

Minutes of  
Okeechobee County School Board Meeting  
December 10, 2013

The Okeechobee County School Board met in regular session on the above date with the following members present: Chairman Joe Arnold, Vice Chairman Gay Carlton, India Riedel, and David Williams. Also present were Ken Kenworthy, Superintendent of Schools, and Tom Conely, School Board Attorney. Board Member Malissa Morgan was absent due to a previously scheduled commitment.

Chairman Arnold called the meeting to order. Pastor Cary McKee, More 2 Life Ministries, opened the meeting with prayer, and Chairman Arnold led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Superintendent and School Board recognized and congratulated the following students and their coaches and sponsors:

- ★ Volleyball Team – Seniors – District Runner-Up Champions  
Erin Hudson                      Brianna Nunez  
*Taylor Pritchard, Volunteer*
  
- ★ Swim Team – Senior – Regional Qualifier and School Record in 400 Free Relay  
Brandon Ball  
*Stephen Neafsey, Coach*
  
- ★ Girls Golf Team – Seniors – Regional Qualifiers  
Kirsten Doney                      Danyelle Sheffield  
Kristen Higgins                      Bethany Stuart  
*Bruce Conrad, Coach*
  
- ★ Boys Golf Team – Senior – Regional Qualifier  
Kutter Crawford  
*Danny Mullins, Coach*
  
- ★ Cross Country – District Champion – Regional & State Qualifier  
Tabitha Henry  
*Julianne Halsey, Coach*
  
- ★ OHS – Cross Country – Regional Qualifiers  
Tabatha Henry  
*Julianne Halsey, Coach*

The Superintendent and School Board recognized and congratulated Patricia Grant, former Migrant Advocate at Yearling Middle School, for being named "*Florida Migrant Advocate of the Year.*"

The Superintendent and School Board recognized and congratulated the following employees for their retirement and service to the School District:

- Jimmie McNeil, Custodian I, Okeechobee High School, 26 Years
- Olive Williams, ESE Paraprofessional, Okeechobee High School, 17 Years

Chairman Arnold invited presentation of School Improvement Plans. The goals of each School Improvement Plan were presented for the following schools:

- Central Elementary School – presented by Randy Paulson, Principal
- Seminole Elementary School – presented by Matt Koff, Principal and Brian Barrett, Assistant Principal
- Osceola Middle School – presented by Sean Downing, Principal

On a motion by India Riedel, seconded by David Williams, the Board voted 4-0 in favor to approve the Minutes of the organizational and regular meeting held on November 12, 2013.

Chairman Arnold asked if there were any changes, additions, or deletions to *Items for Action*. None were requested.

Superintendent Kenworthy recommended the expulsion of #14-01, 9<sup>th</sup> grade student at Okeechobee Achievement Academy, for the remainder of the 2013-14 school year, and approval of the proposed final order based on the following act of misconduct and violation of the *Code of Student Conduct*:

Section 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).

A motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation was made by David Williams and seconded by Gay Carlton. Tracy Downing, Director of Student Services, reported that the student was enrolled in the Alternative Education Program at the time the violation occurred. The student resides in a neighboring county, and is not currently enrolled in any alternative or home education program. Chairman Arnold asked if anyone was present to represent #14-01 and after seeing no one, called for a vote by the Board. The Board voted 4-0 in favor to expel #14-01, 9<sup>th</sup> grade student at Okeechobee Achievement Academy, for the remainder of the 2013-14 school year, and to issue a final order based on the following act of misconduct and violation of the *Code of Student Conduct*: Section B(1)(b).

Superintendent Kenworthy recommended that the Board ratify the contract Agreement with the Okeechobee County Education Association #1604 for the Classified Personnel Bargaining Unit effective July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, including the following Salary Schedules:

- Classified Salary Schedule
- Classified Pay Grade Summary Sheet
- Classified Supplemental Salary Information
- #1B Differentiated Pay
- #30 After School and Summer Programs – Classified Personnel  
Inservice Participation – Classified Personnel
- #34 Part-Time Pay for Athletic Events

A motion to approve the recommendation was made by India Riedel and seconded by Gay Carlton. Superintendent Kenworthy reported that the Classified Bargaining Unit ratified the contract on November 22, 2013, by a vote of 188 in favor and 2 opposed. The Board voted 4-0 in favor to ratify the contract Agreement with the Okeechobee County Education Association #1604 for the Classified Personnel Bargaining Unit effective July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, including the Salary Schedules listed above. Member India Riedel commented she is pleased that the Classified Personnel contract was completed. Superintendent Kenworthy agreed and added that he hopes the Instructional Contract can be resolved as soon as possible.

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. 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, at 6:00 p.m. in the City of Okeechobee on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2013, for the purpose of discussing amendment of Board Policies 5.27 Homeless Students, 6.70 Personnel Files, and 6.90 School Board Employees with HIV, AIDS, or Other Communicable Diseases. The Board further certifies that it remained in session until 7:05 p.m. and there appeared no one at said hearing to oppose or discuss these policy changes.

On the recommendation of Superintendent Kenworthy and a motion by David Williams, seconded by India Riedel, the Board voted 4-0 in favor to amend School Board Policy 5.27 Homeless Students to include a definition of *Certified Homeless Youth*. Advertisement of intent to amend Policy 5.27 was approved by the School Board on November 12, 2013, and legally advertised to the public on November 13, 2013, as required by Chapter 120, Administrative Procedures Act, Florida Statutes.

On the recommendation of Superintendent Kenworthy and a motion by Gay Carlton, seconded by India Riedel, the Board voted 4-0 in favor to amend School Board Policy 6.70 Personnel Files to bring the policy into agreement with current statutes governing instructional personnel files. Advertisement of intent

Minutes of  
Okeechobee County School Board Meeting  
December 10, 2013

to amend Policy 6.70 was approved by the School Board on November 12, 2013, and legally advertised to the public on November 13, 2013, as required by Chapter 120, Administrative Procedures Act, Florida Statutes.

On the recommendation of Superintendent Kenworthy and a motion by Gay Carlton, seconded by David Williams, the Board voted 4-0 in favor to amend School Board Policy 6.90 School Board Employees with HIV, AIDS, or Other Communicable Diseases to bring the policy into agreement with current statutes regarding protection of employees from exposure to infectious diseases and accommodations for infected employees. Advertisement of intent to amend Policy 6.90 was approved by the School Board on November 12, 2013, and legally advertised to the public on November 13, 2013, as required by Chapter 120, Administrative Procedures Act, Florida Statutes.

Member India Riedel asked if any calls were received regarding any of the School Board Policy changes listed above, and Mr. Kenworthy replied that no responses were received from employees or the public.

On the recommendation of Superintendent Kenworthy and a motion by India Riedel, seconded by Gay Carlton, the Board voted 4-0 in favor to approve a Separation Agreement and General Release with Stephanie Rowley.

Chairman Arnold asked if any Board member or the Superintendent wished to pull any item from the Consent Agenda. There were no requests. On the recommendation of Superintendent Kenworthy and a motion by Gay Carlton, seconded by David Williams, the Board voted 4-0 in favor to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

The following personnel were employed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School or Center</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Giles, Karen	Teacher, Business	Okeechobee High School	10-23-2013

The following temporary personnel were employed as needed for the fiscal year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Goolsby, Sheila	Sub – Bus Driver	11-18-13
Sanchez, Kathleen	Sub – Bus Driver	11-18-13

Resignations for the following personnel were accepted:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School or Center</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
James, Barbara	Coordinator Staff Development	District Office	02-03-2014
Robertson, Alvina (Retirement)	Secretary, Staff Development	District Office	02-03-2014
SanMartin, Gwendolyn (On Leave of Absence)	Teacher	Central Elementary School	11-06-2013
Williams, Enid Olive (Retirement)	Paraprofessional, ESE	Okeechobee High School	12-02-2013

The following leave of absence was approved:

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Leave Type</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Through</u>
Farless, Catherine	South Elementary School	Short Term	11-20-2013	01-01-2014

The following personnel were added to the Substitute Teacher List for the 2013-14 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Burnham, Jamie	II	Porter, Rachel	II
Butler, Jamie	II	Santamarina, Kimberly	II
Catron, Nate	I	Thornton, Amber	II
McKinley, Laura	III		

The Board approved the following payments to personnel:

<u>Name/Group</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Rate of Pay</u>	<u>Time Period (Maximum)</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>
Lorraine Watson	Additional Bonus for Bus Driver Recruitment	\$350.00	NA	Transportation Budget
33 NES K-5 Teachers	Create Instructional Focus Calendar, Assessment Calendar, Revise Curriculum Maps	\$13.00 Per Hour	10 Hours Each	#4431 – Title I, Part A

Minutes of  
Okeechobee County School Board Meeting  
December 10, 2013

The Board approved a contract with Biowaste, LLC to provide infectious and hazardous waste pick-up and disposal for District schools and the Employee Wellness Center, effective January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2014, for a total yearly cost of \$2,550.00.

The Board approved a Postsecondary Education Readiness Assessment grant application in the amount of \$1,835.78 for 2013-14.

The Board approved a District Bandwidth Support Grant Application in the amount of \$17,410.00.

The monthly financial statement for October, 2013, was accepted and ordered filed as part of public record.

Budget Amendment #4 for October, 2013, was approved.

The Warrant Register for November, 2013, was approved as follows:

General Disbursement Account – Warrants #149293 thru #149579	
Operating General Fund	\$1,393,883.48
Federal Programs Fund	74,601.89
Food Service Fund	135,246.69
Capital Improvement Fund	82,855.87
Total	<u>\$1,686,587.93</u>

Information Items

A. Superintendent

- Superintendent Kenworthy wished everyone a Merry Christmas and said that he was very pleased with the school's representation at the Tree Lighting Ceremony. There are activities galore in the schools in December as well as administration of 1<sup>st</sup> Semester tests. The 1<sup>st</sup> semester will be completed prior to the Winter Break which is very beneficial for students. County Science Fair Awards will be held on January 16, 2014, and donations are being collected by Danny Thomas, Freshman Campus.

B. School Board Members

- Gay Carlton – there are still Christmas Ornaments available from the Retired Teachers Association.
- David Williams – wished everyone a Merry Christmas.
- India Riedel – would like to view the Webinar from Seminole Elementary School's Ag Grant project. Ms. Riedel requested that Seminole Elementary School provide Mr. Kenworthy with a link.
- Joe Arnold – wished everyone safe travel over the holidays. Mr. Arnold canvassed the Board for any interest in touring the school sites to gain insight on their school day. All are interested and asked if Mr. Kenworthy will gather available dates and discuss during the January 21, 2014, Board meeting.

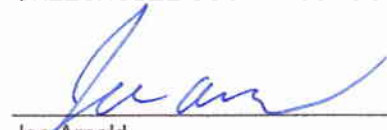
C. Board Attorney

- Mr. Conely wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

D. Public - None

There being no further business to discuss, on a motion by India Riedel, seconded by Gay Carlton, the Board adjourned at 7:05 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 21, 2014, at 700 S.W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida.

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

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

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