

Bronson, Florida
December 4, 2012
5:40 p.m.
EXECUTIVE SESSION

The School Board of Levy County met in Executive Session this 4th day of December 2012 at 5:40 p.m. with Chairman Cameron Asbell, Robert Philpot, Rick Turner, Chris Cowart and Paige Brookins. Board Attorney Sheree Lancaster arrived late.

Expulsion Hearing: The Board heard information regarding recommendation for expulsion. After the School Administrator and grandparent were sworn in by the Court Reporter and had given testimony, the following action was taken by the Board.

- 1) **Student 13-09** (student and grandparent present): Paige Brookins moved with second by Chris Cowart to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to expel the student for the remainder of the 2012-2013 School Year and the 2013-2014 School Year. Motion carried.

6:00 p.m.
REGULAR SESSION

The Board then met in regular session to continue with the remaining business of the Board.

WHS Agri-Business Team Demonstration: Carol Dubois introduced Ben Randolph, WHS FFA Advisor and the WHS Senior FFA Chapter AgriBusiness Team – Quincy Cason, Samantha Sandlin and Ty Cramer. She said Brad Jones is the other member of the team and was unable to attend the Board Meeting tonight. Ms. Dubois said the Team competed at the National FFA Convention and had placed 2nd in the Nation. Each team member then described their experience leading up to and during National Convention.

RESOLUTION #2013-07 Sequestration Superintendent Hastings shared the following “Resolution Regarding Sequestration”. After discussion, Robert Philpot moved to adopt the Resolution with second by Paige Brookins, motion carried.

Resolution #2013-07
Regarding Sequestration

WHEREAS, a world class public education is essential for the future success of our nation and today’s schoolchildren; and

WHEREAS, the Budget Control Act of 2011 includes a provision to impose \$1.2 trillion in across-the-board budget cuts to almost all federal programs including education that would become effective January 2, 2013; and

WHEREAS, these across-the-board budget cuts would impact school districts during the 2013-14 school year, with the exception of the Impact Aid program, with which a reduction would become effective this school year; and

WHEREAS, these across-the-board budget cuts, also known as sequestration, would impact education by a reduction in funds of 8.2 percent or more and could result in larger class sizes, fewer course offerings, possible four-day school weeks, loss of extracurricular activities, and teacher and staff lay-offs, and

WHEREAS, sequestration would impact almost every public school system in the nation and the millions of students educated through programs such as Title I grants for disadvantaged students, the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), English Language Acquisition, Career and Technical Education, 21st Century Community Learning Centers, and more; and

WHEREAS, the LEVY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD, IN BRONSON, FLORIDA, as well as other public schools, would be impacted nationwide by an estimated \$2.7 billion loss from just three programs alone – Title I grants, IDEA special education state grants and Head Start – that serve a combined 30.7 million children; and

WHEREAS, federal funding for K-12 programs was already reduced by more than \$835 million in Fiscal Year 2011, and state and local funding for education continues to be impacted by budget cuts and lower local property tax revenues; and

WHEREAS, states and local governments have very limited capacity to absorb further budget cuts from sequestration, as LEVY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT has already implemented cuts commensurate to state and local budget conditions;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the LEVY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD urges Congress and the Administration to amend the Budget Control Act to mitigate the drastic cuts to education that would affect our students and communities, and to protect education as an investment critical to economic stability and American competitiveness.

RESOLVED, this day in Regular Session, the 4th day of December, 2012, by the School Board of Levy County, Florida.

LEVY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

By: _____
Cameron A. Asbell, Chairman of the Board

Attest:

Robert O. Hastings, Superintendent

CERTIFICATE

I CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution adopted by the School Board of Levy County, Florida at a Regular Meeting on December 4, 2012 and that the same has been included in the Minutes of the Board this 4th day of December, 2012.

Robert O. Hastings, Superintendent
And Secretary to the Board

Nature Coast and Whispering Winds Charter Schools – Update Bob Clemons reminded the Board that FL Statute 1011.051 requires a 3% or above general fund balance be maintained by the School District, and includes any Charter Schools that are under the authority of the School District. He then introduced Charles Bowe, the Director of Nature Coast Middle School. Mr. Bowe distributed the school's Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report as of June 30, 2012. The report revealed a fund balance of \$716.00. Mr. Bowe explained that like the public schools, enrollment has declined at Nature Coast Charter School. He said the school will work to maintain a \$30,000.00 fund balance, based on their FTE forecast, for the new year. After discussion and questions from Board Members, Paige Brookins stated that she was very concerned with the financial report. Next, Dr. Cornell from Whispering Winds Charter School shared their Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report as of June 30, 2012. She said the addition of their new Cafeteria last year was an added expense. She said the school also limited the number of ESE students they would serve in the 2012/2013 school year, creating a drop in FTE funding. She said the school is prepared to cut staff if the need arises. No action was taken by the board regarding either school's report.

New WHS Update Jeff Edison shared the time-line for the proposed new Williston Middle / High School with the Board. He said by March / April 2013, the team will take the proposal to Tallahassee to request special facility funding. Upon approval for special facility funding, the property for the new school site will be purchased. The DOE will also

want a plan for the disposal or use of the old WHS and WMS campus property. He said he is working with the County and the City of Williston to work out a plan for the campuses. Next, he said the Board would need to vote on the architectural drawings for the new school. He said there were 2 types – a unique set of plans that would cost more to acquire up front, or a “re-use” set of plans that could be revised at the end to meet the needs of the new Williston Middle / High School which when the district would incur the cost. He also said payment for the “re-use” plans would be contingent upon special facility funding, if the District does not get the funding, there would be no cost for the “re-use” plan. Robert Philpot asked that the teachers be included in the planning stages of the new building as much as possible. After further discussion and questions from the Board, Robert Philpot moved for approval to select a “re-use” plan for a 6-12 School for approximately 1100 students, contingent on special facility funding, second by Rick Turner, motion carried.

TIF Grant Presentation Candy Dean shared information about the TIF – “Teacher Incentive Fund” Grant with the Board. She said the TIF Grant is a five year grant that will assist the District in developing a pay for performance plan for teachers as well as provide professional development in areas that are covered on the teacher evaluation. The grant will initially focus on Chiefland Middle School and Chiefland High School , but will branch out to provide development opportunities across the whole district. She noted that the position for the TIF Teacher Support Colleague is on the consent agenda for Board Approval today.

Cancel January 8, 2013 Board Meeting Superintendent Hastings reminded the board that historically, the first Board Meeting in January has been cancelled since School Board offices are closed for Christmas Break the 2 weeks before. After discussion, Robert Philpot moved to cancel the January 8, 2013 Board Meeting, second by Rick Turner, motion carried.

Minutes: Robert Philpot moved with second by Rick Turner to approve the Minutes of the Special Session November 15, 2012 as well as the regularly scheduled Board Meeting on November 20, 2012, submitted with the Board Agenda. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda: After discussion, Paige Brookins moved with second by Rick Turner, 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. Traci M. Handlin, WHS Assistant Principal, resignation, effective November 26, 2012, and payment for any unused leave.
2. Morgan Elton, CES Custodian, resignation, effective December 19, 2012 and payment of any unused leave.
3. Ana Banales, CMS Food Service Worker, increase hours worked from 5.0 hours per day to 7.0 hours per day, effective January 9, 2013, hours from Susie Nichols position.
4. Teresa Miller, CMS Food Service Worker, increase hours worked from 6.50 hours per day to 7.0 hours per day, effective January 9, 2013, hours from Susie Nichols position.
5. Sandra Crane, CMS Food Service Worker, increase hours worked from 5.50 hours per day to 6.0 hours per day, effective January 9, 2013, hours from Susie Nichols position.
6. Mike J. Richardson, CMS Food Service Worker, increase hours worked from 5.50 hours per day to 6.0 hours per day, effective January 9, 2013, hours from Susie Nichols position.

b) Personal Leave in Excess of (6) Six Days Request:

1. Zena Baker, District Bus Driver, November 15, 2012 through January 31, 2013.

2. Lori Browning, CMS Teacher, December 8, 2012 through January 10, 2013.

c) Professional Leave Requests:

1. Dr. Rosalind Hall, Director of ESE and Student Services, December 11 and 12, 2012, FL Department of Education State Advisory Alternate Assessment Board, Tallahassee, direct reimbursement by FL DOE to Dr. Hall, no cost to Board.
2. Rebecca Childs, JBES Teacher, November 8 and 9, 2012, CPALMS Training – Lesson Plan Development, Tallahassee, direct reimbursement by FL DOE to Mrs. Childs, no cost to Board.
3. Kathryn Lawrence, District Director of Turnaround School, December 17 and 18, 2012, Central FL Assessment Collaborative, Lake Mary, expenses paid from project #43401 00813.
4. Michael Homan and Salinda Wiggins, December 6 – 8, 2012, FCR-STEM Conference, St. Petersburg, travel expenses paid from project #19060, sub only from project #40241F2013.
5. Scott Hall, WHS Teacher, December 6 – 7, 2012, FACA Baseball Clinic, Daytona Beach, expenses paid internal account, sub only cost to Board.
6. Leigh Paige Halberstadt, District SEDNET Coordinator, December 4 – 6, 2012, SEDNET Workday, St. Petersburg, expenses paid by SEDNET project #40234F2013.

d) Student Trip Requests:

1. Student Government District II FASC Meeting, January 25 – 26, 2013, Camp Crystal - Keystone Heights, 1 school bus shared by all schools attending, expenses paid internal account:

CHS – Kelly Varnes and 10 students
BMHS – Kim Nemeth and 5 students
2. Natalie Couey, WMS FFA Advisor, January 17 – 18, 2013, FFA State Horse Judging CDE, Okeechobee, 4 students, 1 county van, advisor expenses paid from project #15300, all other expenses paid internal account

e) Recommendations:

1. Carolyn Perry, District Bus Driver, effective November 26, 2012, replacing Byron Sims.
2. Becky Rivera, District Bus Attendant, effective November 26, 2012, replacing Dawn Pollard.
3. Establish the position ***“TIF Teacher Support Colleague”*** to provide professional training and support for schools involved in the TIF Grant – Chiefland Middle and Chiefland High.
4. Maegan J. Brock, CMS AVID Tutor, effective November 27, 2012, new position board approved October 2, 2012.
5. George Josh Wasson, CMS AVID Tutor, effective November 27, 2012, new position board approved October 2, 2012.
6. Clayton B. Allen, CMS AVID Tutor, effective December 4, 2012, new position board approved October 2, 2012.

7. Establish 2 OPS Positions at JBES for After-School Tutoring, beginning January 2013 through April 2013, not to exceed a total of 50 hours each position, as indicated by time cards, paid from project #40270F2013.

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

1. Judith Franz, BES Teacher Aide, October 26 (3.0 hours), 29 (7.5 hours), and 31 (3.0 hours), 2012.

g) Family Medical Leave Request:

1. Amy Langworthy, BES Teacher, *amend to* October 5 through December 7, 2012.

h) Administrative Services

1. Contracts and /or Agreements:

- a. Agreement with David Delaney of Dell Graham P.A., for School Board Attorney for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year, beginning January 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013.

2. FINANCE:

- a) General Fund Budget Summary Info as of November 2012
- b) Budget Amendments #4A and #4B

Superintendent's Comments / Recommendations Superintendent Hastings shared information with the Board regarding the "Master Board Program". He said Levy County has had a Master Board in the past and feels like it would be good for the current Board to work toward this goal. The Board discussed the possibility. Mr. Hastings said he would add it to the next Board agenda so the Board could vote on it. The deadline to apply for the program is in January. Mr. Hastings also shared that the graduation rate for Levy County has increased 11%, at 72% which is the highest the District has ever had. He commended the schools and District staff for working diligently to achieve the increase in student graduation rates.

Board Comments Robert Philpot asked about the Assistant Principal position at WHS, Mr. Hastings said Mr. Gibbs would be interviewing this week. Rick Turner asked what the beginning salary was for an instructional aide position. Candy Dean replied \$14,020.00 without benefits. Chris Cowart commented that the FSBA Conference was very productive and he received a lot of good information by attending. Board Attorney Sheree Lancaster apologized for missing the Expulsion Hearing that preceded the Board Meeting and said she was glad to see the contract for the new Board Attorney, David Delaney, on the consent agenda for approval. Cameron Asbell reminded everyone that Bronson FFA is selling Christmas Trees as a fund raiser. Robert Philpot said he wanted everyone to know just how hard the FFA students who shared earlier with the Board had to work to win 2nd place in the Nation on that Agribusiness test.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned with the Board going into Executive Session for the purpose of negotiation discussion.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Robert O. Hastings, Secretary

Cameron Asbell, Chairman