

School District of Okeechobee County

Special School Board Meeting February 2, 2018 Central Elementary School, Clewiston, FL

A special meeting of the School District of Okeechobee County School Board was held on February 2, 2018. Attendees are as follows:

Board Members:

Dixie Ball, Vice-Chair
Malissa Morgan
Amanda Riedel

Also in attendance from Okeechobee County:

Ken Kenworthy, Superintendent, Okeechobee County Schools
Renee Geeting, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services
Tom Conely, School Board Attorney
Lisa Bell, Supervisor of Food Service
Rebecca Smith, Cafeteria Manager
Julie Bass, Cafeteria Manager

Presentations and Question/Answer Sessions were facilitated by Paul Pauletti, Superintendent of Hendry County Schools, and Ronaldo Gomez, Kevin Niemann, and Erwin Evans from Sodexo.

The meeting was called to order at 10:22 a.m. by Dixie Ball. Mr. Kenworthy welcomed the group and facilitated introductions. Mr. Pauletti provided information about the contract Hendry County holds with Sodexo. He discussed retirement, uniforms, health care, menu changes, assistance in the aftermath of Irma, and the funds retained due to the contract with Sodexo. Mr. Pauletti shared that Hendry County had previously purchased food through the same power buying group used by Okeechobee County Food Service.

Mr. Gomez gave a brief presentation related to the menus available to the schools. He stated that there is a regional dietician who can work with each school individually to adjust menus and still meet the dietary requirements for the Child Nutrition Program. There is a core menu and 20% variance is allowed. The menu operates on a 21 day cycle.

At 10:50 a.m. the group commenced a visitation of the cafeteria to view feeding, marketing, and talk with students and staff.

The group arrived at Clewiston Middle School at 11:15 a.m. The group spoke with students and staff on an individual basis, observed the feeding process, marketing, and menu choices.

The group arrived at Clewiston High School at 11:52 a.m. The group spoke with students and staff on an individual basis, observed the feeding process, marketing, and menu choices. The individuals participating the tour were provided the opportunity to choose and eat lunch from the same serving lines that the students were using. The group met and discussed the sick leave policy of Sodexo (sick leave is called PTO or paid time off). Each individual earns half-day for each month worked or approximately 24 hours for a 180 day contract. All time is provided up-front and can be accessed by the employee at any time during the contracted year. Employees are paid their full contracted amount during the work calendar and are eligible for unemployment during the summer months.

LaDonna, an area manager for Sodexo, joined the group. When asked the things she believes have improved under Sodexo, she stated Safety Policies and Training. Ms. SanJuanita, the Food Service Supervisor for Hendry County, joined the group and stated that her responsibilities are filing for reimbursement and monitoring the Sodexo contract. She stated she has a secretary but no other employees in her department.

The meeting was adjourned by Malissa Morgan at 1:50 p.m.

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Signature on File _____
Jill Holcomb
Chairman

Signature on File _____
Ken Kenworthy
Superintendent of Schools