



RECOGNITION/  
PRESENTATION/  
REPORT

Character Education Student Art Award

Dr. Bill Cliett, deputy superintendent, noted that this month's character trait is "Responsibility." Artwork from Idylwild Elementary School and Waldo Community School is displayed in the Boardroom.

Ms. Sharon Spreen, coordinator, Alachua Schools Build Character (ABC) program, announced that the district-designed program has begun its second year of implementation, K-12, and that character education is the plate for developing successful young people academically and morally. Students were asked to draw pictures of what the monthly character trait means to them. She introduced to the Board Caroline Thomas, fourth grade, Idylwild Elementary School, and Rachel Velez, fifth grade, Waldo Community School, who were selected for this month's award.

Archer ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Mr. Keith Birkett, deputy superintendent, announced that Archer Community School held a ribbon cutting ceremony on October 4, 2001, to dedicate their new classrooms and food service building.

Dr. Leon Henderson, principal, presented a short video on the celebration that expressed the faculty, staff and community's happiness and appreciation for the facilities.

Revenue Update

Mr. Birkett noted that the state is facing a severe revenue shortfall and to get the message out, staff is available to go to the schools and share this information with the faculties, staff and parents. The majority of the dollars received this year were in categoricals and the dollars left over were not sufficient to cover inflationary increases this year. He announced that based on information received today that over the next two years, the state is facing up to a \$3 billion shortfall in revenue. Anticipated for the district for next year is a \$1.6 million deficit in addition to the \$1.4 million anticipated deficit for this year. Our projected FTE in January was 28,492 students. The preliminary numbers in the system today total 28,515. That's is 23 more unweighted FTE than our projections. The charter schools and DJJ centers have increased 167 over last year's count. Our staff is based on allocation formulas and Southern Association requirements. The allocations were balanced today and actually show, based on the formulas, there are about six less teachers than what are called for by the formulas.

### School Improvement Highlights

Dr. Cliett gave a brief update on the School Improvement process. The School Improvement Plans (SIP) for 2000-2001 school year were approved on August 20 and the new School Advisory Council (SAC) members began their terms. Mr. Don Lewis, director, SIP, has made visits to 12 different school sites since September to let SAC members know about the district level of support and offer technical assistance. Two district training sessions have been given and another is scheduled. The purpose of this training is to look at site-based planning and how school plans should be aligned with the district Strategic Plan. All schools will submit a mid-year review of school improvement plans on January 25, an opportunity for schools to indicate progress toward the implementation of their plans and describe any needed modification or request assistance.

Spring Hill Middle School—Mr. Holt Browning, principal, thanked the Board for the opportunity to showcase Spring Hill Middle School (SHMS) and introduced SAC co-chairs, Emily Hines and Kim Rosenboom. The co-chairs noted that SHMS provides a close-knit family atmosphere and that a video taped about the school two years ago was awarded the prestigious Sunshine Medallion award from the state superintendent's association. The video is used as a valuable communication tool, e.g., during fifth grade orientation and back to school night, visiting parents and students view the tape, as well as students registering during the year and first time teachers to SHMS. A five-minute version of the tape was presented.

Loften High School—Dr. Ellen West, principal, introduced the school's resource officer and member of the SAC, Deputy Alex Branneman, who presented a power point on career and technical areas available at Loften.

For high school programs at Loften, students are screened for academic ability and good conduct. New to the school is the Academy of Information Technology. Loften is a magnet "school of choice" with an automotive technology program and dropout prevention programs (ACCEPT--teen parents; OMEGA--older students 16-22; VIP--younger students 14-19). There are three (3) levels of adult programs--basic, secondary and GED.

Loften's customer-friendly features include starting time--9:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m.; night school Tuesdays and Thursdays 6-8:30 p.m.; curriculum competency based; flexible scheduling; use of Florida Virtual High School on line; two graduations each year--December and May; a small school setting with a comfortable and safe environment; and it has a unique on-site licensed daycare program. Athletics include track, cross-country, and weight lifting.

Loften's main goal is the success of the students. The Board was also given a glimpse of an integrated curriculum project—a bat house on campus built by science, math and carpentry teachers and students.

Take Your Parents to School Week

Ms. Grace White, public information officer, announced that November 11-17, 2001, is American Education Week, and it is an opportunity to invite parents to be involved in their child's education and focus on the positive learning examples in Florida schools.

SCHEDULED AGENCIES There were no scheduled agencies.

CITIZEN INPUT The following suggestions/comments/concerns were presented to the Board:

- Citizen presented suggestions to the Board for more involvement by citizens and as a result possibly solve some major school problems: a new attitude toward the public; a hospitable place to meet; a sincere invitation to contribute to solutions of school problems; an eagerness to hear what they have to say; and a gesture of appreciation.
- ACEA president passed out a handout that addressed three issues: the requirements and the distribution of the \$850 bonus for teachers as outlined in Florida Statutes; and renovation of school board offices.
- High school teacher suggested Board members substitute in the schools a few days each semester and administrators teach one class a day.
- Citizen complimented the Board on the school program presentations and the district legislative program. Suggested Board members attend the special session of the Legislature. Feels it is inappropriate to hold discussion during citizen input. Don't give raises to anyone when there are no raises for non-instructional personnel. Feels it is inappropriate for the union to use School Board meetings for collective bargaining.
- Citizen addressed the infusion of African-American history into the curriculum. Does not feel the committee to develop the curriculum resource guide has any authority since it is not headed up by a line officer nor attended by any Board member.
- Elementary teacher expressed concern about the money and the funding, and the things that have been purchased when there are needs not being met in the classrooms.

PROCLAMATION-RED  
RIBBON WEEK

Ms. Grace White read a Proclamation proclaiming the week of October 22-26, 2001, as Red Ribbon Week.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mrs. Carroll

Moved the administration's recommendation to approve the Proclamation proclaiming October 22-26, 2001, as Red Ribbon Week.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CONSTRUCTION  
MANAGEMENT  
SERVICES DESIGN  
PHASE FEE FOR  
PROJECT SBAC CB734-  
EASTSIDE HIGH  
SCHOOL NEW  
CLASSROOM  
BUILDING

Mr. Ed Gable, director, Facilities, noted that on September 18, 2001, the Board approved W.G. Mills, Inc., Jacksonville, Florida, as the Construction Manager for this project.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mrs. Carroll

Moved the administration's recommendation to approve a lump sum fee of \$42,200 for Design Phase services.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

DISTRICT FACILITIES  
FIVE-YEAR WORK  
PROGRAM

Mr. Gable noted that the program represents a five-year schedule of major repair, renovation and capital outlay projects together with projections of available revenue. The district must submit this program annually to the Department of Education and may revise the program at any time to reflect new project priorities and available revenue.

Mr. Gable briefly reviewed the Facilities Five-Year Work Program.

Motion by Mr. Cake

Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved the administration's recommendation to approve the Facilities Five-Year Work Program for submission to the Department of Education.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mr. Cake

Moved to approve the consent agenda as described in items 1-19. (See Supplementary Minutes Book.)

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

BOARD MEMBERS/  
SUPERINTENDENT  
REQUESTS

There were no Board Member/Superintendent requests.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.