

THE CONSORTIUM FOR
FAMILY, SCHOOL,
COMMUNITY
COLLABORATION

Dr. Buffy Bondy, chair, Consortium for Family School Community Collaboration, shared information related to the Consortium and their activities. The mission of the Consortium is to promote the success of struggling elementary school students through the development and coordination of resources from schools, families, and the community. The Consortium grew out of partnerships between the College of Education faculty and several local elementary schools.

Several projects of the Consortium include: Link experts to schools for long-term collaborations; disseminate information about professional development opportunities; prepare public school volunteers as reading tutors, and link education component of community after-school programs to academic programs in local schools.

ALACHUA COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FOUNDATION—2001
SCHOLARSHIPS

Mr. Brent Williams, executive director, Alachua County Public Schools Foundation, announced that earlier this evening the Foundation awarded a total of 56 scholarships representing over \$97,000 in aid to students to further their education, both in academic pursuits and vocational training.

Mrs. Sharpe was elated to have sponsored, in conjunction with Santa Fe Community College, a new scholarship that was awarded to a Newberry High School student at the awards ceremony.

CITIZEN INPUT

A citizen expressed concern with the lack of instruction on African American history being taught in the public schools and urged the Board to implement curriculum designed to instruct students on African American history, as mandated by law.

MASTER PLAN
PRESENTATION FOR
PROJECT SBAC
CA636—GLEN SPRINGS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MASTER PLAN

Mr. Ed Gable, director, Facilities, presented the Glen Springs Elementary School Master Plan. He noted that both Glen Springs and Rawlings Elementary Schools are similar projects and the committees have worked together to develop similar plans. He thanked the committees for their efforts.

Representatives from Craig Salley & Associates, Inc., presented the Glen Springs Elementary School Master Plan.

Motion by Mr. Cake

Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved the administration's recommendation to approve the Glen Springs Elementary School Master Plan prepared by Craig Salley & Associates, Inc., Gainesville, Florida, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

MASTER PLAN
PRESENTATION FOR
PROJECT SBAC
CA638—RAWLINGS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MASTER PLAN

Representatives from Craig Salley & Associates, Inc., presented the Rawlings Elementary School Master Plan.

As the Board's representative on the master plan committee, Mrs. Carroll recently attended a faculty meeting at Rawlings at which several staff members expressed concern and questioned why Glen Springs was being funded in the first COPs issue. Rawlings was informed that they would not be funded until the next COPs issuance. She pointed out that both groups expected to be funded together and requested Superintendent Chambers research this issue and report back to the Board on the funding of these two projects. She also suggested staff be more diligent when sister projects are involved.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mr. Cake

Moved the administration's recommendation to approve the Rawlings Elementary School Master Plan prepared by Craig Salley & Associates, Inc., Gainesville, Florida, as presented.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

GRANT FOR
ADDITIONAL OFFICERS
IN SCHOOL

Ms. Donna Omer, director, Project Development, reported that there is approximately 130 million dollars available to law enforcement agencies nationwide to hire community police officers to work with primary and secondary schools. The initiative provides an incentive for the law enforcement agencies to build a working relationship with schools to use community police efforts to combat school violence.

The COPS in the Schools program will award grants to provide a designated portion of the salaries and benefits for each new officer hired. The district currently has a COPS program with the Gainesville Police Department (GPD) with three officers housed at Gainesville High School, A. Quinn Jones Center, and one officer that floats between Mebane and Spring Hill Middle Schools.

The Alachua County Sheriff's Department (ASO) is willing to apply for COPS in the Schools funding for up to four officers. They would be assigned to Santa Fe High and Mebane Middle Schools, and two Officer Friendly deputies at the elementary level. ASO is requesting that the district make a good faith effort to assume 100% of the officers' salaries for a total of \$229,160 beginning in the fall of 2002.

She stated that the administration is recommending that the district make a good faith effort to assume up to 50% of the officers' salaries for a total of \$114,580 at the end of the grant.

Major Jim Eckert, ASO, stated that what drives the School Resource Deputy program is money and it takes money to have the appropriate levels of security. He informed the Board that an opportunity arose for ASO to apply for this grant in a partnership with the School Board. ASO is requesting that the School Board, once the grant expires, assume the expenses, which would be the cost of the salaries. He informed the Board that ASO does not have the money in their budget at this time to handle this expense when the grant expires and requested the Board's assistance.

Mrs. Sharpe pointed out how the School Board and ASO both depend on the Legislature for funding and informed Major Eckert that the School Board also is short of money.

Major Eckert suggested the Board might assist ASO with less than four deputies, but they would apply for four. He expressed concern that Spring Hill and Mebane Middle Schools are sharing a deputy and would like to correct the situation and assign a deputy to each of those schools.

Responding to Mrs. Sharpe's question related to the funding mechanism used by other school districts in the state to fund SRO programs, Mr. William "Bear" Bryan, District Security Chief, provided information from the Florida School Resource Officer survey, which reports that there are 1,144 SROs within the state. Fifty percent of the counties in the state reported that their SRO program is funded 50/50 between law enforcement and school boards.

Major Eckert noted that the cost of supervision is also included in the cost of the deputies (three sergeants and a lieutenant that supervises them).

Mr. Cake stated that he is not opposed to the recommendation of 50%, but felt that the School Board and ASO should be appealing to the legislature to provide funding for the SRO program they have mandated.

Major Eckert pointed out the deadline to apply for the grant is May 11.

Mr. Cake noted that no one on this Board has indicated the program is not needed.

Chairman Leathers agreed with Mr. Cake that the Board and ASO should actively pursue discussing this issue with the legislature and have them fund the SRO program.

Mrs. Carroll stated that the Board should move forward and commit to providing the school safety for the next three years and in the meantime find new funding sources, i.e., grants, safety monies, legislature, etc. She believes that safety is a community issue and the Board should let the community know that it is difficult to fund and ask for help.

She suggested that the School Board, ASO and Juvenile Justice meet and discuss funding and safety issues. She requested that staff write a letter to Tallahassee and relate the impact of grant-funded school safety programs and the effects on the School Board, ASO and GPD and circulate the letter in the community.

Dr. Gunnar Paulson, president, ACEA, agreed that this is the perfect issue to bring the public together and ask the state to fund school safety.

Superintendent Chambers thanked Major Eckert for his presentation and also commended the school resource officers for the manner in which they work in the schools.

She informed the Board that the district has been proactive and is developing a safe schools plan by hiring consultants from the National Institute of Workplace Safety to review the current safety program and determine what is needed to develop an improved districtwide safety plan and staffing patterns.

Superintendent Chambers requested that the School Board proceed with the grant, fund the program 50/50 and allow staff to continue to work with ASO, the district's security chief and the safety consultants to develop alternative funding sources, and also send a letter to the legislature.

Motion by Mr. Cake

Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved the administration's recommendation that the School Board make a good faith effort in the fall of 2004 to assume up to 50% of the additional officers' salaries.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

As per Mr. Cake's suggestion, Mrs. Sharpe agreed to bring the issue of school safety up at the general membership of the Florida School Boards Association.

Mrs. Sharpe stated that a partnership is a good faith effort on both

sides; it is not a demand for one side to pay 100% of something. She urged the Board to be certain that when the term partnership is used, it should be an equal partnership and she did not see this issue as being quite a partnership.

Mrs. Carroll suggested that Juvenile Justice become part of this partnership.

Superintendent Chambers assured Major Eckert that the district will work very diligently to come up with alternative funding sources.

SCHOOL CALENDAR
2002-2003 SCHOOL
YEAR—FIRST
READING

Motion by Mr. Cake

Seconded by Mrs. Sharpe

Moved the administration's recommendation to schedule a public hearing 7:30 p.m., May 15, 2001, for consideration of the 2002-2003 School Calendar.

The Board was also presented with a copy of the Summer School Calendar for 2002 for consideration.

Mrs. Carroll requested that copies of the proposed 2002-2003 School Calendar be sent to PTA presidents, teachers and SAC chairs, and on the district's web site.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

NEW JOB DESCRIPTION
FOR CONSTRUCTION
INSPECTOR FOR
SAFETY—SECOND
READING

Dr. Leila Pratt, director, Human Resources, reported that a new job description is needed for the position of Construction Inspector for Safety. This job description was inadvertently omitted when the entire job description manual was revised and presented to the Board for adoption on February 5, 1995. The employee who has occupied this position recently submitted his resignation. In order to advertise the vacant position, a job description must exist. The new job description was approved for advertising March 20, 2001.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mrs. Carroll

Moved the administration's recommendation to approve the new job description as advertised.

The question was called.

Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

NEW/REVISED JOB
DESCRIPTIONS—FIRST
READING

Dr. Pratt reported that one new job description and three revised job descriptions are needed for the ESE area. Changes in DOE policy and changes as a result of the career Service Salary Study need to be

incorporated. The job descriptions establish work responsibilities for career service and professional/technical positions.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe

Seconded by Mrs. Carroll

Moved the administration's recommendation to approve the new/revised job descriptions for advertising.

A sign language interpreter requested an amendment to the Sign Language Interpreter job description, under Performance Responsibilities, last sentence, change the word "Should" to "Must" to read: "Must follow the Florida Code of Ethics for Educational Interpreters."

An additional concern related to the Sign Language Facilitator job description, which is felt to be a re-adaptation of the interpreter job description, was noted that the facilitator does not require testing or certification at the state or county level, and they do not follow a Code of Ethics.

The employee stated that the position of interpreter is being reviewed at the state level, but the concern at the local level is that it has been very difficult for the past few years for the Board to hire certified interpreters. The facilitator position may be seen as a way to solve the inability to hire professionally certified interpreters and hire a facilitator to do the job of an interpreter. The Board was urged to hire certified interpreters in place of facilitators.

Dr. Pratt assured the Board and employee that was not the intent of the facilitator job description.

The mover and the seconder agreed to the amendment to the Sign Language Interpreter job description, under Performance Responsibilities, last sentence, change the word "Should" to "Must" to read: "Must follow the Florida Code of Ethics for Educational Interpreters."

Discussion took place on the qualifications and duties of a facilitator as opposed to an interpreter.

Dr. Rene Spesiman, director, ESE, stated that it has been very difficult to find and hire certified sign language interpreters. She noted that most districts are in the same position and are hiring facilitators to meet the needs of the deaf and hard of hearing students.

Responding to a question from Mrs. Sharpe, the interpreter stated that certification is done on a statewide level and the certification team travels to different areas in the state.

Mrs. Carroll requested the following:

- (1) Staff make every effort to hire certified interpreters.
- (2) Return to the Board for review when the state comes up with a resolution.
- (3) Also add Code of Ethics statement to the Sign Language Facilitator job description.

Superintendent Chambers assured the Board that staff will continue to make every effort to provide services for all students, and by adding the position of Facilitator is one method to ensure the district has adequate personnel to provide those services.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

STUDENT CASE
NO. 01-29-SB

Dr. Jim Scaggs, staff attorney, reported that the student is charged with persistent misconduct while riding the school bus.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe Seconded by Mrs. Carroll

Moved the superintendent's recommendation to extend the student's suspension from the bus through May 15, 2001.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

STUDENT CASE
NO. 01-30-SB

Dr. Scaggs reported that the student is charged with a Level IV violation of the Code of Student Conduct while riding the school bus.

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe Seconded by Mr. Cake

Moved the superintendent's recommendation to suspend the student's suspension from the bus through May 15, 2001.

The question was called. Upon Vote: Motion passed 5-0

STUDENT CASE
NO. 01-31-X

Dr. Scaggs reported that the student is charged with disorderly conduct (a major campus disruption).

Motion by Mrs. Sharpe Seconded by Mrs. Carroll

Moved the superintendent's recommendation to extend the student's suspension through May 15, 2001.

STUDENT CASE NO. 01-32-X	<p>The question was called. <u>Upon Vote:</u> Motion passed 5-0</p> <p>Dr. Scaggs reported that the student is charged with disorderly conduct (a major campus disruption).</p>
	<p><u>Motion by</u> Mrs. Sharpe <u>Seconded by</u> Mr. Cake</p>
	<p><u>Moved the</u> superintendent's recommendation to extend the student's suspension through May 15, 2001.</p>
STUDENT CASE NO. 01-35-X	<p>The question was called. <u>Upon Vote:</u> Motion passed 5-0</p> <p>Dr. Scaggs reported that the student is charged with a Level IV violation of the Code of Student Conduct.</p>
	<p><u>Motion by</u> Mr. Cake <u>Seconded by</u> Mrs. Sharpe</p>
	<p><u>Moved the</u> superintendent's recommendation to extend the student's suspension through May 15, 2001.</p>
CONSENT AGENDA	<p>The question was called. <u>Upon Vote:</u> Motion passed 5-0</p> <p><u>Motion by</u> Mr. Cake <u>Seconded by</u> Mrs. Sharpe</p>
	<p><u>Moved to</u> approve the consent agenda as described in items 1-9. (See Supplementary Minutes Book.)</p>
BOARD MEMBERS/ SUPERINTENDENT REQUESTS	<p>The question was called. <u>Upon Vote:</u> Motion passed 5-0</p> <p>Mr. Cake thanked Superintendent Chambers and Deputy Superintendent Bill Cliett for responding to citizen concerns in a timely and efficient manner and informing Board members of the status of concerns.</p> <p>He requested that the response received from Mr. Gable related to the Wiles Elementary School odor problem be mailed to the parent.</p> <p>Mrs. Carroll requested Superintendent Chambers provide Teacher of the Year, Scott Flamand, with release time next year to promote recruitment by speaking to service clubs and community groups.</p> <p>Mr. Cake suggested appointing Mr. Flamand as a Teacher on Special Assignment to also go into the classrooms.</p>

Mrs. Sharpe reminded Board members that a Master Board Reinstatement training session is scheduled Monday, May 7, 2001, 9 a.m. at the Sivia Center.

Superintendent Chambers informed the Board that she will follow-up on Mrs. Carroll's and Mr. Cake's suggestion to utilize Mr. Flamand in the classroom and replicate his efforts in the community.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.