

Minutes of
Okeechobee County School Board Meeting
July 30, 2013

The Okeechobee County School Board met in special session on the above date at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Chairman David Williams, Vice Chairman India Riedel, Joe Arnold, Gay Carlton, and Malissa Morgan. Also present were Ken Kenworthy, Superintendent of Schools, and Tom Conely, School Board Attorney.

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order. Tom Conely, School Board Attorney, opened the meeting with prayer, and Chairman Williams led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman Williams asked if there were any changes, additions, or deletions to the agenda. There were no requests.

Chairman Williams declared the first public hearing on the adoption of the 2013-14 tentative millage rates and budget to be in session.

Superintendent Kenworthy recommended that the Board adopt the tentative Required Local Effort millage rate of 5.215 for the 2013-14 operating budget. Joe Arnold made a motion to approve the recommendation, and India Riedel seconded the motion. Superintendent Kenworthy commented as follows:

- The 5.215 Required Local Effort millage rate, mandated by the state, is a 0.435 millage decrease. It is expected to generate \$7,865,072.00.00. a decrease from last year of \$563,837.00. The State determines this millage rate.

Chairman Williams asked if there were any persons present to address the Board regarding the tentative Required Local Effort millage rate, and no one appeared. The Board voted unanimously to adopt the tentative Required Local Effort millage rate of 5.215 for the 2013-14 operating budget.

Superintendent Kenworthy recommended that the Board adopt the tentative Discretionary Local Effort millage rate of 0.748 for the 2013-14 operating budget. Malissa Morgan made a motion to approve the recommendation, and Joe Arnold seconded the motion. Superintendent Kenworthy commented as follows:

- The 0.748 Discretionary Local Effort millage rate is set by the state, and the School Board has the discretion to levy the millage at that rate. It is expected to generate \$1,128,106.00, a decrease from last year of \$12,208.00.

Chairman Williams asked if there were any persons present to address the Board regarding the tentative Discretionary Local Effort millage rate, and no one appeared. The Board voted unanimously to adopt the tentative Discretionary Local Effort millage rate of 0.748 for the 2013-14 operating budget.

Superintendent Kenworthy recommended that the Board adopt the tentative Capital Improvement millage rate of 1.500 for the 2013-14 Capital Outlay budget. India Riedel made a motion to approve the recommendation, and Gay Carlton seconded the motion. Superintendent Kenworthy commented as follows:

- The 1.500 Capital Improvement millage rate is unchanged from last year. It is expected to generate \$2,262,245.00, an increase from last year of \$24,481.00.

Chairman Williams asked if there were any present to address the Board regarding the tentative Capital Improvement millage rate, and no one appeared. The Board voted unanimously to adopt the tentative Capital Improvement millage rate of 1.500 for the 2013-14 Capital budget.

Chairman Williams declared the public hearing on tentative millage rates for 2013-14 for the School Board of Okeechobee County to be closed.

On the recommendation of Superintendent Kenworthy and a motion by Joe Arnold, seconded by Gay Carlton, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Resolution #14-01 adopting tentative millage rates for the fiscal year July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2014, as read into the record by Superintendent Kenworthy.

**Resolution
14-01**

A Resolution of the Okeechobee County School Board
Adopting Tentative Millage rates for Fiscal Year 2013-14

WHEREAS, the School Board of Okeechobee County, Florida, did, pursuant to Chapters 200 and 1011, Florida Statutes, approve tentative millage rates for the fiscal year July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2014; and

WHEREAS, at the public hearing and in full compliance with Chapter 200, Florida Statutes, the Okeechobee County School Board adopted tentative millage rates for the fiscal year 2013-14 in the amounts of:

<u>Millage Type</u>	<u>Tentative Millage Levy</u>	<u>Proposed Amount To Be Raised</u>
Required Local Effort	5.215	\$ 7,865,072.00
Basic Discretionary	0.748	1,128,106.00
Capital Outlay	1.500	2,262,245.00
Additional	0	0
Debt	0	0

The total millage rate to be levied exceeds the roll-back rate by 7.95 percent.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That Okeechobee County School Board adopted each tentative millage rate for the fiscal year July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2014, on July 30, 2013, by separate vote prior to adopting the tentative budget.



David H. Williams
Chairman
Okeechobee County School Board

July 30, 2013
Date

Chairman Williams declared the first public hearing on the tentative budget to be in session.

Superintendent Kenworthy recommended that the Board adopt the tentative budget in the amount of \$65,245,375.27 for the 2013-14 fiscal year. Malissa Morgan made a motion to approve the recommendation, and India Riedel seconded the motion. Superintendent Kenworthy commented as follows:

- The Expected FEFP Funding for 2013-14 is \$27,373,462.00, an increase of \$2,427,143.00. This is based on an unweighted FTE projection of 6,404.52 students, which is down by 120.72 students from last year. The weighted FTE, which takes into consideration the programs that the student is in, is estimated at 6,790.26 or a decrease of 182.82 weighted FTE units.
- The Base Student Allocation (BSA) is a set amount that the legislature gives school districts to educate a basic, regular education student for one year. The BSA increased by \$169.32 for the upcoming school year to \$3,752.30 per student. The FEFP funding formula attempts to equalize funding in all Florida school districts by applying a multiplier called the DCD or District Cost Differential which considers the cost of living in each district. After applying the District Cost Differential, the District's BSA is \$3,636.73, which is less than the full BSA of \$3,752.30 per student.
- The total Federal Through State Revenue is expected to be \$320,000.00, which is an increase of \$2,710.00 from last year's amended budget.
- The State FEFP-Lottery-Categorical funding sources begin with FEFP which is expected to be \$16,823,303.00, an increase from last year's amended budget of \$1,535,128.00. The Declining Enrollment funding is estimated to be \$97,964.00, an increase of \$67,224.00. The Sparsity

Supplement is expected to be \$635,009.00, an increase of \$126,965.00. The Safe Schools Supplement is estimated at \$193,693.00, an increase of \$247.00. The 0.748 Millage Compression, which is the difference in the value of millage per FTE generated by the District's Discretionary Millage and the average generated by all other counties, is expected to generate \$1,338,673.00, an increase of \$34,880.00. The Supplemental Academic Instruction (SAI) is estimated to be \$1,624,966.00, a decrease of \$26,894.00. The Reading Allocation is expected to be \$387,606.00, a decrease of \$5,501.00. The ESE Guaranteed Allocation will generate \$2,740,260.00, an increase of \$3,180.00. The DJJ Supplement is expected to be \$172,988.00, an increase of \$10,316.00. The Instructional Materials allocation is \$516,026.00, an increase of \$24,462.00. The Transportation funding is \$1,647,562.00, an increase of \$4,315.00. Teacher Lead dollars increased by \$31,115.00 to \$109,225.00, which will be approximately \$250 per teacher. Virtual Education, a new supplement, is \$8,114.00. The Teacher Salary Increase Allocation is \$1,078,073.00. This brings the total FEFP funds to \$27,373,462.00. Comparing that to the 2012-13 amended budget, this is an increase of \$2,891,624.00.

- Class Size Reduction funding is estimated to be \$6,749,364.00, a reduction of \$166,048.00.
- Other State Funding for things such as VPK, School Readiness Pre-K, etc., is included, bringing the total State funding to \$34,519,012.05, an increase of \$2,723,895.71.
- Local revenue accounts for 23% of the District's total revenue. The other 77% comes from the State and money that comes from federal funds through the State. Total Local Revenue is estimated to be \$10,649,986.15, a decrease of \$452,828.95.
- Non-Revenue Sources include Sale of Fixed Assets and Insurance Loss Recoveries for a total of \$16,000.00.
- The Total Revenue – All Sources is \$45,504,998.20, an increase of \$2,273,776.76.
- The Reserve for Categoricals is \$144,872.80. The Reserve for Encumbrances is \$145,526.82.
- The Estimated Unreserved Fund Balance as of June 30, 2013, is expected to be reported on the Annual Financial Report as \$5,194,280.83. This compares to the Unreserved Fund Balance as of June 30, 2012, of \$6,733,370.10, or a reduction to the Fund Balance of \$1,539,089.27 over the past year.
- The Total Revenues and Balances for 2013-14 are \$50,989,678.65, an increase of \$768,814.12.
- Appropriations for District/School Cost Centers total \$37,962,728.40. The State and Local Projects appropriations total \$10,179,792.64. This brings the total Appropriations for 2013-14 to \$48,142,521.04. With the addition of Projects, Categoricals and Encumbrances Brought Forward, and an estimated \$2,556,757.99 Fund Balance as of 06-30-14, the Total Appropriations & Balances and the Total Revenues are equal at \$50,989,678.65. The estimated Fund Balance of \$2,556,757.99 at June 30, 2014, would be 5.62% of Revenues.
- The Debt Service budget total is \$250,208.30.
- The budget total for the Capital Projects Fund is \$3,380,538.74. The most costly projects for 2013-14 will be the replacement of six (6) school buses, computer lab and technology purchases, replacement of the Okeechobee High School Gym Air Handler, and relamping at Osceola Middle School.
- The Food Service Fund budget is \$4,241,256.45.
- The total budget for Federal Program Funds is \$6,383,693.13.
- This brings the total budget for 2013-14 to \$65,245,375.27, an increase of \$338,348.78 from last year's budget.

Member Joe Arnold asked if the Race To The Top funds end after four (4) years or continue on. Superintendent Kenworthy responded that a no-cost extension may be available if there are any remaining funds to be expended at the end of this fiscal year. If there are no remaining funds, Race To The Top funding stops at the end of this fiscal year.

Vice Chairman Riedel commented that last year, the District was faced with spending more than its revenues, and that the same trend will continue for the 2013-14 fiscal year. She stated that caution needs to be continued with budget matters, and that the District cannot continue along the lines of

spending more than it is receiving. She stated that she is pleased that there are enough funds to cover this year, but as the margin on the fund balance gets smaller, there is need for serious concern as to where funding will come from if spending continues to exceed revenues.

Chairman Williams asked if there were any persons present to address the Board regarding the tentative budget. There were none. The Board voted unanimously to adopt the tentative budget of \$65,245,375.27 for the 2013-14 fiscal year. Chairman Williams declared the public hearing on the tentative budget for 2013-14 for the School Board of Okeechobee County to be closed.

On the recommendation of Superintendent Kenworthy and a motion by India Riedel, seconded by Malissa Morgan, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Resolution #14-02 adopting the tentative budget for fiscal year July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2014, as read into the record by Superintendent Kenworthy.

**Resolution
14-02**

A Resolution of the Okeechobee County School Board
Adopting The Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-14

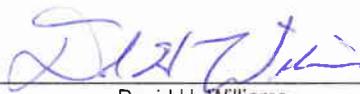
WHEREAS, the School Board of Okeechobee County, Florida, did, pursuant to Chapters 200 and 1011, Florida Statutes, approve tentative millage rates and tentative budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Okeechobee County School Board set forth the appropriations and revenue estimate for the budget for fiscal year 2013-14.

WHEREAS, at the public hearing and in full compliance with Chapter 200, Florida Statutes, the Okeechobee County School Board adopted tentative millage rates and the budget in the amount of \$65,245,375.27 for the fiscal year 2013-14.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the attached budget of the Okeechobee County School Board, including the millage rates as set forth therein, is hereby adopted by the School Board of Okeechobee County as a tentative budget for the categories indicated for the fiscal year July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2014.



David H. Williams
Chairman
Okeechobee County School Board

July 31, 2012
Date

The School Board of Okeechobee County, Florida, hereby certifies that pursuant to a notice, a meeting for public hearing was held in Room 303 of the School Board Administrative Office at 700 S.W. 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee, at 6:00 p.m. on the 30th day of July, 2013, for the purpose of discussing the proposed tentative millage and tentative budget for the 2013-14 fiscal year. The Board further certifies that it remained in session until 6:45 p.m., and that there appeared no concerned citizens at said hearing.

Information Items

A. Superintendent

- The New Teacher Breakfast is on Friday, August 9, 8:00 a.m., in the Freshman Campus Auditorium. The Board is invited to attend. Introductions begin at 8:30 a.m.
- Open House is scheduled for Thursday, August 15: Elementary Schools 5 PM to 7 PM; Middle Schools 6 PM to 8 PM, Okeechobee Achievement Academy 6 PM to 8 PM; Freshman Campus and Okeechobee High School 7 PM to 9 PM.
- The first day for students is Monday, August 19, 2013.

- School grades were released a few days ago. Okeechobee Freshman Campus earned a "B." The Okeechobee Achievement Academy received a "maintaining rating," which is a good rating. It means that the students tested as well as they would have been expected to at their home schools. The grade for Okeechobee High School is pending, as are grades for all high schools pending collection of data. High school grades should be available sometime around November. There were two "D" grades – Everglades and North Elementary Schools. All other schools earned a "C" grade. School grades dropped throughout the state. The State Board of Education adopted a rule that no school could drop more than one letter grade from last year.
- Superintendent Kenworthy provided a ranking of Florida School districts which highlighted surrounding Heartland and Treasure Coast counties. In the Treasure Coast Counties, Martin County dropped from 4th in the state to 8th, Indian River County dropped from 28th to 42nd, and St. Lucie County dropped from 50th to 52nd. In the Heartland area, Highlands County moved up from 52nd to 48th, Glades County moved up from 49th to 45th, Hendry County dropped two ranks, Hardee County dropped three ranks, and Desoto County dropped by two spots. There are now 3 counties in the Heartland area ranked lower than this District. Okeechobee made a gain of five positions in the ranking this past year to 57th. Superintendent Kenworthy stated that this is evidence that the District is moving in the right direction. Even though school grades dropped, there is progress and gains being made in classrooms. District grades went down because the standards upon which the State accountability system is based have changed significantly in the last three years. It is all part of the State's initiative to "raise the bar" for student achievement.
- The amount of instructional time at Everglades Elementary School will be increasing by 60 minutes per day at Everglades Elementary School. Superintendent Kenworthy stated that he will bring the Board a recommendation for modified starting and ending times for that school. He stated that the intention is to provide an additional 60 minutes per day in student reading instruction. Superintendent Kenworthy told the Board that he has met with Everglades' faculty, and that the news was well-received. One focus will be to look at how reading impacts the school's math scores, and additional support will be provided for the teachers at Everglades Elementary. This will all come at an increased cost which be funded in part by Supplemental Academic Instruction and Reading Allocation funds. Superintendent Kenworthy stated that the approximate cost of all of this will be \$277,000.00. Member Gay Carlton asked how many teachers at the school will be affected, and Superintendent Kenworthy responded that the entire staff will be involved. Ms. Carlton also asked if the extra hour per day must start as of the first day of school, and Superintendent Kenworthy responded that it must according to statute.

Chairman Williams commented that in looking at the school district grades, he noticed that there were no counties that increased a letter grade this past year. Vice Chairman Riedel added that no one wants to be a "D" district, but that the District has increased its ranking status. That is a positive movement and shows that the achievement level in most schools is increasing. Superintendent Kenworthy commented that the District is moving in the right direction.

Member Joe Arnold inquired about the Turn Around rule. Superintendent Kenworthy explained that there is a provision for Turn Around schools. Once a school receives an F, it has one year to show improvement. The second year it receives an F, the district is forced to make a choice. Some of those choices are: the school can be turned into a charter school, the staff could be reconstituted, or the district could present a hybrid plan to the Florida Department of Education. Mr. Arnold commented that there are 482 "F" schools in the state, and that he suspects that the increased rigor is intended to turn more public schools into charter schools. The State is setting the standards so high that they cannot be met. Mr. Kenworthy responded that he believes in accountability, but that his objection has been that the State has made too many changes too quickly. He added that the District's teachers meet and exceed the accountability requirements, but that a lot has been thrust upon them in a short period of time. Mr. Arnold agreed saying that the District's teachers are doing an incredible job keeping up with so many changes. He also commented that the public in general does not understand or see that even though school grades went down, student performance is going up.

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Member Malissa Morgan asked if parents will be able to request zone waivers to attend another elementary school in the District. Superintendent Kenworthy replied that they will be able to request a zone waiver beginning August 1. Zone waivers are approved on a first come first serve basis and depend upon availability of space at the receiving school.

B. School Board Members

- Chairman Williams asked for a reminder of the date and time of the legislative hearing for resolution of impasse for the Instructional Contract. Superintendent Kenworthy responded that the legislative hearing is scheduled for Friday, August 16, at 5:00 p.m. in the Freshman Campus Auditorium.

C. Board Attorney None

D. Public None

There being no further business to discuss, on a motion by India Riedel, seconded by Gay Carlton, the Board adjourned at 6:45 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 13, 2013, at 700 S.W. 2nd Avenue, Okeechobee, Florida.

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD



David H. Williams, Chairman



Ken Kenworthy
Superintendent of Schools