

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA  
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
June 18, 2013

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: Eileen Roy, Chairman; April Griffin, Leanetta McNealy, and Gunnar Paulson, Board members; W. Daniel Boyd, Jr., Superintendent; and Susan Seigle, Attorney for the Board. Board member Carol Oyenarte joined the meeting by phone.

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

APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES

Motion by Dr. McNealy

Seconded by Dr. Paulson

Moved to approve the June 4, 2013, School Board meeting minutes, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Dr. McNealy

Seconded by Mrs. Griffin

Moved to adopt the agenda for the June 18, 2013, School Board meeting, as amended.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

RECOGNITION

KEITH F. BIRKETT  
ASSISTANT  
SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Boyd highly praised Mr. Birkett as a wonderful, dedicated public servant. Mr. Birkett introduced his family and spoke with great regard of his colleagues and staff.

Chairman Roy and Mrs. Oyenarte expressed her appreciation to Mr. Birkett.

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board members announced/commented on recent activities/events:

Dr. McNealy

- Congratulated students honored in The Donning of the Kente, an event recognizing high achievement.
- Thanked staff for their efforts to enhance the functionality of the Board office.
- Expressed pride in Dr. Boyd being presented with FSBA's highest award—2013 President's Award.

Dr. Paulson:

- Dr. McNealy did a wonderful job at the recent Juneteenth breakfast, where she was the guest speaker.
- Dr. Boyd received FSBA's President's Award, recognizing him as making significant and outstanding contributions at the state and local level.

Mrs. Roy:

- Along with Dr. Paulson, she attended the graduation of 53 GED students, a ceremony which she described as dignified and heartwarming. She commended Mr. Charley Wise, Mr. Mike Sanders and the GED staff, who made this such a memorable occasion.
- A workshop is being scheduled on alternatives to suspension, with many

interested community agencies. Particularly noted was an idea of GPD Chief Tony Jones to establish a pilot program with the goal being to reduce or eliminate suspensions and to prevent dropouts, poverty and crime.

Mrs. Oyenarte:

- Extended great appreciation for prayers, cards and good wishes from everyone during her illness.

#### CITIZEN INPUT

A member of the SiaTech Board of Directors announced a recent relocation of the school, so they can now accept non-Job Corps students, including out-of-county. In response to a question, Chairman Roy stated that citizens can speak about any item on the agenda, during the discussion period for that item.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Griffin

Seconded by Dr. Paulson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1-13.

Dr. McNealy commented on Item 2., Extension of School-based and District-level Administrators, and requested that Board members reevaluate the process of voting on a slate of administrators. Mrs. Roy stated that she also has concerns about the process.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

#### ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Boyd announced that he is recommending the following appointments; all are District personnel:

Principal Reassignments:

- Jennifer Homard, Rawlings to Littlewood Elementary School.
- Katherine Munn, Littlewood Elementary to Oak View Middle School.
- Kevin Purvis, Oak View Middle School to Newberry High School.
- Shane Andrew, Newberry High School to Executive Director of Facilities.
- Donna Jones, Duval Elementary to Director, Secondary Curriculum.

Principal Appointments:

- Lawson Brown, Principal, Duval Elementary.
- Daniel Burney, Principal, Rawlings Elementary School.
- Holly Burton, Principal, Waldo Community School.
- Sue Keller, Principal, A. Q. Jones.

Other Recommendations:

- Karen Clarke, Director, Secondary Curriculum, to Assistant Superintendent, Student Support and Curriculum/Instructional Services.
- Bill McElroy, Curriculum Supervisor to Principal of the Professional Academies Magnet at Lofton.
- Scott Ward, Chief Financial Officer, to Assistant Superintendent, Planning/Budgeting/Systems Accountability.

Motion by Mrs. Griffin

Seconded by Dr. McNealy

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the reassignments/appointments as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

AMENDMENTS TO  
POLICY 5410, STUDENT  
PROGRESSION, AND  
REVISIONS TO THE  
2013-14 PUPIL  
PROGRESSION PLAN

Policy 5410, *Student Progression*, requires the School Board to annually adopt the Pupil Progression Plan. The revisions to the 2013-2014 Pupil Progression Plan reflect the recent changes to the graduation requirements and the options for virtual instruction programs.

Motion by Mrs. Griffin

Seconded by Dr. Paulson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve Policy 5410, *Student Progression for 2013-14*, incorporated by reference therein, as presented, for advertising and schedule a public hearing for 6:30 p.m., on Tuesday, July 23, 2013.

Mrs. Roy noted that the state may change some graduation requirements.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

ANNUAL REVISIONS TO  
POLICY 5500, *STUDENT  
CONDUCT*, AND THE  
CODES OF STUDENT  
CONDUCT FOR THE  
2013-14 SCHOOL YEAR  
FOR ELEMENTARY AND  
SECONDARY

The School Board adopts Codes of Student Conduct for Elementary and Secondary each school year. Revisions to the Codes for 2013-14 include recommendations from the Discipline Committee.

Motion by Dr. McNealy

Seconded by Dr. Paulson

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve Policy 5500, *Student Conduct*, and the Elementary and Secondary Codes of Student Conduct for 2013-14, incorporated by reference therein, as presented, for advertising and schedule a public hearing for 6:30 p.m., on Tuesday, July 23, 2013.

FIRST READING

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

AMENDMENT OF  
BYLAW 0156, LEGAL  
COUNSEL

A Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, June 4, 2013.

Motion by Dr. Paulson

Seconded by Dr. McNealy

SECOND READING

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the proposed Bylaw 0156, *Legal Counsel*, and the evaluation instrument referred to as Form 0156F1, *Performance Evaluation*, as presented.

Mrs. Oyenarte stated for the record that from the beginning she has felt it inappropriate for the Board to evaluate a law firm. She remains opposed.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 3-2

Yes: McNealy

Paulson

Roy

No: Griffin

Oyenarte

DISTRICT ROOF LEASE  
FOR SOLAR PANELS  
PHASE III FOR PROJECT  
SBAC W1301

Sixteen (16) District buildings have been selected in a lottery by Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU). They have allocated funds in their 2013 allotment for solar panel installation through their Feed-In-Tariff (FIT) solar energy incentive program. The school buildings are located at Bishop, Buchholz, Duval, Eastside, Ft. Clarke, GHS, Lake Forest, Lofton, Meadowbrook, Norton, Terwilliger, and Wiles and have a total solar power rating of 1,010 kW. The District will be paid a monthly lump-sum lease amount per building, based on the kW rating of the installed panels, in exchange for the use of the District roof space for 20 years.

Mr. Birkett stated that this will bring total revenue (including Phase I and II) to approximately \$3 million over the next 20 years.

Motion by Dr. Paulson

Seconded by Mrs. Griffin

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the additional solar projects, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Barry and Elaine Jacobson, owners of Solar Impact who recruited donors to purchase the panels and who installed them at no charge to the district, were present. Mr. Jacobson spoke of his gratitude to the district for its cooperation and said that the project was his proudest accomplishment in the solar business.

Dr. Paulson and Chairman Roy expressed great appreciation for this project which will educate students about solar power, generate \$3 million for the district, and donate the panels to the district after 20 years.

EMPLOYEE CASE  
NUMBER E1213-15

Motion by Mrs. Griffin

Seconded by Dr. McNealy

Move to approve the Superintendent's recommendation that the employee be terminated, effective June 19, 2013.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

SCHEDULE WORKSHOP  
TO DISCUSS  
ALTERNATIVES  
TO SUSPENSION

Deputy Superintendent Hershel Lyons reported that a pilot program was established in the second semester of this year, as a middle school alternative to suspension. At his request, Mrs. Kathy Black, Executive Director of Student Services, provided details on the Alternative Learning Center, which was housed at the Manning Center. Mrs. Black responded to Board member questions.

Mrs. Roy, Dr. Paulson and Dr. McNealy spoke in favor of an Alternatives to Suspension Workshop, with a workshop to be scheduled at a future date.

Motion by Dr. Paulson

Seconded by Dr. McNealy

Move to approve the scheduling of an Alternatives to Suspension Workshop.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CITIZEN INPUT

There was no citizen input.

BOARD MEMBER/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
REQUESTS

Dr. Paulson requested a workshop for Board members to learn more about test scores, perhaps held in conjunction with the Alternatives to Suspension Workshop. Board members were in support.

Mrs. Oyenarte congratulated Dr. Boyd on his recent award at the FSBA meeting, stating that he is an icon in the community. She also wished Mr. Birkett well in his retirement, thanking him for all he has done and stating that he will be sorely missed.

Dr. McNealy:

- referred to her request from the last meeting that the Board be able to meet in a publicly advertised meeting, for discussion only. No information presented, no facilitators, and no action would be taken.

Staff Attorney Brian Moore agreed that such a meeting could be held, as long as an agenda is available a week ahead of time.

- requested more information on an Information Technology program being instituted at Howard Bishop Middle School in the Fall.
- requested looking into the possibility that School Board meetings be rerun on Cox Cable Channel 12, for those who missed the live broadcast on Tuesday evenings.
- requested that a policy be put in place regarding zoning exemptions, especially for the understanding of parents of students entering the sports arena.

Dr. Boyd responded about a specific situation to which Dr. McNealy referred.

Dr. McNealy hoped the situation would be rectified and the policy strengthened.

At a question from Dr. Paulson, Staff Attorney Moore clarified that citizens can comment on any item on the Consent Agenda. Dr. Paulson requested that be done in the future and that the public be informed.

Mrs. Roy would like to schedule a Back-to-School Retreat for Board members after Labor Day. This would be an opportunity to discuss over-arching issues facing the District. Staff would not have to prepare anything; it would be a time for Board members to bring their ideas to the public. Topics would be advertised broadly so the public would know what would be discussed. She requested that Dr. Boyd present his professional and personal goals, as they relate to the District Vision, Mission, and Strategic Plan. Board members can provide topics they would like to discuss to the Superintendent's Office by the second meeting in August, for advertisement.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman announced upcoming meetings and declared the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.