage & Budget)
Staff advised the Board of a possible need to reschedule the September 13, 2007 Special Meeting due to issues involving the Property Tax Appraisers Office. Board Members requested that staff contact Mrs. Linda West, Coordinator of Board Affairs to reschedule this meeting if necessary.

II. COMMENTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Ross listed the additions, deletions, amendments, and/or corrections to the August 21, 2007 Regular Meeting agenda.

III. TIME CERTAIN ITEMS

1. Old Molino Elementary School Property (~~9:30 a.m.~~) (9:15 a.m.)

Representatives of the Escambia County Board of County Commissioners presented their proposal for renovating the old Molino Elementary School so that it could serve as a node for community interaction in northern Escambia County. Board Members expressed an interest in such an effort and suggested that the County representatives continue to work with the Superintendent and his staff on this issue. Several Board Members suggested the possibility of “bartering” the old Molino Elementary School (District facility) for 10-years free usage of the Civic Center (County facility) to accommodate the District’s high school graduation ceremonies.

- ~~2. Bus Radio Guidelines (10:00 a.m.)~~
~~3. Website Demonstration (10:30 a.m.)~~

IV. PROPOSED ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT RULES

Revisions to School District Chapter 3 – Curriculum & Instruction

3.02 OFFICE OF SCHOOL CHOICE

(5) *Student Transfer Procedure*

(f) *Transfers may be Granted for the Following Reasons:*

4. *Higher Performing Public Schools/No Child Left Behind/Adequate Yearly Progress*

b. *District transportation by Express Routing will be provided to those students that elect to attend a higher performing public school in the identified transportation zone.*

In response to questions posed by Mr. Bergosh, Mr. Shawn Dennis, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, briefly reviewed the concept of express routing.

3.02 OFFICE OF SCHOOL CHOICE

(6) *Voluntary School Choice Selection Policy*

(c) *Expectations*

Charter school students are not required to meet the following conditions for enrollment. However, each charter may have specific requirements based on the program design. Each student applying to a magnet school or choice academy/program must maintain the following criteria once admitted at the discretion of the principal meet and maintain the criteria as set by the principal of the school and approved by the Curriculum Council. The criteria shall be on file in the Office of School Choice.

Each charter school may have specific requirements based on the program design, and will be available in the Alternative Education Office.

- ~~1. Maintain good behavior (C or better in citizenship or less than 3 referrals per year or superior, excellent or good if in high school)~~
- ~~2. Maintain good attendance (No more than 3 unexcused absences or tardies per semester)~~
- ~~3. Certain programs have an academic requirement.~~
- ~~4. Parents are encouraged to be active and participate in school functions.~~

Upon inquiry by Mr. Bergosh, Ms. Sandra Edwards, Director of Comprehensive Planning, noted that the intent of this revised section was to point out that each magnet school or academy/program had its own specific expectations based on its own individual program design.

Mr. Lawrence Powell requested to address the Board regarding the following issues: 1) the Board's decision to change the time of their monthly Regular Workshops from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m.; and 2) school performance, administrative practices and negative impacts on the quality of public education for African American students.

The Regular Workshop recessed at 11:20 a.m. and reconvened at 2:05 p.m., with Mrs. Hightower, Mr. Bergosh, Mrs. Brown-Curry, Mr. Boone, and the Superintendent present. Mr. Gindl was not present.

Ms. Stacy Ross requested to address the Board regarding the following issues: 1) overcrowding at Pine Meadow Elementary School; and 2) issues regarding the new Woodham Middle School (specifically those issues related to student safety).

PROPOSED ADDITIONS OR REVISIONS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT RULES (Continued)

Revisions to School District Chapter 4 – Instruction

4.01 CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM

(7) Honor Points

Honor points shall be awarded for courses that have been designated in the Escambia District Course Code Directory as honors, advanced placement, dual enrollment, and International Baccalaureate courses. In addition, any other courses, including dual enrollment courses, which have been approved by the Director of High School Education, shall be awarded honor points.

Mrs. Hightower suggested adding the following statement to this section: "Gifted designation does not necessarily warrant weighted honors points." Mrs. Carolyn Spooner, Director-High School Education, indicated that staff would consider that suggestion, but noted that it might be better to add such a statement to the Career Planner.

4.03 TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

(5) Each school year, no later than March 15th, a District Textbook Selection Committee composed of lay citizens and of persons actively engaged in teaching or in the supervision of teaching shall be established for the purpose of recommending instructional materials from the state adopted list to be included on the District adopted textbook list for purchase by District Schools.

(a) The Committee shall include 11 members consisting of:

- ~~1. One member appointed by each member of the Board.~~
- ~~2. Two members appointed by the Superintendent~~
- ~~3. Two members appointed by supervisors representing the major fields and levels in which the instructional materials are to be used.~~
- ~~4. Two members appointed by the Superintendent's Designee for Instructional Materials~~

~~(b) The Committee shall hold an organizational meeting to elect a chairperson from among its members and to adopt its guidelines and procedures. In addition, the Committee shall hold an initial meeting for receiving its recommendations from supervisors of instruction and shall meet as often as necessary to carry out its duties and responsibilities and to make its recommendations to the Superintendent.~~

a district subject area textbook selection committee shall be established for recommending instructional materials from the state adopted list to be included on the District adopted textbook list for purchase by district schools. This committee shall comply with the State Instructional Council, Sections 1006.31(3)(c), (4)(a) – (e), Florida Statutes (2006). The committee shall meet as often as necessary to carry out its duties and responsibilities and make its recommendations to the Superintendent.

Mrs. Hightower was concerned that the proposed revision would no longer list the type of appointees that would make up the District Textbook Selection Committee. Mr. Paul Fetsko, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, indicated that he would ask Mr. Malcolm Thomas, Director of Evaluation Services, confer with Mrs. Hightower after the meeting as to why that particular information had been deleted.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Curriculum and Instruction

11. Florida 2007-2008 Consolidation Application for Selected Federal Programs

Upon inquiry by Mr. Bergosh, Ms. Marcia Nowlin, Director of Title I, addressed the difference in funding for 2007-2008 as compared to that from 2006-2007:

*Title I Part A - \$11,210,130.00 (decrease of \$1,196,481)
Title I Part D - \$127,652.00 (increase of \$16.00)
Title III - \$48,792.22 (increase of \$3,295.09)
Title V - \$73,277.00 (decrease of \$3,884.00)
(Overall decrease in DOE funding of \$1,197,054.09)*

B. Finance

8. Report on Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Students and Student Transportation for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006

Staff members responded to various questions posed and comments made by Board Members regarding the “findings” of the Auditor General as contained in the report on full-time equivalent (FTE) students and student transportation for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006. It was noted that the District had issued a response to the Auditor General indicating that it concurred with the “findings” and listing the corrective actions that would be taken to resolve those issues.

C. Human Resource Services

1. Instructional/Professional

d. Out-of-Field

1. Appointments

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Quinlan, Susan	Teacher	Ferry Pass Mid	08/09/07

*Name: Quinlan, Susan
School: Ferry Pass Middle
Assignment: Guidance
Certificate Area: Social Studies*

Mrs. Brown-Curry requested additional information regarding the out-of-field appointment of Susan Quinlan as a Guidance Counselor at Ferry Pass Middle School. Specifically, she wanted to be sure that every effort had first been made to employ an individual with the proper certification before choosing to appoint someone out-of-field. Staff indicated that they would provide that information to Mrs. Brown-Curry prior to the August 21, 2007 Regular Meeting.

- 3. Risk Management
 - a. Pensacola Policy Department SRO Contract

It was noted that this item would be deleted from the August 21, 2007 Regular Meeting agenda.

- 4. Employee Services
 - b. Revised Escambia Teacher Appraisal System (ETAS)

Mr. Keith Leonard, TITLE, advised that the revised Escambia Teacher Appraisal System (ETAS) was a result of bargaining between the District and the Escambia Education Association (EEA). (NOTE: *A tentative agreement between the School District of Escambia County and Escambia Education Association regarding the Escambia Teacher Appraisal System (ETAS) was previously approved at the December 21, 2006 Regular Meeting.*)

- D. Purchasing
 - 16. Performance Pathways Software

Staff members responded to questions posed by Mrs. Hightower regarding various aspects of this item (i.e., objectives, implementation, training). Mrs. Hightower suggested the idea of delaying this purchase until additional information regarding the 2007-2008 budget was available.

- 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

No discussion was held.

C. Items from the General Counsel

-No items submitted

VIII. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

-No items submitted

IX. PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Lawrence Powell and Ms. Stacy Ross each addressed the Board earlier in the meeting.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Regular Workshop adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Superintendent

Chair