



11 22 2016 Reorganization Meeting 9 00 AM

For ADA assistance, contact the Office of Equity and Compliance, 534-0781, at least 3 business days before the meeting. A voluntary invocation may be offered before the opening of the School Board meeting by a private citizen. The views or beliefs expressed in the invocation have not been reviewed nor approved by the School Board, and the Board is not allowed, by law, to endorse the religious beliefs or view of this, or any other speaker.

Pledge of Allegiance

Call Meeting to Order

Acceptance of Agenda

1. [Accept the Agenda of the November 22, 2016 Reorganization Meeting](#)

Motions:

Motion to accept the Agenda for the November 22, 2016 Reorganization Meeting. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Lori Cunningham

Second: Hazel Sellers

Tim Harris - Absent

Lori Cunningham - Aye

Kay Fields - Aye

Sara Beth Reynolds - Aye

Hazel Sellers - Aye

Billy Townsend - Aye

Special Recognitions

Public Comments on Agenda Items

2. [SPEAKER](#)

Approval of Minutes

Oath of Office

3. [Billy Townsend, School Board Member - District 1](#)

Minutes: Mr. Townsend thanked his wife for her support during the campaign for School Board Member that was a long and intense period in their lives. He looks forward to working on behalf of the students of Polk County and is excited to work with the other members of the Board to bring forth some new energy and new ideas as well as build on good practices that are already in place.

4. [Lori Cunningham, School Board Member - District 2](#)

Minutes: Mrs. Cunningham shared her excitement to be reelected as Board Member in the recent primary. She thanked the community and especially her family. Her husband is a teacher in the Polk School District and her daughter attends Harrison School for the Arts. She stated she will continue to work hard to support the wonderful students and teachers in Polk schools. She also recognized the Superintendent and her staff for all of their hard work to ensure the students of Polk County have the best education.

5. [Sara Beth Reynolds, School Board Member - District 4](#)

Minutes: Ms. Reynolds thanked all of those who attended the meeting as well as those in the community for all of their love and support. She stated it has been quite a journey the last few months but she is very excited to move forward and see what she can do to help Polk County Schools.

Reorganization of the Board

6. [Election of Chairman](#)

Minutes:

Superintendent Byrd called for the nominations for Chairman.

- Lori Cunningham nominated Kay Fields.
- Billy Townsend nominated Lynn Wilson.

As there were no other nominations, a motion to cease nominations was requested.

Motions:

Motion to close nominations.

- PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Lori Cunningham

Second: Lynn Wilson

Tim Harris - Absent

Lori Cunningham - Aye

Kay Fields - Aye

Sara Beth Reynolds - Aye

Hazel Sellers - Aye

Billy Townsend - Aye

Lynn Wilson - Aye

Motion Minutes:

Votes for Kay Fields as Board Chair:

A roll call vote, by district, followed beginning with the first candidate nominated which was Kay Fields.

Billy Townsend -- Nay

Lori Cunningham -- Aye

Kay Fields -- Aye

Sara Reynolds -- Aye

Hazel Sellers -- Aye

Lynn Wilson -- Nay

Tim Harris -- Absent

Mrs. Fields received the majority vote, therefore, she will represent the School Board as Board Chair for 2016-2017.

7. [Election of Vice Chairman](#)

Minutes:

Nominees for Vice Chair:

Lori Cunningham nominated Lynn Wilson for Vice Chairperson.

There were no other nominations.

Motions:

Motion to close nominations. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Lori Cunningham

Second: Hazel Sellers

Tim Harris - Absent

Lori Cunningham - Aye

Kay Fields - Aye

Sara Beth Reynolds - Aye

Hazel Sellers - Aye

Billy Townsend - Aye

Lynn Wilson - Aye

Motions:

Motion appointing Lynn Wilson as Vice Chair. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion:

Second:

Tim Harris - Absent

Lori Cunningham - Aye

Kay Fields - Aye

Sara Beth Reynolds - Aye

Hazel Sellers - Aye

Billy Townsend - Aye

Lynn Wilson - Aye

8. [Designation of Time, Date, and Place of School Board Meetings](#)

Motions:

Motion to hold Work Sessions on the second and fourth Tuesdays in the Superintendent's Conference Room at 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM, respectively. School Board Meetings will be held on the fourth Tuesday at 5:00 PM in the School Board Auditorium located at 1915 S. Floral Avenue, Bartow, Fl. - PASS

Additional meetings of the School Board will be scheduled as needed.

Vote Results

Motion: Kay Fields

Second: Lori Cunningham

Tim Harris - Absent

Lori Cunningham - Aye

Kay Fields - Aye

Sara Beth Reynolds - Aye

Hazel Sellers - Aye

Billy Townsend - Aye

Lynn Wilson - Aye

9. [Resolution 2016/2017-05, Warrents Drawn Against School Funds](#)

Attachment: [Resolution 2016-2017 05 - Reorganization.pdf](#)

Motions:
Motion to approve Resolution 2016/2017-05, authorizing Bank of Polk County Florida to honor and cash warrants signed by the Board Chair and Secretary to the School Board. - PASS

Vote Results
Motion: Lori Cunningham
Second: Hazel Sellers

Tim Harris	- Absent
Lori Cunningham	- Aye
Kay Fields	- Aye
Sara Beth Reynolds	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye
Billy Townsend	- Aye
Lynn Wilson	- Aye

10. [Proceedings of School Board Meetings](#)

Motions:
Motion to approve that proceedings of the School Board Meetings will be held in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, and Rules of the Administrative Procedures Act. - PASS

Vote Results
Motion: Kay Fields
Second: Lynn Wilson

Tim Harris	- Absent
Lori Cunningham	- Aye

Kay Fields	- Aye
Sara Beth Reynolds	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye
Billy Townsend	- Aye
Lynn Wilson	- Aye

Approval of Consent Agenda

New Administrator Announcements

Consent

Regular

Public Hearing

Superintendent's Report

11. [Superintendent's Comments](#)

Minutes: The Superintendent shared the following reminders for meetings in the month of December:

A Special School Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 13, at 10:00 am in the School Board Auditorium. There will also be a Work Session at 12:30 pm in the Superintendent's Large Conference Room followed by a School Board Meeting in the School Board Auditorium at 5:00 pm.

Attorney's Report

12. [Attorney's Report](#)

Minutes:

Frederick Murphy, Counsel for the Board, welcomed the new Board Members. He discussed the contract dispute regarding the credit recovery services offered by Atlantic Education Partners, Inc. and Acceleration Academies, LLC. Despite efforts to resolve the dispute amicably, further legal action is inevitable. He requested a closed door

attorney/client session to discuss this matter at the Work Session scheduled for December 13. The content will be confined to settlement negotiations and strategies related to litigation expenditures and the entire session will be recorded by a court reporter.

13. [Motion for Declaratory Relief](#)

Minutes:

Frederick Murphy, Counsel for the Board, asked the School Board Members to authorize necessary actions to protect the District's interests including but not limited to a motion to file for declaratory judgment action against Atlantic Education Partners, Inc. and Acceleration Academies, LLC. in the Circuit Court of Polk County. Among the issues that need to be sorted out by the judge is whether the District should be compelled to continue to arbitrate the disputes and any other incidental items as amended. He also stated he would like further in depth discussion to take place at the closed door session on December 13.

Motions:

Motion to file declaratory judgment action and any other incidental items as amended. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Lynn Wilson

Second: Hazel Sellers

Tim Harris	- Absent
Lori Cunningham	- Aye
Kay Fields	- Aye
Sara Beth Reynolds	- Aye
Hazel Sellers	- Aye
Billy Townsend	- Aye
Lynn Wilson	- Aye

Auditor's Report

Board Members' Report

14. [Billy Townsend, District 1](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Townsend discussed his desire to move forward with a testing task force. He would like to see progress to that end, as well as further discussion regarding the teacher evaluation process.

15. [Lori Cunningham, District 2](#)

Minutes:

No report.

16. [Hazel Sellers, District 3](#)

Minutes:

Mrs. Sellers wished everyone a good Thanksgiving and commended all of the staff that attended today's meeting during the holiday break.

17. [Sara Beth Reynolds, District 4](#)

Minutes:

Ms. Reynolds commented that she was invited to and attended the wonderful Thanksgiving feast held at Elbert Elementary.

18. [Kay Fields, District 5](#)

Minutes:

Mrs. Fields shared Thanksgiving Blessings to all.

19. [Lynn Wilson, District 6](#)

Minutes:

Mr. Wilson thanked Mr. Townsend for the confidence he displayed in nominating him as School Board Chair. He also welcomed Mr. Townsend and Ms. Reynolds to the Board and commended Board Chair Kay Fields for her guidance and leadership during this very tumultuous year.

20. [Tim Harris, District 7](#)

Minutes:

Absent.

Public Comments Addressing Items Not on Agenda

21. [SPEAKERS](#)

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am. Minutes were approved and attested this 13th day of December, 2016.

Kay Fields, Board Chair

Jacqueline M. Byrd, Superintendent