

BUDGET WORKSHOP – 29 June 29, 2000

The School Board of Okaloosa County met in Workshop Session on 8 July 2000 in the Fort Walton Beach Administration Building, 120 Lowery Place, S.E.

PRESENT: Rodney Walker, Chairman
Cindy Frakes, Vice-Chairman
Howard Hill

Walter Gordon, Superintendent

ABSENT: Lloyd Taylor

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. for the purpose of reviewing the proposed 2000-2001 budget for Data Processing, Capital Outlay, Curriculum/Instruction and any Remaining Open Issues.

Mr. Walker cautioned the staff that their proposals cannot be approved until the Board receives a budget for the July 1, 2000 Fiscal School Year. Mr. Walker agreed with Mr. Gaetz suggestion that the Board receive a draft Budget from the Finance Department. Mr. Gaetz asked Mr. Hundley when the Board will have a draft budget. Mr. Hundley indicated at 9:00 a.m. on July 3, 2000. Mr. Walker asked Dennis Hundley, Chief Finance Officer if the Board could receive a draft budget at this meeting. Mr. Hundley indicated that he could provide the Board with information at this meeting. Mr. Walker also advised Mr. Hundley that whatever he provided must be correct. Mr. Hundley indicated that he would prefer to provide information at another time.

Debbie Hurst, Finance Specialist, provided the Board with a sample 200-2001 draft budget.

The Board discussed the department allocations asking for explanations from Ms. Hurst in relation to the allocation formulas. Ms. Hurst and Mr. Hundley presented an explanation of Exhibit 1-2000.

Mr. Walker outlined the Proposed Budget revealing a 3.8 deficit between spending plans and revenues. Mr. Walker stated that this figure does not include the extra money need for pay raises.

Mr. Gaetz expressed appreciation to Ms. Hurst for providing this framework to the Board. Board Members discussed the lack of expert help in putting together a budget for this school year. Mr. Gaetz stated that the Superintendent is obligated by statute to provide a balanced budget to the Board and proposed that the Board and Superintendent work together and hire staff to get the budget to balance. Mr. Walker stated that Mr. Hundley does not have the expertise in School Finance and that the School district needs someone with School Finance experience. Mr. Walker asked the Superintendent if he could meet with him in order to start the process of acquiring expert help to get the budget to balance. The Superintendent agreed.

The Board agreed not to hear department budgets at this time.

There being no further business Chairman dismissed the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Maryann Foreman, Recorder

WALTER C. GORDON
SUPERINTENDENT AND
EX-OFFICIO SECRETARY

RODNEY WALKER
CHAIRMAN

