

**MEETING MINUTES
SCHOOL BOARD OF SANTA ROSA COUNTY
July 27, 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: Dr. Diane Scott, Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Carol Boston, Mr. Buddy Hinote, and Mrs. Jennifer Granse. Mr. Scott Peden, Chairman, was unable to attend. Also present was Timothy S. Wyrosdick, Superintendent of Schools and Secretary and Paul R. Green, Board Attorney.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The Vice-Chairman called the meeting to order and Mr. David Gunter led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and in a moment of silence.

C. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of 2017-18 Budget Workshop Minutes of July 20, 2017

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

2. Approval of School Board Meeting Minutes of July 20, 2017

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

D. Oral Written Communications

None

E. Recognitions/Resolutions/Proclamations

None

F. Public Hearing

1. Conduct Public Hearing and Approve the 2017-2018 Code of Student Conduct

*Motion to Approve was moved by Carol Boston, Seconded by Clifton Hinote. Motion Passed by a Vote of 4 - 0.
The Vice-Chairman opened the floor for the public hearing on the 2017-18 Code of Student Conduct and asked if anyone wanted to address the Board. There was no response and the public hearing was closed.*

2. Conduct Public Hearing for the 2017-2018 Student Progression Plan

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

The Vice-Chairman opened the floor for the public hearing on the 2017-18 Student Progression Plan and asked if anyone wanted to address the Board. There was no response and the public hearing was closed.

3. Conduct First Public Hearing on the Proposed/Tentative 2017-18 Budget

Dr. Scott pointed out that this is not a vote on passing the budget; it is the first public hearing on the proposed/tentative 2017-18 budget. This is not a discussion on impasse or the special magistrate's ruling; it is about the budget in its entirety. She also noted that several requests to address the Board reference the impasse and special magistrate's recommendation; this will not be voted on tonight.

A member of the audience asked how a budget could be passed without knowing the outcome; Dr. Scott responded that we are not passing or voting on the budget this evening; this is the public hearing on the budget.

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

The Board approved the Required Local Effort Millage at 4.4350 Mills.

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

The Board approved the Basic Discretionary Operating Millage at 0.7480 Mills.

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

The Board approved the Basic Discretionary Capital Millage at 1.4000 Mills (for a total Millage of 6.583 Mills).

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

The Board approved the total Operating Budget of \$235,983,225.89 and a total budget of all budget parts of \$345,123,364.73 and to hold a final public hearing on the Millage and Budget on September 7, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Scott reminded everyone that the vote on the proposed/tentative 2017-18 budget will be held on September 7, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.

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.

Virginia Rushing came forward to address the Board regarding the recent veto of the special magistrate's recommendation to grant retroactive pay (for 2016-17) and raise. Ms. Rushing stated that she has been a teacher in Santa Rosa School District for eighteen of her twenty-three years of teaching; she is a graduate of the University of Florida (Master's) and a National Board Certified teacher. She spoke positively of the Board, Superintendent, and teachers in Santa Rosa. She shared that she is struggling to understand how we got to this point; she recalled an earlier offer of \$2.2 million (by the Board) but later heard that \$3 million had been allocated for student resources; so how did we initially get an offer of \$2.2 million? Ms. Rushing concluded that she reads information online but is here tonight to get facts.

Vice-Chairman Dr. Diane Scott stated that she can understand some confusion and encourages everyone to view the video (on our website) of the budget workshop held on July 20, 2017. It will take you step-by-step through the budget process. Regarding the recruitment fair, Dr. Scott shared that this is a national/state-wide problem; UWF is not getting the number of applicants to the education program that they used to.

Kelsey Womack came up to speak on the issue of retro pay from the 2016-17 school year; she stated that she came here today against the recommendation of her mother. As an annual contract teacher she lives in constant fear that she won't be good enough or will upset the wrong person and be out of a job. Ms. Womack feels that this lack of security doesn't mean she can stand by and let unfairness occur without trying to do something. She realizes that contract negotiations are difficult but says she expects fairness. When she heard in March that if a raise is given it would not include retro pay due to inconvenience she went to her administrator for clarification, contacted the District Coordinator for Ethics, and ultimately called a School Board member who she says told her that one person can't affect change and she should wait to see what happens. Ms. Womack feels that she can affect change and hopes that personal differences and conflicts will be put aside to reach a decision. She continued that the amount of her retro raise (between \$650 - 900) is not substantial but would buy a lot of school supplies for her own children as well as her 150 students.

Whitney Psinas addressed the Board on behalf of the salary increase for teachers. Mrs. Psinas' husband is retiring from the Air Force and as an active duty retiree had the choice to move anywhere in the United States; they have chosen Santa Rosa County as their "forever home" due to

the phenomenal education system. She has two children who are students in Santa Rosa County; one at Woodlawn Beach Middle School and the other at West Navarre Primary. Ms. Psinas stated that she is requesting that Santa Rosa teachers be compensated fairly for their work. She shared a story about her oldest daughter who transitioned here in 2011 when she was a five-year old kindergartner. When her daughter arrived here her reading skills were not on grade level and Mrs. Psinas was notified that she would not promote to the next grade. Her daughter's teacher, tutors, and military liaison teamed together resulting in the student promoting to the next grade level; she has continued to excel and loves reading. Ms. Psinas attributes this success to her daughter's teachers in Santa Rosa County and asked the Board to consider giving teachers the compensation they deserve.

Christy Wolpoff came forward to speak on behalf of Santa Rosa Education Association. Ms. Wolpoff stated that she is a teacher at Woodlawn Beach Middle School and the newly elected chair of the Santa Rosa EA transition team. The SREA is currently moving forward to build a strong, member-driven organization and they are preparing for the ESP election next month; SREA hopes to obtain bargaining rights for educational support employees and looks forward to working with the Board in the future.

Patricia Hansen, of the Santa Rosa Democratic Executive Committee, presented a petition containing over 1,100 signatures of Santa Rosa citizens in support of a teacher pay increase and a press release from the Chair of the Santa Rosa Democratic Executive Committee. Ms. Hansen stated that nothing is more important for the future than our children; teachers don't just teach they are also mentors. She feels that Santa Rosa teachers are some of the lowest paid in the state and requested the Board to honor the decision of the special magistrate and give our teachers their pay increase.

Marolyn Middleton came forward to the podium to speak on behalf of the teachers' pay raise. Mrs. Middleton is a retired teacher and a business owner; she stated that she has not been asked to speak but is doing this on her own as a taxpayer and individual. In Mrs. Middleton's opinion, the 70s, 80s, and 90s were good times for teachers. She recalled that her father had participated in the teachers' strike fifty years ago that created much animosity in the community; don't want that to happen again. Mrs. Middleton shared a quote from former Superintendent Radford Locklin - "Remember little Johnny pays your salary." She feels that Board members' decisions are very important as they affect a lot of people. Her reason for speaking at this particular meeting (instead of the public hearing) is that she feels by that time decisions will be made. Mrs. Middleton stated that teachers are being forced to choose between insurance, feeding their families, and housing.

Mrs. Middleton continued by reading a post from a teacher (who had given her permission) of twenty-three years. This teacher expressed concern about what she feels has happened to the education profession in the last twenty-three years: teachers lost their step raise, lost their planning period, insurance costs have sky-rocketed, and the turnover rate is unprecedented. Teachers have worked this past year without a contract; the county received unexpected funding; the county told us that if we did not settle by a certain date that employees would not receive retroactive pay; a third party who heard the case sided with educators; the Superintendent did not side with educators; Escambia and Okaloosa pay their teachers better. The teacher pointed out that she checked the employment website that morning and there were over sixty vacant (instructional and educational support) job openings. In conclusion, Mrs. Middleton asked the Board to think responsibly; teachers are depending on them. (Dr. Scott reminded Mrs. Middleton of the time.)

There being no further requests to address the Board 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 Jenny Granse, Seconded by Clifton Hinate. Motion Passed by a Vote of 4 - 0.

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

- 1. Human Resource items**
 - a. Administrative Agenda**
 - b. Leaves and Out of State Temporary Duty**
- 2. Curriculum/Instruction Items**
 - a. Student Transfer Requests**
 - b. School Volunteers**
- 3. Administrative Operational Items**

a. **Field Trip Requests**

Action Agenda

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

1. **Surplus 072717**

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

2. **RFP 010615-SCC Staples Advantage 072717**

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

The Board approved use of the Lodi Unified School District - National Joint Powers Alliance RFP 010615-SCC for the purchase of office supplies. Mr. Crane stated that Purchasing searched for and found a good bid through a co-op.

3. **Exceed the Limit 072717**

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

4. **Exceed the Limit -EME Emergency 072717**

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

The Board approved the emergency purchase order that exceeded the limit to Southern Cat Incorporated in the amount of \$250,000 for cleanup and restoration due to water damage at East Milton Elementary.

Dr. Scott expressed appreciation and commented on how quickly the water mitigation process at East Milton began.

5. **Transportation Quarterly Report 072717**

Virginia Sutler, Director of Transportation with Durham, came forward to introduce herself and present the Transportation Quarterly Report. Mrs. Sutler shared that she is a product of Santa Rosa County schools - as well as her husband and children.

There are a total of 198 routes and a total of 30 bench drivers (the number of bench drivers has increased in the last few weeks to 36). The next slide showed fuel consumption for the 2016-17 school year; they are always looking at ways to save money on fuel. Mrs. Sutler presented an illegal passing survey which includes data collected by the State and is based on self-reporting by drivers. The following slide showed safety

information for 2015-16 compared to 2016-17. There has been a drastic decrease in preventable accidents; drivers are strongly encouraged not to put a bus in reverse.

Drive Cam is in our buses this year; it is a device that continually runs and saves a short video clip with audio when it's triggered by a potentially unsafe driving action. The next slide listed our third party testers; this is important since we don't have to send drivers to another location or have testers come to our area.

The last slide showed pictures of "Beach Bash 2017" which was a celebration for drivers since the safety record improved greatly.

Dr. Scott asked when the drivers would begin their "dry runs" for the upcoming school year; Mrs. Sutler responded that would start on August 4.

6. Jehle-Halstead Agenda Items

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

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

1. Action Agenda

None

2. Employee Immunization Contract and Schedule

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

The Board approved the Employee Immunization Contract and Schedule as presented.

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

1. Articulation Agreement - NWFSC

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

2. BLAB TV - SRCSD Broadcast Agreement

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

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

None

M. Items from Board Members

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

Dr. Scott requested the August 17 School Board meeting time be changed from 9:00 A.M. to 6:30 P.M.

Mrs. Granse thanked everyone for coming to the School Board meeting; it's good to see people in the audience.

Mrs. Boston also expressed appreciation to those who came to the meeting tonight; she added that she will do her due diligence to evaluate everything carefully.

Dr. Scott added that she also appreciates those who came to the meeting tonight; these are challenging economic times with challenging legislation. She feels confident that with the quality of our teachers we will continue to focus on students.

N. Items from Board Attorney

None

O. Items from Superintendent

1. Seven-Period Day Task Force

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

Superintendent Wyrosdick requested approval of committee members to work on a seven-period day task force and pointed out that an addendum was added this afternoon as he has been working with Ms. Chavers. Dr. Scott commented that the committee includes students, parents, teachers, and district personnel. Mrs. Boston asked if these meetings will be open to the public and Superintendent Wyrosdick assured her that they will be; Mrs. Granse requested a list of meeting dates.

Superintendent Wyrosdick pointed out that Carlene Anderson, a retired Superintendent from Walton County, will assist in facilitating the committee and Mike Thorpe, Director of Inservice and Professional

Development, will serve as co-facilitator. The Superintendent added that we will be bringing parameters regarding the meeting schedule back to the Board and will likely be requesting Temporary Duty for employees and excused absences for students to attend the meetings.

P. Adjournment

*Motion to Approve was moved by Clifton Hinote, Seconded by Jenny Granse. Motion Passed by a Vote of 4 - 0.
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.*

DONE AND ORDERED IN LEGAL SESSION by the School Board of Santa Rosa County on this 27th day of July, 2017.

SCHOOL BOARD OF
SANTA ROSA COUNTY

ATTEST:

Superintendent of Schools