

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
August 19, 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; Owen Roberts, 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 Motion by Mrs. Roy Seconded by Dr. McNealy

 Moved to adopt the agenda for the August 19, 2014, School Board meeting, as presented.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Motion by Mrs. Roy Seconded by Dr. McNealy

 Moved to approve the minutes of the July 29, 2014, Special School Board Meeting, as presented.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

Motion by Mrs. Roy Seconded by Dr. McNealy

 Moved to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2014, Special School Board Meeting, as presented.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

RECOGNITION –
FLORIDA TURNAROUND
LEADERS PROGRAM The Florida Turnaround Leaders program was a collaboration between the Florida Department of Education; the Southern Region Education Board; five Florida school districts, including Alachua County Public Schools; and the University of North Florida.

The following District administrators were congratulated on their recent graduation from this rigorous program, which lasted more than two years:

- Kelly Armstrong, Assistant Principal, Oak View Middle School
- Isa Carter, Supervisor of Staff Development
- Justin Russell, Assistant Principal, Kanapaha Middle School
- Sharon Sailor, Curriculum and Literacy Coach, Oak View Middle School
- Jared Taber, Assistant Principal, Buchholz High School

Former Deputy Superintendent Sandy Hollinger was also recognized for her role as an Internship Coach.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS Mrs. Griffin served lunch to K-2 graders at Irby Elementary School on opening day of school and visited an additional nine schools this week. She reported that good things are happening at all.

Dr. McNealy reported on her experience working in the Zoning Department for the opening of school, commenting on the efficient system that was in place. She commended the hardworking staff.

Dr. Roberts spoke on the “powerful launch” of the new school year. His remarks included his visits to Foster and Metcalfe Elementary Schools and Gainesville High School, where the principals and staff showed great hospitality. He had fun with Foster students in the lunchroom, complemented the orderly atmosphere at GHS, and the success of the Student ID swipe cards. Dr. Roberts congratulated Ms. Erin Jester, The Gainesville Sun, on receiving a state award. He also commended Turnaround Leaders on their graduation.

Mrs. Roy thanked principals for the smooth opening of the school year, commending them on their professionalism and hard work. She was enthusiastic about the new issue of Parent Guide, which was developed by PIO Jackie Johnson and David Stanley, Teacher Production Lab. She highly recommended that parents save their copy as a reference.

Mrs. Oyenarte stated that at each of her remaining meetings as a Board member, she will highlight a specific department. At this meeting, it was the Finance Department. Mrs. Oyenarte spoke of the competence and helpfulness of the staff, noting in particular the leadership of Mr. Scott Ward and Mr. Alex Rella.

Dr. Paulson met with four high school faculties during their opening week and hopes to visit the remaining ones soon. He also volunteered at Chiles Elementary School and Kanapaha Middle School on opening day. He looks forward to updates on the student swipe cards, the transportation funding appeal and new transportation procedures.

CITIZEN INPUT

ACEA President Karen McCann commented on a movie at the Hippodrome, *Rise Above the Mark*. She recommended it to all who have the opportunity to view it.

EHS PTA President Rose Koenig addressed the Board regarding the need for Science Labs at Eastside High School, as funding permits. She also suggested a change to specific transcript information sent to colleges.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Roy

Seconded by Mrs. Griffin

Moved the Superintendent’s recommendation to approve the Consent Agenda as described in items 1-20.

Mrs. Roy commented on the high cost of FSBIT membership, wondering if there are other options. Dr. Paulson and Mr. Ward responded with information on rebates received, stating that they believe FSBIT membership has been good overall.

Dr. Diana Lagotic, Director, Elementary Curriculum, responded to questions from Dr. McNealy about procedures related to a reading program developed by the Lastinger Center.

Mr. Ward responded to Ms. Oyenarte’s question about FSBIT rebates.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

EMPLOYEE CASE
NO. E-1415-02

The employee is charged with violation of School Board Policy 4431.01, *Absence Without Leave*. The employee's last working day was 11/04/13.

Motion by Mrs. Griffin

Seconded by Mrs. Roy

Moved the Superintendent's recommendation to terminate the employee, effective August 20, 2014.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CITIZEN INPUT

There was no citizen input.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
REQUESTS

Mrs. Oyenarte requested that research be done on the transcript issue raised during Citizen Input.

Mrs. Roy congratulated Erin Jester, The Gainesville Sun reporter, on her recent statewide award. Dr. Paulson also commended her.

Dr. McNealy explained a salary issue pertaining to adult ed employees and strongly recommended they receive a retroactive raise. Mrs. Roy concurred. Dr. Roberts stated that he will look into it and make any necessary adjustments.

Mr. Ward responded to Dr. Paulson's request for an update on pending appeals.

Dr. Paulson requested that Mr. Ward check into what reduction might be expected in Transportation funding this year. Mr. Ward replied to Mrs. Roy that the details of any penalty are not known at this time.

Dr. Roberts stated that accurate information will be gathered and presented to the Board in a timely manner.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7 p.m.