

MINUTES

REGULAR WORKSHOP OF THE JACKSON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD Thursday, January 16, 2025 (4:00 PM)

ROLL CALL

UPON THE ROLL BEING CALLED, THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT:

BOARD MEMBERS: Chris Johnson
Tony Pumphrey
Michael "MJ" Jackson
Chephus Granberry
Rex Torbett

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Hunter Nolen, Superintendent Schools; Clay Milton, Board Attorney; Becky Hart, Deputy Superintendent; District Directors; and citizens

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Call To Order

The workshop was called to order at 4:00 PM by Chris Johnson, Chairman of the Board.

2.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

2.1 Approval of the AGENDA

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Recognition of the Jackson County Sunshine State Scholar and Alternate Sunshine State Scholar 2024-2025 (@ Board Meeting)

Each of Florida's school districts selects their top 11th grade students in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM). Each scholar, along with their parents, will travel to Orlando for an extraordinary program designed to bring together scholars from around the state, connect them with employers that specialize in the STEM fields, and create a networking opportunity between the scholars and schools from Florida's College and State University System. The two-day program honors each scholar for their significant academic accomplishments and celebrates the potential they represent for our communities and state. In addition to the honor the scholars receive from the Commissioner of Education, the Senior Chancellor and representatives from Florida's colleges and universities meet with the students to discuss higher education opportunities available to them in Florida. This includes workshops for college applications and informational sessions on college funding for students and their parents! The 2024 Sunshine State Scholars program will be held April 10, 2025 – April 11, 2025 in Orlando, Florida.

3.2 First Federal Grant Award Presentation and Acknowledgement (@ Board Meeting)

Provides \$7,500 in funds to support homeless students.

3.3 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Presentation (@ Board Meeting)

4.0 CITIZEN'S REQUEST

4.1 Citizens Request: This time is set aside for the Citizens of Jackson County to address the School Board. This is not a question and answer period, nor a political forum. Personal accusations and/or derogatory remarks will not be tolerated. Comments should be limited to three minutes or less. In the interest of time, the Chairman reserves the right to limit the number of speakers on a single topic to two individuals. Please arrive prior to the meeting to complete a "Request to Speak" card. In order to adhere to CDC social distance guidelines, building and or board room access may be limited to the speaker.

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Approval of the CONSENT AGENDA

5.2 Approval of the Minutes of the December 12, 2024 Head Start Training

5.3 Approval of the Minutes of the December 12, 2024 Board Workshop

5.4 Approval of the Minutes of the December 17, 2024 Regular Board Meeting

6.0 OTHER AGENDA ITEMS - Consent

6.1 Approval of OTHER AGENDA MATTERS - CONSENT

6.2 Approval to Advertise New Policies 2521 and 2522

The following policies have been presented by NEOLA and reviewed by district staff. This request is to ADVERTISE the following new policies: 2521 - Instructional Materials Program; and 2522 - Challenges to Adoption and Use of Instructional, Library, or Reading List Materials

Mr. Torbett asked for clarification about "the reviewers" listed in policy 2521. Mrs. Jennifer See stated the review process is handled within the district and the instructional materials information is advertised 30-days prior to provide an opportunity for public comment and input. Instructional staff are also encouraged to participate in the process and to provide input. Voting results from each school are tabulated and used for the district selection. Mr. Pumphrey asked about library book challenges. Mrs. See stated the district has never gone through a formal challenge, but we have removed some books from libraries. She stated there is a process for placing books in the libraries.

6.3 Approval to Advertise Amendments to Specific Policies

The attached policy revisions were provided by NEOLA and district staff have reviewed each policy. Policies included are 1121.01, 1129, 1210, 1231, 3120, 3121.01, 3129, 3231, 3130, 4121.01, 4129, 6110, 6111, 6112, 6114, 6325, 6550, 7310, 7450, 8310, 9200, and 9700

7.0 OTHER AGENDA ITEMS - Action

8.0 PERSONNEL - Consent

8.1 Approval of PERSONNEL - CONSENT

8.2 Summary of Personnel

8.3 Non-Instructional Recommendations

8.4 Instructional Recommendations

8.5 Transfers

8.6 Retirements

8.7 Requests to Enter or Extend DROP

8.8 Terminal Leave Pay

8.9 Out of Field Teachers 2nd Semester 2024-2025

8.10 Master Schedule 2nd Semester 2024-2025

Mr. Pumphrey asked about high school classes with only one student per period. Mr. See stated there are many reasons this could happen on the master schedule, for example, a virtual class could have a paraprofessional as the monitor and the teacher's name is used for the class. Mr. Pumphrey also addressed courses available at some schools that are not available at other schools. Superintendent Nolen stated this is true and he wants all students to have the same opportunities for instruction. Mr. Nolen also stated he wants to see Driver's Education brought back to the high schools. Mr. Johnson said foreign language is another subject that is not available to all students. Mr. Nolen agreed and stated we are looking into what can be done.

9.0 PERSONNEL - Action

10.0 FINANCIAL MATTERS - Consent

- 10.1 Approval of FINANCIAL MATTERS - CONSENT**
- 10.2 Approval of Monthly Cash & Investments**
- 10.3 Approval of Revenue Summary**
- 10.4 Approval of Budget Amendments**
- 10.5 Approval of Budget & Expense Summary**
- 10.6 Approval of Updated Purchasing Card (P-Card) Procedures Manual**

Mr. Torbett asked if a quick finance update could be presented at the workshop each month. Mrs. Ellen Folsom, Finance Director, stated she would be glad to provide a monthly overview.

11.0 FINANCIAL MATTERS - Action

12.0 CONTRACTS/RESOLUTIONS/AGREEMENTS - Consent

- 12.1 Approval of CONTRACTS/RESOLUTIONS/AGREEMENTS - CONSENT**
- 12.2 Contract for Services with Lindsey B. Lander, Attorney at Law, to Provide Legal Representation for the Superintendent for Expulsion Hearings and Other Matters as Requested by the School Board**
- 12.3 Agreement Renewal with Cloud59 Networks for IaaS Services, including Backup and Disaster Recovery (January 1, 2025-January 1, 2030)**

This is a renewal of a 5YR agreement with Cloud59 to provide server hardware and support services, including our backup and disaster recovery solutions.

13.0 CONTRACTS/RESOLUTIONS/AGREEMENTS - Action

- 13.1 2024-2025 Interlocal Agreement with Town of Grand Ridge for Recreational Complex use (Tabled Item from the December 17, 2024 Board Meeting)**

The attached agreement is for the use of the John Thomas Recreational Complex during the 2024-2025 school year by the Grand Ridge School. The park is owned by the Town of Grand Ridge.

Superintendent Nolen stated he recommends the district proceeds with this agreement and his team will work toward a little different agreement over this summer. Mr. Johnson stated the town would like to give the school district the park, but regulations with the Federal Recreation Development Assistant Program (FRDAP) creates difficulties. There was additional discussion about the usage of the park and the Town's usage of the school property. Mr. Milton stated the usage has changed over the years and Mr. Nolen stated his team would work with the town on modifications to the agreement for next year.

14.0 PROJECTS/PROGRAMS/GRANTS/PLANS - Consent

- 14.1 Approval of PROJECTS/PROGRAMS/GRANTS/PLANS - CONSENT**
- 14.2 First Federal Foundation Grant for McKinney-Vento Student Support**

15.0 PROJECTS/PROGRAMS/GRANTS/PLANS - Action

16.0 FACILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION - Consent

- 16.1 Approval of FACILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION - CONSENT**

- 16.2 Bid Award to JJ&J Electrical Repair, LLC for Light Pole Removal/Installation at Malone School Softball Field**

Bids were recently solicited for removal of old wooden light poles and installation of new concrete light poles for the Malone School Softball Field. Bid opening was held 1/3/25 at 2pm CST in the Jackson County School Bd Room. Only one bid was submitted: JJ&J Electrical Repair, LLC (attached). This company has handled previous ball field needs for the district with complete satisfaction. We recommend the awarding of the Bid for the Malone School Softball Field pole needs to JJ & J Electrical Repair, LLC.

- 16.3 AIA Form G802-2017 Amendment #2 to the Contract with DAG Architects Regarding the Grand Ridge School Project**

DAG Architects was originally approved to handle the Design, Construction Documentation and Construction Administration for the new PreK-8 school presently being constructed at the Grand Ridge School site. DAG's contract was originally approved 2/14/2020 and amended on 6/20/2023. The approved contract with DAG allows for a 6% fee with potential fee adjustments based on approved Construction Contract increases and/or decreases. The recent Board approval of the Phase 3 Construction Contract with Culpeper Construction now results in an increase in the fee amount due DAG Architects. The details of the new total are set forth in the attached cover letter and Document G802-2017.

Mr. Pumphrey asked Mr. Paul Donofro for an update on the construction project. Mr. Donofro stated Culpepper Construction is on schedule with the project and the project is coming along smoothly with very few problems. Mr. Donofro invited the board members to visit the site and to come to one of the monthly progress meetings (with in the Sunshine laws). There was additional discussion about the parking area and safety for the buses during the construction project. Questions about the increase from DAG and Mrs. Folsom answered if the capitol outlay is over it could be offset with sales tax change orders. Mr. Johnson asked if the administration building is in phase two or phase three? Mr. Donofro said they are continuing discussion with the engineers and the district IT department. Mr. Johnson stated he would like to request a workshop to current details of the project and that we are going to finish the project within the budget. All board members agreed they would like more details. Mr. Nolen stated we will work on scheduling a workshop.

Mr. Nolen stated plans are to have the Malone Softball field up and running soon.

17.0 FACILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION - Action

18.0 P-CARD/PURCHASE ORDERS OVER \$10,000.00 - Consent

- 18.1 Approval of P-CARD/PURCHASE ORDERS OVER \$10,000 - CONSENT**
- 18.2 Purchase Orders to EPS Operations, LLC for Coachbooks**

Provides supplemental support for ELA and Math to improve FAST scores. Purchase Orders for Grand Ridge School and Sneads Elementary School are included with this item.

- 18.3 Purchase Order to Parish Tractor/HD Hyundai Infracore North America LLC for a Compact Excavator**

This purchase is for a compact excavator for the agricultural education departments. This purchase is completely funded from the CAP Grant.

18.4 Purchase Order to Cloud59 Networks, LLC, DBA Matthew Boyette for the Agreement Renewal for IaaS Services (Year 1 of 5)

Purchase Order for the renewal of an agreement with Cloud59 for IaaS services, including backup and disaster recovery.

18.5 Purchase Order to Headland Plumbing Company, LLC dba JJ&J Electrical for the Malone Softball Lighting Project

This purchase order goes with the bid award to JJ&J Electrical for the lighting project at the Malone Softball Field.

Mr. Granberry asked about the new school buses on order? Mrs. Folsom stated the three that were ordered last year are expected to be delivered next month and the three ordered this year should arrive by June.

19.0 P-CARD/PURCHASE ORDERS OVER \$10,000.00 - Action

20.0 EXPULSIONS

20.1 School Expulsions

21.0 JUST CAUSE ITEMS

21.1 Approval of 2025-2028 Contract Agreement and 2024-2025 Salary Negotiations with the Jackson County Education Association (Pending JCEA Ratification)

Attached is the proposed contract and the tentative salary agreement. JCEA ratification process will occur on January 28th and 29th. Salary will be retro to the first day of the 2024-2025 year.

21.2 Approval of 2025-2029 Contract Agreement and 2024-2025 Salary Negotiations with the Jackson Educational Support Professional Association (Pending JESPA Ratification)

Attached is the proposed contract and the tentative salary agreement. JESPA ratification process will occur on January 22nd and 23rd. The salary agreement will be retro to the first day of the 2024-2025 year.

21.3 Recommendation of the Salary Increase as Non-Unit/Non-Instructional Employees, Confidential/Non-Instructional Employees, Other District Support Staff, School Administrators, and District Administrators for the 2024-2025 Year

21.4 Request for the Chairman and Superintendent to Sign a Letter of Engagement for the District with Gardner, Bist, Bowden, Dee, LaVia, Wright, Perry & Harper, P.A. for Representation Regarding the Proposed Florida Public Utilities Rate Increases (Joining with the City of Marianna and Jackson County Board of County Commission)

The City of Marianna and the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners are currently pursuing legal representation regarding the proposed FPU rate increase. This request would allow the District's Chairman and Superintendent to finalize the joint letter of engagement at a rate of up to \$300 per hour (split with the City and County) with a cap of \$15,000 for the School District. The final agreement will be presented at a future board meeting as an information item.

Mr. Milton stated the City of Marianna has engaged this law group, and Paul Donofro stated the County also agreed if the City and the School Board both participate. Mr. Torbett asked about Jackson Hospital and Chipola College? Mr. Nolen stated he was contacted by William Long at the City of Marianna and he would pass that suggestion along to Mr. Long.

22.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

22.1 Food Service Update

22.2 JCEA Announcements/Update/Input

In accordance with the approved JCEA Master Contract, Item #2.12

22.3 JESPA Announcements/Update/Input

In accordance with the approved JESPA Master Contract, Item #6.8

22.4 Out of State Travel

22.5 PK-12 Student Enrollment as of January 9, 2025 was 5932.

22.6 Suspension Reports for the Month of December 2024

22.7 Resignations

22.8 Head Start Monthly Financials

22.9 Operational Audit for FYE 2023-24

22.10 Maintenance End of Year Report

The District Maintenance Department continued to improve with the total number of Work Requests completed for the 2024 Calendar Year. The total number of work orders completed for 2024 was 1,679. This was an increase of about 14.5% from the previous year. Efforts will continue for improvements with both number of needs taken care of and with the skill level of work with which needs are taken care of.

22.11 Discussion Regarding Board Meeting Video/Audio Recording

Mr. Nolen asked Kelly Lanier and Aaron Hamilton to provide information to the board regarding video/audio recording of School Board meetings. Mrs. Lanier stated they have more questions than answers at this point. She stated she has two quotes but with questions regarding policies, procedures, ADA laws, transcribing requirements, public records requests, etc. they need more input. Mr. Milton suggested contacting Washington County because they stated this type of project last month. Mrs. Lanier will contact other districts and report back to the board.

22.12 Jackson County Early Childhood Programs Eligibility Priority Criteria for Head Start and Early Head Start

Jackson County Early Childhood Programs Eligibility Priority Criteria for Head Start and Early Head Start

22.13 Monthly Report for ECC in December 2024

23.0 SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER/SUPERINTENDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

23.1 Dates to Remember

Superintendent Nolen invited everyone to attend the many ballgames being played around the county. He also gave the board members an update about the recent bus accident, stating our entire district and community team came together to assist. Mr. Nolen reminded everyone of the upcoming Martin Luther King, Jr. parade and asked everyone to keep a watch on the weather next week with SNOW in the forecast.

24.0 ADJOURN

The workshop was adjourned at approximately 5:17 PM.



Hunter Nolen, Superintendent of Schools



Chris M. Johnson, Chairman of the Board