

## **REGULAR MEETING - MARCH 11, 2002**

The Invocation was offered by Mr. Hill; the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Frakes.

The School Board of Okaloosa County met in Regular Session on March 11, 2002, in the School District Administration Building, 120 Lowery Place, SE, Fort Walton Beach, Florida.

**PRESENT:** Rodney Walker, Chairman  
Cindy Frakes, Vice-Chairman  
Howard Hill  
Lloyd Taylor  
Cathy Thigpen

Don Gaetz, Superintendent  
C. Jeffrey McInnis, Esq., Attorney to the Board

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed visitors and presenters.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion to approve the Agenda as amended was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously:

Visitors: Item #6 was deleted

Consent Agenda: Added as item #17, Authorization to file an application for Impact Aid; added as item #18, Fees for cost construction verification under a Task Order between the School Board of Okaloosa County and Hanscomb, Inc.; added as item #19, Approval of Settlement of Claim against the District

Construction Program Business: Added as item #1, Pre-GMP Services for Summer Roofing Projects; added as item #2, Sverdrup/Delta Program No. 2, Task Order No. 2, Change Order No. 24

### **VISITORS:**

1. On a motion by Mr. Hill and seconded by Mrs. Frakes, the Board unanimously adopted Resolution No. 02-3 honoring the Niceville High School Knowledge Masters Team for their State and National Championships. The resolution was presented to the school and certificates were presented to the team members and sponsor.
2. Not present for the meeting - Recognition of Fort Walton Beach High School Viking Cheerleaders, State Champions in Varsity 5-A Competition
3. Not present for the meeting - Recognition of Fort Walton Beach High School Literary Magazine, "A Mind's Eye View", named as All Florida by the Florida Scholastic Press Association
- 4/5. Motion was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 02-4 honoring the Niceville High School Forensics Program and the accomplishments of Holly Schaefer, 2002 State Champion in Dramatic Interpretation, and Tom Gustafson, Kevin Connell, and Toby Turner, 2002 State Champions in Group Interpretation.
6. Deleted - Presentation of "TECH-nically Speaking" Collaborative Project, presented by Billy Deames

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The Chairman recessed the Regular Meeting for the advertised Public Hearing at 6:20 p.m.

### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

Mr. McInnis presented the proposed revision to School Board Policy 6-32, Leaves, recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-163).

The Chairman called for public comment; there was none.

Motion to approve revised School Board Policy 6-32, Leaves, was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Frakes and carried unanimously.

Mr. McInnis presented the proposed revision to School Board Policy 6-35, Retirement/Terminal Pay Benefits, recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-163).

The Chairman called for public comment; there was none.

Motion to approve revised School Board Policy 6-35, Retirement/Terminal Pay Benefits, was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously.

The Chairman concluded the Public Hearing and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 6:25 p.m.

### **PUBLIC DISCUSSION:**

1. Mr. Robert Wallen expressed concern regarding a verbal altercation on a school bus involving an adult. He also voiced his displeasure with the bus driver whom he believes did not do an appropriate job of dealing with the situation that led to this incident. (Exhibit 02-164)
2. Not present for the meeting - Incident at Wright Elementary School, presented by Sherrill Slay
3. Not present for the meeting - Incident at Wright Elementary School, presented by Felicia Russo
4. Ms. Caroline Carter gave an accounting of an incident on a school bus in which an adult verbally threatened children and used inappropriate language. She expressed concern that the bus driver took no action to stop the inappropriate behavior. (Exhibit 02-165)

At the request of the Chairman, Dr. Frank Fuller outlined the steps that have been taken in this situation. He stated that a warning letter of trespassing was sent to the adult on the day of the incident. The school principal, Mr. Woitt, has gone to the bus stop or rode the bus each day since to ensure there was no further incidents. A surveillance camera has now been installed on the bus and the bus driver has been removed from the route.

Mr. Walker asked the Superintendent to continue to follow up with this matter. He also commended Mr. Woitt for his actions in handling this situation.

Mr. Gaetz stated that the situation would be monitored and any legal actions necessary would be taken to prevent this from happening again.

**PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS:** None

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### **COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS (Workshop Only):**

1. Facilities Construction Update, presented by Bill Smith
2. Community Affairs/Grants Update, presented by Ray Sansom
  - A. Report on Take Stock in Children Scholarship Program (Exhibit 02-166)
3. Submission of the Okaloosa Academy Charter School Mid-Year Report, submitted by Frank Wittwer, Executive Director (Exhibit 02-167)
4. Presentation of AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination), presented by Cindy Massarelli (Exhibit 02-168)
5. Report on Accreditation Status of Elementary Schools, presented by Don Gaetz (Exhibit 02-169)
6. In-County Travel paid from the period of February 7 - 27, 2002, presented by Patricia Wascom (Exhibit 02-170)
7. Out-of County Travel paid from the period of February 7 - 27, 2002, presented by Patricia Wascom (Exhibit 02-171)

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Thigpen and carried unanimously:

1. Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 25, 2002 and Minutes of Special Disciplinary Hearing of February 25, 2002, recommended by the Superintendent for approval.
2. Payment of Invoices dated March 11, 2002, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-172).
3. Warrant Register for the month of March 2002, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-173).
4. Acceptance of donation to Crestview High School from Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Fowler in the amount of \$1900.00, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-174).
5. Self-help project for Edge Elementary School to construct a pre-engineered building canopy on the playground, presented by Bill Smith and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-175).
6. Self-help project for Niceville High School to construct a pre-engineered building canopy on the northwest side of the stadium, presented by Bill Smith and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-176).
7. Volunteer List, compiled by Ray Sansom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-177).
8. Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement between the School Board of Okaloosa County and the State of Florida Department of Community Affairs, presented by Ray Sansom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-178).

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9. Professional Services Contract between the School Board of Okaloosa County and the University of West Florida for Human Resources Consultant and Training Project, recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-179).
10. Personnel Recommendations, presented by Becky Spence and recommended by the Superintendent for approval:
  - A. New Hire Report (Exhibit 02-180)
  - B. Leave Requests (Exhibit 02-181)
  - C. Transfer Report (Exhibit 02-180)
  - D. Reinstatement of back pay to Employee #264806318
11. Employment Separations, presented by Becky Spence and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-182).
12. Cleared Certification Requirements and Issuance of Contract for 2001-2002 School Year, presented by Becky Spence and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-183).
13. Reinstatement of Sick Leave due to line-of-duty illness/injury/medical examination, presented by Becky Spence and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-184):
  - A. Allen Atwood, Crestview High, 6 days
  - B. Shirley Ettl, Oak Hill Elementary, 10 days
  - C. Linda Jones, Bruner Middle, 1.5 days
  - D. Cynthia Kimmons, Baker, 4 hours
14. Zoning Waivers, presented by Assistant Superintendents and recommended by the Superintendent for approval:
  - A. North Zone Schools (Exhibit 02-185)
15. Bids and Purchasing, presented by Rick Norris and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-186; see bid file for additional information):
  - A. Approval of Bids and Purchasing Requests:
    - (1) Bid #02-B29 Lawn Service for Valparaiso Elementary awarded to Scott Holz's Exterior Home Care in the amount of \$18,800.00
    - (2) Renewal of Bid #01-B45 Roofing Repairs, Fixed Price Bid, awarded to Edwards Roofing and Escambia Roof Master
    - (3) Renewal of Bid #01-B46 Services & Repairs of Fire Extinguishers awarded to B & C Fire Safety
    - (4) Renewal of RFP #99-5 Uniform Service Contract awarded to Cintas Corporation
    - (5) Renewal of Tag-on-Bid #GS-07F-8798D Roof Repair Materials, Fixed Price Bid, GSA Contract, awarded to Tremco, Incorporated
    - (6) Tag-on-Bid #02-068 with Pasco County School District for Band Uniforms for Pryor Middle School, awarded to Demoulin Brothers in the amount of \$170.68 each for jackets and \$64.35 each for pants
  - B. Rejection of Bids and Purchasing Requests: None
16. Resolution No. 02-2 Authorizing the Contract for Sale between the School Board of Okaloosa County and First United Methodist Church of Fort Walton Beach for a parcel of property adjacent to the School District Administration Building, 120

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Lowery Place, SE, Fort Walton Beach, Florida, and currently under lease to First United Methodist Church of Fort Walton Beach, presented by Jeff McInnis and recommended by the Superintendent for approval.

17. Authorization to file an application for Impact Aid under P.L. 81-874, naming Don Gaetz as the authorized representative for the Board, recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-187).
18. Approval of fees for construction cost verification services on the Summer 2002 Roofing Projects and Title IX Projects under a Task Order between the School Board of Okaloosa County and Hanscomb, Inc., presented by Jeff McInnis and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-188).
19. Approval of accident claim settlement payment to Rachel McLean in re: McLean v. Okaloosa County School Board in the amount of \$43,500.00 to be paid from District insurance reserves, presented by Jeff McInnis and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 02-189).

### **DISCUSSION AGENDA:**

1. Consideration of School Improvement Plan Requests, Responses and Updates, presented by Assistant Superintendents and recommended by the Superintendent for approval: None
2. Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hill and carried unanimously to authorize the establishment of a self-governing Okaloosa County Middle School Athletic Conference instead of joining the Florida High School Activities Association (Exhibit 02-190). The Conference will have responsibility for the following, subject to School Board policy:
  - A. Eligibility rules
  - B. Scheduling of games
  - C. Arranging for officials
  - D. Review of disputes and settling of appeals
  - E. Establishment of fees and eligibility for joining the conference

Initially, the Okaloosa County Middle School Athletic Conference will be open to schools which pay membership dues of \$250 per school and which offer at least two sports recognized by the Conference per season. The middle school principals will serve as the Board of Directors of the Conference and annually elect a President. The Board of Directors will be empowered to appoint a Conference Commissioner who will be hired under a contract approved by the School Board and paid from Conference funds. The Conference financial account will be maintained in a fashion consistent with Board approved rules for the handling of such funds.

As indicated by their signatures, the Middle School Athletic Conference is endorsed by all middle school principals and each has committed to joining the conference, paying the assessments and being bound by the decisions made.

### **CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM/OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE'S BUSINESS:**

1. Authorization to issue the Notice to Proceed to Sverdrup/Delta for pre-GMP services for Task Order No. 5, Summer 2002 Roofing Projects, in accordance with the Total Program Management Contract as presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval, was approved on a motion made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hill and carried unanimously (Exhibit 02-191).
2. Motion to approve Sverdrup/Delta Program No. 2, Task Order No. 2, Change Order No. 24, to increase the scope of the "Computers for Teachers" project in the amount

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of \$500,000.00, presented by Patricia Wascom and recommended by the Superintendent for approval, was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously (Exhibit 02-192).

**BIDS AND PURCHASING:** None

**ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS:**

1. Mr. McInnis requested the Board's permission to retain the services of Attorney Todd Gray regarding issues with renewal and assignment of FCC licenses for the Instructional Television Program. He stated that Mr. Gray is the FCC Counsel the District used when the program was established. The cost of services for the license assignment project is estimated to be \$1500.00.

Motion to approve the request to retain Todd Gray as FCC Counsel was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Thigpen and carried unanimously.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S BUSINESS:**

1. Wright Elementary School fifth grade students to visit New Orleans on May 10, 2002 (Exhibit 02-193).

**BOARD MEMBERS' BUSINESS:**

Mr. Hill requested the Superintendent provide the Board with a list of the site-level technology contacts. He expressed concern with the availability of the appointed contact to address technology problems if the contact is a classroom teacher.

There being no further business, and upon motion being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Teresa Epperson, Recorder

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DON GAETZ  
SUPERINTENDENT AND  
CORPORATE SECRETARY

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RODNEY L. WALKER  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD