

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES
WORKSHOP
LASTINGER CENTER FOR LEARNING
February 18, 2014

The Board met in workshop session duly called at 4 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. Carol Oyenarte was absent.

Interim Superintendent Hershel Lyons introduced the Lastinger Center Director, Dr. Don Pemberton, and associates Dr. Phil Poekert and Ms. Kathy Dixon.

Dr. Pemberton addressed the Board regarding their common goal of quality education. He then presented information concerning the work of the Lastinger Center, which is to provide rich learning environments for students and ongoing systems of professional development for teachers.

Dr. Poekert gave an overview of Lastinger's accomplishments and noted that the Lastinger Center is involved in every county in Florida, through their *Algebra Nation* innovation. He also reviewed other districts around the state and the Lastinger programs they have in use. Lastinger has also partnered with the Abu Dhabi Education Council.

Ms. Dixon noted that system components include leadership development, instructional coaching, and educational equity. Programs are designed for specific needs.

The Lastinger representatives responded to Board member questions, a few of which dealt with the process of working with turn-around schools, Lastinger's system approach and how it fits with Common Core.

The next step is to determine the areas the District wants to address and design a program to meet those needs.

Mr. Lyons expressed appreciation to Dr. Pemberton, Dr. Poekert and Ms. Dixon for sharing this information with Board and staff and stated that he looks forward to working with them.

The workshop was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.