

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED WORKSHOP MINUTES
DES-DROP-Salary Update
November 14, 2013

The School Board of Alachua County, Florida, met in workshop session duly called at 2 p.m. in the Kirby-Smith Boardroom, 620 East University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida. Present were: Eileen Roy, chairman; April Griffin, Leanetta McNealy, and Gunnar Paulson members; Hershel Lyons, Interim Superintendent; and staff members. Absent: Board Member Carol Oyenarte.

Chairman Roy called the meeting to order and announced that Dr. Paulson will make a statement.

Dr. Paulson made an extensive statement concerning the reasons he asked for this workshop. He noted that he is in no way totally against hiring retirees, but provided some specifics regarding why he feels the amount of money earned by some in DROP hurts others. He feels the rules should be changed for the future, in particular that employees should come back at the mid-point salary range, rather than the point they were upon retirement.

DES Mrs. Beverly Finley, Personnel Supervisor, conducted a presentation on DES, including the step-by-step internal procedure, which was in place last year. She provided copies of the forms and a master list of employees, by name and contract period. She responded to Board member questions and discussion was held. Mr. Lyons also responded to Board members.

DROP Mr. Lyons stated that there has been no new information on DROP at this point. In response to questions from Mrs. Roy, Mr. Ward explained DROP funding. The District has to pay retirement for DROP employees even though the employee does not have to pay anything into retirement.

Dr. Paulson pointed out that a regular employee pays 3% into retirement, while a DROP employee doesn't pay anything.

Mrs. Griffin stated that if that is the case, it seems equitable that elected officials who did not pay into their retirement should also pay the 3%. Mr. Ward will check on some figures concerning elected officials.

Salary Update Mr. Scott Ward, Assistant Superintendent, Finance/Planning and Budget, presented a Salary Update. During negotiations, several estimates were provided on the cost of increases for salaries and benefits. Now that the new salaries have been rolled in, Mr. Ward provided the total actual cost for all categories, which is \$6,005,534, or \$22,890 over the estimated cost.

Mr. Ward explained a proposal for the \$670,312 of funds remaining, which would allow that amount to be placed in the Board Contingency Fund.

DISCUSSION Staff responded to questions concerning 1) administrators who went through DES and were rehired as teachers and 2) dates of retro pay.

ADJOURNMENT The workshop was adjourned at 3 p.m.