

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES
BUDGET WORKSHOP
February 18, 2014

The Board met in workshop session duly called at 3 p.m. in the Boardroom, 620 East University Ave., Gainesville, Florida. Present were: Gunnar Paulson, Chairman; Leanetta McNealy, Vice-Chairman; April Griffin, and Eileen Roy Board members; Hershel Lyons, Interim Superintendent; staff members; and David Delaney, Board Attorney. Board member Carol Oyenarte was absent.

Interim Superintendent Hershel Lyons expressed appreciation to staff for being in attendance, including Principal representatives. He stated that the meeting packet contains information about items discussed since the last Budget meeting, including district staffing information from like-sized, high performing districts. Mr. Lyons turned the meeting over to Mrs. Karen Clarke, Assistant Superintendent, Student Support and Curriculum/Instructional Services.

Mrs. Clarke gave an overview of the information packet, including information on the resources provided this year to the District's highest needs schools. She also provided background information on the School Resource Officer funding request, and Teacher Specialist allocation information. The district staffing surveys are from Santa Rosa, Seminole, Leon, St John, Sarasota and Nassau Counties.

Mr. Scott Ward, Assistant Superintendent, Planning and Budgeting, then presented the Comparison of the 2014-15 Governor's Budget to the current CALC 3 Budget, including FEFP Detail. Based on Dr. Paulson's request that the budget contain a \$3 million contingency fund, Mr. Ward presented a list of potential budget reductions, as developed by executive staff. Dr. Paulson requested that Food Service electricity calculations be reviewed, in light of the contingency fund discussion.

Mr. Lyons reported:

1. Departments are being asked to survey employees as to ways to conserve resources.
2. Departments are being asked to plan for a 10% budget reduction in budget.

Mr. Lyons also commented on the aligning of the budget to the Strategic Plan and stated that the following will be brought to the Board before the next Budget Workshop.

1. Summary of the employee input on conserving resources
2. Recommendations for the 2014-15 school year that establish protocols for allocation of teacher units and employment of vacant non-instructional positions,
3. Recommendations for counterbalancing unexpected budget shortfalls.

Staff responded to questions from Mrs. Roy on the district staffing comparisons.

Dr. McNealy requested that Duval County be contacted regarding their program of private funding.

For clarification, Dr. Paulson referred to parts of his statement at the last Budget Workshop. In particular, he reiterated that no person will lose their job through reductions. Potential reductions will come through attrition. He expressed appreciation for the information provided at this workshop and for ideas presented.

A date for the next Budget Workshop will be forthcoming.

The Workshop was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.