

MEETING MINUTES
SCHOOL BOARD OF SANTA ROSA COUNTY
June 17, 2021-6:30 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: Mrs. Wei Ueberschaer, Chairperson; Mrs. Linda Sanborn, 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.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The Chairman called the meeting to order and Jud Crane, Director of Contracts and Purchasing, 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 3, 2021

Motion to Approve was moved by Charles Elliott, Seconded by Linda Sanborn. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

2. Approval of School Board Workshop Minutes of June 3, 2021

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

D. Oral Written Communications

1. 2021 Legislative Session

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

Superintendent Barber introduced Jim Hamilton and Jessica Janasiewicz of Rutledge-Ecenia, to provide a summary of the 2021 Legislative Session as it relates to the Florida Education Financial Program.

Ms. Janasiewicz began the presentation. It was a different kind of session as was most of the last year. Most notable of the session policy issues is that of 275 bills that passed over forty education-related bills

passed.

Positive wins include Covid-19 waivers; compression adjustment funding (this is flexible); and additional funds to improve student literacy. Ms. Janasiewicz expressed appreciation to Senator Broxson for his part in the additional funds to improve student literacy growth.

Among the bills that died was one eliminating defined benefit option for new hires.

Major topics included:

- Policy Responses to Covid-19*
- Early Learning and VPK Issues*
- Career and Technical Education Growth and Support*
- School Choice*

Jim Hamilton came forward to present financial information from the session.

Mr. Hamilton explained that one line of the FEFP deducted the effect of the Commissioner's 2020-2021 funding hold harmless and then compared the 2021-2022 appropriation to the hypothetically reduced revenue from FY 2020-2021. That calculation is intended to make it appear as though the 2021-2022 FEFP has more revenue than 2020-2021. That would have been true if the state had reduced the 2020-2021 appropriation due to the loss of students due to Covid.

Mr. Hamilton was pleased with the Commissioner's Executive Orders this year. He also feels that we are well placed for the coming year. Key budget points include:

- FEFP revenue this year will be \$214,746,998 (unless it changes)*
- That is \$8,307,805 less than the district actually received to pay for FEFP costs in 2020-2021.*
- From the reduced total potential revenue, the district has new state required expenses. These costs are \$315,577 for the teacher base salary increase allocation; \$197,212 for the mental health allocation, and about \$1,300,297 for employer FRS rate increases. This means the District will have to reduce 2020-2021 FEFP operating expenses \$10,120,891 to balance the 2021-2022 FEFP budget or use federal ESSER II and American Recovery Program dollars to temporarily support operations as the economy recovers.*
- The District's total CSR allocation was reduced \$4,858,154 from \$31,328,048 in 2020-2021 to \$26,469,894 in 2021-2022. About \$1,944,759 of that reduction resulted from the change in the CSR formula and will become a continuing part of the allocation; the*

balance is the result of the reduction in enrollment and could be recovered in enrollment increases.

- The budget included specific line items that prescribe how some of the federal ESSER II funds must be spent.*
- In addition to ESSER II funds the District will have access to funds from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) that will provide the District about \$31,820,460 for use based on a detailed spending plan.*
- State DOE ARP funds were appropriated to provide \$1,000 bonuses to principals and classroom teachers for their work during the pandemic. DOE staff may consider favorably the inclusion in the District's detailed spending plan for the local ARP dollars a similar bonus for the other school level employees and bus drivers who were directly instrumental in the process of opening and operating schools.*

The District will be impacted by the provisions in the Education "Conforming Bill," HB 5101, with the following key provisions.

- The District will be required to increase the base teacher salary by 175% of any salary increase provided on the "grandfather" salary schedule until the base salary reaches the required \$47,500.*
- If the base salary reaches \$47,500 the District must provide an increase to the base salary of 75% of any increase to the "grandfather" salary schedule.*
- It is required that an employee evaluated as highly effective must receive a raise 25% higher than any raise provided to an employee receiving an evaluation of effective.*

Prospects for the fiscal year 2022-2023 state general revenue budget are promising as the state economy rebounds from Covid. Mr. Hamilton reviewed revenue factors that will result in the 2021-2022 fiscal year general revenue fund increasing by about \$4 billion more than the legislature generally retains as a "working capital" reserve.

HB 5011 repealed the Lawton Chiles Endowment Trust Fund which ordered the estimated \$958 million in assets to be liquidated and deposited into the budget stabilization fund. That will increase the balance in the fund beyond the minimum and reduce the need for transfers of new funds into the reserve for the next year or two.

The tobacco trust fund must be liquidated which will fund about three years of growth.

Ms. Janasiewicz noted that the next legislative session will be an early one. If there are specific things our District would like Rutledge-Ecenia to work on to let them know.

Superintendent Barber provided an update on the State Board of Education Meeting that was held on June 10, 2021 in which Rule 6A-1.094124, was amended. Dr. Barber stated that this is related to curriculum in the classroom and specifically addresses civics and social studies. Dr. Barber read the following "...instructional staff in public schools must teach the required instruction topics efficiently and faithfully, using materials that meet the highest standards of professionalism and historical accuracy."

She continued "Efficient and faithful teaching of the required topics must be consistent with the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and the Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards."

"Instruction on the required topics must be factual and objective, and may not suppress or distort significant historical events, such as the Holocaust, slavery, the Civil War and Reconstruction, the civil rights movement and the contributions of women, African American and Hispanic people to our country, as already provided in Section 1003.42(2), F.S. Examples of theories that distort historical events and are inconsistent with the State Board approved standards include the denial or minimization of the Holocaust, and the teaching of Critical Race Theory, meaning the theory that racism is not merely the product of prejudice, but that racism is embedded in American society and its legal systems in order to uphold the supremacy of white persons. Instruction may not utilize material from the 1619 Project and may not define American history as something other than the creation of a new nation based largely on universal principles stated in the Declaration of Independence. Instruction must include the U.S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights and subsequent amendments."

"Efficient and faithful teaching further means that any discussion is appropriate for the age and maturity level of the students, and teachers serve as facilitators for student discussion and do not share their personal views or attempt to indoctrinate or persuade students to a particular point of view..."

Dr. Barber encouraged citizens to watch the recorded Board of Education meeting; she stated that the State Board of Education did an excellent job with this concerning subject and she supports the amendment. She continued that the school district is responsible for providing professional development to teachers to ensure that we are faithfully and efficiently meeting the requirement under this rule.

E. Recognitions/Resolutions/Proclamations

None

F. Public Hearing

1. Request to Advertise for Public Hearing on the 2021-2022 Code of Student Conduct

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

The Board approved the request to advertise for a public hearing on the Code of Student Conduct, 2021-2022, to be conducted at the School Board meeting on July 29, 2021, at 6:30 P.M. at Woodlawn Beach Middle School.

Dr. Barber called attention to page 27, Masks/Face Coverings. She noted that the entire paragraph has been removed from the Code of Student Conduct for the 2021-2022 school year.

2. Request to Advertise for the Public Hearing on the 2021-2022 Student Progression Plan

Motion to Approve was moved by Elizabeth Hewey, Seconded by Linda Sanborn. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

The Board approved the request to advertise for the public hearing on the 2021-2022 Student Progression Plan to be held on July 29, 2021, at 6:30 P.M. at Woodlawn Beach Middle School.

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

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

Sharon White came forward and began reading her statement. Ms. White is concerned about the curriculum used in our schools and requested the Board not proceed with the purchase of instructional materials (which has previously been approved).

Debbie Gunnoe came to the podium next; Ms. Gunnoe reiterated her issue/s with critical race theory. She stated that action civics is in the newly adopted program. She stated that she has forwarded her concerns to the Department of Education.

Christa Waite was the next speaker. Ms. Waite had questions regarding Item K.2., UWF Tutoring and Mentoring Program 2021-2022. She also provided her understanding of social emotional behavior.

John Clinton came forward to address the Board. Mr. Clinton stated that he has a list but is not going to use it; he wants to get to know the Board as individuals. He invited the Board to lunch individually; would like to

move forward as a team. He asked if the curriculum purchased is still available for viewing. Dr. Barber responded that it is.

Chairperson Mrs. Ueberschaer asked if anyone else would like to address the Board; there was no response and the Public Comments section of the Board meeting 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 Charles Elliott, Seconded by Linda Sanborn. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

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

- 1. Human Resource items**
 - a. Administrative Agenda**
 - b. Leave and Temporary Duty**
- 2. Curriculum/Instruction Items**
 - a. Suspensions**
 - b. Level 1 Volunteers**
 - c. Student Reassignment Requests**
- 3. Financial Items**
 - a. Budget Amendment #20/08, Bills/Payroll and Monthly Financial Statement for April 2021**
- 4. Administrative Operational Items**
 - a. Exceed the Limit 061721**
 - b. Field Trip Requests**

Action Agenda

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

- 1. Surplus 061721**

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

2. 2021-2022 Starting and Dismissal Times

Motion to Approve was moved by Carol Boston, Seconded by Charles Elliott. Motion Other by a Vote of 5 - 0.

The Board approved the revised starting and dismissal times for the 2021-2022 school year. The revision was necessary due to the addition of East Bay K8.

As this item was completed Travis Fulton invited Jud Crane (retiring Director of Contracts and Purchasing) up to speak at the least Board meeting Mr. Crane will be attending.

Mr. Crane stated that he has been attending these Board meetings for thirty-five years. He talked about his experiences over the years and the many fine people he's worked with; Steve Ratliff, Doug Dillon, and Richard Mancini. Part of the success of our school district is due to the long term leadership of our Superintendents and School Board members; we've had consistency and the same goals. Purchasing has evolved and relieved administrators from some of the burdens of that job.

Mr. Crane expressed appreciation to the District; spoke highly of our contractors, and concluded that his replacement, Travis Fulton, will take the district to new levels.

3. Custodial Quarterly Report 061721

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

John Brand of ABM came to the podium to provide the custodial quarterly report including the following items:

- Staffing*
- Report Card Reporting*
- Job Fair*
- Clean School of the Month*
- Vacancies*
- Inspection and Work Order System*
- Summer Clean*
- Training Programs*

4. DAG Agenda Items

Mike Martin with DAG Architects came forward to provide an update on

current DAG construction projects.

Mr. Martin stated that this is his last Board meeting as he is retiring. He began working with Amspacher & Amspacher many years ago and when they closed he came to work for DAG.

5. Anton Lee Agenda Items

Anton Lee came forward to provide an update on current Anton Lee Engineering projects.

Mr. Lee also expressed appreciation to Mike Martin for his encouragement when he was starting his own business.

6. McKim & Creed Agenda Items

The Board reviewed current McKim & Creed construction projects including the early release site package for new School A.

7. Retainage Reduction

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

The Board approved the retainage reduction for the following projects from 10% to 5% to comply with the revision in Florida Statute 255.078(1).

- *A.E. New Jr., Inc.
East Bay K-8 School Covered P.E. Building
\$9,035.51 reduction to retainage/release of payment*
- *Larry Hall Construction, Inc.
Hobbs Middle School Energy/HVAC Upgrades
\$31,616.36 reduction to retainage/release of payment*

8. Agreement for Payment of Impact Fees

Motion to Approve was moved by Linda Sanborn, Seconded by Charles Elliott. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

Assistant Superintendent Joey Harrell explained that he worked with Superintendent Barber and Angie Jones (representing the builder/contractor) on the Agreement for Payment of Impact Fees.

The agreement stipulates that Garden Street Communities Southeast, LLC, will within five days of causing the recording of a final subdivision plat approved by the Santa Rosa County BOCC shall tender to SRDS a lump sum amount equal to \$1,500 per lot.

The lump sum amount shall be credited to Garden Street as prepayment

for any future "School Impact Fees" that become due to SRDS as a result of homebuilding activity on lots. Said credit shall be subsequently applied, deducted and apportioned to satisfy School Impact Fees in a manner determined by Garden Street at the time of application for single family residential building/construction permits.

9. Conduct a Public Hearing and Approve 30 Acre Purchase at the corner of Willard Norris Road and Tanglewood Drive

Motion to Approve was moved by Linda Sanborn, Seconded by Charles Elliott. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

The Board conducted a public hearing to approve the purchase of thirty acres at the corner of Willard Norris Road and Tanglewood Drive. The resolution was approved authorizing closing of the transaction upon satisfaction of all terms and conditions.

10. Conduct a Public Hearing to Approve Agreement to Sell 24.22 Acre Parcel - vacant real property off Whisper Creek Boulevard in Milton (aka Whisper Creek Property)

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

The Board conducted a public hearing to approve agreement to sell a 24.22 acre parcel of property off Whisper Creek Boulevard. The Board approved selling the property.

11. Direct Purchasing Change Orders

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

The Board approved change orders decreasing the projects payable below to the appropriate contractor by the amounts shown below. These decreases are to reflect recent payments made to suppliers and the associated tax savings acquired through direct purchasing.

- *East Bay K-8 Covered P.E. Building*
A. E. New Jr., Inc.
\$15,107.72
- *Hobbs Middle HVAC & Energy Upgrades*
Larry Hall Construction
\$9,172.80
- *Wallace Lake K-8 Site Work*
Panhandle Grading & Paving
\$97,738.00

J. Human Resource Recommendation- Liz West, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

1. Action Agenda

Motion to Approve was moved by Linda Sanborn, Seconded by Charles Elliott. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

The Board approved the following recommendation to terminate employment under "Other Administrative Actions."

- *Hope Brown, Paraprofessional IW, East Milton Elementary*

Motion to Approve was moved by Linda Sanborn, Seconded by Charles Elliott. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

The Board approved 2021-2022 Administrative Recommendations as submitted.

Motion to Approve was moved by Linda Sanborn, Seconded by Elizabeth Hewey. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

The Board approved the following administrative appointment:

- *Kevin Jordan, Assistant Principal, Jay High, effective 06-28-2021*

Motion to Approve was moved by Charles Elliott, Seconded by Linda Sanborn. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

The Board approved the following job description:

- *Teacher on Special Assignment, Executive Director, Santa Rosa Education Foundation (revised) requested by Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction*

K. Curricular and Instructions Recommendation – Michael Thorpe, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

1. Alternative Placements

Motion to Approve was moved by Elizabeth Hewey, Seconded by Charles Elliott. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

The Board approved the following recommendation for alternative placement:

- *Student No. A21-0332-061; alternative placement for one calendar year with educational services provided at the Learning Academy of Santa Rosa*

2. UWF Tutoring and Mentoring Program 2021-2022

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

The Board approved the UWF Tutoring and Mentoring Program 2021-

2022 as submitted.

Dr. Barber provided additional information on the program. These are tutors who provide small group differentiated instruction and intervention to students.

3. Dual Enrollment Articulation Agreement with NWFSC

Motion to Approve was moved by Elizabeth Hewey, Seconded by Linda Sanborn. Motion Passed by a Vote of 5 - 0.

4. Accreditation Engagement Review

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

5. Travel Increase Request

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

6. Head Start Monthly Report for April and May 2021 - Review Only

This item was submitted for review only.

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

None

M. Information Technology Services Recommendations – David Hicks, Assistant Superintendent for Information Technology Services

None

N. Items from Board Members

1. FSBA Advocacy Committee

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

The Board approved Mrs. Boston's nomination of Mrs. Ueberschaer to serve as the school district representative on the FSBA Advocacy Committee.

Board members spoke of recent activities.

Mrs. Boston commented that it was a wonderful graduation season; Central received over \$800,000 in scholarships.

Mr. Elliott stated that this is his first year as a Board member during graduation; he's proud to be a part of Santa Rosa School District.

Mrs. Hewey shared that she attended fourteen different graduations. She expressed appreciation to families and parents for supporting our schools. Our teachers and administrators are wonderful; it takes an entire family to get these kids thru school.

Mrs. Sanborn attended the Camelot graduation and spoke of a special student connection she made at that school.

Mrs. Ueberschaer thanked teachers, staff, and administrators; we had a challenging school year. She added that staff should take some time during the summer to practice self care; "refill your own buckets."

O. Items from Board Attorney

None

P. Items from Superintendent

Dr. Barber reiterated that there is wonderful teaching and learning going on in our schools.

She then noted that there was a vigil held at Avalon Middle this evening for Coach Viveiros who recently passed; we appreciate his service to Santa Rosa School District.

Q. Adjournment

Motion to Approve was moved by Linda Sanborn, Seconded by Charles Elliott. 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 the 17th day of June, 2021.

SCHOOL BOARD OF
SANTA ROSA COUNTY

Chairman

ATTEST:

Superintendent and Secretary