

Bronson, Florida
November 18, 2014
9:00 a.m.
REGULAR SESSION

The School Board of Levy County met in Regular Session this 18th day of November 2014 at 9:00 a.m. with Chairman Robert Philpot, Cameron Asbell, Rick Turner, Chris Cowart, Paige Brookins and Board Attorney David Delaney present.

Board Reorganization: Superintendent Hastings presided during the reorganization of the Board.

Appointment of Chairman: Superintendent Hastings called for nominations for Board Chairman. Paige Brookins nominated Rick Turner. Cameron Asbell moved for nominations to cease. The Superintendent called for the vote with the Board unanimously voting for Rick Turner as Board Chairman. Cameron Asbell thanked Mr. Philpot for doing a great job as the previous Board Chairman with all Board Members agreeing.

Appointment of Vice-Chairman: Superintendent Hastings called for nominations for Board Vice-Chairman. Cameron Asbell nominated Paige Brookins. Robert Philpot moved for nominations to cease. The Superintendent called for the vote with the Board unanimously voting for Paige Brookins as Vice-Chair.

Regular Meeting Dates: Motion by Robert Philpot, to set the regular meeting dates of the School Board of Levy County for the first Tuesday after the first Monday at 6:00 p.m. of each month and two weeks thereafter at 9:00 a.m., to be held in the Administrative Offices, Bronson, Florida, second by Cameron Asbell. The Superintendent called for the vote, motion carried.

Rick Turner then assumed the Chair and presided during the remainder of the meeting.

Designation of Florida School Boards Association Legislative Liaison: Paige Brookins nominated Chris Cowart as the FSBA Legislative Liaison with Cameron Asbell moving for nominations to cease. The Board unanimously voted for Chris Cowart to serve as the FSBA Legislative Liaison. Chris Cowart then nominated Cameron Asbell as the Alternate Liaison, with Robert Philpot moving for nominations to cease. The Board unanimously voted for Cameron Asbell to serve as the Alternate FSBA Legislative Liaison.

Comments from the Audience: Board Chairman Rick Turner recognized Gerald Lawrence from the audience to address the Board. He informed Mr. Lawrence he would have 15 minutes to present his concerns. Mr. Lawrence asked to be permitted 30 minutes, the request was denied by the Board Chair. Mr. Lawrence told the Board he had met with Superintendent Hastings about conducting a survey with School Board employees but Mr. Hastings had rejected the request. He asked the Board to go on record about whether they would allow him to conduct the survey or not. Board Attorney David Delaney informed the Board they were not obligated to respond to Mr. Lawrence's request. Mr. Lawrence shared a power point presentation and discussed other concerns he had regarding the evaluation of administrators. He said at the June 3rd Board Meeting, Candy Dean reported to the Board how administrative evaluations are done. He said that process was not used with him when he was denied the Principalship at BMHS. He said he has also applied for all Administrative positions that have come available since and has not been hired for any of them. After further discussion, Superintendent Hastings said he disagreed with 95% of what Mr. Lawrence had said, but thanked him for sharing his thoughts and opinions with the Board. Board Chairman Rick Turner asked Mr. Lawrence to "follow the chain of command" the next time he wanted to address what he perceived to be a problem or concern with the school and speak with his principal first.

Carmen Ward was then recognized by the Chairman to address the Board. She thanked the Board for their service to the students, faculty and staff at all schools in Levy County. She told the Board that recently teachers and ESPs from every school community has contacted her about student discipline throughout the county. She asked if School Administrators had been given "marching orders" to reduce the number of OSS days county-wide? She said Early Warning System

(EWS) is accusing public education as being a pipeline to prison. She said she wanted to caution the district about buying products or programs that do not provide for student discipline. Dr. Wnek addressed Ms. Ward's comments and informed the Board that discipline and safety concerns are addressed in Principal and Assistant Principal meetings, and that the Positive Behavior System is taught and used county-wide. In response to Mr. Lawrence's concerns, he also reminded the Board that the Superintendent and Instructional Team had decided to pursue accreditation for the entire district back in 2011. He said the evaluating team from AdvancEd had conducted surveys of more than 129 people – board members, teachers, ESPs, students, parents and community members, thoroughly covering any concerns of the “stakeholders”. He distributed the final exit report with survey information for the Board to review the survey and results.

Request to Cancel the January 6, 2015 Board Meeting Superintendent Hastings reminded the Board that the School Board would be closed for business after December 22, 2014 thru January 2, 2015 and would not have time to get an agenda ready for the January 6th Board Meeting. After discussion, Chris Cowart moved to cancel the January 6, 2015 Board Meeting, second by Cameron Asbell, motion carried.

Minutes: Robert Philpot moved with second by Cameron Asbell to approve the Minutes of the November 4, 2014 Board meeting as submitted with the Board Agenda. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda: After discussion, Cameron Asbell moved with second by Robert Philpot, to approve the following items on the consent agenda with changes as recommended by the Superintendent. Motion carried.

1. GENERAL ITEMS:

a) Personnel Changes / Recommendations:

1.

SCHOOL BOARD OF LEVY COUNTY **Route Verification Changes for Bus Drivers** *for the School Year 2014 - 2015*

Bus Driver	From	TO
Foley, Ruth (amend effective date to October 22, 2014)	6.75	7.0

2. Catherine Marie Mahoney, CKS Custodian, effective November 12, 2014, replacing Douglas Brooks.
3. Molly Cowart, CKS OPS AVID Tutor, effective November 6, 2014, position Board approved August 19, 2014.
4. Robin Jean Jocelyn, CKS OPS AVID Tutor, effective November 6, 2014, position Board approved August 19, 2014.
5. Angela Tuten, CMHS Teacher, effective November 10, 2014, replacing Jennifer Langston.
6. Laura Brannen, YTS Teacher, **resignation** effective November 20, 2014, and payment of accrued sick leave.
7. Shanno Dukes, BMHS Temporary Teacher's Aide, correct cost strip as follows, effective 8/18/2014:

FROM:	4210E 5100 0150 0021 40241F2015	100%
TO:	4210E 5100 0150 0021 40241F2015	82%
	4210E 5200 0150 0021 40230F2015	18%

b) Personal Leave In Excess Of Six (6) Days Request:

1. Virginia Floyd, District Bus Driver, October 27 – November 25, 2014.
2. Julie Haire, BES Aide, *amend* leave dates to August 18 – October 17, 2014.

c) Professional Leave Request:

1. National AVID Conference, December 11 – 13, 2014, Orlando, expenses paid by GearUP Project #14895: Danielle Rosson (CMHS) and April Fleetwood (BMHS)

d) Student Trip Requests:

1. Jim Smith, BMHS Baseball Coach, *amend date to* November 12, 2014, Trip to ABAC – Tifton, GA, 2 students, county vehicle, all expenses paid from school baseball internal account, no cost to Board.
2. WMS Jr. Beta Club, December 1 and 2, 2014, FL Jr. Beta Convention, Orlando, chaperones Amber Philpot, Jennifer Handley, Twanda Miller, Crystal Vera, Regina Appling, Dena Battle, Erica Sage, Joshua Slempt, Diane Kline, 21 students, 1 school bus and personal vehicles, all expenses paid school internal account.

e) Administrative Services:

1. Contracts and/or Agreements
 - a. 2014-2017 SY (3 year) Tower Facility Lease between SBLC and Suwannee Valley Internet Connections, Inc. (SVIC) , for a portion of the Board Tower Facility. (attachment #1)

2. FINANCE:

- a) Financial Statement for October 2014
- b) Budget Amendments #4A and #4B

Superintendent's Comments / Recommendations: The Superintendent commended the great job teachers and students have done on FCAT 2 retakes, stating our students ranked #2 in the state. He read an email Barb Rivers had received from a teacher who had attended the Edmodo and googledocs training conducted by Tanya Taylor, WMS Teacher on the last PD day. The teacher was excited about how well her students were responding to Edmodo and googledocs and how they enhance her instruction in the classroom. Mr. Hastings said it was good to see the information coming from the scheduled Professional Development Days was helping our teachers – that is what they are intended to do. Finally, he commented that the on-line insurance sign-up has been going well and will be even better next year as that information will roll-over and make sign-up even easier for employees.

Board Comments : Robert Philpot said we really have quality teachers in our county and he likes the way they are willing to share ideas and what works in the classroom. He asked if we were getting closer to moving dirt at the new WMHS construction site? Mr. Hastings said probably end of December or first of January we will see things start happening. Cameron Asbell commended Ted Alexander and Donna Turner and Kalee Wade for “outstanding service” they have provided recently in maintenance and insurance sign-up. All the Board Members agreed that the employees of the Levy County School Board are caring and always ready to go above and beyond their job description to help out when needed. Rick Turner informed the Board they would be reviewing Board Policies 1 and 2 at the next meeting. He also reminded everyone to use the CareHere Facility as often as possible to help keep it going strong.

With no other business to come before the Board, Cameron Abell moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Robert Philpot, the meeting was adjourned with the Board visiting at CKS immediately following the meeting.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Robert O. Hastings, Secretary

Rick H. Turner, Chairman