

Bronson, FL

April 14, 2020

6:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The School Board of Levy County met in Executive Session this 14th day of April, 2020 at 6:00 a.m. with Board Chairman Paige Brookins, Brad Etheridge, Chris Cowart and Board Attorney David Delaney present. Board members Cameron Asbell and Ashley Clemenzi attended the meeting virtually.

Due to guidelines from the Center for Disease Control intended to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the School Board of Levy County will be accepting public comment on agenda items for upcoming Board meetings as follows:

1. Email publiccomment@levyk12.org. All public comments received at least two (2) hours prior to the scheduled meeting will be provided to Board members in advance of the meeting and shall be posted on the School Board's website along with the minutes of the meeting.
2. Public comments can also be delivered in writing to the District office at 480 Marshburn Drive, Bronson, Florida.
3. The public may also view this meeting through the following live stream: <https://stream.meet.google.com/stream/7a5ea520-5fa7-470f-a905-64e25f8dad77>.

REGULAR SESSION

6:00 p.m.

The School Board of Levy County met in Regular Session this 14th day of April, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. with Board Chairman Paige Brookins, Brad Etheridge, Chris Cowart and Board Attorney David Delaney present. Board members Cameron Asbell and Ashley Clemenzi attended the meeting virtually.

Adoption of Agenda: Chris Cowart moved to approve the agenda, second by Brad Etheridge, motion carried.

Welcome Visitors: Chairman Paige Brookins welcomed everyone to the meeting whether in person or virtually. She said because of the COVID-19 virus, we don't have visitors for the meetings; however, public comments may be submitted via email at publiccomments@levyk12.org or dropped by the office. Comments will be read at the board meetings.

2020-2021 TRIM Dates: Kim Lake, Director of Finance attended the meeting virtually and gave an overview of the 2020-2021 Truth in Millage (TRIM) dates. She said the dates are in compliance with the DOE time table and will cause changes to the August 3 meeting, which will be on a Monday and the September 10 meeting will be on a Thursday. Both of these meetings will be at 5:01 p.m. After discussion, Brad Etheridge moved to approve the Levy County School Board TRIM timetable for 2020-2021, second by Cameron Asbell, motion carried.

Request Approval to Advertise to Adopt/Amend School Board Policy: 2.051 – Emergency Policy Relating to School Board Meetings and Superintendent Authority. Assistant Superintendent John Lott said due to the COVID-19 virus, the School Board needs to adopt an emergency policy. Counselor David Delaney said the policy is not designed to overstep the constitution statutes, but to use in a unique or emergency situation. John said because policy 2.051 is an emergency policy we don't need to go through the normal required days of advertising. After discussion, Chris Cowart moved to approve the adoption of Policy 2.051 – Emergency Policy Relating to School Board Meetings and Superintendent Authority, second by Brad Etheridge, motion carried.

LCEA / DISTRICT COVID-19 MOU: Marla Hiers, Director of Personnel thanked Melody Carson, LCEA President and Annette Kinsey for meeting and working with the district to develop this LCEA/DISTRICT COVID-19 MOU. She said the committee consisted of Superintendent Jeff Edison, John Lott, Melody Carson, Annette Kinsey and herself working on the same mission. She said they followed the CDC guidelines to develop the MOU to ensure employees continue working and being paid. Mrs. Hiers said Supt. Edison worked with the administrators, Melody and Annette worked with the teachers. She gave an overview of some of the areas including emergency sick leave, expanded FMLA, assigned duties, cleaning supplies,

sanitizers, etc. She said the teacher evaluations will be based on the Danielson 1-4 instead of student growth. Non-renewals will be notified by May 1, 2020. This MOU will expire on June 30, 2020 or when the COVID-19 closure ends. After discussion, Brad Etheridge moved to approve the LCEA/DISTRICT COVID-19 MOU, second by Cameron Asbell, motion carried. Ashley Clemenzi thanked Marla Hiers and the District for providing all the supplies to the schools and taking care of bus drivers and employees over the age of 65.

Approval of Minutes: Chris Cowart moved to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2020 Board meeting, second by Brad Etheridge, motion carried.

Consent Agenda: After discussion, Cameron Asbell moved to approve the Consent Agenda, second by Chris Cowart, motion carried.

1. GENERAL ITEMS:

a) Employee Status Changes / Recommendations:

1. James Reese, BMHS Teacher Aide, Other Basic, *effective* March 30, 2020, *vacancy*.
2. Regina Seals, WMHS Teacher, Social Studies, M/J, *effective* March 19, 2020, *vacancy*.
3. Timothy Delaino, District Maintenance Generalist II, *exiting DROP early*, effective April 30, 2020, hire date June 5, 1986.

b) Administrative Services:

1. Contracts and / or Agreement:
 - i. 2020-2021 contract between P.O.W.E.R. Buying Group and the School Board of Levy County Food and Nutrition Services.

2. FINANCE:

1. Budget Amendments # 19-00020, #19-00021 and # 19-00019B.

Superintendent's Comments/Recommendations: Superintendent Jeff Edison said Safety Patrol will be an agenda item at the next board meeting. He said he's working with the Sheriff's office to see what our options are. He said the safety patrol trip is an educational trip to Washington, D.C. and they're trying to get refunds to the students. Mr. Edison said we will be receiving 2,000 new chrome books for the students. He said the final budget is still to be determined and according to his conference calls, we can expect a 30% reduction in next year's budget. Chris Cowart said we need to check areas to see where we can increase our savings. Superintendent Edison said we have savings in fuel by not running the busses every day, we're not using as much electricity in the schools and Mrs. Lake is checking all areas.

Board Comments: Ashley Clemenzi thanked YTS, Mrs. Hurst and everyone for the way the COVID interactions have been handled. She said she has children the age of 5, 13, and 15 working virtually from home like all the other Levy County students and it's not easy. She said she's very proud of Levy County. Cameron Asbell said he feels that Levy County is doing well but has received calls from a couple of parents with concerns about teachers requiring students to have certain check-in times for attendance. He commented on the Governor's press release about students doing well with distance learning in the larger towns and cities, but didn't address the internet issues in rural counties. He said the larger cities don't have the internet problems like the rural counties. Superintendent Edison said the attendance issues are being worked on. He said our closure began as two weeks and now school closures are continuing, so we're working on problems as they arise. Brad Etheridge said the COVID-19 outbreak seems to be improving and hopefully the final outcome will be better than predicted. He said we need to begin looking and planning to re-open schools as soon as possible. Mr. Etheridge said he appreciates all the staff for everything they're doing. He said they're doing an amazing job with what we've been given. He said we need to ensure all students, teachers and staff have access to all resources as possible. Chris Cowart thanked the FNS workers and other Levy County employees for preparing and feeding 4,500 – 5,000 students per week. He asked for

an update on provisions for ESE/SS students at the next board meeting. He said the sooner we can return to normal the better because students need routine schedules and need to see their friends. Mr. Cowart asked about plans for proms and graduations. Mr. Lott said the administrators are meeting tomorrow to begin developing alternative plans for proms and graduations. Mr. Cowart asked about the possibility of re-opening if no more positive cases develop in Levy County. Counselor David Delaney said we have to follow the directives from the Education Commissioner as to when we can re-open. Paige Brookins said she's anxious to return to our regular meetings because she misses the camaraderie with the people and fellow board members. She asked the public to send comments to publiccomments@levyk12.org or drop them by the District office. She said she's disappointed about the summer FSBA/FADSS joint conference being cancelled. Mrs. Brookins said she's concerned about the stress during this time on the parents and students. She said teachers have to teach their own students at home along with teaching all their students through distance learning. She congratulated CMHS for being selected as one out of 1,800 schools worldwide to implement an AP Capstone Diploma Program starting next year.

Ashley Clemenzi asked about domestic violence issues. Superintendent Edison said he needs to be informed of any calls so we can give support. Cameron Asbell said he appreciates all the mass emails from Kalee Wade informing everyone about counseling services available and that they need to go to the Levy County Health Department for COVID-19 testing. He said his three children are missing their teachers and friends.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Jeffery R. Edison, Secretary

Paige Brookins, Board Chairman