

REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 22, 2010

The Invocation was offered by Mr. Hill; the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Kelley.

The School Board of Okaloosa County met in Regular Session on February 22, 2010, in the Okaloosa County Courthouse, Crestview, Florida.

PRESENT: Rodney Walker, Chairman
Howard Hill
Chuck Kelley
Cathy Thigpen

Alexis Tibbetts, Superintendent
C. Jeffrey McInnis, Esq., Attorney to the Board

ABSENT: Cindy Frakes, Vice-Chairman

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and welcomed visitors and presenters.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion to approve the Agenda as amended was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Thigpen and carried 4-0:

Consent Agenda: Item #8 was moved to Discussion item #1 at the request of Mr. Kelley.

VISITORS:

1. The Board recognized Crestview High School Cheerleaders, State Champions in the Florida High School Athletic Association Competitive Cheerleading Finals, Small Coed Division (Exhibit 10-106)

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: No Request

PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: None

COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS:

1. In-County Travel paid for the period of January 21 – February 3, 2010, presented by Rita Scallan (Exhibit 10-107)
2. Out-of-County Travel paid for the period of January 21 – February 3, 2010, presented by Rita Scallan (Exhibit 10-108)

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Thigpen and carried 4-0.

1. Minutes of Workshop Meeting of February 4, 2010; Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 8, 2010; Minutes of Student Disciplinary Hearings of February 4, 2010; and Minutes of Student Disciplinary Hearings of February 10, 2010, recommended by the Superintendent for approval.
2. Budget Amendment #5 for fiscal year 2009-2010, presented by Rita Scallan and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 10-109).

REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 22, 2010

3. Monthly Financial Report for January 2010, presented by Rita Scallan and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 10-110).
4. Acceptance of Donations, presented by Rita Scallan and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 10-111).
5. Payment of Invoices dated February 22, 2010, presented by Rita Scallan and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 10-112).
6. Authorization to appropriate funds and make payment of Federal Impact Aid funds to charter schools in the amount of \$78,411.57 for the first payment received for the 2010 claiming year (claim filed January 2009), presented by Rita Scallan and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 10-113):
 - A. Okaloosa Academy - \$3,293.00
 - B. Northwest Florida State College Collegiate High School - \$17,652.98
 - C. Liza Jackson Preparatory School - \$57,112.77
 - D. AMIKids – Emerald Coast - \$352.82
7. Volunteer Lists, compiled by Kaye McKinley and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 10-114).
8. Moved to Discussion Agenda #1 - School Calendar for 2010-2011, presented by Ryan Gore and recommended by the Superintendent for approval.
9. Application for 2009-2010 Domestic Security K-12 Access Control Grant, presented by Jerry Sansom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 10-115).
10. Addendum to Cooperative Agreement for Virtual School Franchise Management Services between the School Board of Okaloosa County and the School Board of Santa Rosa County, presented by Ryan Gore and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 10-116).
11. Personnel Recommendations, presented by Mike Foxworthy and recommended by the Superintendent for approval:
 - A. New Hire Report (Exhibit 10-117)
 - B. Leave Requests (Exhibit 10-118)
 - C. Transfer Report (Exhibit 10-117)
12. Employment Separations, presented by Mike Foxworthy and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 10-119).
13. Reinstatement of Sick Leave due to line-of-duty illness/injury/medical examination, presented by Mike Foxworthy and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 10-120):
 - A. Patricia Alexander, Bob Sikes Elementary, 15 hours
 - B. Nan Barlow, Ruckel Middle School, 75 hours
 - C. Fiona Lukas, Baker School, 7.5 hours
14. Zoning Waivers, presented by Deputy Superintendents and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 10-121; see Zoning Waiver file).
15. Bids and Purchasing, presented by Rick Norris and recommended by the Superintendent for approval:
 - A. Approval of Bids and Purchasing Requests: None

REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 22, 2010

- B. Rejection of Bids and Purchasing Requests: None
- C. Service Agreements: None

DISCUSSION AGENDA:

1. School Calendar for 2010-2011, presented by Ryan Gore and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 10-122).

The Chairman recognized Kathy Andre who requested to address the Board regarding the school calendar. She stated that many people make their calendar choice based on personal reasons; however, it should be decided on what is best for the education of the students. She commented that Calendar B offers more instructional time in the second semester than Calendar A, and more instructional time before administering AP exams. She stated that the selection of the calendar should be done by the School Board, not by a popular vote.

Mr. Kelley agreed with Ms. Andre's comments. He stated that in his research to determine a calendar that was in the best interest of the students, he believed that having the start date in the middle of August was not advantageous to the students, and that Calendar B was more beneficial to the students.

Mr. Kelley made a motion to approve Calendar B as the School calendar for 2010-2011 (Exhibit 10-123).

Mr. Walker commented that the results of both surveys showed that Calendar A was the preferred calendar. He stated that although the parents favored Calendar B in the final survey, when considering teachers and district staff, Calendar A was overwhelmingly favored.

Mr. Hill seconded Mr. Kelley's motion, stating that the intent of the calendar survey was to give the Board a sense of the community; however, the academic merit of the calendar is also considered. He stated that he believed Calendar B is the best for the students for academic purposes, namely for FCAT instruction, and it also extends the instructional time for AP exams and other tests.

Mrs. Thigpen stated that because the State has recognized Okaloosa County as a High Performing school district, this is the first time the District has had a choice in determining the start date for classes. She asked if data is available regarding the need for the additional instruction time to improve the AP and FCAT scores and the academics of other tests. Mrs. Thigpen stated she supported Calendar A.

JC Connor responded that there is not any data showing that a later start date has hurt the District's FCAT scores or AP scores; however, extensive research has not been done in that area. He stated that FCAT scores have not dropped, and there is not any indicator that the District's AP scores have diametrically dropped.

Dr. Tibbetts commented that instruction time is a significant factor in student performance. The new high school grading system will take into account the AP scores and FCAT scores; therefore, an earlier start date would be important.

Mr. Kelley's motion failed 2-2, with Mr. Walker and Mrs. Thigpen opposing.

CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM/OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE'S BUSINESS:

1. Motion to approve GMP from Jacobs/Titan for Program No. 4, Task Order No. 6, Modification #1, Choctawhatchee High School Administration Renovation Project, in the amount of \$846,740.00, presented by Dr. Bill Smith and recommended by the Superintendent for approval, was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Thigpen and carried 4-0 (Exhibit 10-124).
2. Motion to approve GMP from Jacobs/Titan for Program No. 4, Task Order No. 1, Modification No. 1, Richbourg School Renovation Project, in the amount of \$2,379,979.00, presented by Dr. Bill Smith and recommended by the Superintendent for approval, was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Thigpen and carried 4-0 (Exhibit 10-125).
3. Motion was made by Mr. Hill to approve Program No. 4, Task Order No. 5, Modification to Scope of Work for HVAC Control Units at Bluewater Elementary School and Replacement of Windows at Destin Elementary School, amount not to exceed \$275,000.00, presented by Dr. Bill Smith and recommended by the Superintendent for approval, seconded by Mrs. Thigpen and carried 4-0 (Exhibit 10-126).
4. Motion was made by Mr. Hill to approve of Program No. 4, Task Order No. 10, Crestview High School Band Room Repair, amount not to exceed \$100,000.00, and authorization to issue a Notice to Proceed, presented by Dr. Bill Smith and recommended by the Superintendent for approval, seconded by Mrs. Thigpen and carried 4-0 (Exhibit 10-127).
5. Motion to Declare Interim Shared Savings for Program No. 3, Task Order No. 17, in the amount of \$605,000.00, presented by Rita Scallan and recommended by the Superintendent for approval, was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Kelley and carried 4-0 (Exhibit 10-128).

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SEAT MANAGEMENT CONTRACT: None

BIDS AND PURCHASING: None

ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS: None

SUPERINTENDENT'S BUSINESS:

1. Out-of-State Student Field Trips (Exhibit 10-129)

Dr. Tibbetts announced that Kelly Edleman, a volunteer at Edge Elementary, has been selected the 2010 Florida Outstanding School Volunteer.

Dr. Tibbetts informed the Board that Carolyn McAllister has been selected the Regional winner for Reading Leader of the Year for the State of Florida.

BOARD MEMBERS' BUSINESS:

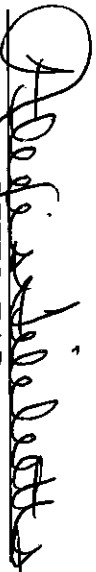
Mr. Kelley requested that an Executive Session be scheduled the first part of March to discuss the negotiations that will be taking place.

Mrs. Thigpen expressed appreciation to the individuals who stood in for staff at Bob Sikes Elementary Schools, Davidson Middle School, and Crestview High School so they could attend the funeral service for Annelise Adams.

REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 22, 2010

There being no further business, and upon motion being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Jan Crawford, Recorder


ALEXIS ABBETTS, Ed.D.
SUPERINTENDENT AND
CORPORATE SECRETARY


RODNEY L. WALKER
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD