

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 4, 2014

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: Gunnar Paulson, Chairman; Leanetta McNealy, Vice-Chairman; April Griffin, Carol Oyenarte and Eileen Roy, members; Hershel Lyons, Interim Superintendent; and Board Attorney Ryan Gilbert.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Paulson, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Dr. Paulson then informed the Board that Mrs. Griffin would be arriving shortly.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA Chairman Paulson announced that Consent Agenda Item 5., Agreement with UF Lastinger Center for the Certified Instructional Coach Program, will be pulled for discussion.

Motion by Mrs. Oyenarte

Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved to adopt the agenda for the March 4, 2014, School Board meeting, as amended.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-0

[Mrs. Griffin arrived at the meeting.]

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Motion by Dr. McNealy

Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2014, Budget Workshop, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Motion by Mrs. Oyenarte

Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2014, Strategic Planning Workshop, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Motion by Mrs. Roy

Seconded by Mrs. Oyenarte

Moved to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2014, School Board Meeting, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

**BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dr. McNealy

- congratulated each school's Teacher of the Year, and especially Donna Schroeder on being selected the overall Teacher of the Year. Ms. Schroeder will represent the District in Tallahassee.
- greatly enjoyed the performance of 60 Head Start students in the Fifth Annual Sun Country Dance Theater.

- expressed appreciation to the Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce *Innovation Gainesville*, on a successful Career Day at the Horizon Center.
- expressed thanks to Delores Golston and Lincoln Middle School for the delicious *Soul Luncheon*, a proud tradition for the past 17 years, in recognition of Black History Month.

Mrs. Roy:

- brought attention to the recent editorial, *Public School Siege*, and expressed thanks to The Gainesville Sun.
- echoed Dr. McNealy's comments on the Soul Luncheon and Horizon Center Career Day.

Mr. Lyons:

- congratulated Mrs. Roy on being honored tonight as the Elected Official of the Year by the Gainesville Unit of the National Association of Social Workers, Gainesville Chapter. She must therefore leave the School Board meeting early.

Dr. Paulson commented on:

- the wonderful *Soul Luncheon* at Lincoln Middle School.
- PIO Jackie Johnson's fine job on Teacher of the Year event.
- The excellent Black History music presentation at Alachua Elementary.
- a productive forum with Senator Rob Bradley at GHS, sponsored by the ACEA, with approximately 100 teachers in attendance.

Dr. McNealy and Dr. Paulson commended Representative Clovis Watson on his speech at the Forum and the great job he is doing.

PRESENTATION

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Mr. Everett Caudle, Executive Director, Project Development, presented information on a School Improvement Grant opportunity. He reviewed the items the funding would cover, as well as the grant requirements. Mr. Caudle then responded to Board member questions. Dr. McNealy will phone Mr. Caudle with more specific questions.

Mr. Caudle emphasized the short timeline for the scope of work that would be required to complete the application. There was Board consensus to move forward with the Intent to Apply form. Board members will communicate comments to Mr. Lyons this week, so decisions can be made on whether to continue with the grant and, if so, which model will be used, as there must be a decision made on which DOE model to use.

[Mrs. Roy left the meeting.]

CITIZEN INPUT

A citizen charged discrimination against Jewish students because Open House and FCAT were scheduled during religious holidays. Requested FCAT dates to be rescheduled and more sensitivity shown, as relates to religious practices. Another citizen addressed the same issue, stating that other districts have managed alternate FCAT schedules. Mr. Lyons stated that Assistant

Superintendent Karen Clarke will work with the parents on this issue.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Oyenarte

Seconded by Mrs. Griffin

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1-8, with Item 5., Agreement with Lastinger Center, being pulled for discussion.

Mrs. Clarke responded to questions from Dr. McNealy on the Lastinger Center Agreement, Certified Instructional Coach Program.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-0

APPROVAL OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS, OUTCOMES, AND ACTION PLANS FOR 2013-2016

In response to a Board initiative, and beginning in February 2012, the process of developing a revised Strategic Plan for Alachua County Public Schools was begun. Over the past two years, the Board has taken public input through a series of workshops and public input sessions. A series of Goals and Outcomes aligned to this input were developed and approved for the SBAC Strategic Plan in August 2013. Subsequently, Action Plans were developed by district staff and by individual Board members aligned to each of the Goals and Outcomes. Through a series of additional workshops in late 2013 and early 2014, the Board refined and finalized all the Goals, Outcomes, and individual Action Plans to be included in the School Board of Alachua County's Strategic Plan, 2013-2016.

Motion by Dr. McNealy

Seconded by Mrs. Griffin

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Strategic Plan Goals, Outcomes, and Action Plans for 2013-2016, as presented.

Dr. Paulson commented that the Strategic Plan and the District Advisory Council are giving a voice to the community.

Dr. McNealy thanked Dr. Paulson for his perseverance on the Strategic Plan issue. Mr. Caudle expressed appreciation to Mrs. Hollinger, who laid the foundation for the finished product, to be approved tonight.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-0

CITIZEN INPUT

There was no citizen input.

BOARD MEMBER/ SUPERINTENDENT REQUESTS

Mrs. Griffin commented:

- that she attended the Stephen Foster National Elementary Honor Society Induction ceremony. Foster is the only elementary school in Alachua County that has an honor society.
- on the valuable collaboration the District has with the Heart Association.
- that she highly recommends a visit to the Sidney Lanier Center to see the changes resulting from the UF student Makeover Day.

Dr. McNealy reported that she will meet with Facilities Director Shane Andrew to look at and discuss facilities on the east side of town. She also will talk to him about a school-safe door lock, seen at an FSBA meeting.

Dr. McNealy expressed condolences to the family of Chester Buchanan,

a long-time custodian in the District, whose service will be remembered.

Dr. Paulson stated that he would like to meet with Mr. Lyons and Assistant Superintendent Scott Ward before Spring Break, on budget matters

**SUPERINTENDENT
SEARCH UPDATE**

Mrs. Jackie Johnson, Public Information Officer, noted that the District Advisory Council (DAC) subcommittee will develop a report on the strengths and weaknesses of the applicants.

Chairman Paulson reviewed the upcoming meetings and the Boardroom art.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.