

**I. Call to Order**

Call to Order: Chairman Arnold

- Present: District 1 – Joe Arnold, Chairman  
 District 2 – Malissa Morgan  
 District 3 – Gay Carlton, Vice Chairman  
 District 4 – India Riedel  
 District 5 – David Williams
- Ken Kenworthy, Superintendent of Schools  
 Tom Conely, School Board Attorney

Invocation: Pastor Cary McKee, More 2 Life Ministries  
 Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Chairman Arnold

**II. Opening Items**

**Recognition of Students**

- ★ Yearling Middle School FFA Dairy Evaluation Team – 4<sup>th</sup> in State Competition  
*Teresa McGehee, Coach*
- ★ Yearling Middle School FFA Livestock Evaluation Team – 4<sup>th</sup> in State Competition  
*Buddy Mills, Coach*
- ★ Okeechobee High School FFA Dairy Evaluation Team – 2<sup>nd</sup> in State Competition  
*Roger McWaters, Coach*

**Recognition of Staff**

- ★ Golden Mouse Award – *Robert Ellis, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Inclusion Teacher, Osceola Middle School*
- ★ School Bookkeepers – No Findings on 2012-13 Internal Funds Audit
  - *Jackie Skinner, Central Elementary School*
  - *Dorina Coker, Seminole Elementary School*
  - *Debbie Hill, Osceola Middle School*
  - *Rell Clark, Okeechobee Freshman Campus*
  - *Dawn Radebaugh, Okeechobee High School*
  - *Jennifer Harden, Okeechobee Achievement Academy*
- ★ Retirements
  - *Earlene Carter, Bus Driver/Food Service Assistant, Okeechobee High School, 21 Years*
  - *Anna Robinson, Custodian, Yearling Middle School, 14 Years*

**III. Approval of Minutes**

- Minutes of March 11, 2014

Motion:	David Williams
Second:	Gay Carlton
Vote:	5-0 In Favor

**IV. Presentation**

- Florida Healthy School Districts ..... *Tracy Downing*  
Director of Student Services

Tracy Downing, Director of Student Services, provided an overview of the *Florida Healthy School District* initiative and steps that the District is taking to achieve this designation. There are three levels of recognition for districts – Bronze, Silver, and Gold – and this year, the District is striving to achieve Silver status. Ms. Downing explained that the District meets a considerable number of the requirements for designation thus far and will continue to strive for a Gold designation. She went on to list the programs and initiatives already in place in the District that meet requirements for being a *Florida Healthy School District*. There are 23 districts in the State at this point who have earned a *Florida Healthy School District* designation. Chairman Joe Arnold asked if all schools have automatic external defibrillators (AED), and Ms. Downing responded that all schools have AEDs on site and that some schools have more than one.

Michelle Perkins, Supervisor of Food Service, reviewed a few of the challenges the District faces in feeding its children while meeting USDA guidelines. She explained that last year the Food Service Department did an excellent job in meeting the guidelines, and therefore received an additional 6¢ per meal for a year's total of an additional \$75,000.00. Ms. Perkins provided information on the USDA standards for the *Smart Snacks in School* initiative including nutrition standards and limits for calories, sodium, fat, and sugar. Board Member India Riedel commented that on the Board's visit to Yearling Middle School today, she noticed that the cuisine in the cafeteria appeared very fresh and appealing.

**V. Items for Action**

Chairman Arnold asked if there were any changes, additions, or deletions to the *Items for Action*. Superintendent Kenworthy requested that addition of the following:

- Item M., *Approval of Retainer for Legal Representation for the Superintendent*
- Item N., *Separation Agreement and General Release*

Approval of Items for Action Agenda with the addition of Item M. and Item N.	
Motion:	India Riedel
Second:	Gay Carlton
Vote:	5-0 In Favor

**A. EXPULSION OF #14-03, 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENT**

Superintendent's Recommendation: That #14-03, 7<sup>th</sup> grade student at Okeechobee Achievement Academy be expelled for the remainder of the 2013-14 school year and the first semester of the 2014-15 school year and that a final order for expulsion of this student be issued based upon the following act of misconduct and violation of the Code of Student Conduct:

**B. Alcohol and Drugs**

1. Possessing (including possession after use when the substance is still in the body), using and/or procuring, selling or dispensing on school premises, school buses, or at any school activity or school-related function of:
  - b. Any substance controlled by F.S. 893 or 877.111 (available upon request).

Motion:	Gay Carlton
Second:	David Williams
Vote:	5-0 In Favor
Discussion/Additional Information	Tracy Downing, Director of Student Services, stated that this student was enrolled at the Okeechobee Achievement Academy and failed to follow the rules of the Alternative Education Program. The student is currently enrolled in a Home Education Program.

The School Board of Okeechobee County, Florida, hereby certifies that pursuant to a legal notice, a meeting for public hearing was held in Room 303 of the School Board Administrative Office, 700 S.W. 2nd Avenue, at 6:00 p.m. in the City of Okeechobee on the 8th day of May, 2014, for the purpose of discussing amendment of Board Policies 2.20, 3.45, 3.70, 6.113, 6.56, 8.23, and 8.30. The Board further certifies that it remained in session until 7:15 p.m. and there appeared no one at said hearing to oppose or discuss these policy changes.

**B. AMENDMENT OF BOARD POLICY 2.20 BOARD MEETINGS**

Superintendent's Recommendation: That the Board approve amendment of School Board Policy 2.20 Board Meetings to bring the policy into agreement with current statutes and practice regarding public speakers.

Motion:	Gay Carlton
Second:	Malissa Morgan
Vote:	5-0 In Favor
Discussion/Additional Information	The revision is recommended by the Board's consultant for School Board policies. Advertisement of intent to amend Policy 2.20 was approved by the School Board on March 11, 2014, and advertised to the public on March 12, 2014, as required by Chapter 120, Administrative Procedures Act, Florida Statutes. No inquiries or comments were received from the public.

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C. AMENDMENT OF BOARD POLICY 3.45 BACKGROUND SCREENING FOR CONTRACTORS

Superintendent's Recommendation: That the Board approve amendment of School Board Policy 3.45 Background Screening for Contractors to bring the policy into agreement with current statutes regarding statewide ID badges for contractors.

Motion:	India Riedel
Second:	Gay Carlton
Vote:	5-0 In Favor
Discussion/Additional Information	The revision is recommended by the Board's consultant for School Board policies to align with revisions made to F.S. 1012.467. Advertisement of intent to amend Policy 3.45 was approved by the School Board on March 11, 2014, and advertised to the public on March 12, 2014, as required by Chapter 120, Administrative Procedures Act, Florida Statutes. No inquiries or comments were received from the public. Board Member David Williams asked when the requirement is effective, and Superintendent Kenworthy responded that procedures have already been implemented.

D. AMENDMENT OF BOARD POLICY 3.70 FLAG DISPLAY AND PLEDGE

Superintendent's Recommendation: That the Board approve amendment of School Board Policy 3.70 Flag Display and Pledge to bring the policy into agreement with current statutes.

Motion:	Malissa Morgan
Second:	India Riedel
Vote:	5-0 In Favor
Discussion/Additional Information	The revision is recommended by the Board's consultant for School Board policies. Advertisement of intent to amend Policy 3.70 was approved by the School Board on March 11, 2014, and advertised to the public on March 12, 2014, as required by Chapter 120, Administrative Procedures Act, Florida Statutes. No inquiries or comments were received from the public.

E. AMENDMENT OF BOARD POLICY 6.113 RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCHOOL BUS OPERATORS

Superintendent's Recommendation: That the Board approve amendment of School Board Policy 6.113 Responsibilities of School Bus Operators to bring the policy into agreement with current statutes banning texting while driving and reducing heavy duty idling.

Motion:	Gay Carlton
Second:	David Williams
Vote:	5-0 In Favor
Discussion/Additional Information	The revision adds language regarding adherence to Florida laws for the reduction of heavy duty idling of vehicles and the Florida Ban on Texting While Driving Law. Advertisement of intent to amend Policy 6.113 was approved by the School Board on March 11, 2014, and advertised to the public on March 12, 2014, as required by Chapter 120, Administrative Procedures Act, Florida Statutes. No inquiries or comments were received from the public.

F. AMENDMENT OF BOARD POLICY 6.56 PROFESSIONAL ETHICS

Superintendent's Recommendation: That the Board approve amendment of School Board Policy 6.56 Professional Ethics to reflect current statute requirements for ethics training.

Motion:	India Riedel
Second:	Malissa Morgan
Vote:	5-0 In Favor
Discussion/Additional Information	The amendment is due to a change in statute requiring annual ethics training for the Superintendent and School Board members. Advertisement of intent to amend Policy 6.56 was approved by the School Board on March 11, 2014, and advertised to the public on March 12, 2014, as required by Chapter 120, Administrative Procedures Act, Florida Statutes. No inquiries or comments were received from the public.

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G. AMENDMENT OF BOARD POLICY 8.23 TRANSPORTING STUDENTS IN PRIVATE VEHICLES

Superintendent's Recommendation: That the Board approve amendment of School Board Policy 8.23 Transporting Students in Private Vehicles to bring the policy into agreement with current statutes banning texting while driving.

Motion:	Gay Carlton
Second:	Malissa Morgan
Vote:	5-0 In Favor
Discussion/Additional Information	The revision adds language regarding adherence to Florida laws and the Florida Ban on Texting While Driving Law. Advertisement of intent to amend Policy 8.23 was approved by the School Board on March 11, 2014, and advertised to the public on March 12, 2013, as required by Chapter 120, Administrative Procedures Act, Florida Statutes. No inquiries or comments were received from the public. Chairman Arnold asked how this policy will be conveyed to those who drive students. Superintendent Kenworthy responded that anyone who would drive students will receive a copy of this Board policy.

H. AMENDMENT OF BOARD POLICY 8.30 AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT

Superintendent's Recommendation: That the Board approve amendment of School Board Policy 8.30 Automotive Equipment to bring the policy into agreement with current statutes banning texting while driving and reducing heavy duty idling.

Motion:	India Riedel
Second:	Gay Carlton
Vote:	5-0 In Favor
Discussion/Additional Information	The revision adds language regarding adherence to Florida laws for the reduction of heavy duty idling of vehicles and the Florida Ban on Texting While Driving Law. Advertisement of intent to amend Policy 8.30 was approved by the School Board on March 11, 2014, and advertised to the public on March 12, 2013, as required by Chapter 120, Administrative Procedures Act, Florida Statutes. No inquiries or comments were received from the public.

I. AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT NO. 2014-169

Superintendent's Recommendation: That the Board accept the Auditor General's Report No. 2014-169 for the period ending June 30, 2013.

Motion:	India Riedel
Second:	Gay Carlton
Vote:	5-0 In Favor
Discussion/Additional Information	Superintendent Kenworthy commented that he is very pleased with the audit results. He stated that all four findings have either been corrected or progress is being made toward correction. Board Member Malissa Morgan asked if all background screenings have been completed, and Superintendent Kenworthy responded that they have been completed.

J. MINIMUM JOB QUALIFICATIONS FOR COORDINATOR OF K-12 ACCOUNTABILITY AND ASSESSMENT

Superintendent's Recommendation: That the Board approve the minimum Qualifications for the following position:

- Coordinator of K-12 Accountability and Assessment

Qualifications

- (1) Master's degree from an accredited educational institution
- (2) Valid Florida certification in Educational Leadership, Administration and Supervision, or School Principal
- (3) Five (5) years successful experience in education including three (3) years of teaching
- (4) Administrative experience preferred
- (5) Satisfactory criminal background check and drug screening

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Motion:	India Riedel
Second:	Malissa Morgan
Vote:	5-0 In Favor
Discussion/Additional Information:	Superintendent Kenworthy reported that this position will soon be advertised since the person currently in the position will be retiring. He stated that changing this position from a Director level to a Coordinator could possibly save the District up to \$30,000.00 next year.

K. SCHEDULING OF SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP

Superintendent's Recommendation: That the Board schedule a date and time for a workshop to review/discuss the following:

- Student Progression Plan (including alternatives to the valedictorian/salutatorian academic recognition for graduating students)
- Combining Okeechobee High School and the Freshman Campus
- Budget Update
- Legislative Update
- High School Starting Time

Motion:	India Riedel made a motion: That the School Board schedule a workshop session at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29, 2014, in the School Board meeting room at 700 SW 2 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Okeechobee.
Second:	Gay Carlton
Vote:	5-0 In Favor

L. PROCLAMATION – CHILD NUTRITION EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION WEEK

Superintendent's Recommendation: That the Board adopt a proclamation recognizing May 5-9, 2014, as *Child Nutrition Employee Appreciation Week* for the School District of Okeechobee County.

Motion:	India Riedel
Second:	Malissa Morgan
Vote:	5-0 In Favor

**PROCLAMATION  
CHILD NUTRITION EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION WEEK**

School District of Okeechobee County, Florida

*Whereas*, nutritious meals at school are an essential part of the school day; and

*Whereas*, it is recognized that the individuals of the District's Food Service Department are committed to providing healthful, nutritious meals to the District's children; and

*Whereas*, Food Service Team members prepare and serve school meals every day to help nurture our children; and

*Whereas*, the daily interaction and support provided to students by the members of the Food Service Team offers essential support to the overall learning environment; and

*Whereas*, the meals provided by these men and women ensure students are nutritionally prepared to learn; and

*Whereas*, it is fully recognized that hungry children cannot learn; and

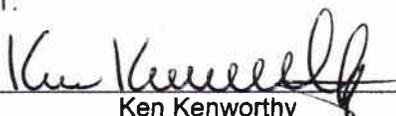
*Whereas*, the week of May 5-9, 2014, is Child Nutrition Employee Appreciation Week;

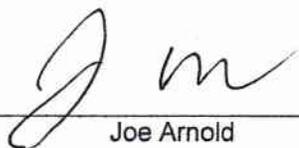
*Now therefore*, be it resolved that the Okeechobee County School Board expresses its deep appreciation to these valuable employees and commends their good work on behalf of the District's children.

*Passed and adopted* this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014.

ATTEST:

dr

  
Ken Kenworthy  
Superintendent of Schools



Joe Arnold  
Chairman



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M. APPROVAL OF RETAINER FOR LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent's Recommendation: That the Board approve a letter of agreement with Fox, Wackeen, Dungey, Beard, Bush, Goldman, Kilbride, Waters & McCluskey, L.L.P. to retain the legal services of Robert L. Kilbride to represent the Superintendent in a personnel matter.

Motion:	Gay Carlton
Second:	India Riedel
Vote:	5-0 In Favor

N. SEPARATION AGREEMENT AND GENERAL RELEASE

Superintendent's Recommendation: That the Board approve a Separation Agreement and General Release with Shannon Hays (effective 04-14-14).

Motion:	India Riedel
Second:	David Williams
Vote:	5-0 In Favor

V. Consent Agenda

Chairman Arnold asked if there were any changes, additions, or deletions to the *Consent Agenda*. Superintendent Kenworthy requested that Item C., *Leave Requests*, be pulled for revision and separate consideration.

Motion To Approve Remaining Consent Agenda:	India Riedel
Second:	Gay Carlton
Vote:	5-0 In Favor

A. EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONNEL

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School or Center</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Clark, James A. III	Guidance Counselor	Freshman Campus	03-31-2014
Denney, John (Out of Field)	Language Arts	Okeechobee High School	02-21-2014
Thomas, Delores	Bus Aide, ESE	Transportation	03-24-2014

B. RESIGNATION, TERMINATION, AND SUSPENSION OF EMPLOYMENT

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School or Center</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Biebel, Cheryl (Retirement)	Teacher, Elementary	Central Elementary School	06-11-2014
Biebel, Dan (Retirement)	Teacher, Science	Okeechobee High School	06-11-2014
Boak, John (Retirement)	Maintenance Foreman	Maintenance Department	07-01-2014
Medrano, Jennifer	Food Service Assistant	Okeechobee High School	04-09-2014
Norris, Joanna (Retirement)	ESE Counselor	Exceptional Student Education	09-01-2014
Robinson, Anna (Retirement)	Custodian II	Yearling Middle School	04-17-2014
Tackett, Linda (Retirement)	Bus Driver	Transportation Department	06-09-2014

D. 2014 SUMMER SCHOOL SCHEDULE

<u>Program</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Planning Date</u>	<u>First Student Date</u>	<u>Ending Date</u>
Grade 3 Reading Camp	Yearling Middle	8:15- 1:15	June 11	June 12	June 27
K-12 ESE students in TMD, PMD, and Autistic classes	Yearling Middle	8:15-1:15	June 11	June 12	June 27

- Programs will operate Monday through Friday.
- Transportation will be provided. Routes will be streamlined with limited stops.
- Students will be served breakfast and lunch.

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E. SCHOOL READINESS PROVIDER AGREEMENT

The Board approved the School Readiness Provider Agreement with the Early Learning Coalition of Indian River, Martin, and Okeechobee Counties, Inc. for 2014-15.

F. VPK PROVIDER AGREEMENT

The Board approved the State of Florida Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program Statewide Provider Agreement with the Early Learning Coalition of Indian River, Martin, and Okeechobee Counties for 2014-15.

G. SUMMER VOLUNTARY PREKINDERGARTEN CONTRACT

The Board approved a contract with Resurrection Life World Outreach Church, Inc. d/b/a Faith Academy Preschool to provide Summer VPK in 2014.

H. MEDICAID DIRECT SERVICES AGREEMENT

The Board approved an agreement with Seminole County School District for Medicaid data management and reimbursement for the 2014-15 fiscal year.

I. AGREEMENT WITH CENTURYLINK SALES SOLUTIONS, INC. FOR WIDE AREA NETWORK

The Board approved a three-year Product and Services Agreement with CenturyLink Sales Solutions, Inc. for Wide Area Network communication services at a cost of \$21,931.00 per month. This service is an E-rated service, and the District's actual cost will be 14% of the total, or \$3,070.34 per month.

J. RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT FOR LAWN CARE SERVICES

The Board approved an additional three-year agreement with Nunez Lawn Care & Landscaping, Inc. for lawn care services at the Freshman Campus, Freshman Campus Athletic Fields, and the School Board Administration Building in the amount of \$14,900.00 per year.

K. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR FEBRUARY, 2014

The Board approved the Monthly Financial Statement for February, 2014, and ordered it filed as part of public record.

L. BUDGET AMENDMENT #8 FOR FEBRUARY, 2014

The Board approved Budget Amendment #8 for February, 2014.

M. WARRANT REGISTER FOR MARCH, 2014

The Board approved the Warrant Register for March, 2014 as follows:

General Disbursement Account – Warrants #150482 thru #150808

Operating General Fund	\$ 1,337,848.41
Federal Programs Fund	76,431.42
Food Service Fund	211,367.23
Capital Improvement Fund	30,108.71
Total	\$ 1,655,755.77

C. LEAVE REQUESTS

Superintendent's Recommendation: That the following leaves of absence be approved (with a correction to ending leave date for Shannon Hayes from 04-04-2014 to 04-11-14):

Name	School	Leave Type	From	Through
Hays, Shannon	Everglades Elementary School	Short Term	03-03-2014	04-11-2014
McCloskey, Teresa	South Elementary School	Short Term	Beginning February 14, 2014 and continuing for a total not to exceed 60 days and not extending beyond June 14, 2014.	

Motion:	David Williams
Second:	Malissa Morgan
Vote:	5-0 In Favor

**VII. Information Items**

A. SUPERINTENDENT

- National Teacher Appreciation Week is May 5-May 9.
- Students are getting ready to start FCAT next week.
- Superintendent Kenworthy thanked Board members for participating in school visits/walk-throughs.
- Superintendent Kenworthy provided an end-of-year calendar of events for the Board.

B. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

- Joe Arnold – teen pregnancy rates seem to not be decreasing in Okeechobee. Mr. Arnold suggested that the Board investigate which districts have been successful in lowering the teen pregnancy rate and to what they attribute their success. He stated that teen pregnancy is a financial burden for the community that should not be a one-sided problem. The fathers should also be sharing responsibility. Mr. Arnold suggested that leadership programs for youth need to be available to help in the prevention of teen pregnancy.
- Malissa Morgan – Ms. Morgan expressed a desire to have more community input at School Board meetings and a concern to get the Board meetings to the public. Some discussion followed regarding the current practices of posting the Board agendas and minutes to the website along with having School Board meetings held in the evening to encourage public attendance. Some discussion covered the possible move to paperless and televised School Board meetings.

C. SCHOOL BOARD ATTORNEY

- Mr. Conely distributed evaluation forms to the Board for the Superintendent's annual evaluation.

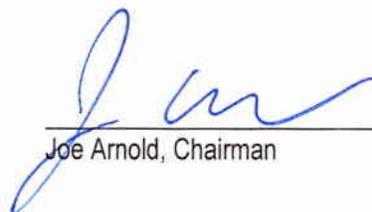
D. PUBLIC

- None

**VIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, on a motion by Gay Carlton, seconded by David Williams, the Board adjourned at 7:15 p.m. The next regular meeting of the School Board is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 13, 2014, at 700 S.W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida.

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Arnold, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ken Kenworthy  
Superintendent of Schools