

MEETING MINUTES
SCHOOL BOARD OF SANTA ROSA COUNTY
July 6, 2017-9:00 AM

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

The School Board of Santa Rosa County met in regular session at 9:00 a.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 Mrs. April Martin led 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 June 22, 2017

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

D. Oral Written Communications

1. Legislative Update - Jessica Janasiewicz

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

Jessica Janasiewicz, Governmental Consultant with Rutledge Ecenia, traveled from Tallahassee to provide information from the 2017 legislative session.

Superintendent Wyrosdick introduced Ms. Janasiewicz and thanked her for providing frequent updates during the recent legislative session; he spoke of how valuable her service is to Santa Rosa School District.

Ms. Janasiewicz stated that it's an honor to represent Santa Rosa School District; she is here to give us a sense of where things are going and feels that some of the items that did not pass during the last session will be revisited in the upcoming one.

The most significant bill was HB 7069 but she wanted to touch on

highlights from some other bills as well.

HB 989 (Instructional Materials) allows parents and residents of the county to provide the district school board evidence that an instructional material is inappropriate or unsuitable. Since this could make the process for adoption lengthier, Ms. Janasiewicz pointed out that we need to involve everyone as early as possible (at the beginning of the adoption process). This bill also requires school districts to provide access to library materials upon written request (there is a requirement to have a process in place for this) and to maintain a current list of purchased instructional and adopted materials on the website. She pointed out that there was much discussion about library books; these kinds of questions typically come up with adoption of new social studies/science materials.

Dr. Scott recalled a conference that she recently attended where discussion included this bill; it was thought that it would not apply to materials that are not purchased.

HB 1109 (High School Athletics) allows for a student in a non-FHSAA member private school to participate in sports at the school where the student could choose to attend (based on open enrollment policy) if the public school has not reached capacity. This bill provides parity between private schools and charter schools in this regard.

SB 436 (Religious Expression) pertains to student and employee rights. This bill basically codifies current case law.

HB 15 (Gardiner Scholarship and Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Programs) expands access to the Gardiner Scholarship Program by expanding student eligibility and expands access to the Tax Credit Scholarship Program by increasing the annual scholarship amount for some students.

HB 293 (Middle School Study) directs the FLDOE to contract with a company to conduct a study of states with high performing middle school students in order to find improved practices that we may incorporate. The bill also deletes the career and education planning course requirement for middle grade students. Superintendent Wyrosdick pointed out that removing this course requirement is a good thing since this credit is sometimes needed for other things (remediation, acceleration, advanced course opportunities).

HB 7109 (Tax Package) provides for back to school tax-free shopping days of August 4 - 6 (this is a reduction in the number of tax-free shopping days).

Ms. Janasiewicz continued by explaining the meaning of a "conforming bill;" this is a bill that amends the Florida Statutes to provide for specific changes in the general appropriations bill (budget).

HB 7069 (Education Conforming Bill) as a whole was not presented in committee and discussed; it was presented on what would have been the last day of session late in the day and was voted upon on Monday. Ms. Janasiewicz pointed out that there were many bills covered in HB 7069 including about 25 major policies. She briefly discussed the following: removal of teacher bonus caps; Lowest 300 Schools program; student attire incentive - removal of no pattern requirement; Schools of Excellence (schools ranked in top 80th percentile of points when compared to like schools will be allowed freedom from certain statutes); teacher certification requirement modifications (allows high performing teachers more time to complete certification tests); civic literacy (encourages schools to celebrate September as Founders Month); charter school standard contract; high performing charter schools - replication (without going through whole process); Capital Outlay sharing with charter schools (allows school districts to take their money first for debt service); elimination of the Algebra II EOC; testing window consolidation (two weeks if paper/pencil based test and four weeks if computer); grades 3-6 ELA and math paper/pencil based; SAT/ACT study (to determine if the SAT/ACT could take the place of some standardized tests); and School Board member visitation of schools (allowed at any time). Also included was Schools of Hope which provides four options for failing schools - close the school; bring in a management company to run the school; a charter could come in to serve those students (not required to serve all students); or a district-managed charter school. Ms. Janasiewicz pointed out that many charter schools in other areas of the country do not want to come to Florida due to low education funding in our state.

Superintendent Wyrosdick spoke to the Teacher Certification Requirement related to certification tests and how frustrating this can be when a high performing teacher can't pass one exam. He also pointed out that Liz West, Director of Human Resources, has already developed a "POP" Professional Orientation Program that includes mentoring for beginning teachers.

Title I funding is another area included in HB 7069 that we need to watch - this discussion may not be over. An earlier version of the bill directed Title I funding to each school rather than to the district. Since some schools only have a handful of Title I students we felt it would be a much better use of those dollars to have the ability to use them on programs district wide.

Best and Brightest Teachers and Principals allows Principals who have

the most Best and Brightest teachers at their school to receive the monetary award. Another change to Best and Brightest is teachers who are rated highly effective but do not have the test scores may receive the award; it was also recommended that teachers who are rated effective may receive the award.

Other items included in HB 7069: a student recess requirement of twenty minutes per day; Autism Treatment Language which requires that if a student is absent due to receiving treatment for autism it must be an excused absence; Student Use of Sunscreen which allows that a student may bring sunscreen to school and apply it without a doctor's note; and the Shared Use Task Force that will be looking at use of school properties by the public after school hours.

In summary, Ms. Janasiewicz stated that school districts ended up with more money in the special session than anticipated and the Governor played a major role in this. She then reviewed budget highlights. HB 7069 appropriates a total of \$413,950,000; of that number \$233,950,000 is for Best and Brightest Teachers and Principals; \$30,000,000 is for Gardiner Scholarships; \$15,000,000 is for provisions related to statewide assessments; and the remaining \$135,000,000 will fund all other provisions in the bill.

She reviewed the bills that didn't pass this session but we need to be mindful of for next session. In preparation for the 2018 session, we need to keep an eye on HB 7069 and contact our local legislative delegation in regard to "fixing" this bill. Superintendent Wyrosdick pointed out that HB 7069 is very over reaching; creating a dual system of education in Florida - private/charter and public school education. He stated that as he attends FADSS sessions over the next few months he will work with the FADSS Board to help develop policy/actions. The Superintendent believes in accountability for those who are receiving tax dollars but public schools should have the same flexibility that private and charter schools are allowed.

Dr. Scott requested that as we move through the next few months we develop some talking points; some of these conversations need to take place right away.

Superintendent Wyrosdick added that he hopes to bring some strategic initiatives to the Board by the end of August. He thanked Ms. Janasiewicz for making the long drive to present to us this morning.

The Superintendent asked Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Bill Emerson, to come forward and talk about school grades (released earlier this week). Mr. Emerson provided a copy of school grades for 2017 and 2016; we had six schools that increased one letter

grade and we had one school that went from an "A" to a "B." Mr. Emerson emphasized that we don't need to over react; all of our schools worked very hard and we are proud of them. He went on to the chart showing 2016-17 district grades; when compiling this chart Mr. Emerson looked for comparable districts based on enrollment and free and reduced lunch population. He shared that our district letter grade last year was "B" and we're very proud to be an "A" this year; school grades are important but that is not the only factor. Superintendent Wyrosdick thanked Mr. Emerson and staff for their hard work and stated that we're proud to be an "A" district but that doesn't define us. Poverty is a driving force in education these days; we need to be aware of that. The Superintendent continued that we build systems that meet the needs of high poverty beginning with early education and continuing with Title I and ESE. We are seeing the school day "carved out" - this doesn't mean that recess is not important but it may not be as important as science; we need to give teachers that flexibility and not micromanage.

Superintendent Wyrosdick announced that he is working on putting together a task force to work on the "Seven-Period Day;" he will likely bring this to the Board for approval at the July 20 Board meeting. It will be a large group (including parents, business people, students, teachers and administrators at all grade levels) since it is a task force - not a committee. Mr. Wyrosdick noted that he has reached out to Carlene Anderson, a retired Superintendent from Walton County, to facilitate/chair the task force and Ms. Anderson has agreed to do this. The Superintendent stated that there is a lot of work to do; he hopes to have a recommendation ready by the end of October.

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)

None

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 Jenny Granse, Seconded by Clifton

Hinote. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

- 1. Human Resource items**
 - a. Administrative Agenda**
 - b. Leaves and Out of State Temporary Duty**
- 2. Curriculum/Instruction Items**
 - a. Student Transfer Requests**
- 3. Financial Items**
 - a. Budget Amendment #16/09, Bills and Payroll, and Monthly Financial Statement for May 2017**
- 4. Administrative Operational Items**
 - a. Facility Use Requests**
 - b. Field Trip Requests**

Action Agenda

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

1. DAG Architects Agenda Items

Owen Jipson provided an update of DAG Architects items. Mr. Jipson stated that recent rains have delayed some construction projects as follows. The Sims Middle kitchen renovation completion date will likely change from December 6 to December 28, 2017; and classroom renovation (substantial) will change from June 24 to July 16, 2017. Chumuckla Elementary has also been affected. DAG hopes to bring Phase III documents for the Douglas A. Dillon Administrative Complex to the Board on August 17.

2. Jehle-Halstead Agenda Items

Patrick Jehle provided an update of Jehle-Halstead construction projects.

3. Gulf Power Company Agreement

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

This agreement provides for Pace High School to be used by Gulf Power Company as a staging area of personnel and equipment if needed (and not being used by students). School Board Attorney Paul Green has reviewed the agreement.

Dr. Scott asked if we have used this type of agreement in the past; Assistant Superintendent Joey Harrell responded that we have used Milton High as a storm restoration staging site in the past.

Mr. Harrell continued with an update of recent rain issues at East Milton Elementary affecting about twenty classrooms. On last Thursday evening (June 29) a severe rain event occurred in that area with water backing up into seven or eight classrooms. At the same time a lightening strike hit galvanized pipe and ran into the school causing water to flood an additional twelve classrooms. A team of disaster recovery specialists has been called in and the process of recovery/repair has begun. Mr. Harrell spoke highly of ABM; they started the extraction process immediately. FSBIT has been notified; we will be gathering information for an insurance claim. Mr. Harrell has requested (and received) a budget line of \$500,000; he doesn't feel we'll need that much but wanted to be sure we have the funding if necessary. Mr. Harrell discussed the process of removing cabinets/bases and either reinstalling or replacing them. Air quality tests will be performed at different stages of the process. All of this must be done in a systematic way; we will diligently work through this to ensure classrooms are safe.

Mrs. Granse spoke of the expense for teachers who will have to replace damaged items that are not covered under a claim.

Dr. Scott asked if the damaged area was one of recent construction; Mr. Harrell responded that it was not; the ESE classrooms close to the bus ramp were affected. Dr. Scott also had a question about the capacity at East Milton and if they're at full capacity. A couple of the damaged classrooms are for students with very specific needs; Mr. Harrell and Superintendent Wyrosdick gave assurance that the school will be ready for students on opening day.

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

1. Action Agenda

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

The Board approved the new job description "Job Coach Paraprofessional" as presented.

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

1. Big Brothers Big Sisters of NWFL MOU

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

The Board approved the agreement with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida as presented.

2. Santa Rosa Title I Student Mentoring Program 2017-2018

Motion to Approve was moved by Jenny Granse, Seconded by Carol Boston. Motion Passed by a Vote of 4 - 0.

The Board approved the Santa Rosa Title I Student Mentoring Program 2017-2018 as presented. Dr. Diane Scott recused herself due to her employment relationship with UWF.

3. STEAM Initiative Non-Title I Schools 2017-2018

Motion to Approve was moved by Clifton Hinote, Seconded by Carol Boston. Motion Passed by a Vote of 4 - 0.

The Board approved the STEAM Initiative Non-Title I Schools 2017-2018 contract as presented. Dr. Diane Scott recused herself due to her employment relationship with UWF.

4. STEAM Initiative Title I Schools 2017-2018

Motion to Approve was moved by Carol Boston, Seconded by Jenny Granse. Motion Passed by a Vote of 4 - 0.

The Board approved STEAM Initiative Title I Schools 2017-2018 contract as presented. Dr. Diane Scott recused herself due to her employment relationship with UWF.

Assistant Superintendent Bill Emerson pointed out that we need to be aware that each year as we implement the STEAM Initiative, (which is part Title I, part non-Title I), there is an issue of whether we're using Title I funds for things we would normally use District funds for. We have found that if we are going to use Title I funds for a program that we wouldn't be able to afford without Title I funds, we may spend District funds to ensure that all schools can participate. Since all of our schools are not Title I, it's important to note this.

Superintendent Wyrosdick spoke of the positive impact the STEAM Initiative is having in our schools; Dr. Scott noted that it was evident at our Rookie of the Year banquet.

5. CareerSource Escarosa Memorandum of Understanding

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

The Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding to support the

partnership between Workforce Escarosa, Inc. d/b/a Career Source Escarosa and Santa Rosa District Schools.

6. Title III Grant Synopsis 2017-18

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

7. Early Learning Coalition 17-18 Contract

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

L. Financial Recommendations – Susan McCole, Assistant Superintendent for Finance

None at this time. Superintendent Wyrosdick pointed out that Finance is working feverishly; we will soon be presenting the budget.

M. Items from Board Members

None

N. Items from Board Attorney

Mr. Paul Green reported that the Gulf Breeze property sale (409 Gulf Breeze Parkway) is proceeding; no issues are expected.

O. Items from Superintendent

1. Tiger Point Property

Motion to Approve was moved by Jenny Granse, Seconded by Clifton Hinote. Motion Passed by a Vote of 0 - 0.

Superintendent Wyrosdick reported that preliminary work has been done to move forward on the purchase of the Tiger Point property; so far this has been positive. The Superintendent asked the Board to allow him to do a letter of intent to purchase this property contingent on all requirements being met (appraisal, site analysis, environmental, negotiating a price).

The Superintendent also reviewed some important upcoming dates: Administrative Conference will be held on July 24-25 at UWF; the SPARK New Employee Orientation will take place on August 3 at Avalon Middle School.

P. Adjournment

*Motion to Approve was moved by Carol Boston, Seconded by Clifton Hinote. 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 6th day of July, 2017.

SCHOOL BOARD OF
SANTA ROSA COUNTY

Chairman

ATTEST:

Superintendent of Schools