

**SCHOOL BOARD OF SANTA ROSA COUNTY  
WORKSHOP  
December 10, 2020-1:00 PM**

Items for Review and Discussion

A. School Board Finance

*For a complete word for word transcript, please see the video. The following presentations to the Board have been condensed.*

*The School Board Finance Workshop convened at 1:15 P.M. with the following members present: Mrs. Wei Ueberschaer, Chairperson; Mrs. Linda Sanbom, Vice-Chairperson; Mrs. Carol Boston, Mr. Charles Elliott, and Mrs. Elizabeth Hewey.*

*Also present were School Board Attorney, Terry Harmon; and Dr. Karen Barber, Superintendent of Schools and Secretary.*

*Superintendent Barber introduced Dr. Jim Hamilton, and gave a summary of his qualifications and the various positions he has held within school districts and as a consultant.*

*The workshop started with a discussion of House Bill 641 (Teacher Raise Allocation) and how it is a part of the FEFP (Florida Education Finance Program) calculation. House Bill 641 addressed the teacher shortage and the starting teacher pay. He stated that the teacher raise allocation will remain a categorical and will be protected. The definition of a classroom teacher and the ESE Pre-K teacher were discussed.*

*There are 4 kinds of revenue embedded in the FEFP. Local funds (which includes the compression adjustment). It is given because the funds the District receives are below the State average, lottery funds, principal trust funds, and general revenue. The overall State revenue was discussed and how the pandemic has impacted it.*

*The Florida Retirement System (FRS) was discussed. The FRS rates that the District must contribute have increased. The increase is to keep Florida Retirement System solvent. The District must budget for those increases and should expect the rates to increase over the next few years.*

*The changes in the FEFP from 2007 until 2020 were discussed. Dr. Hamilton stated that over the years the funds the state has given the districts has come pre-spent. The state has already told the districts how the funds must be used. The state has put mandates in place requiring the use of the funds that were given. The district had an increase of available total new unencumbered FEFP*

*funds for thirteen years of about 6.6%, or an average of about .51% per year.*

*The CARES Act revenue as part of the state revenue was discussed. The collections and forecasts for FY 2020-2021 were also discussed. Collections have increased compared to the beginning of the pandemic.*

*The 2020 organizational session for the legislature was briefly discussed. The Senate President said that the state will be tightening its belt. He noted that the K-12 system will be looked at.*

*The new Executive Order was discussed. The Districts would be held practically harmless for the lost FTE if their second semester education plan is approved by DOE and followed.*

*Susan McCole, Assistant Superintendent for Finance, came forward to provide additional information.*

*Using data from the AFR for fiscal year 2018/19, 2019/20, and from the budget as of November for fiscal year 2020/21, Ms. McCole provided an analysis of the General Fund revenue, expenditures, and fund balance.*

*The District has other funds such as Special Revenue that support students. The Special Revenue funds can only be spent as prescribed; examples are Title 1 and IDEA. Capital Funds are restricted by statutory requirements but can be used for specified operating purposes.*

*General Fund Revenues were listed in the presentation. Some General Fund Revenues have restrictions and must be spent as specified. FEFP (Florida Education Finance Program) is the major source of General Fund revenue for the District. District School Taxes are the second largest source of General Fund revenue. The increases/decreases from FY 18/19 to FY 19/20 to FY 20/21 were covered as well as if there were restrictions on any of the revenues. Reasons for the changes in revenue from one year to the other were also covered. A couple of the changes were related to the Best and Brightest and to the teacher raise allocation.*

*A comparison of revenue for Escambia, Okaloosa, and Santa Rosa was also presented. The big difference in the counties' revenue was due to district school taxes. Okaloosa and Escambia collected \$38,703,737 and \$41,542,599 more respectively.*

*The General Fund Expenditures by function were covered. The main function expense is Instruction. All functions are centered on supporting schools and students. A function analysis was presented that covered the increases/decreases from FY 18/19 to FY 19/20 to FY 20/21.*

*The General Fund Expenditures by object for select functions were analyzed.*

*A summarized object report was presented that covered the increases/decreases from FY 18/19 to FY 19/20 to FY 20/21. The reasons for the changes in objects were explained. The largest changes were in the instructional salaries and purchased services objects.*

*The Fund Balance changes for the General Fund were presented. The fund balance was broken out by category. Reasons for the decrease in the fund balance were discussed. The FCR (Financial Condition Ratio) was presented and discussed.*

*Dr. Barber pointed out that this granular level of discussion/knowledge is important and something that we will need to continue reviewing.*

*The Board members thanked district staff for providing the information needed for this workshop.*

*There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.*

SCHOOL BOARD OF  
SANTA ROSA COUNTY

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*Chairman*

ATTEST:

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*Superintendent and Secretary*