

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
May 6, 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 David Delaney.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Paulson, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA Chairman Paulson announced

- Deletion of Item C.2., Approval of April 15, 2014, Budget Workshop minutes.
- Exchanging the order of:
Item D.1., Gainesville Women's Club Donation for the Charles W. Duval Fine Arts Academy Orchestra; and Item D.2., UF College of Fine Arts, *The Red Silk Thread* production.
- Addition of Item I.1.A., Administrative Appointments, therefore moving MYcroSchool to Item I.1.B.
- Addition of Item I.1.6., *Summer Heatwave*.

Motion by Mrs. Oyenarte

Seconded by Dr. McNealy

Moved to adopt the agenda for the May 6, 2014, School Board meeting, as amended.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Motion by Mrs. Oyenarte

Seconded by Mrs. Griffin

Moved to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2014, Special School Board Meeting (Superintendent Search), 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 April 15, 2014, Special School Board Meeting (Superintendent Search), 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 April 15, 2014, School Board meeting, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

RECOGNITION

UF COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS
– *THE RED SILK THREAD*
PRODUCTION

Curriculum Supervisor Debbie Gallagher introduced Tony Offerle, UF College of Fine Arts, who conducted a brief presentation about their first collaboration with ACPS a production of *The Red Silk Thread*. Ms. Jennifer Coolidge, Director of Development, College of Fine Arts, presented Mr. Lyons and Mrs. Gallagher with a framed keepsake from the show. She thanked the Board for their support of the Arts.

GAINESVILLE WOMAN’S
CLUB – DONATION FOR
THE DUVAL FINE ARTS
ACADEMY ORCHESTRA

The Board received a generous gift of \$8,000 to the Charles W. Duval Fine Arts Academy Orchestra from the Gainesville Woman’s Club. Board members expressed their great appreciation.

CELEBRATE SCHOOL
NURSE DAY

In honor of School Nurse Week, the Board recognized School Nurses, sincerely thanking them for their great contribution to the schools and students of this District.

SCHEDULED AGENCY –
NO LIMIT OUTREACH
FOUNDATION –

Ms. Rachel Johnson, CEO, No Limit Outreach Foundation, addressed the Board concerning how her organization can benefit the schools, with customized support plans as alternatives to suspension.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. McNealy:

- made a statement in recognition of Teacher Appreciation Week.
- commented on the *Future Alachua County Teachers* (FACT) program.
- attended the ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the *Bridging the Digital Divide* program, a computer lab collaboration between the school district and the Gainesville Housing Authority. District staff members Uma Shankar, Mary Hall, and James Speer worked closely with this project.
- Congratulations to Duval performing arts students for *Spring Brilliance* performance.

Mr. Lyons

- announced a significant decrease in out-of-school suspensions from last year and cited statistics.
- provided information on the City of Gainesville’s campaign to expand *Summer Heatwave*, a program to reduce the occurrence of juvenile crimes in the summer. He will provide information later on a grant funding opportunity.

Mrs. Griffin

- reported on the artwork in the Boardroom.
- commented on attending the Sidney Lanier prom.
- announced the Kindergarten Round-Up.

Mrs. Roy commented on:

- attending the Sidney Lanier Prom and Career Pathways Reception at SFC.
- thanked Mr. Lyons and Principals on information provided to students to help them realize the negative effects of juvenile crime.

Dr. Paulson commented on:

- Attendance at Lanier Prom, Career Pathways Reception O2B a Kid Again event.
- Superintendent Search Community Forums; encouraged attendance.

CITIZEN INPUT	There was no citizen input.	
CONSENT AGENDA	<u>Motion by Mrs. Oyenarte</u>	<u>Seconded by Mrs. Roy</u>
	<u>Moved</u> the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1-9.	
	The question was called.	<u>Upon Vote:</u> Motion passed 5-0
ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS	<u>Motion by Mrs. Griffin</u>	<u>Seconded by Mrs. Oyenarte</u>
	<u>Moved</u> the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the appointment of Lacy Redd to the position of Lake Forest Elementary School Principal and Diane Hill to the position of VPK Director, effective May 7, 2014.	
	The question was called.	<u>Upon Vote:</u> Motion passed 5-0
FIRST AMENDMENT TO ALACHUA MYCROSCHOOL	Alachua MYcroSchool of Integrated Academics and Technologies, Inc., is requesting that their charter be amended to increase maximum enrollment. The current maximum enrollment is 275. The school would be serving a maximum of 350 students in grades 9 through 12.	
	<u>Motion by Mrs. Oyenarte</u>	<u>Seconded by Dr. McNealy</u>
	<u>Moved</u> the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the first Amendment to Alachua MYcroSchool of Integrated Academics and Technologies, Inc., Charter School contract, as presented.	
	During discussion, Board members expressed concern when it came to light that MYcroSchool's 2013-14 school year enrollment contract cap was at 230 and MYcroSchool principal Randy Starling indicated that his current enrollment was as much as 278.	
	Dr. Paulson stated that he wanted to review the contract.	
	<u>Motion by Mrs. Griffin</u>	<u>Seconded by Mrs. Roy</u>
	<u>Moved</u> to table the MYcroSchool request for approval of a contract amendment to increase maximum enrollment.	
	The question was called.	<u>Upon Vote:</u> Motion passed 5-0
ADOPTION, AMENDMENTS, AND REPEAL OF BOARD POLICIES	<u>Motion by Mrs. Oyenarte</u>	<u>Seconded by Dr. McNealy</u>
	<u>Moved the</u> Superintendent's recommendation to approve the proposed new policies, proposed policy amendments, and proposed repeal, as presented.	
	The question was called.	<u>Upon Vote:</u> Motion passed 5-0
ADOPTION OF AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE	<u>Motion by Dr. McNealy</u>	<u>Seconded by Mrs. Roy</u>
	<u>Moved the</u> Superintendent's recommendation to approve the amended	

SALARY SCHEDULE FOR
2013-14 FISCAL YEAR

Administrative Salary Schedule for 2013-14, as presented.

Mrs. Griffin distributed information she requested from Mr. Ward on current employees who are post-retirement. She does not feel it is fair to target five DES people, when there are a number of people in the same situation.

Dr. McNealy had some questions for Mr. Ward concerning state funding appeals, but he was absent from this portion of the meeting. She feels that the Board needs answers to pending Transportation and Kanapaha appeals before certain decisions can be made.

Mrs. Roy stated that the least money that must be repaid is about \$700,000 and the most \$5 million. She believes that the five DES employees are unduly advantaged with the present situation and that it should come to an end, noting that it is not a personal matter.

Mrs. Oyenarte stated she has opposed the separation of the five DES employees from the beginning and noted that it can't help but be personal because it is only five people. Figures she requested show it is only \$20,000 savings. She suggested tabling this issue until the figures are verified by Mr. Ward.

Motion by Mrs. Oyenarte

Seconded by Mrs. Griffin

Moved to table the Adoption of the Amended Administrative Salary Schedule for the 2013-14 Fiscal Year, until the first meeting in June.

Dr. Paulson made a statement regarding situations that compromised the reserve fund and resulting issues. He agreed to table the matter before a decision is made.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Mrs. Roy stated that she does not agree that this item should be tabled. She feels it is a matter of fairness with employees.

It was determined that the delay would not have any effect on implementing a change prior to the new fiscal year.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-1

Yes: Griffin
McNealy
Oyenarte
Paulson

No: Roy

Mrs. Oyenarte left the meeting.

DUVAL ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL PARTIAL ROOF
REPLACEMENT AND
REPAIRS

Bids for the construction of this project were received on April 14, 2014.

Motion by Mrs. Griffin

Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the low base bid of

\$499,367 and award a contract for construction to Roof USA, LLC, Brooksville, Florida. Completion of this project shall be within seventy-five (75) consecutive calendar days from the date indicated in "The Notice to Proceed." Mrs. Roy questioned whether spending this amount of money is the right decision, since there has been discussion about a new facility in east Gainesville.

Facilities Director Shane Andrew explained the scope of the roofing project.

Dr. McNealy shares Mrs. Roy's concern about the cost of this roofing for an old building. She feels the community would wholeheartedly support a new facility on the east side of town, stating that she believes Duval is the oldest school and is in great need. She will wholeheartedly advocate for this.

In response to questions from Mrs. Griffin, Mr. Andrew affirmed that there are no Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO) funds available for building a new facility. He believes the need for the roof is dire.

Mrs. Roy conceded that there may be no choice at this time, and she will reluctantly vote for the roofing replacement. However, she stated there is a point beyond which it makes no sense to keep patching and is better to build a new facility.

Dr. Paulson suggested to Mr. Lyons that it may be time to research possible funding sources for a new school, so east Gainesville will have a new state-of-the-art facility.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 3-1

Yes: Griffin

Paulson

Roy

No: McNealy

TALBOT ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL ROOF
REPLACEMENT AND
REPAIRS

Bids for the construction of this project were received on April 15, 2014

Motion by Mrs. Griffin

Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to reject the bid and authorize staff to reevaluate the project and revise as required to accommodate budget parameters.

Mr. Andrew explained the reasons for revising the bid.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-0

SUMMER HEATWAVE

Dr. Paulson spoke in support of *Summer Heatwave*, a City of Gainesville/GPD program to reduce the occurrence of juvenile crimes in the summer.

Motion by Mrs. Griffin

Seconded by Dr. McNealy

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to pay \$6,000 to secure the grant

for the *Summer Heatwave* program.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 4-0

CITIZEN INPUT

Karen McCann, ACEA President:

- Spoke in support of a new school on the east side of Gainesville.
- Questioned the amount and use of MYcroSchool's administrative fees.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
REQUESTS

Mrs. Roy stated that she thought approving an increase in a charter school enrollment would be because of academic success, which she does not see in MYcroSchool. She would like to know the criteria that should be considered before the enrollment cap is raised.

Mr. Lyons agreed that academic success is a part of that decision and stated that research would be conducted, including how the school's overage in enrollment came about.

Staff Attorney Bryan Moore noted that there is no state mandate for the increase, it is merely the school's request.

Dr. McNealy still wants to plan for a Retreat in the Fall.

Mr. Lyons reported on an invitation to a Plum Creek presentation. More information was requested.

SUPERINTENDENT
SEARCH UPDATE

Mrs. Jackie Johnson reported on the first visit of a Superintendent Finalist, which went very smoothly. She thanked the many folks involved in preparations and praised the Principals who did such a good job with the scheduled school tours.

Three more visits are to come, for which Mrs. Johnson has sent an updated schedule.

Chairman Paulson and other Board members commended Mrs. Johnson on a fine job.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.