

MEETING MINUTES
SCHOOL BOARD OF SANTA ROSA COUNTY
August 17, 2017-6:30 PM

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

The School Board of Santa Rosa County met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present: Mr. Scott Peden, Chairman, Dr. Diane Scott, Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Carol Boston, Mr. Buddy Hinote, and Mrs. Jennifer Granse. Also present was Timothy S. Wyrosdick, Superintendent of Schools and Secretary and Paul R. Green, Board Attorney.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The Chairman called the meeting to order and Mr. Jud Crane lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and in a moment of silence.

C. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of School Board Meeting Minutes of July 27, 2017

Motion to Approve was moved by Diane Scott, Seconded by Jenny Granse. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

D. Oral Written Communications

Superintendent Wyrosdick discussed the upcoming solar eclipse and introduced Jeff Baugus, Coordinator of Math and Science, who will be providing information regarding this exciting upcoming event. Mr. Baugus shared that it has been thirty-eight years since we've had a visible total eclipse; this is quite a treat. He will be sending information to parents and has an "eclipse" page on our website. Mr. Baugus showed a brief animation of what the eclipse will look like; since the United States is the only country that will see it in totality it is being called the "Great American Eclipse." There are some dangers associated with the eclipse; staring at the sun without appropriate eye protection can damage the eyes. Some schools have purchased the protective eyewear; others are planning to use pinhole projection to view safely; there are also live streams available.

Superintendent Wyrosdick added that we have communicated to schools who passed the information to parents; this is an exciting event and safety will be our priority. Dr. Scott asked if all students have the protective eyewear and Mr. Baugus responded that it depends on the school/teacher; they also have the option of using pinhole projection or live stream video.

The Superintendent continued with the next item - the possibility of having a School Board meeting at the south end of the school district. We had hoped to use the location that the Board of County Commissioners uses but the dates/times available are so restrictive that we have decided it's not feasible. We also want to have the ability to live stream these meetings as we do the ones in our Board Room at Canal Street. Mr. Wyrosdick shared that we are looking at retrofitting a location that we already have (school site) but need to research more; we may have a recommendation in October.

Dr. Scott asked if we have explored using the PSC campus at the south end and the Superintendent responded that it's not large enough.

E. Recognitions/Resolutions/Proclamations

None

F. Public Hearing

None

G. Public Forum- (Request to address the School Board regarding an item not on the agenda)

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

Board Chairman Scott Peden reviewed the protocol for the Public Forum; presentations are limited to approximately five minutes; the Board cannot take action on requests.

Sarah Coutu, community member, came to the podium to address the Board regarding the budget and some information provided by attorney John Dickinson at the Impasse Hearing on August 10. Ms. Coutu wanted to know if the half-cent sales tax (passed this spring) is used to cover building new schools and maintenance on existing facilities. Dr. Scott responded that the half-cent sales tax is used for that but does not cover it all. Ms. Coutu then asked if we are putting building/maintenance of facilities on the backs of our teachers. She then asked why the half-cent sales tax was held as a special election. Superintendent Wyrosdick responded that the half-cent sales tax is extremely important to Santa Rosa citizens and this was an option afforded to us. Ms. Coutu asked if the election could have been held in 2018. The Superintendent explained that the election could have been held in 2018 but it would have been a poor choice since if it failed to pass, we would not have time

to recoup dollars needed for maintenance/upkeep of schools. Ms. Coutu asked about the cost of the special election; Mr. Wyrosdick responded that he did not have the information available but would get back with her. Ms. Coutu concluded that she feels ashamed that the Board voted in favor of the Superintendent's recommendation on salary increases.

David Godwin, teacher at Pace High, came forward and presented information to the Board from the audit report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2016. Mr. Godwin stated that at the Impasse Hearing on August 10, attorney John Dickinson made inaccurate statements regarding his (David Godwin's) presentation to the Special Magistrate. He continued that he won't be addressing all the statements but will focus on the expenditures of the 2015-16 school year. Mr. Godwin read statements from Mr. Dickinson's presentation on August 10, "The Special Magistrate's recommendation on the pay increase issue is in large part based upon misleading, inaccurate, and unsupported arguments presented by SRPE, and particularly Mr. David Godwin." Mr. Godwin read the following statement from Mr. Dickinson, "The union preposterously represented to the Special Magistrate that there was a \$3.6 million difference in the 2015-2016 fiscal year between budgeted instruction-related expenditures and actual expenditures (that) could be used to fund its wage proposal." Mr. Godwin continued that Mr. Dickinson said that money could not be used for pay increases and the \$3.6 million was for restricted projects, committed projects, band instruments, STEAM summer camps, and other related instructional expenses. Mr. Godwin pointed out that he presented to the Board an audit report for the 2015-16 fiscal year; he stated that these are facts. Mr. Godwin went on that the \$3.6 million in expenditures are \$3.6 million less than the actual budgeted amounts; and the actual expenditures are about \$6 million less than the final budgeted expenditures. Mr. Godwin stated that most of the information presented to the Special Magistrate by SRPE came from audits. He asked where the \$6 million (less than final budgeted expenditures) came from; and stated that Mr. Dickinson said it came from restricted projects, committed projects, STEAM summer camps, etc. He feels that the next page of the audit contradicts information provided by Mr. Dickinson. He read from the 2015-16 audit report, "Actual revenues are in line with the final budgeted amounts while actual expenditures are \$6,175,335.41, or 3.1 percent, less than final budgeted amounts. Actual expenditures are less primarily due to salaries and related benefits costing less than estimated." Mr. Godwin noted that it doesn't say anything about band instruments, STEAM summer camps, textbooks, etc. He feels that the information presented to the Special Magistrate by SRPE was accurate and based on school district documents that can be found on line. In closing, he respectfully asked the Board to reconsider their decision; feels their judgment was clouded by Mr. Dickinson's presentation. He said that he loves the school district and Santa Rosa County; regardless of the Board's decision, he will move

on, and thanked the Board for listening.

Rachel Hughes, teacher at Gulf Breeze Middle, came forward to speak about salary. Ms. Hughes stated that she attended most of the negotiations meetings up until impasse; the facts presented were not denied. She is trying to represent her teachers who are asking "what's next?" They hoped that the last vote would be a turnaround. She loves her job but there are more students and work than ever; less money - what's next?

Linda Fontes, Santa Rosa County taxpayer, came to the podium to speak in support of pay increases for teachers. Ms. Fontes applauds teachers for the job they do and feels that a 2.77% increase is not that much. She asked how much attorney John Dickinson has been paid for his services for 2017. Superintendent Wyrosdick responded that he doesn't know the exact amount but if Ms. Fontes contacts him he will get this information to her.

Kelsey Womack, teacher at Pace High, addressed the Board regarding district finances, retroactive pay, and finding common ground. Ms. Womack stated that she addressed the Board in July regarding retro pay and feels that employees deserve the retro pay. She shared that after the Superintendent's e-mail/invitation earlier in the week asking employees who would like more information on the budget to contact finance, she spent three hours with Susan McCole, Assistant Superintendent for Finance, reviewing the budget. Ms. McCole provided information/documents from audits that are not available on line; Ms. Womack feels that it is her responsibility to share what she learned from this and stated that she is not an "over night budget expert." The money that SRPE presented as being available for employee pay increase cannot be used for salaries; it is in restricted funds; and has been moved to other places where it must be based on state donations. There is a small amount (\$378,000) that may legitimately be used for pay increases. We have \$16 million in our unassigned fund balance at this time that could be used for salaries; however, using that money lowers our Financial Condition Ratio which makes borrowing money (for future school/s) more expensive. Our FCR was at 9.6 last year; the School District recommendation brings our FCR to around 7 this year; and the SRPE proposal brings the FCR down further (6) which would be unstable. Ms. Womack continued that in January this year the Board voted to put \$3 million in the committed fund for the seven-period day resolution; this was done before a committee had been formed to talk about the cost and before it was presented to schools - where it was met with resistance from teachers, students, and parents. Ms. Womack suggested that this money could be voted to be moved back to unassigned fund balance and could be used for raises and retro pay without affecting Financial Condition Ratio. She concluded that she

loves her job and co-workers; she is a mother of four students in Santa Rosa schools and wants the school district to be successful. Ms. Womack stated that she's had a very busy week but made it a priority to try to find the facts; she feels that this situation is comparable to a custody battle and the employees want to believe both sides; she hopes that the Board will try to take care of the employees.

Christina Forrest, Santa Rosa citizen, came up next to speak regarding teacher salaries. Ms. Forrest requested the Board reconsider the decision made at the Impasse Hearing regarding salary increase and retro pay. She feels that teachers have performed well and are requesting a modest increase. We have a high performing district and schools; many teachers could not come to the last meeting since it was held on the night of open house; she feels that was wrong.

Mr. Peden asked if anyone else would like to address the Board; there being no other requests, the public forum was closed.

Administrative Agenda

H. Approval of Agenda- Items may be pulled from the Administrative Agenda and placed under the respective Action Agenda category by request of the Board member/Superintendent

Motion to Approve was moved by Clifton Hinote, Seconded by Diane Scott. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

The Board approved all Administrative Agenda items H. 1, 2, 3, 4 as submitted below.

1. Human Resource items

- a. Administrative Agenda**
- b. Leaves and Out of State Temporary Duty**

2. Curriculum/Instruction Items

- a. Student Reassignment Requests**
- b. School Volunteers**
- c. Business Partner**

3. Financial Items

- a. Budget Amendment #16/10, Bills and Payroll, and Monthly Financial Statement for June 2017**

4. Administrative Operational Items

a. Field Trip Requests

Action Agenda

**I. Administrative/Operational Recommendations- Joey Harrell,
Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services**

1. Exceed the Limit 081717

Motion to Approve was moved by Jenny Granse, Seconded by Carol Boston. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

2. Surplus 081717

Motion to Approve was moved by Jenny Granse, Seconded by Carol Boston. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

3. RFP 17-08 Restoration for Buildings and Grounds 081717

Motion to Approve was moved by Jenny Granse, Seconded by Carol Boston. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

The selection committee ranked SouthernCAT, Inc. and NorthStar Demolition and Remediation, LP as the top companies to be awarded RFP 17-08 Restoration for Buildings and Grounds. SouthernCAT will be primary and NorthStar will be secondary (if needed). The selection committee consisted of Richard Laing, Supervisor of Building Maintenance; Rufus Phillips, Maintenance Foreman II; Richard Grimes, Maintenance Foreman I; Shane Hall, Maintenance Mechanic II; and Travis Fulton, Purchasing Agent II.

4. RFP 17-09 Debris Removal and Tree Trimming 081717

Motion to Approve was moved by Jenny Granse, Seconded by Carol Boston. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

The selection committee ranked the submission by Custom Tree Care, Inc. as the top company to be awarded for RFP 17-09 Debris Removal and Tree Trimming. The selection committee consisted of Richard Laing, Supervisor of Building Maintenance; Rufus Phillips, Maintenance Foreman II; Richard Grimes, Maintenance Foreman I; Shane Hall, Maintenance Mechanic II; and Travis Fulton, Purchasing Agent II.

5. PESG Quarterly Report 081717

LaTonya Hilson, District Specialist for PESG, came forward to present the quarterly report for substitutes. Ms. Hilson stated that she is pleased to report a 95.16% fill rate for the 2016-2017 school year; though there are areas which need improvement. Earlier absence reporting would be very helpful and they are working on that. She reviewed the local office hours and coverage; Ms. Hilton works forty hours per week and has an

additional local service representative who works part time. There are currently 562 active subs in the pool with the goal being 600 substitutes. PESG has nine recruitment/enrollment meetings in Milton every week.

The number of paraprofessional substitutes has increased to 59; there are 184 substitute employees who are eligible to work as both instructional and ed support. The training provided by Alexis Cash, Coordinator of ESE Programs and Compliance, has benefited these employees and they are more comfortable accepting vacancies.

Ms. Hilson thanked the School District for allowing PESG to hold the "Back to School Kickoff and ESE Training" at Avalon Middle on July 27; it was well attended and 62 substitute employees attended the ESE training provided by Ms. Cash.

Nineteen substitutes were awarded certificates due to being nominated by school sites for Sub of the Year; even though they were not chosen for the SREY Sub of the Year PESG recognizes their achievement for excellence of service.

Ms. Hilson reviewed PESG accomplishments for the 2016-2017 school year. The local office and staff is established and meeting the needs of the District; they continue to work on building partnerships with the schools and offer individualized training in AESOP; they are continuing to improve recruitment techniques in order to employ the right subs for our schools and students. They have coordinated with the School District ESE Office to provide professional development training.

Dr. Scott asked where PESG is actually trying to recruit; Ms. Hilson responded that she attends different job fairs including University of West Florida, Pensacola State College, and Escarosa Resource Center.

In summary, the goals for 2017-18 include visiting more school sites; rebuilding the substitute pool to 600; coordinating with other departments (such as Math) to offer more professional development for substitutes; and maintaining an above average fill rate.

6. DAG Architects Agenda Items

Motion to Approve was moved by Clifton Hinote, Seconded by Diane Scott. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

The Board approved Phase 3 Construction Documents for the Douglas A. Dillon Administrative Complex as presented.

Owen Gipson with DAG Architects pointed out that there are items included that can be adjusted later as needed. Superintendent Wyrosdick mentioned that currently Berryhill Administrative Complex is falling down; day by day we are removing individuals from that building.

The Board reviewed the status of current DAG Architects construction projects.

7. Jehle-Halstead Agenda Items

The Board reviewed the status of current Jehle-Halstead construction projects.

8. Schmidt Consulting Agenda Items

Motion to Approve was moved by Jenny Granse, Seconded by Carol Boston. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

The Board approved Phase II design for Milton High School HVAC Renovation Phase B as presented. This is the second part of the project which began last summer at Milton High and will expand on the chilled and hot water distribution system resulting in increased cost savings.

The Board reviewed the status of current Schmidt Consulting construction projects.

9. Direct Purchasing Change Orders

Motion to Approve was moved by Diane Scott, Seconded by Carol Boston. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

The Board approved the following change orders decreasing the projects payable below to the appropriate contractor by the amounts shown.

These decreases are to reflect recent payments made to suppliers and the associated tax savings acquired through direct purchasing.

- *Chumuckla Elementary - Classroom/Lab/Resource Room Addition
Larry Hall Construction
\$1,746.24*
- *Sims Middle - Resource Room Addition/Kitchen
Expansion/Renovation
Hewes & Company
\$10,159.43*

J. Human Resource Recommendation- Conni Carnley, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

1. Action Agenda

None

**K. Curricular and Instructions Recommendation – Bill Emerson,
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction**

1. Early Terminations

*Motion to Approve was moved by Jenny Granse, Seconded by Carol Boston. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.
The Board approved the termination of alternative placement of student A17-0151-32.*

2. Alternative Placement

*Motion to Approve was moved by Clifton Hinote, Seconded by Diane Scott. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.
The Chairman asked if there was anyone here who wanted to address the Board regarding any of the Alternative Placements/Expulsions. There was no response and the Superintendent presented the student numbers, the reason and the recommendation of the disciplinary committee.*

3. Good Cause Exemptions

Motion to Approve was moved by Diane Scott, Seconded by Carol Boston. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

4. Grant Synopsis Title I, Part A 2017-2018

Motion to Approve was moved by Carol Boston, Seconded by Jenny Granse. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

5. Carl D. Perkins Secondary Grant 2017-2018

Motion to Approve was moved by Carol Boston, Seconded by Jenny Granse. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

6. Carl D. Perkins Postsecondary Grant 2017-2018

Motion to Approve was moved by Carol Boston, Seconded by Jenny Granse. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

7. Student Financial Aid 2017-2018

Motion to Approve was moved by Carol Boston, Seconded by Jenny Granse. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

8. SRO Agreement with SRC Sheriff's Dept

Motion to Approve was moved by Carol Boston, Seconded by Jenny Granse. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

L. Financial Recommendations – Susan McCole, Assistant

Superintendent for Finance

None

M. Items from Board Members

Mrs. Granse mentioned that she had some concerns about the eclipse (on Monday, August 21) but her questions have been answered.

Dr. Scott spoke of the good start to the school year; she commended everyone - specifically Transportation.

Superintendent Wyrosdick shared that he was at Dixon Intermediate on the first morning of school and talked with two parents who were there enrolling their students on that day. He asked Mr. Emerson to provide an update on enrollment. Mr. Emerson stated that we are under enrollment projections but not in all areas; middle school is a little over as well as some areas of Pace and Navarre. These numbers will continue to increase over the next two-three weeks; Mr. Emerson will begin sending out numbers next week.

N. Items from Board Attorney

School Board Attorney Paul Green provided an update on the sale of the Gulf Breeze property (409 Gulf Breeze Parkway). The buyer has requested another extension to do their due diligence in regard to easements. The City of Gulf Breeze and Gulf Power have been cooperative but the easements are not going to be simple to relocate (including large gas lines). The buyer wants the property but not knowing about easements has interrupted their plan; they have asked to go back and redraw/change the plan to see if it will suit their development for the property use. Mr. Green recommended to Superintendent Wyrosdick that he approve the extension and the Superintendent has done so based on the authority the School Board granted him earlier. Mr. Green shared that he is hopeful this can be resolved and will report back to the Board; probably no further extension will be needed.

Dr. Scott asked if it's feasible that a thirty-day extension will be sufficient time for the redraw to be completed and Mr. Green responded that this was the request from the buyer; if they should request another extension he would likely make the recommendation to do that.

O. Items from Superintendent

Superintendent Wyrosdick reported on the status of the Tiger Point property; we are in the negotiation phase at this time; two environmental

studies have been completed due to the nature of the property. We are looking at this as a possible school site; we have not determined what type of school would go there but at this time do not foresee that it will be a high school. The Superintendent stated that he has received a number of phone calls and e-mails regarding this property; the concerns from residents are real. We will continue to do due diligence to see what the property value is and if it's usable for what we need.

Mr. Peden stated that he appreciates the Superintendent's clarification regarding where we are in this process; there are a number of misconceptions about the property's purchase and intended use.

P. Adjournment

*Motion to Approve was moved by Clifton Hinote, Seconded by Carol Boston. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.*

DONE AND ORDERED IN LEGAL SESSION by the School Board of Santa Rosa County this 17th day of August, 2017.

SCHOOL BOARD OF
SANTA ROSA COUNTY

Chairman

ATTEST:

Superintendent and Secretary