

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

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

Walter Gordon, Superintendent
C. Jeffrey McInnis, Esq., Attorney to the Board

ABSENT: Rodney Walker

The Vice Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., the purpose of the meeting being to review Agenda items, thereby expediting the Regular Meeting. Items may be considered in random order to accommodate visitors and presenters. Routine items not discussed during the Workshop were reviewed prior to the meeting with no further questions or comments from the Board.

Vice Chairman Frakes approved the addition Niceville Football team members attending the Auburn Camp on June 20-21, 2000, to Superintendent's Business, and a change in Item #2 Consent Agenda approving the Minutes of Workshop Meeting of June 1, 2000.

Dr. Lamar White, Principal of Plew Elementary School presented the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme, Dr. White indicated that this program met with the support of his faculty, with 96% of faculty prepared to report in July for training. He stated that under the IBO guidelines schools applying for IBO status must actually begin the implementation of the IB program for a year. He indicated that every child, K through 5 would be included and that students would benefit from a model of instruction that understands the importance and basic skills, while emphasizing the higher ordered analytical thinking skills and analysis skills

Dr. White introduced Mrs. Sidney Mitchell, SACS Committee at Plew Elementary. Mrs. Mitchell stated that \$4,000 was set aside to support the Primary Years Program and \$2,000 allocated to the program for the next three years.

Dr. Connie Hall, Guidance Counselor, Plew Elementary stated that formal application process will begin this fall. Dr. Hall explained the Primary Years was born from conferences and curriculum development in Rome and Amsterdam where the development of a complete structured inquiry curriculum was chosen as the preferred approach to learning. Mr. Jim Castleman, Teacher, Plew Elementary supported the Inquiry Method stating that it fosters self motivation and critical thinking and that the inquiry method is designed around the scientific method which develops thinking skills

The Members of the Board acknowledged their support for this program declaring it an innovative program, a school wide program that does not segregate students and a program in which parents are willing to invest themselves.

Mr. Bill Smith explained the process for the State Code of Uniform Building Inspectors, which changes in July 1, 2000

Steve Riggs of the CPA firm of Carr, Riggs, and Ingram introduced Alan Jowers of same firm who presented the Audit Report of the Okaloosa County District's Financial Statements and Supplemental Information for the year ended June 30, 1999. Mr. Jowers reviewed the contents of the Audit Report and stated that The Management Letter Comments (page 43-44) indicates that the District could strengthen controls identified in the Central Kitchen Cook Chill Facility. The Audit declared that inventory levels were significantly higher at June 30, 1999, with Food Service Revenues for the fiscal year 1999 decreasing. In addition, Food Service expenditures for new equipment in both fiscal year 1998 and 1999 exceeded \$230,000.

There was discussion among the Board Members, Mr. Windham, Mr. Riggs, Mr. Hundley

and Mr. Jowers regarding providing timely financial information to the Board and formatting a Key Individual Report form. The Board requested Carr, Riggs, and Ingram to work with Mr. Hundley in developing a Key Report Form

The Board discussed how to best receive updated Food Service financial information. Mr. Gaetz commented that the Management Letter included in the Carr, Riggs and Ingram Audit Report included recommendations and indicators that the District could utilize in order to have financial control to make decisions. In addition, Mr. Gaetz asked the Board to consider recommending Carr, Riggs and Ingram to provide an outside objective analysis of the District Food Service financial condition.

Mr. Gaetz asked the Board to request the Superintendent make a definitive written response to specific audit recommendations.

Mr. Gaetz clarified that the financial operating performance of Florosa Elementary School was inaccurately reported. Mr. Hundley will report to the Board the financial findings of Florosa Elementary during the regularly scheduled meeting on June 12, 2000. He stated that the findings would reflect that Florosa Elementary were not overspending and that pieces of information were not provided to the Board. Mr. Gaetz stated that he is requesting that the record of the School District reflect what Mr. Hundley will report on June 12, 2000 and the record corrected.

At the request of Mr. Gaetz, Mrs. Frakes moved Adjustment of FY00 Capital Outlay Budget to meet contract needs (C.A.#7) to the Discussion Agenda as #4.

Mr. Gaetz asked Mr. McInnis his opinion of why the Affiliation Agreement between Okaloosa-Walton Community College Charter High and The Florida High School (C.A.#14) comes before the School Board. Mr. McInnis stated that he would have an answer for the Board if there is any reason why the Board must be a signatory at the June 12, 2000 School Board Meeting. Mr. Gaetz requested that Consent Agenda (#14) be moved to Discussion Agenda (#5). He also requested that Application for Public Charter School Federal Grant Start-up Grant submitted by Okaloosa-Walton Community College Charter High School (C.A.#15) be moved to Discussion Agenda (#6).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Maryann Foreman, Recorder

WALTER C. GORDON
SUPERINTENDENT AND
EX-OFFICIO SECRETARY

CINDY FRAKES
VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD