

## WORKSHOP MEETING - FEBRUARY 8, 2001

The School Board of Okaloosa County met in Workshop Session on February 8, 2001, in the School District Administration Building, 120 Lowery Place, SE, Fort Walton Beach, Florida.

PRESENT: Cindy Frakes, Vice-Chairman  
Howard Hill  
Cathy Thigpen

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

ABSENT: Rodney Walker, Chairman  
Lloyd Taylor

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 recessed the Workshop at 9:00 a.m. and called to order the Special Disciplinary Hearing. The Workshop was reconvened at 9:10 a.m.

Mr. Gaetz requested that he be allowed to introduce the Teacher of the Year Finalists at the meeting. Mrs. Frakes added the request as Visitors #4.

Mr. McInnis presented the Agreement with Hanscomb, Inc., for cost estimating services for the Fort Walton Beach High School Athletic Facility and requested the Board's approval of the Agreement at the meeting. Mrs. Frakes added the Agreement as Consent #23.

Mr. Gaetz asked that Consent #18, request to advertise a public hearing for revision of School Board Policies, be amended by withdrawing Policy 6-32(B)(1). He stated that OCEA has requested additional time to review the implications of the proposed revision of this policy. Mrs. Frakes approved the amendment to this item.

Steve Riggs and staff members of Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLP, presented the audit reports of the school's internal funds for fiscal year 1999-2000. All schools received an "unqualified" opinion with no material weaknesses. A Management Letter was sent to all schools with recommendations for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiency. Cash receipts and disbursements, revenue from fund raisers, and revenue from athletic activities and concessions were reviewed.

Mr. Riggs recommended that the schools keep a smaller checking account balance and deposit the remaining funds in an SBA account or in an account with a higher interest rate. Mr. Gaetz stated that a formal recommendation to this effect will be forthcoming.

Mr. Gaetz stated that in March a report on capital outlay priorities and resources, Title IX compliance, and the funds set aside for a technical high school will be presented. Recommendations will be made to alter the Five-year Capital Outlay Plan and the district's relationship with Sverdrup/Delta. Recommendations relating to a technical high school will also be made.

Referencing the purchase of folding tables, board members questioned the source of funding, inventory responsibility, and storage arrangements for the tables. Mr. Gaetz suggested this item be moved to the Discussion Agenda so that Mr. Walker would have the opportunity to address these issues. He added that it was his understanding that an

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agreement would be made with the management of the fairgrounds regarding the use and storage of the tables. Mrs. Frakes moved this item to Discussion Agenda #2.

Bill Smith responded to questions regarding the additional scope of work to the School Crosswalk Project. He stated that a representative of the Department of Transportation has already approved and signed off on the project. As soon as the Board approves this item and authorizes the final payment on this project to Gulf Coast Traffic Engineers, the final request for reimbursement will be filed with the Florida DOT and reimbursement should be received within 45 days.

Mr. Gaetz requested, and Mrs. Frakes approved, the addition of two personnel appointments to the Agenda: Assistant Principal I, Niceville High School, and Assistant Principal II, Niceville High School.

Jim Palmer explained the price structure on the Managed Care Arrangement proposals submitted by respondents and the services to be provided by the MCA provider.

Mr. Gaetz noted that community education classes are not classes offered to students but are classes offered to the community in the evenings by individuals who pay a fee to use district facilities. These classes are self supporting and, therefore, cost the district nothing.

Mrs. Frakes questioned the purchase of steam equipment for school kitchens. Rick Norris responded that the steamers are used to re-heat food delivered by the central kitchen. Bill Smith added that the recommended purchases are to replace old equipment that has been removed from the school and declared surplus.

Mr. Gaetz provided the board members with some information updates on federal and state legislation regarding educational issues. One of the updates reports that Florida schools are expected to fall \$40 million short in the current fiscal year due to an increase in enrollment in some Florida counties.

Patricia Wascom reported that there was a downward adjustment in the third calculation. Approximately \$480,000 will need to be taken from FTE Reserve so that the schools will not have to take a reduction in funding. She added that it will be recommended that the FTE Reserve account be replenished during the next budget cycle.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Teresa Epperson, Recorder

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DON GAETZ  
SUPERINTENDENT AND  
CORPORATE SECRETARY

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CINDY FRAKES  
VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD