

**Bronson, FL**  
**February 28, 2017**  
**8:20 a.m.**

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The School Board of Levy County met in Executive Session this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2017 at 8:20 a.m. with Board Chair Chris Cowart, Cameron Asbell, Brad Etheridge, Rick Turner, Paige Brookins and Board Attorney Brent Hartman, present.

**Expulsion Hearings:** The Board heard information regarding recommendations for expulsions. After the School Administrators Matthew McLelland and Gary Masters had given testimony, the following actions were taken by the Board.

**Student 17-12** (mother and student present): After discussion from the Board Members, Paige Brookins moved with second by Cameron Asbell to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to expel the student for the remainder of the 2016-2017 SY and 2017-2018 SY, with the opportunity to attend the Levy Learning Academy, and receive counseling for Anger Management. Motion carried.

**Student 17-13** (mother and student present): After discussion from the Board Members, Brad Etheridge moved with second by Cameron Asbell to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to expel the student for the remainder of the 2016-2017 SY and 2017-2018 SY, without educational services. Paige Brookins, Rick Turner, Brad Etheridge and Cameron Asbell voted “yes”. Chairman Chris Cowart voted “no”; therefore, the affirmative votes carry to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent.

## **REGULAR SESSION 6:00 p.m.**

The School Board of Levy County met in Regular Session this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. with Board Chair Chris Cowart, Cameron Asbell, Brad Etheridge, Rick Turner, Paige Brookins and Board Attorney Brent Hartman, present.

**Adoption of Agenda:** For good cause, Chairman Chris Cowart asked that the Agenda be amended to postpone item E) CES School Presentation – Lacy Redd, and to re-alphabetize the remainder of the items on the agenda. Rick Turner moved to amend the Agenda, second by Cameron Asbell. Brad Etheridge moved to approve the amended agenda, second by Rick Turner, motion carried.

**Welcome Visitors:** Board Chairman Chris Cowart welcomed all the visitors and asked if anyone from the audience who would like to address the Board. There were none.

**Unity Family Community Center Update:** Mrs. Sharon Battles, CEO of the Unity Family Community Center said they are a non-profit organization and have been located in Williston for 15 years. She read their Mission Statement and informed the Board about different projects they do for students, parents and the community. Their program includes tutoring and mentoring students. She introduced Angie Phillips, BMHS School Nurse. She said the School Health Plan works with Unity to keep 7<sup>th</sup> grade students updated on health issues and STD prevention. Mrs. Phillips said YTS expanded their program to include the 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Mrs. Phillips said Unity was a strong support for the CK family after losing their son. The Board thanked Mrs. Battles and Unity Family Community Center for their support in assisting students with health education.

**Transportation Update and Recognition:** Bruce Greenlee recognized and thanked the Board for their support of Transportation and bussing. He gave them “LoveTheBus.com” certificates. He said Transportation has been able to decrease spending costs by consolidating bus routes. He said we have a bus driver shortage, but his drivers are very dedicated employees and take on extra routes to ensure coverage. Bruce recognized Ms. Ruth Foley and showed a video of how well she handled the situation with a bus accident and her calmness. He recognized

several drivers and employees, Mike and Windy Ahrens, Ann Bowen, Terell Burge, Verdell James, Carol Jentsch, Joan Miller, Lois Nygard, Tiffany Roberts, Tina Berryhill Young, Virginia Floyd, Kelly Warhurst and Ann Wood. He thanked Joe Wain for his support. He thanked everyone for their dedication and being part of the “Transportation Team”.

**Purchasing Bid:** Gerald Ward, Coordinator of Purchasing, asked the Board for permission to advertise for bids for the open-air red iron buildings for the playgrounds at BES and WES. He said construction of these buildings will take place over the summer, while students are out of school. After discussion, Cameron Asbell moved, second by Brad Etheridge to advertise for the iron buildings for BES and WES, motion carried.

**Permission to Declare old WMS Property Surplus:** Superintendent Edison requested permission to declare WMS campus and property surplus to be surveyed and advertised for sell. Paige Brookins asked about the equipment. Mr. Edison informed the Board that we will keep the usable equipment, but some equipment is not usable. After discussion, Brad Etheridge moved, second by Rick Turner to declare the old WMS school campus and property surplus, to be surveyed and advertised to sell. Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda:** Paige Brookins, moved to approve the Consent Agenda, second by Cameron Asbell, motion carried.

**1. GENERAL ITEMS:**

**a) Employee Status Changes / Recommendations:**

1. Tina Marie Jacono, WMHS Lunchroom Worker, 6.5 hours, *transfer* to BES Lunchroom Worker, 6.5 hours, *effective* February 16, 2017, *replacing* Carey Strickland.
2. Clarence Powell, WES Head Custodian, *resignation effective* February 21, 2017, and *payment* for any unused leave, *original* hire date August 6, 2013.
3. Charlotte Andrews, CES Teacher, resignation from employment to *participate in DROP*, effective March 1, 2017, and ending on February 28, 2022.

**b) Family Medical Leave Requests:**

1. **(Previously Board Approved February 14, 2017)** – Krista Hill, WES Teacher, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, February 27, 2017 – April 7, 2017, *amend ending date to* April 13, 2017.

**c) Illness-in-Line-of-Duty Requests:**

1. Christina Story, CMHS Teacher, ESE, February 16, 2017 (all day) and February 17, 2017 (3 hours).
2. **(Previously Board Approved February 14, 2017)** – Venisa Scott, Transportation Bus Driver Aide, February 14-17, 2017, *amend ending date to* February 24, 2017.

**d) Personal Leave in Excess of Six (6) Days:**

1. **(Previously Board Approved February 14, 2017)** - Steven McCormick, BMHS Teacher, Science, February 3-14, 2017 *amend to add* February 15, 2017 – March 21, 2017.

**e) Professional Leave Requests:**

1. Dr. Rosalind Hall, District Director ESE / SS, Committee For Education of Exceptional Students Training and meeting with State Legislators, March 19-21, 2017, Tallahassee, travel

expenses paid from Project #40230 F2017.

2. Florida Division on Career Development and Transition for Students with Disabilities Conference, May 3-5, 2017, St. Petersburg, FL., registration fees paid from Project #40230 F2017, hotel paid from Project #49296 F2017, and mileage paid from Project #40234 F2017, for the following:
  - Dr. Rosalind Hall, Director of ESE / SS
  - Elizabeth Kennelly Smith, ESE / SS Behavior Specialist
  - Kimberley McLean, ESE / SS Teacher, Visually Impaired
3. Leigh Paige Mace, District ESE / SS SEDNET Project Manager, Florida Division on Career Development and Transition for Students with Disabilities Conference, May 3-5, 2017, St. Petersburg, FL., registration fees and travel expenses paid from Project #40234 F2017.
4. Catherine Sturgill, WMHS Teacher, Social Studies, Spring Planning Meeting for the National Junior Classical League, March 3-5, 2017, Boston, MA. Substitute and all travel expenses covered by National Junior Classical League, no cost to Board, any reimbursements paid from Project #14890.
5. Cara Holt, YTS Teacher, Reading Coach, Presenting at the International Teacher Leadership Conference, a requirement of the UF Lastinger Center Teacher Leader Fellows Group, March 1-3, 2017, Miami, FL., registration and all travel expenses paid by UF Lastinger Center for Learning or Project #14890, no cost to Board.

**f) Student Trip Requests:**

1. CMHS HOSA Students, HOSA State Competition, April 6-8, 2017, Orlando, FL., Chaperones Raquel Beauchamp, Lloyd DeVault, Florida's State Advisor, Becky Thomas, Jennifer Driggers, Dixie County High School, 15 students, one county bus, travel expenses paid from Project #15300.

**g) Administrative Services:**

1. Contracts and / or Agreements:
  - a. 2016-2017 Curriculum Associates, LLC, paid from Title I Project #42412 F2017. (Attachment)
  - b. FLDOE Level II School Principal Preparation Program. (Attachment)

**2. FINANCE:**

- a) Budget Amendments. 4B (Attachments).
- b) Self-Insurance Funds Actuarial Valuation as of December 31, 2016.

**Superintendent's Comments / Recommendations:** Mr. Edison shared the final results of the Gala with the Board. He said the Foundation grossed \$38,000. He thanked Donna Turner and Annie Whitehurst for everything they did to ensure the success of the Gala. He thanked all the schools for the baskets, gifts, and students who assisted during the Gala. Mr. Edison asked Anna Kroll, Interim Director of Finance to update the Board regarding the Budget and Payroll. Anna informed the Board that we anticipate a Budget shortage by June 2017, but she will know more as we get closer to June. She said we have the authority to file for a Tax Anticipation Note or a Line of Credit Loan. She said the money could be borrowed in June 2017 and repaid in January 2018, but would have to be advertised for bids.

**Board Comments:** Paige Brookins said the Gala was wonderful and the donations from the schools were outstanding. She thanked Care Here for doing a great job. Rick Turner said the students in Levy County are

expected to behave or there will be consequences. Brad Etheridge agreed with Mr. Turner. He said teachers should not have to deal with disruptive students. He said the Gala was very nice and he talked about FFA week. He said the students assisted with road clean up and they picked up several bags of garbage from the Philpot Way. He said his daughter is graduating this year, so he gets to see what all is involved with graduation. Superintendent Edison said the senior graduation walk through the schools is a very important event for all the students. Cameron Asbell said the Gala was great, but he especially appreciates being made aware of how much money was grossed and profited. He shared a concern from a grandmother about drugs and concerns with students at BMHS. He said he appreciates the dedicated work of the Levy County Law Enforcement, the SRO, Mr. Masters and Ms. Cheryl Allen to clean up students and their behavior. Chris Cowart reminded everyone that state testing began today and we need to avoid disruptions. He said testing is from February 28<sup>th</sup> through the end of the school year. Mr. Cowart said it is a pleasure to announce the Sunshine State Scholar from Cedar Key School, Emilie Lavoie-Ingram. He thanked Nature Coast Financial for donating the cruise for the Gala, which was all profit. He thanked Donna Turner, Annie Whitehurst, and the Foundation Committee for a wonderful Gala.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned with the Board going into Executive Session.

**School Visit – LLA:** After Executive Session, the Board visited LLA.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

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Jeffery R. Edison, Secretary

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Chris Cowart, Board Chairman