

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD PRESENTATION - DEPARTMENT UPDATE
ESE

April 21, 2015

The Exceptional Student Education Department Update session was duly called to order at 4:30 p.m. in the Boardroom, 620 East University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida. Present were: Leanetta McNealy, Chairman; Eileen Roy, Vice-Chairman; Robert Hyatt, April Griffin, and Gunnar Paulson, Board members; Owen Roberts, Superintendent; Ryan Gilbert, Board Attorney, and staff members.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McNealy. The Superintendent made opening comments and, in the absence of ESE Executive Director Kathy Black, he turned the meeting over to Mrs. Jan Benet, ESE Supervisor.

The workshop packet included an organizational chart and a list of 20 ESE state monitored Performance Plan Indicators. The Department strives to have measured results on students for each of these Indicators. A research article was also provided regarding Five Reasons to Be Concerned About the Assignment of *Individual* Paraprofessionals.

Ms. Benet conducted the PowerPoint presentation, which included information on:

- Student Population
- Programs
- Education Benefit
- Graduation Rates for Students With Disabilities
- Dropout Rates
- Post-School Outcome Data
- Transition Programs
- Educational Environment
- Placement Definitions
- Changes in District Staff – IDEA
- Discipline Rates and Risk Ratio
- Parent Survey
- IDEA Grant – Personnel
- Paraprofessional Numbers
- Girted Program

Mrs. Benet and Supervisors Dr. Donald Reed and Ms. Regina Currens responded to Board member and Superintendent questions.

The Superintendent inquired as to whether there is a system-level plan for supporting schools. If not, he requested that one be developed and updated annually. He and Board members expressed appreciation to the entire ESE Department.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.