

**Bronson, FL  
October 21, 2014  
8:40 a.m.  
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The School Board of Levy County met in Executive Session this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2014 at 8:40 a.m. with Board Chair Robert Philpot, Rick Turner, Paige Brookins, Chris Cowart, Cameron Asbell and Board Attorney David Delaney present.

**Expulsion Hearing:** The Board heard information regarding a recommendation for expulsion. After School Administrators Matthew McLelland and Dennis Webber were sworn in by the Court Reporter and had given testimony, the following action was taken by the Board.

**Student 15-01** (student and parent absent): Superintendent Hastings informed the Board that the parent had been contacted this morning regarding their intention of attending the hearing. The parent said they nor the student would be attending the hearing. He said the parent also said that the student had confessed to having the marijuana so the Board could “do what it had to do” and just send him a letter. The Superintendent then gave his recommendation. Cameron Asbell moved with second by Rick Turner to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation that the student be expelled for the remainder of the 14/15 SY and all of the 15/16 SY without educational services. Chairman Philpot called for discussion during which time the matter of the student’s age was a concern for some Board Members. After further discussion, Cameron Asbell withdrew his original motion, second by Chris Cowart, motion withdrawn. Rick Turner then made the motion that the Superintendent’s recommendation be amended to allow the student to come back before the Board at the first Board Meeting in August to request enrollment at Levy Learning Academy for the 15/16 SY, pending evidence of a clean drug test provided by the parent prior to the hearing. Second by Chris Cowart, the motion passed by majority vote with Cameron Asbell voting nay.

**9:20 a.m.  
Regular Session**

**Amendment of Agenda:** Board Member Chris Cowart asked that the Agenda be amended to include the report from the School Board Attorney on questions from the October 7<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting regarding who makes Board Policy. Mr. Cowart asked that the report become item **F**) and the remaining items be re-alphabetized in order. The Board Chair asked if this was alright with all Board Members to which they replied yes. The Board Chair said the Agenda would be amended to include the report.

**Florida Healthy School District – Silver Status:** District Coordinator of Food, Nutrition and Wellness Becky Tyson introduced to the Board the FL State Coordinator for Action for Healthy Kids, Melodie Griffen. Ms. Griffen shared information about the FL Healthy School District Award and the criteria Levy County Schools met to achieve Silver Status. She said there were 3 main things that led to the Award for Levy, being 1. The District infrastructure which promotes healthy choices and activities for students throughout the county; 2. Health Services that are provided by the District for students; and 3. Family / Community Involvement. She said Levy was 1 of 27 Counties in Florida that have been awarded Silver Status. Ms. Griffen presented a banner to Mrs. Tyson, Mrs. Angie Phillips, BMHS School Nurse and Superintendent Hastings. The Board thanked her for coming and congratulated Mrs. Tyson on the prestigious award for Levy County schools and students.

**SBLC Digital Classroom Plan:** Ron Perez and Barbara Rivers presented the SBLC Digital Classroom Plan for Board approval. Ron introduced Tracey Wilkerson from NEFEC who was on hand to answer questions if needed. After review of the plan and questions from the Board, Chris Cowart moved to approve the plan as presented, second by Cameron Asbell, motion carried.

**Attorney Report – Question from October 7, 2014 Board Meeting** Board Attorney David Delaney said he had sent a letter to all Board Members explaining his research results on the subject of who drafts Board Policy. He said in his opinion, the over-arching intention of FL Statutes 1001.41, 1001.49 is for the Superintendent to recommend policies to the Board. He said that is how FL Law designs for it to work and after consulting with other Districts, it's the way that works best. He said for the most part, it's how Levy County does it also. He said, however, there is authority for the Board to bring a policy without a recommendation by the Superintendent and it is not against the law for the Board to do so. At that point, Chris Cowart moved to instruct the Superintendent to bring a "Communication Policy" before the Board for approval and to schedule a workshop on the policy. Rick Turner made the second. During discussion, Cameron Asbell said he did not understand the need for such a policy or work shop. He said he has talked to the Superintendent about notifying him and he feels like the Superintendent does a good job in the day to day running of the School Board. Superintendent Hastings said he does notify the Board Members when something has occurred in their district that might make it on the 6:00 o'clock news or could be a potential problem down the road for the Board, but as for the day to day happenings he does not see the need for it. Chris Cowart moved to withdraw his motion, second by Rick Turner, motion withdrawn. After further discussion, Chris Cowart again made the motion to instruct the Superintendent to draft a Board Policy on "Notification of Board Members" and to schedule a workshop to discuss the Board Policy. The date of November 12, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. was agreed upon by all Board Members and the Superintendent for the workshop. Rick Turner made the second to the motion, motion carried.

**Minutes:** Chris Cowart moved with second by Cameron Asbell to approve the Minutes of the October 7, 2014 Board Meeting as submitted with the Board Agenda. Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda:** Rick Turner moved to have items 1. a) 3. from the Consent Agenda and 1. a) 6. from the ADDITION TO Consent Agenda removed for separate consideration and vote. Second by Chris Cowart, motion carried. After discussion, Rick Turner moved to approve item 1. a) 3., second by Chris Cowart, motion carried. After further discussion, Rick Turner moved to approve item 1. a) 6., second by Cameron Asbell, motion carried. Chris Cowart then moved to approve the following items on the consent agenda, second by Paige Brookins, motion carried.

## **1. GENERAL ITEMS:**

### **a) Employee Status Changes / Recommendations:**

1. Kimberly Chapman, BES Teacher, October 6, 2014, replacing Marlene Wiggins (transferred to Administrative Assistant).
2. Sonia Aleksic, BMHS ESOL Teacher Aide, October 13, 2014, replacing Evelyn Algarin-Febres.
3. Daryll Kozee, WES Teacher, resignation effective October 7, 2014.
4. Greg Wright, District Bus Driver, release from employment effective October 17, 2014, employee unable to perform the duties of the position.
5. Approval of the 2014-2015 District Improvement and Assistance Plan and the 2014-2015 School Improvement Plans.
6. Phil Dignan, WHS Teacher, resignation effective October 28, 2014.
7. Greg Durden, CMHS Custodian, resignation effective October 22, 2014.
8. Victoria Sandlin, WMS AVID Tutor, effective October 13, 2014.
9. Sara E. Creel, WHS Teacher Aide, effective October 22, 2014, replacing Greg Gilman.

10. Cynthia Hodges, CMHS Teacher Aide, effective October 13, 2014, replacing Dale Loomis.

11. Nannette Alfonso – Bus Route Hours for 2014-2015 SY – *AMEND from previous board meeting as follows:*

Bus Drivers	13-14 SY	14-15 SY
ALFONSO, NANNETTE	5.25	5.25

**b) Illness-In-Line-of-Duty Leave Request:**

1. Andree Robinson, YTS Data Entry Clerk, October 3 (3.5 hours), 2014.
2. Linda Brown, CMHS Custodian, October 2, (8.0 hours) 2014.

**c) Professional Leave Request:**

1. Dr. Rosalind Hall, District Director of ESE/SS, November 12-15, 2014, National CASE Board Meeting and Conference, San Antonio TX, direct reimbursement to employee by CASE.
2. Danielle Rosson, CMHS Assistant Principal, October 29 and 30, 2014, AVID Regional Path to Schoolwide Training, Tallahassee, expenses paid from project #14895.
3. Pam Plemmons, CMHS Teacher, October 23-25, 2014, FL Council of Teachers of Math Conference, Tampa, expenses paid from RTTT Grant project #43401 00115.
4. FL Reading Conference, October 16(pm)-19, 2014, expenses paid from project #11332: Sandra Roberts – CES
5. Teresa Pinder, District Local Assistive Technology Specialist (LATS), November 5&6, 2014, AT in the Classroom, Jacksonville, hotel and travel expenses paid by MTSS, meals paid project #40290F2015.
6. FL Organization of Instructional Leaders (FOIL) Conference, November 12 and 13, 2014, Orlando, expenses paid from project #18320: Dr. Patrick Wnek and Barbara Rivers, District Office.

**d) Student Trip Requests:**

1. BMHS Gear UP Classes, October 29, 2014, Embry Riddle and Ponce Inlet Museum, Daytona, chaperones Jennifer Seyeze, James Lackey, Genny Foshee, Nancy Williams, Baylee Graham, 45 students, commercial carrier – BUS, all expenses paid from Gear UP Project #14895.
2. Jennifer Bray, BMHS FFA Advisor, November 14 and 15, 2014, FFA 5K and MudRun, Haines City, chaperone Ethan Bray, 14 students, 2 county vans, advisor and van expense paid from project #15300, all other expenses paid internal account.
3. BMHS Educational Talent Search, November 19, 2014, Santa Fe College Campus Tour, chaperones Tina Wilkerson and Jodi Doher, 25 students, commercial carrier – BUS, all expenses paid by Educational Talent Search, no cost to Board .

e) **Administrative Services:**

1. Contracts and/or Agreements
  - a. 5-Year Facilities Work Plan

f) **Personal Leave In Excess of Six (6) Days Request:**

1. Joy Hagan, District Bus Attendant, October 20 through December 19, 2014.

**2. FINANCE:**

- a) Financial Statement for September 2014
- b) Budget Amendments #2A and #2B

**Superintendent's Comments / Recommendations:** The Superintendent reminded that Board that it was Professional Development Day at BMHS and they would visit there after the meeting.

**Board Comments:** Rick Turner asked if language could be inserted into the Consent Agenda that would clarify whether a teacher resignation was within the first year of service? The Superintendent said the language could be added to help clarify that for the Board Members. Paige Brookins said the Kyle Quincey class that has been piloting a "working in the community" project is doing a great job. She also asked when actual construction would start on the new WMHS? Superintendent Hastings replied that a lot of behind the scenes work is being done. He said an additional 2 acres more or less was purchased from the Escobars to create the roadway for buses and deliveries entering and exiting off highway 41 but it would probably be the last week in December or first of January before actual construction will begin that will be more obvious. Chris Cowart said the Seafood Festival was a huge success this year with lots of attendees which turned into money for the school and community clubs involved. He said the Beast Feast will be next weekend – October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Cracker House in Williston.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned with the Board going to BMHS for a visit.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

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Robert O. Hastings, Secretary

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Robert E. Philpot, Chairman