

## **REGULAR MEETING - NOVEMBER 13, 2000**

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

The School Board of Okaloosa County met in Regular Session on November 13, 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

Emmett Windham, Assistant 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:**

Recognition of Ruckel Middle School for being designated a Blue Ribbon School was added to the Agenda at Workshop. Mr. Gaetz requested this item be deferred to the December meeting when representatives from Ruckel Middle School could be present.

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

Visitors: Item #2 was deleted

Consent Agenda (C.A.): Item #2 was moved to D.A. #5; item #16 was moved to D.A. #6; item #17 was moved to D.A. #7; added as item #23A(5), Bid #01-B32 Water & Sewer Lines for OATC; added as item #23A(6), Bid #01-B33 Used Trucks for Maintenance South; added as item #26, Acceptance of donation to Kenwood Elementary; added as item #27, Acceptance of donation to Elliott Point Elementary; added as item #27, Surplus Property List #01-3

Discussion Agenda (D.A.): Added as item #2F, Waiver of OCEA Contract to pay a bonus to teachers and support staff from the Florida School Recognition Funds; added as item #4, Exchange of property which is a portion of the Niceville High School practice fields; added as item #5, C.A. #2; added as item #6, C.A. #16; added as item #7, C.A. #17

Construction Program: Added as item #2, Submission of the Program Status Report for October 2000

### **VISITORS:**

1. Bill Robinson, Executive Director of United Way, introduced Gene Smith, 2000 Campaign Manager, to make a presentation to the Board and Superintendent. Mr. Smith presented a plaque to the Board in recognition of outstanding support in the 2000 United Way Campaign noting that the district had a 9.2% increase in participation this year. A gift was presented to the Superintendent (accepted by Mr. Windham due to the Superintendent's absence) for his leadership to the district in the United Way campaigns resulting in a 42% increase over the past four years.
2. Deleted - Recognition of Ruckel Middle School, Designated as a Blue Ribbon School

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION:** No Request

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**PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS:** None

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

1. Facilities Construction Update, presented by Bill Smith

### **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 October 23, 2000 and Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 23, 2000, recommended by the Superintendent for approval.
2. Moved to Discussion Agenda #5 - Budget Amendment #1, presented by Dennis Hundley and recommended by the Superintendent for approval.
3. Monthly Financial Report for October 2000, presented by Dennis Hundley and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-703).
4. Payment of Invoices dated November 13, 2000, presented by Dennis Hundley and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-704).
5. Warrants in the amount of \$38,632,381.45, presented by Dennis Hundley and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-705).
6. Acceptance of donation to Fort Walton Beach High School Stars Organization from the Destin Restaurant Association in the amount of \$500.00, presented by Dennis Hundley and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-706).
7. Reimbursement to the City of Niceville in the amount of \$22,725.00 for the installation of fence at the Joint Use Soccer Complex (Twin Oaks), presented by Bill Smith and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-707).
8. School buses to be declared surplus, presented by Jay McInnis and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-708).
9. Volunteer List, compiled by Gayle Grimes and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-709).
10. Facility Use Contract between the School Board of Okaloosa County and YMCA of Florida's Emerald Coast, Inc., Playground Area Branch, for use of facilities by the Okaloosa County middle school swim teams, presented by Donna Hannah and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-710).
11. Applications for Reading Enhancement Grants For Teachers submitted by fifty-two Okaloosa County teachers, presented by Beth Holmes and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-711).
12. Application for Alternative Schools/Public Private Partnership Incentives 2000/2001 submitted by Okaloosa Academy Charter School, presented by Mary Gunter and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-712).
13. Application for Alternative Schools/Public Private Partnership Incentives 2000/2001 submitted by Okaloosa Youth Academy, presented by Mary Gunter and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-713).

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14. Health Services Agreement between the School Board of Okaloosa County and American Red Cross of Northwest Florida to provide CPR training, presented by Liz Cavanah and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-714).
15. Application for continuation of ESE Alternate Assessment Funding for 2000-2001, presented by Liz Cavanah and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-715).
16. Moved to Discussion Agenda #6 - Therapy Services Agreement between the School Board of Okaloosa County and Rehab Advantage, Inc., to provide physical, occupational and speech therapy services to ESE students, presented by Liz Cavanah and recommended by the Superintendent for approval.
17. Moved to Discussion Agenda #7 - Educational Services Agreement between the School Board of Okaloosa County and Victoria Wilson to provide career development and counseling services at Niceville High School, presented by David Morgan and recommended by the Superintendent for approval.
18. Personnel Recommendations, presented by Becky Spence and recommended by the Superintendent for approval:
  - A. New Hire Report (Exhibit 00-716)
  - B. Leave Requests (Exhibit 00-717)
  - C. Transfer Report (Exhibit 00-716)
  - D. Suspension of Employee #410-84-6300 (Exhibit 00-718)
  - E. Suspension of Employee #317-38-2595 (Exhibit 00-719)
  - F. Suspension of Employee #267-35-9588 (Exhibit 00-720)
19. Employment Separations, presented by Becky Spence and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-721).
20. Cleared Certification Requirements and Issuance of Contract for 2000-2001 School Year, presented by Becky Spence and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-722).
21. 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 00-723):
  - A. Wilda Antal, Meigs Middle, 2.5 hours
  - B. Martha Erdbrink, Transportation, 6.5 days
  - C. Vivian Hawn, Ocean City Elementary, 6.5 days
  - D. Maurice Hodgden, Pryor Middle, 2 days
  - E. Cathy Magnuson, Transportation, 3 days
  - F. Camellia McSparren, Edwins Elementary, 3.5 days
  - G. Larry Moore, South Maintenance, 10 days
  - H. Patricia Purdy, Richbourg Middle, 3 days
22. Zoning Waivers, presented by Emmett Windham and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-724).
23. Bids and Purchasing, presented by Rick Norris and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-725; see bid file for additional information):
  - A. Approval of Bids and Purchasing Requests:
    - (1) Bid #99-B33 Water Treatment for Hydronic Systems awarded to Gulf Engineering Company in the amount of \$22,825.50 (firm price per year - 3<sup>rd</sup> year of contract), Maintenance South

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- (2) Advantage Learning Systems, Inc., Sole Source, in the amount of \$13,195.75, Longwood Elementary School
- (3) New Century Education Corporation, Sole Source, in the amount of \$18,000.00, Destin Middle School
- (4) Tag-on Bid #SC-9463-00 Park & Playground Equipment & Lighting awarded to M. Gay Constructors, Inc., Facilities Planning
- (5) Bid #01-B32 Water & Sewer Lines for Okaloosa Applied Technology Center awarded to Sand Hills Construction in the amount of \$78,995.00
- (6) Bid #01-B33 Used Trucks for Maintenance South awarded to The Truck Center in the amount of \$34,648.17

### B. Rejection of Bids and Purchasing Requests: None

24. Application for Public Charter Schools Federal Start-up Grant for Liza Jackson Preparatory School, presented by Terri Roberts and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-726).
25. Professional Services Agreement between the School Board of Okaloosa County and Okaloosa-Walton Community College School-to-Work Consortium to support leadership activities directly relate to the School-to-Work Grant, presented by Mary Gunter and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-727).
26. Acceptance of donation to Kenwood Elementary School from the Kenwood PTO in the amount of \$15,164.29, presented by Dennis Hundley and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-728).
27. Acceptance of donation to Elliott Point Elementary School from Computers for Education in the amount of \$1662.00, presented by Dennis Hundley and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-729).
28. Surplus Property List #01-3, items to be sold to the public, presented by Bill Smith and recommended by the Superintendent for approval (Exhibit 00-730).

## DISCUSSION AGENDA:

1. School Improvement Plan Requests, Responses and Updates, presented by Mary Gunter and recommended for approval by the Superintendent were unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Hill and seconded by Mr. Taylor (Information on file in the District School Improvement Office):
  - A. School Advisory Council Membership for 2000 - Bluewater Elementary, Bob Sikes Elementary, Cherokee Elementary, Choctawhatchee High, Combs-New Heights Elementary, Crestview High, Davidson Middle, Destin Middle, Edge Elementary, Florosa Elementary, Fort Walton Beach High, Laurel Hill School, Lewis Middle, Longwood Elementary, Niceville High, Ocean City Elementary, Okaloosa Applied Technology Center, Ruckel Middle, Silver Sands School, Walker Elementary, Wright Elementary
  - B. State Food Waiver - Ocean City Elementary
2. Motion was made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hill and carried unanimously to approve a waiver of the OCEA Master Contract to pay a bonus to teachers and support personnel from Florida School Recognition Funds as recommended by the

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school advisory councils of the following schools, presented by Mary Gunter and recommended by the Superintendent for approval:

- A. Florosa Elementary School (Exhibit 00-731)
- B. Kenwood Elementary School (Exhibit 00-732)
- C. Ocean City Elementary School (Exhibit 00-733)
- D. Plew Elementary School (Exhibit 00-734)
- E. Wright Elementary School (Exhibit 00-735)
- F. Longwood Elementary School (Exhibit 00-736)

3. Motion to remove from the table the Professional Services Agreement between the School Board of Okaloosa County and Anne Johnston to provide staff development services to Crestview High School was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the Professional Services Agreement between the School Board of Okaloosa County and Anne Johnston to provide staff development services to Crestview High School was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Frakes and carried unanimously (Exhibit 00-737).

4. Regarding the exchange of property in Niceville, Bill Smith stated that the appraisals and valuation reports from The Harbeson Agency and Teel & Waters Appraisal Company were received today. Both indicated that the proposed exchange would be a fair and equitable exchange of property.

Mr. McInnis requested the Board authorize a public hearing to be held at the December meeting to consider approval of the exchange of property.

Mr. Gaetz stated that because he has an unrelated business relationship with Valparaiso Realty Company, owner of the property in the proposed exchange, he would declare a potential conflict of interest in this matter and abstain from voting.

Motion to authorize the advertisement of a public hearing on December 11, 2000, to consider the exchange of certain parcels of land in Niceville, Florida, for a parcel of land which is currently being used as a part of the Niceville High School practice fields was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried 4-0, Mr. Gaetz abstaining (Exhibit 00-738).

5. Motion to table Budget Amendment #1 was made by Mrs. Frakes, seconded by Mr. Hill and carried unanimously.
6. Mr. Hill stated that because the salary of therapist is included in current negotiations he would recommend the Board not take action on this Therapy Services Agreement at this time.

In response to inquiry by the Chairman, Mrs. Spence stated that adjustment of the pay scale for therapists is an issue on the negotiation table and she recommended this Agreement be tabled.

Motion to table the Therapy Services Agreement between the School Board of Okaloosa County and Rehab Advantage, Inc., was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Frakes and carried unanimously.

7. Motion was made by Mr. Gaetz to table the Educational Services Agreement between the School Board of Okaloosa County and Victoria Wilson to provide career development and counseling services at Niceville High until after the first of the year so as to have the opportunity to study these educational services and determine which ones will be recommended to the Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hill and carried unanimously.

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

1. Mr. McInnis stated that the Hanscomb Cost Verification Report (Exhibit 00-740) indicates that the proposed GMP for Task Order No. 4 is within reasonable market range. He noted that this Task Order does not include a shared savings clause. The funding source is site specific and project specific. He further noted that an addendum, in the form of a letter from Sverdrup/Delta, has been submitted which increases the scope of work with no increase in price.

Motion to approve the Guaranteed Budget Limitation for Task Order No. 4, Northwood Elementary School Renovation and Addition, as amended and presented by Ray Gabriel, Sverdrup/Delta Program Manager, was made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Taylor and carried unanimously (Exhibit 00-739).

2. The Board acknowledged receipt of the Program Status Report for October 2000 covering the activities of Sverdrup/Delta on the Okaloosa County School District Construction Management Program, presented by Ray Gabriel, Program Manager (Exhibit 00-741).

**BIDS AND PURCHASING:** None

**ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS:** None

### BOARD MEMBERS' BUSINESS:

1. Mrs. Frakes reviewed highlights of the Florida School Boards Association's Legislative Priorities and Position Statements for the 2001 Legislative Session discussed at the FSBA Conference (Exhibit 00-742). She noted that these are just proposals from the Legislative Committee and will not be voted on until the FSBA meeting in December.

#### Legislative Priorities

- School Academic Performance to be evaluated by establishing consistent testing criteria.
- FCAT to be administered before March 15 and all test data to be back to the schools no later than the Monday before Memorial Day.
- Look for a new, predictable and stable funding source which includes a growth factor for facilities.
- A task force has been formed to look at a new District Cost Differential. A suggestion from the meeting was to look at the consumer price index and make the cost of housing a larger percentage of the formula.
- Replace the single vocational program weight with three weights that recognize low, medium and high cost vocational programs
- Districts must provide a financial impact statement for every board policy passed indicating how it impacts small cities, small counties, and small businesses. Discussed advocating with the legislature to get this eliminated under the Administrative Procedures Act but decided to let staff handle this matter.
- FEFP Revision Committee discussed making the principal of all schools the CEO with complete autonomy. Extensive training would be provided to principals to accomplish this. Also discussing a complete revision of FEFP to give more local control and will be building a completely new formula.
- Only a 10% increase in Workforce Development Funds
- Florida is \$5000 behind the national average teacher pay. Predicted to need 10,000 new teachers each year and only 6500 graduating from Florida schools.

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- January 28 through February 1 all legislators have been invited into the schools.
- Legislative Position - Pushing to have all hazardous walking conditions defined at the local level rather than defined in Tallahassee and asking for transportation funding to pay for it.

Mr. Gaetz suggested that Mrs. Frakes be appointed as the Board's legislative liaison. Mrs. Frakes agreed to serve in this capacity and was so appointed by the Chairman.

This being Mr. Gaetz' last meeting as a Board Member before taking office as Superintendent, he thanked his colleagues for working with him and allowing him to serve for the past six years. He also thanked Mr. Gordon and his staff for the help they have extended so far in the transition to a new administration.

Mr. Gaetz named the individuals who have agreed to assist him as part of an informal transition team to help in planning the transition and assist in putting together proposals for improving the organizational structure which will be presented to the Board in due time. Those individuals are Carolyn Lulue, Steve Riggs, Terry Hecker, Becky Spence, Robert McEachern, Wayne Ansley, Connie Hall, Terri Roberts and Frank Fuller.

Mr. Gaetz thanked the Chairman for his help in coordinating the Swearing-in Ceremony for the newly elected officials which will be held at Bluewater Elementary on November 21, 2000. A reception will be held at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Swearing-in Ceremony at 7:00 p.m. These activities are being hosted by the Bluewater Elementary School PTO.

Mr. Taylor announced that he and Mr. Hill will be attending a meeting of the Value Adjustment Board at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 14, 2000.

Mr. Hill announced that Emerald Coast Promise, a local chapter of America's Promise, has been formed. This is a coordinated program on helping needy youth. He suggested this group be allowed to make a presentation to Board at a later date.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S BUSINESS:**

1. Baker School varsity cheerleaders to compete in the American Spirit Regional Competition in Atlanta, Georgia, November 11-13, 2000 (Exhibit 00-743).
2. Davidson Middle School football team to attend a football game at Troy State University on November 11, 2000 (Exhibit 00-744).
3. Meigs Middle School band to visit Jazzland in New Orleans, Louisiana, on May 5, 2001 (Exhibit 00-745).
4. Richbourg Middle School football team to attend a football game at Troy State University on November 11, 2000 (Exhibit 00-746).

There being no further business to come before the Board, and upon motion being duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Teresa Epperson, Recorder

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EMMETT WINDHAM  
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

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RODNEY L. WALKER  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD