

REGULAR MEETING - JANUARY 10, 2000

The Invocation was offered and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Boy Scout Troop #553 of the Niceville/Bluewater area.

The School Board of Okaloosa County met in Regular Session on January 10, 2000, in the Fort Walton Beach Administration Building, 120 Lowery Place, SE.

PRESENT: Rodney Walker, Chairman
Cindy Frakes, Vice-Chairman
Don Gaetz
Howard Hill
Lloyd Taylor

Walter Gordon, 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:

The Chairman moved Consent #15 to Discussion Agenda to allow Mr. Taylor to declare a potential conflict of interest due to his proposal to provide independent contractor services to Okaloosa Academy, Inc.

Upon the request of Mr. McInnis, the Chairman added to the Discussion Agenda item #5, Joint Participation Agreement with the Florida DOT for the school crosswalk project, and item #6, Extension of the Sprint WAN Contract.

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

Consent Agenda (C.A.): Item #3 was moved to D.A. #2; item #15 was moved to D.A. #4; item #16 was moved to D.A. #3 [Changes approved by the Chairman]

Discussion Agenda (D.A.): Added as item #2, C.A. #3; added as item #3, C.A. #16; added as item #4, C.A. #15; added as item #5, Joint Participation Agreement with the Florida DOT; added as item #6, Extension of the Sprint WAN Contract [Changes approved by the Chairman]

VISITORS:

1. Yvonne Freeman, President of the Board of Directors of the Niceville-Valparaiso-Bay Area Chamber of Commerce presented a Resolution expressing support of the Okaloosa Public Schools Foundation Alliance.

Motion was made by Mr. Taylor that the Board adopt the Resolution presented by Ms. Freeman as School Board Resolution No. 00-1. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hill and carried unanimously.

2. Resolution No. 00-2 honoring the Niceville High School Knowledge Master Teams and Knowledge Master Coach George Dickey was adopted on a motion by Mr. Gaetz, seconded by Mr. Hill and carried unanimously.

The Varsity Knowledge Master team was recognized as the 1999 Florida State Academic Champions. The Freshman Knowledge Master team was recognized as the 1999 International Academic Champions. Certificates were presented to each team member and the coach by Mr. Gaetz.

REGULAR MEETING - JANUARY 10, 2000

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: None

PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: None

COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS (Workshop Only):

1. Facilities Construction Update, presented by Bill Smith
2. Interim Report on Work in Progress of Task Force on Technical Education, presented by Don Gaetz and Cindy Frakes
3. Report on Improving District RFP and RFQ Procedures, requested by Don Gaetz

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

1. Minutes of Workshop Meeting of 9 December 1999; Minutes of Regular Meeting of 13 December 1999; and Minutes of Special Disciplinary Hearing of 9 December 1999, recommended by the Superintendent for approval.
2. Budget Amendment #3, presented by Gary Scott and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-1).
3. Moved to Discussion Agenda #2 - Monthly Financial Reports for December 1999, presented by Gary Scott and recommended by the Superintendent for approval.
4. Payment of Invoices dated January 10, 1999, presented by Gary Scott and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-2).
5. Warrants in the amount of \$27,325,450.06, presented by Gary Scott and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-3).
6. Acceptance of donation from Joe Ford of Little Rock, Arkansas, in the amount of \$500.00 to Fort Walton Beach High School to be used by the Fort Walton Beach High School Literary Magazine, presented by Gary Scott and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-4).
7. Surplus Property Lists, presented by Gary Scott and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-5):
 - A. #00-11 Computers to be cannibalized for parts, OATC
 - B. #00-12 Gym equipment to be donated to the State Fire Marshall's office
 - C. #00-13 Chillers to be cannibalized for parts, Maintenance South
8. Cooperative Agreement between the School Board of Okaloosa County and Focus Center, Inc., presented by Gary Scott and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-6).
9. Volunteer List, compiled by Gayle Grimes and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-7).
10. Application for Goals 2000 Local Education Reform Grant for 1999-2000, presented by Beth Holmes and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-8).
11. Personnel Recommendations, presented by Becky Spence and recommended by the Superintendent for approval:

REGULAR MEETING - JANUARY 10, 2000

- A. New Hire Report (Exhibit 00-9)
 - B. Leave Requests (Exhibit 00-10)
 - C. Transfer Report (Exhibit 00-11)
12. Employment Separations, presented by Becky Spence and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-12).
 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 00-13):
 - A. Linda Allgood, Edge Elementary, 10 days
 - B. Lauri P. Foley, Edge Elementary, 9 days
 - C. David Livingston, Transportation, 4 days
 - D. Steve Payton, Media Services, 4 days
 14. Zoning Waivers, presented by Emmett Windham and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-14).
 15. Moved to Discussion Agenda #4 - Final approval of conditional items in Contract between the School Board of Okaloosa County and Okaloosa Academy, Inc., presented by Susan Lowery and recommended by the Superintendent for approval.
 16. Moved to Discussion Agenda #3 - Agreement between the School Board of Okaloosa County and The Boys and Girls Club of Okaloosa County to operate an in-school suspension program at Bruner Middle School, presented by Emmett Windham and recommended by the Superintendent for approval.

DISCUSSION AGENDA:

1. School Improvement Plan Requests, Responses and Updates, presented by Mary Gunter and recommended for approval by the Superintendent were approved on a motion by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously:
 - A. Waiver of OCEA Contract Language for supplements to Ruckel Middle School staff (Exhibit 00-15)
2. Monthly Financial Reports for December 1999 were tabled until the next regular meeting on a motion by Mr. Gaetz, seconded by Mr. Hill and carried unanimously.
3. The Agency Agreement between the School Board of Okaloosa County and The Boys and Girls Club of Okaloosa County to operate an In-School-Suspension Program at Bruner Middle School was approved on a motion by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Gaetz and carried unanimously (Exhibit 00-16).
4. Mr. Taylor declared a potential conflict of interest in the Contract between the Board and Okaloosa Academy, Inc., due to his proposal to provide independent contractor services to the Academy (Form 8B attached).

Motion to grant final approval of conditional items in the Contract between the School Board of Okaloosa County and Okaloosa Academy, Inc., was made by Mr. Gaetz, seconded by Mr. Hill and carried 4-0, Mr. Taylor abstaining (Exhibit 00-17).

5. Mr. McInnis presented a Joint Project Agreement between the Okaloosa County School Board and the State of Florida Department of Transportation which sets the terms and financial responsibilities for the installation of pavement markings and appropriate signage in and around school zones county-wide. He requested approval of the Agreement by Resolution of the Board which also authorizes the Chairman and the Superintendent to execute the Agreement and all related documents.

REGULAR MEETING - JANUARY 10, 2000

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 00-3 approving the Joint Project Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation and authorizing the Chairman and the Superintendent to execute the Agreement and all related documents was made by Mr. Gaetz, seconded by Mr. Hill and carried unanimously.

5. Mr. McInnis advised the Board that the current Sprint Wide Area Network (WAN) services contract will expire in April 2000. A new WAN services contract is being negotiated by the TPM, but work on the network cannot start until July 2000 because of e-rate funding. To maintain Internet and OMAN services during the transition period, a contract extension is needed using the current rates provided by Sprint. These rates will apply until such time as the new hardware is installed and schools switch to the new WAN. An extension through 2001 will ensure that there is no gap in e-rate coverage as the new contract is being implemented. Contract extension must be signed prior to January 19, 2000, in order to be eligible for SY 2000/2001 e-rate funds. He requested the Board approve an extension of the Sprint WAN contract through June 30, 2001. (Exhibit 00-18)

An extension of the Sprint WAN contract through June 30, 2001, was approved on a motion by Mrs. Frakes, seconded by Mr. Hill and carried unanimously.

Mr. McInnis requested the Chairman call a Special Meeting for the purpose of considering approval of the new agreement for Sprint Wide Area Network services prior to the January 19 deadline. The Chairman set the Special Meeting for Friday, January 14, 2000, at 8:30 a.m. in the Fort Walton Beach Administration Building.

CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM/OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE'S BUSINESS:

1. Sverdrup/Delta Capital Outlay Change Orders #83 and #84, Project 1, were approved on a motion by Mr. Gaetz, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously (Exhibit 00-19).
2. Sverdrup/Delta Capital Outlay Change Orders #12 and #13, Project 2, were approved on a motion by Mr. Gaetz, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously (Exhibit 00-20).
3. The Board acknowledged submission of the Program Status Report for November 1999 covering the activities of Sverdrup/Delta on the Okaloosa County School District Construction Management Program, presented by Ray Gabriel, Program Manager (Exhibit 00-21).

BIDS AND PURCHASING: None

ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS: None

BOARD MEMBERS' BUSINESS:

Mr. Hill stated that his question at the December meeting regarding funds for TecNet maintenance had been answered. He stated that he was informed that the schools had DOE Technology Funds available to them for this purpose.

Mr. Walker stated that he has received two letters from employees regarding a number of physicians leaving the Humana insurance program. He asked the Superintendent to check with the Humana representative to clear up this matter. He added that if this is the case, it may be necessary to re-open enrollment for the Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance program to those employees who chose to stay with Humana even if it is at a cost to the Board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S BUSINESS:

REGULAR MEETING - JANUARY 10, 2000

1. Mary Esther Elementary fourth graders to visit Tallahassee, Florida, on May 10, 2000 (Exhibit 00-22).
2. Northwood Elementary fifth graders to visit St. Augustine, Florida, on May 11 and 12, 2000 (Exhibit 00-23).
3. Plew Elementary fifth graders to visit the U. S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama, on May 19-21, 2000 (two classes), and May 25-26, 2000 (three classes) (Exhibit 00-24).

Mr. Gordon reminded the Board of the joint meeting with the County Commission scheduled for January 18, 2000, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fort Walton Beach Administration Building.

Mr. Hill stated that he had received a letter from Mr. Tucker, Councilman for the City of Fort Walton Beach, regarding the use of the Lowery Place property for a library. He recommended Mr. Tucker have the issue place on the Agenda for the January 18 meeting. Mr Gordon stated that the County Commission will be publishing the Agenda and that he would pass this information to them.

Because of the involvement of the School Board, the County Commission, the judges and a number of municipalities in the meeting on January 18, Mr. Gaetz suggested the meeting be co-chaired by Superintendent Gordon and Chairman Riggs of the Okaloosa County Commission. Mr. Gordon stated that he and Mrs. Riggs have discussed this matter and both are in agreement to co-chair the meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, and upon motion being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Teresa Epperson, Recorder

WALTER C. GORDON
SUPERINTENDENT AND
EX-OFFICIO SECRETARY

RODNEY WALKER
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD