THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING March 3, 2015

The School Board of Alachua County, Florida, met in regular session duly called at 6 p.m. in the Boardroom, 620 East University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida. Present were: Leanetta McNealy, Chairman; Eileen Roy, Vice-Chairman; April Griffin, Rob Hyatt, and Gunnar Paulson, members; Owen Roberts, Superintendent; and David Delaney, Board Attorney.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McNealy, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Music was provided by the Santa Fe High School Flute Choir and Saxophone Ensemble, Nate Bisco, Band Director.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA Motion by Mrs. Griffin Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved to adopt the agenda for the February 3, 2015, School Board meeting, as

presented.

The question was called. <u>Upon Vote</u>: Motion passed 5-0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Motion by Mrs. Griffin Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2014, Human Resource

Department Update, as presented.

The question was called. <u>Upon Vote</u>: Motion passed 5-0

Motion by Mrs. Griffin Seconded by Mr. Hyatt

Moved to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2015, School Board meeting

as presented.

The question was called. <u>Upon Vote</u>: Motion passed 5-0

PRESENTATION -

BUCHHOLZ HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS TEAM Dr. Roberts reported on the initiative of a group of students who recently formed the Buchholz Robotics Team. Members of the Team provided a demonstration of the robot they built for a recent competition. A video with computer engineer Jeremy Roberts was shown and Superintendent Roberts followed up with his plan for where the robotics project is headed.

BOARD MEMBER/ SUPERINTENDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS Mrs. Griffin commented on:

- Head Start Dance Day and UF's Project Makeover at Metcalfe (with thanks to Kelley Kostamo and the Volunteer Office for coordination).

Mr. Hyatt commented on:

- Terwilliger Jump Rope for Heart; first-grade play at Hidden Oak with Sally Fillips, music teacher; Music in Our Schools Month; and music assessments.

Dr. McNealy commented on:

- Thanked staff members and Board members who participated in Weekend Wellness Walks. Also Ms. Rosalyn Levy, President, Alachua County Medical Alliance; and Dr. Sally Lawrence, Executive Director, Alachua County Medical Society, for bringing this program to the community.
- Tremendous Black History events at Lake Forest, Rawlings, and Duval.

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Mrs. Roy commented on:

- The Dori Slosberg Foundation for safe driving and a film that she hopes will be shown in schools prior to Spring Break and Prom, because of its very powerful message.
- The school consolidation, the FADSS Report that recommended it, and the transformational change the Board expects.

Dr. Roberts commented on:

- The Teacher of the Year event, congratulating all honorees, including Teacher of the Year Susan Bowles, Chiles Elementary. Thanked all the sponsors, including top sponsors Florida Credit Union and Cox Communications.
- The dedication of the new historical marker for one of the first Black high schools in the county, the former Douglass High School, located in High Springs.
- The ARTSPEAKS poetry event, which featured several of our students presenting their original poetry. Thanks to Stanley Richardson and Nicole Harris for organizing this program.
- The recent Regional Science Bowl competition where two teams from Lincoln Middle School took first and third place, under the coaching of Adrienne Thieke.

CITIZEN INPUT

Citizens addressed the Board on the following issues:

- The need to address safety issues on school buses
- African-American History
- ACEA invitation to the film *Standardized*, about high-stakes testing.

Waldo Mayor Louie Davis and citizen Joe Reeves spoke on the planned closing of Waldo Community School, citing reasons it will be detrimental to the children and the community.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Roy

Seconded by Mrs. Griffin

<u>Moved</u> the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1-4.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

EMPLOYEE CASE NO. E-1415-08 Motion by Mrs. Griffin

Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved to approve termination of the employee, effective March 4, 2015.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CITIZEN INPUT

There was continuation of a Black History lesson by Mr. Kali Blount.

A Waldo citizen spoke against the closing of Waldo Community School, emphasizing that the few people in attendance doesn't reflect the interest, only the short timeframe since the announcement.

BOARD MEMBER/ SUPERINTENDENT REQUESTS

Dr. Paulson reviewed from his previous statements that what he wants is a balanced budget that keeps cuts away from the classroom and without employees losing jobs. He requested that staff bring a balanced budget, with a plan to meet all scenarios.

Mrs. Roy stated that the FADSS Report is on the District Website.

There were no Superintendent requests.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

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