

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA
APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 20, 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 School Board Attorney David Delaney.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. McNealy, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA	<u>Motion by Mrs. Roy</u>	<u>Seconded by Dr. Paulson</u>
	<u>Moved to</u> adopt the agenda for the October 20, 2015, meeting, as presented.	
	The question was called.	<u>Upon Vote:</u> Motion passed 5-0
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	<u>Motion by Mrs. Roy</u>	<u>Seconded by Mr. Hyatt</u>
	<u>Moved to</u> approve the minutes of the August 4, 2015, Policy Workshop, as presented.	
	The question was called.	<u>Upon Vote:</u> Motion passed 5-0
	<u>Motion by Mrs. Roy</u>	<u>Seconded by Mr. Hyatt</u>
	<u>Moved to</u> approve the minutes of the August 18, 2015, Impact Fees Workshop, as presented.	
	The question was called.	<u>Upon Vote:</u> Motion passed 5-0
	<u>Motion by Mrs. Roy</u>	<u>Seconded by Mr. Hyatt</u>
	<u>Moved to</u> approve the minutes of the October 6, 2015, School Board Meeting, as presented.	
	The question was called.	<u>Upon Vote:</u> Motion passed 5-0
RECOGNITION	A reception was held prior to the Board meeting, in honor of Coach Jessie B. Heard. As Board members convened the meeting, Dr. Roberts spoke briefly.	
PROCLAMATION HONORING COACH JESSIE B. HEARD	Dr. Paulson continued the recognition, honoring Coach Heard by fondly recounting highlights of his career at Lincoln High School and, particularly, his many years at Buchholz High School.	
EHS 2015 ALL-NATIONAL HONOR ENSEMBLE	The Board recognized Cindy Ai, third year EHS band student who for the second time is heading to Nashville's Grand Ole Opry House to perform as part of the All-National Honor Concert Band. She is one of only 150 students in the nation who auditioned and was chosen for a spot in the band, which the National Association for Music Education calls the "best of the best."	
PRESENTATIONS	Mr. Shane Andrew, Executive Director, Facilities, made brief comments on the District's 2014-15 energy conservation efforts.	
2014-15 ENERGY CONSERVATION INCENTIVE AWARDS	Ms. Theresa Spurling-Wood, ACPS Energy Conservation Specialist, presented the ACPS Sustainability Report [see Supplementary Minutes]. Top School	

Energy Savers for 2014/15 were High Springs Community School; Glen Springs, Littlewood, Meadowbrook, Metcalfe, and Rawlings Elementary Schools; and Bishop Middle School.

LAKE FOREST
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL –
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT
PLAN

Mrs. Lacy Redd, Principal, Lake Forest Elementary School, conducted a *School Improvement Focus* presentation, which included:

- Demographics
- School Data
- Program Supports
- Developing the Whole Child
- After School Supports
- Strategies for Success
- Assessment of Progress
- Parent/Community Involvement

Dr. Roberts and Board members both commended Dr. Redd and her whole school team.

RAWLINGS
ELEMENTARY CENTER
FOR FINE ARTS –
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT
PLAN

Mr. Daniel Burney, Principal, Rawlings Elementary Center for Fine Arts, conducted a presentation of their School Improvement Plan, which included:

- Demographics
- School Data
- Program Supports
- Strategies for Success
- Holistic Education
- After School Enrichment
- Progress Monitoring
- Parent/Community Involvement

Dr. Roberts and Board members gave credit to faculty, staff, and all the school volunteers for the gains made at Rawlings.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Dr. Steven Stark, Director, Research and Zoning, presented a Zoning Department update.

ZONING

Several proposals were reviewed, including changing to the more accurate title of Office of Student Assignment; consolidation of all associated areas, for the purpose of establishing a convenient ‘one-stop shop’ for parents. Procedures and policies would also require review and updating.

Dr. Paulson inquired about costs. Dr. McNealy expressed disagreement with the policy requirements for approval of Zoning Exception requests.

A Zoning Workshop will be held at a later date.

IT/SECURITY
AWARENESS UPDATE

Mr. Alex Rella, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, informed the Board that a required security awareness program is being implemented for all ACPS employees, as a result of an audit finding. There are 14 short videos, to be viewed as work schedules allow, but which must be completed by March 18, 2016. This course will give employees a better understanding of how to protect from cyber-attacks. Professional Development points may be earned.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Griffin commented on:

- Linda Awbrey, GHS, being named the Southern Association's Student Council Advisor of the year.
- very talented students in the GHS play, *Spelling Bee*.
- First Annual Career Discoveries Day.
- Pace Center for Girls Luncheon.
- FSBA Legislative Platform Resolution.
- FSBA Strategic Plan.

Dr. Paulson commented on:

- FSBA Legislative Priorities
- GHS vs. BHS being one of best football games he's ever seen. He commended GHS coaches on the handling of the controversial game ending.
- Commended Sean Smith, president, BHS Boosters, on getting the Homecoming game played at Buchholz.

Mr. Hyatt extended respect and congratulations to Ms. Natalie Strappy, Parent Academy Director, and Ms. Judy Black, Principal, Early Learning Academy, on a very successful Volunteer Orientation.

Dr. Roberts:

- congratulated all schools who had a theatrical presentation this year, even though he was unable to attend all. He is impressed with what he has seen and heard about the productions, stating that they all could have participants headed to Broadway. He commended teachers, school communities, and District Supervisor Dustin Adams on the fantastic work being done.
- commended Rawlings, Duval, Shell, and Lake Forest on the work being done at their schools, and their showcase presentations to their communities.
- updated the Board on the custodial positions at Norton, stating that as the date of contract expiration for cleaning services gets closer, positions will be advertised. In addition, all internal custodian positions will be advertised and not converted to private units unless no qualified applicants are available.
- commented on his conversation with a state senator on the Accountability Assessment issue, which seems to be gaining some traction. Also, he was contacted by the NY Times, concerning an article they plan to publish.

Dr. McNealy:

- expressed condolences to the family of Dr. Lougene Hill, on his recent passing. Dr. Hill was retired from his position as long-time and highly respected principal at Prairie View Elementary School.
- reported that Dr. Roberts recently spoke to the Gainesville Woman's Club, whose members were very impressed with the information, resulting in their pledging \$100,000 to the Duval Early Learning Center's Naturescape.
- attended Duval Early Learning Center's Showcase Presentation
- commended the Altrusa Club for their upcoming annual Literacy event, which has been conducted for nineteen years.

CITIZEN INPUT

Mr. Kali Blount was complimentary of the student artwork in the Boardroom and addressed the Board on the 20th Anniversary of the Million Man March, held in Washington, D.C. He then provided an African American history lesson.

A substitute teacher expressed concerns to the Board about student behavior.

A citizen addressed the Board regarding the need for public technical education centers, particularly for the City of Gainesville's Grace Marketplace.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Griffin

Seconded by Mr. Hyatt

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as described in Items 1 – 10.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CITIZEN INPUT

Mr. Kali Blount continued his African American history lesson.

Comments were continued on education for Grace Center residents.

BOARD MEMBER/
SUPERINTENDENT
REQUESTS

In response to a question from Mrs. Roy, Assistant Superintendent Karen Clarke stated that the cameras for A. Quinn Jones Center have been ordered.

Mrs. Clarke also provided information on student enrollment and hiring positions, as requested by Dr. Paulson at the last meeting.

Dr. Roberts announced that he will be coming to the Board to discuss and make decisions related to DROP and to look at recruitment and retention. He commented to Mr. Kali Blount that he wants to talk with him on the subject of racial equity.

Mrs. Roy stated that she believes the difficulty in filling positions is the fault of the state and its position on Assessment.

Dr. Paulson requested discussion at the Board Retreat on DROP and also on the A. Q. Jones Center.

Dr. McNealy commented on Recruitment needs, stating that she is expecting to hear of aggressive ways to find great quality people to come to this community.

Regarding vocational education, Dr. McNealy commented favorably on the great programs in the District, but emphasized that programs are needed to train plumbers, electricians, and brick masons.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.