

Bronson, FL
January 22, 2013
8:15 a.m.
EXECUTIVE SESSION

The School Board of Levy County met in Executive Session this 22nd day of January, 2013 at 8:15 a.m. with Chairman Cameron Asbell, Robert Philpot, Rick Turner, Chris Cowart, and Paige Brookins present. Board Attorney David Delaney arrived after the meeting started.

Student Request to Re-enroll at Hilltop Alternative School: Jeff Edison shared information concerning a student who was previously expelled on October 16, 2012. Mr. Edison explained that the student's grandparents have attempted to homeschool the student, but have not been successful. The grandparents had contacted him to request that the student be given the opportunity to appear before the Board to request re-enrollment at Hilltop for the remainder of his expulsion period which was why this meeting was being held. After being sworn in by the Court Reporter, further information from Mr. Edison, the student, his grandparents, and his probation officer was heard by the Board. Superintendent Hastings made the recommendation that the student be allowed to return to Hilltop Alternative School for the duration of his expulsion period, based on the student's age and the likely-hood that the grandparents will not be able to successfully homeschool the student while he is under expulsion. The following action was taken by the Board.

- 1) **Student 13-04** (student, grandparents, aunt and probation officer present): Chris Cowart moved, with second by Rick Turner, to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to allow the student to re-enroll at Hilltop Alternative School for the duration of his expulsion period. The vote was taken with Chris Cowart and Rick Turner voting yes and Paige Brookins, Robert Philpot and Cameron Asbell voting no. Motion failed and the request was denied.

Expulsion Hearing: The Board then heard information regarding the recommendation for expulsion that was continued from the December 18, 2012 Board Meeting. After the parent and school administrator had been sworn in by the court reporter and had given testimony, the following action was taken by the Board.

- 1) **Student 13-10** (student and parent present): Paige Brookins moved with second by Robert Philpot, to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent that the student be expelled from the Levy County School System for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year and the 2013-2014 school year, with the opportunity to enroll at Hilltop Alternative School pending a clean drug test and testing every 30 days while enrolled at Hilltop at the parent's expense, with testing positive on a drug test resulting in revocation of educational services. Motion carried.

9:00 a.m.
REGULAR SESSION

District Reports:

Class Size Reduction: Mr. Edison shared the 2012-2013 Class Size Reduction Compliance Plan with the Board. He told them the penalty for not meeting CSR calculates out to \$1.7 million dollars, but by submitting the Compliance Plan by February 1st, the penalty is reduced by FL DOE to \$187,000.00. He said the problem is district-wide and compliance cannot be met in Levy County without hiring an additional 20 or so teachers at an extra cost to the General Fund of around \$1,000,000.00. After discussion Robert Philpot moved to approve the CSR Compliance Plan, second by Rick Turner, motion carried. (see supplemental minutes)

New WMHS Property: Mr. Edison reviewed the Option Contract between SBLC and Allan and Sara Kaye that was previously approved at the September 18, 2012 Board Meeting. He distributed handouts of FL Statute 253.025 (Acquisition of state lands for purposes other than preservation, conservation and recreation), SB Policy 7.03 (Lease and Lease-Purchase of land, Facilities and Equipment) and appraisals from Danny Williams Appraisal Services and FINK APPRAISAL SERVICES. After discussion, Robert Philpot moved to approve the Option Contract as presented with second by Rick Tuner. The motion carried with Robert Philpot, Rick Turner and Cameron Asbell voting yes and Paige Brookins and Chris Cowart voting no. (see supplemental minutes)

AVID / GearUP Report: Dr. Wnek introduced Lillian Finn and Senovia Williams from FL DOE AVID / Gear-UP to present information regarding the program. After their report, Dr. Wnek introduced Genny Foshee, AVID / Gear-UP Coach at BMHS who explained how the program works in the classroom. Ms. Foshee introduced a student who shared how AVID / Gear-UP has impacted her educational experience.

Financial Update: Ann Kroll shared a power point of the Financial Condition Update with the Board, comparing the years 2008 and 2012. The report also compared the General Fund Balance for years 2005 – 2012; Student Enrollment comparisons for years 2006 – 2012 with the FEFP revenue generated; General Fund Expenditure Comparison for the Month of December 2012; Food Service Fund Expenditure Comparison for the Month of December 2012; Federal Programs Expenditure Comparison for the Month of December 2012; and the Class Size Reduction penalty estimate. Mrs. Kroll pointed out that due to smart fiscal planning by the Finance Department during the 2010 and 2011 school years, the General Fund was able to absorb the revenue shortfalls when Federal Stimulus and Grant Monies were no longer available. After discussing ways expenses have been cut throughout the District, Mrs. Kroll said that Salaries is the only area left to cut. She reviewed the District Financial Condition Summary which shows a Financial Condition Ratio of 3.38% actual for SY 2011/2012 and budgeted for SY 2012/2013 of 2.85%. Mr. Clemons reminded the Board that if the General Fund Balance falls below 3%, a report must be made to the FL DOE informing them of the balance. If it falls below 2%, the District has 14 days to submit a plan to avoid a state of emergency. If we don't have a plan in place, the Commissioner of Education will send representatives from the DOE to operate the School District. (see supplemental minutes)

Ala Carte Meal Prices: Becky Tyson shared a power-point presentation showing rationale for increasing Ala Carte Meal Prices district-wide. After review and discussion, Paige Brookins moved to approve the increase in Ala Carte Meal Prices as presented, second by Chris Cowart, motion carried. Superintendent Hastings congratulated Mrs. Tyson for being selected by Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam to serve on the newly formed "Healthy Schools for Healthy Living" Council.

Public Hearing – Adoption of School Board Policy: Jeff Edison reminded the Board that this was the public hearing to adopt the new School Board Policy presented for first reading at the November 20, 2012 Board Meeting. He then reviewed policy 5.021 – Homeless Students with the Board. After discussion, Robert Philpot moved to approve the policy as presented, second by Paige Brookins, motion carried.

Minutes: Minutes of the December 18, 2012 Board Meeting were not prepared and will be included in the Board Packet for approval at the February 5, 2013 Board Meeting.

Consent Agenda: After discussion, Paige Brookins 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) Employee Status Changes:

1. Sara Berry, WHS Confidential Secretary, resignation from employment to **participate in DROP**, beginning May 1, 2013, and ending April 30, 2018.
2. Nellie G. Breeden, WHS Teacher, **resignation** effective December 21, 2012.
3. Shari Cone, BES PK Lead Teacher, **internal transfer** to PK Aide – ESE, effective January 7, 2013, original position.
4. Parrish Parnell, CHS Teacher Aide, **increase hours worked** from 4.5 hours per day to 7.5 hours per day.

b) Illness-In-Line-Of-Duty Leave Request:

1. Suann Dupont, CHS Teacher, January 9, 2013 (3.0 hours).

2. Heather Darus, CMS Teacher, January 7, 2013 (7.5 hours).

c) Professional Leave Request:

1. John C. Wilder, WHS Teacher, January 10(pm) – 13, 2013, Presenter and Attendee – Florida Association of Agriculture Educators Mid-Winter Conference, Haines City, expenses paid from project #15300.
2. Henry Cobb, WHS Music / Band Teacher, January 10 and 11, 2013, Florida Music Educators Association Conference, Tampa, all expenses paid internal account, sub only cost to Board.
3. Pamela Thompson and Laura Storm, District ESE Teachers, January 15 and 16, 2013, Life Centered Education Train the Trainer, Orlando, expenses paid from project #14936 and reimbursed by FDLRS.
4. Henry Cobb, WHS Music / Band Teacher, January 28 and 29, 2013, Teaching Performance through Conducting, Gainesville High School, all expenses paid internal account, sub only cost to Board.
5. Carol Jones, District Director Career Pathways and Christina Smith, CHS Teacher, January 29 and 30, 2013, FETC Conference, Orlando, expenses paid from project #40201F2013.
6. Charles Watson, WES Computer Lab Manager, January 30 and 31, 2013, FETC Conference, Orlando, sub not needed, no cost to Board.
7. Natalie Couey, WMS Teacher and FFA Advisor, January 31 – February 2, 2013, Ag Leadership Team Trip, various locations in Central FL, direct reimbursement for travel and per diem, sub only cost to Board.
8. Steve Tyson and Joseph Wain, District Transportation Department, February 7 and 8, 2013, FAPT Mid-Year Conference, Tallahassee, expenses paid from project #17800.
9. Dr. Rosalind Hall, Director ESE and Student Services, February 12(pm) – 15, 2013, National Council of Administrators of Special Education Winter Institute, Orlando, expenses paid by CASE, direct reimbursement, no cost to Board.
10. Dr. Patrick Wnek, Director Curriculum, February 19 – 22, 2013, AVID District Leadership Training, Session 2, Atlanta GA, expenses paid from project #14897.
11. Dr. Rosalind Hall, Director ESE and Student Services, April 27 – May 1, 2013, LRP – Legal Issues Individuals with Disabilities, Long Beach, CA, expenses paid from project #40230F2013.
12. Linda Durrance, Anna G. Mikell, and Lori Lott, Title I Dept., May 6 – 9, 2013, FASFEP / ECTAC Technical Assistance Forum, Tampa, all expenses paid from project #42412F2013.
13. Leigh P. Halberstadt, District SEDNET Coordinator, February 11 and 12, 2013, FDLRS / Miccosukee Workday, Tallahassee, expenses paid from SEDNET Project #40234F2013.
14. Rebecca M. Tyson, District Food Service Coordinator, February 7(pm) – 12, 2013, Legislative Caucus, Tallahassee, expenses paid from project #41000.
15. Brenda Rolfe and Elizabeth Landrum (CES Cafeteria), Shelia Redwine (WMS Cafeteria), Katherine Manuel and Gabriel Thomas (BHS), February 11 and 12, 2013, Legislative Caucus, Tallahassee, expenses paid from internal account, no cost to Board.
16. Travis Seay, BMHS Teacher, January 31 and February 1, 2013, AP Conference, Tallahassee, no cost to Board, direct reimbursement by College Board.

17. Pamela R. Asbell, WMS Principal, January 29 and 30, 2013, FL Partnership MS Leadership Colloquium, Tallahassee, direct reimbursement from College Board, no cost to Board.
18. Kathryn Lawrence, District Director School Turnaround, January 23 and 24, 2013, Rural Turnaround Leadership Project Meeting, Ocala, expenses paid from Turnaround Grant, no cost to Board.
19. Dr. Patrick Wnek, Director of Curriculum and John Lott, BMHS Principal, January 28(pm) – 30, 2013, College Board Middle School Colloquium, Tallahassee, all expenses paid by College Board, no cost to Board.
20. Dr. Patrick Wnek, Barbara Rivers, Marla Hiers, January 23 and 24, 2013, Empowering Effective Teaching Convening, Orlando, reimbursed by FADSS project #14890, no cost to Board.
21. Cynthia Hamilton, BES Teacher, January 31 – February 1, 2013, Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA) Conference, Orlando, meals and travel paid from project #40230F2013.

d) Student Trip Requests:

1. Dallas Locke, CHS FFA Advisor, February 6 – 10, 2013, FL State Fair, Tampa, Emily Locke chaperone, 3 students, personal vehicle, all expenses paid internal account.
2. JBES 1st Grade Field Trip to Lowry Park Zoo, Tampa, April 19, 2013, Devyn Chorvat, Patricia Coleman, Olivia Odom, Monica Cooper, Kelly Shirley, Stephanie Hogle, Kim Milton, Lauren Whitehurst, Rosa Toledo, Pricilla Fugate, Patricia Griffith, 185 students, commercial carrier – BUS, all expenses paid internal account.
3. Jamie Baker, WHS Football Coach, January 18 – 21, 2013, Football Tryouts at Tusculum College, Greenville Tennessee, 2 students, county van, all expenses paid internal account, no cost to Board.

e) Recommendations:

1. Lindsay Legler, WHS Assistant Principal, effective January 7, 2013, replacing Traci Handlin.
2. John Joyner, BMHS OPS Stem Lab Manager, effective January 8, 2013.
3. Christie L. McElroy, CES Teacher, effective January 8, 2013, replacing F. Michelle Walker-Crawford.
4. Sonja McClellan, CMS Teacher, effective January 8, 2013, replacing Lori Browning, (out-of-field in M/J Comp Sci 2, in-field in Int. Rdg / Adv Rdg).
5. Chackras L. (Chad) Smith, WHS Teacher, effective January 17, 2013, replacing Mike Arroyo.
6. Edward D. Pilcher, WHS Teacher, effective January 14, 2013, replacing Nellie G. Breeden.
7. Tracy Thomas, Hilltop Teacher Aide, effective January 8, 2013, replacing Erin Fisher.
8. Michelle Sage, BES ESOL Instructional Temporary Tutor (OPS), effective January 8, 2013, for 3 hours per week not to exceed a total of 70 hours, paid from project #42412F2013.
9. Approval of 2 Non-Instructional Temporary Tutor (OPS) Positions at WES, beginning in January 2013 and ending April 30, 2013, for before/after school tutoring on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, up to 1.5 hours per day paid from project #40241F2013.

10. Approval of 2 Non-Instructional Temporary Tutor (OPS) Positions at JBES, beginning in February 2013 and ending May 31, 2013, working 4 hours per day not to exceed a total of 120 hours each, paid from project #40241F2013.
11. For the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year, establish a CDE student position at WES to work in the Cafeteria, 3.5 hours per day, effective January 14, 2013, paid from District Food Service fund project #41000, and the appointment of Markeria McLeod to fill the position (hours are from the Janie Carnegie position).
12. Shannon Adams, District Bus Attendant, effective January 14, 2013, replacing Carolyn Perry.
13. Rita Inman, JBES Teacher, effective January 22, 2013, replacing Lindsay Legler, **and amending** Personal Leave In Excess of Six Days from June 6, 2013 to January 22, 2013.

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

1. Lynne Nofi, WES Teacher, January 15 – 25, 2013.

2. FINANCE:

- a) Financial Statement as of November 30, 2012
- b) Budget Amendments #6A and #6B

Superintendent's Comments / Recommendations: Superintendent Hastings informed the Board that the following students would be presenting projects at the Big Springs Regional Science Fair held in Ocala in February: BMHS – Sarah Conquest and Noah Howerton, CHS – Whitney Mills, Matt Horne and Yancey Hudson and WHS – Mackenzie Goode and Joel Blich. He said he was very proud of their accomplishments at their respective schools and expected them to do well at the Fair. Next, he reported that School Board Administration had met with Levy County Sheriff Bobby McCallum, SRO's from all the Schools and the Police Chiefs from all communities in Levy County. He said all agencies promised full cooperation with each other to ensure the safety of Levy County students. He said school safety plans from all schools were reviewed and some changes were made, but did not want to share or discuss them for security reasons. Next, he talked about attending Legislative Days and meeting the new Commissioner of Education – Tony Bennett. He said he was impressed by Mr. Bennett's honesty and straightforwardness and hoped his leadership would prove to be a positive for Florida schools.

Board Comments: Chris Cowart invited everyone to the Star's GALA, to be held Saturday February 2nd at BMHS Cafetorium. He commented on Literacy Week and how great it was to be in the schools reading with the students, with all the other Board Members agreeing.

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

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Robert O. Hastings, Secretary

Cameron Asbell, Chairman