

**SCHOOL BOARD OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY  
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
November 2, 2015  
5:30 P.M.  
GARLAND BOGGUS BOARD ROOM  
426 SCHOOL STREET  
SEBRING, FLORIDA**

---

**Dr. Brenda Longshore gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance**

**Agenda Item I: Opening Items**

- IA**        **Chairperson Bill Brantley called the Regular School Board Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Garland Boggus Board Room at 426 School Street, Sebring, Florida. On roll call, those present besides Chairperson Brantley were Mrs. Jan Shoop, Mrs. Donna Howerton, Ms. Jill Compton, Mrs. Charlene Edwards, Superintendent Wally Cox, School Board Attorney John McClure and Executive Secretary Marlene Welborn.**
- IB**        **Character Word of the Month:  
‘Honesty’ presented by Lake Country Elementary and enjoyed by all.**
- IC**        **Recognitions:  
None presented**
- ID**        **Curriculum Presentation:  
None presented**
- IE**        **School Board Member Committee Reports:  
Mrs. Shoop thanked Ms. Compton for co-teaching with her in the Junior Achievement program.**
- IF**        **Presentation of petitions concerns or reports:  
Pete Coughlin and Rooter Rush requested waiver of policy 9.201 Broadcast Policy. The radio station would like to broadcast the Avon Park High School vs. Sebring High School football game on Friday, November 6, 2015. Mr. Brantley will add this request as an Emergency Item to tonight’s agenda.**
- Linda Montalbano shared comments on intensive science base reading-math interventions and Orton-Gillingham reading instruction. Board members thanked Ms. Montalbano for her comments.  
SMB 110215 P 350-351**

Joseph Poirier shared concerns with the reassignment of the Hill-Gustat Middle School principal. Mr. Poirier thanked Ms. Compton for her time and would like to share his concerns with regards to the academy at Youth Care Lane. Board thanked Mr. Poirier for his comments.

IG

**Superintendent's Report:**

Mr. Cox asked for permission to add an emergency item to tonight's agenda, permission to request an Executive Session following the first board meeting in December tentatively scheduled for December 8, 2015, permission to schedule the Reorganizational Meeting for 10:00 a.m. followed by a special meeting of the Highlands County Leasing Corporation, permission to revise III.C.2.a to include additional changes from October 20, 2015, permission to revise IV.A.5.a, page 7 changing Matthew Crawford from terminated to suspension without pay, permission to revise IV.A.7.a correcting expulsion list, permission to revise page 34 of IV.E.1.a Request approval for Annual Financial Report for June 30, 2015. Mr. Cox provided a draft copy of the district's legislative priorities for board input.

**Agenda Item II: Adopt the Agenda**

Mrs. Shoop moved to adopt the agenda with revisions requested by the Superintendent. Mrs. Howerton seconded. On roll call, all members present voted "yes."

**Agenda item III: Consent Items**

- III.A.3.a Request approval of minutes of the October 14, 2015 Special Meeting and the October 20, 2015 Board Meeting.
- III.B.1 Consider approval of agreement for consultant services between Heartland Educational Consortium and Mixon and Associates, Inc.
- III.C.1.a Consider approval of Wazzle, LLC Exhibit A – Service Level Agreement (SLA)
- III.C.1.b Consider approval of agreement between the School Board of Highlands County and The Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc. Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program
- III.C.2.a Request approval to develop revisions for School Board Rule 4.11 Student Progression Plan and advertise as per APA requirements
- III.E.6.a Consider approval of Joint School Use Agreement with Parkview Pre-K, LLC/Parkview Prep Academy, Inc.  
Mrs. Shoop moved to approve. Mrs. Edwards seconded. Mr. Brantley opened meeting to receive public comments. There being none, Mr. Brantley brought it back to the board for further discussion. There being none, on roll call, all members present voted "yes". SMB 110215 P10-164

**Agenda Item IV: Action Items**

- IV.A.2.a Discuss and Review the School Board Attorney's Contract Review Composite Form  
Mr. McClure shared explained the review process. Board Members thanked Mr. McClure for his guidance. Mrs. Edwards moved to approve. Mrs. Shoop seconded. Mr. Brantley opened meeting to receive public comments. There being none, Mr. Brantley brought it back to the board for further discussion. There being none, on roll call, all members present voted "yes". SMB 110215 P 165-167
- IV.A.5.a Request approval of Superintendent's recommendation for personnel  
Mrs. Howerton pulled the relocation/reassignment of the Hill-Gustat Principal on Special Assignment to be considered separately for approval.

Mrs. Howerton moved to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for personnel including changing Mathew Crawford from terminated to suspension without pay. Ms. Compton seconded. Mr. Brantley opened meeting to receive public comments. There being none, Mr. Brantley brought it back to the board for further discussion. There being none, on roll call, all members present voted 'yes'.

Mrs. Shoop moved to approve the relocation/reassignment of Jackie Allen. There being no second. Motion failed.

Mrs. Howerton moved to reject the Superintendent's recommendation for reassignment. Mrs. Edwards seconded. Mr. Brantley opened meeting to receive public comments. Ms. Kiersten Chambers shared comments regarding possible salary reduction. Mr. Portier shared his concerns regarding ESE certifications. Ms. Montalbano shared concerns regarding placement in the ESE department. Mr. Brantley brought it back to the board for further discussion. Mrs. Howerton, Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Howerton and chair voted 'yes', Mrs. Shoop voted 'no'. Motion passed. SMB 110215 P 168-176

**IV.A.7.a** Consider approval of Expulsions as listed. Mr. Brantley read expulsion list as follows:

**SBHC1516-12 Possession of Alcohol APM**

**SBHC1516-15 Possession of Marijuana & Paraphernalia SHS**

**SBHC1516-17 Purchase & Possession of Marijuana & Paraphernalia APH**

**SBHC1516-18 Purchase & Possession of Marijuana & Paraphernalia APH**

Mr. McClure requested that agenda be revised to reflect the correct expulsion list.

Mrs. Howerton moved to approve. Ms. Compton seconded. Mr. Brantley opened meeting to receive public comments. Linda Montalbano shared her concerns regarding the academic program, physical activity requirement and supervision at the Academy and Youth Care Lane. Mr. Brantley brought it back to the board for further discussion. There being none, on roll call, all members present voted 'yes'. SMB 110215 P 177 (Corrected agenda P 2-5)

**IV.C.2.a** Consider approval of adoption of School Board Rule 5.327 Hazing

**IV.C.2.b** Consider approval of adoption of the revision to School Board Rule 4.61 Security of Tests

**IV.C.2.c** Consider approval of adoption of the revision to School Board Rule 5.70 Student Records

**IV.C.2.d** Consider approval of adoption of the revision to School Board Rule 4.30 Challenged Materials

**IV.C.2.e** Consider approval of adoption of the revision to School Board Rule 6.33 Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace

**IV.C.2.f** Consider approval of adoption of the revision to School Board Rule 6.145 Substitute Teachers

Mr. McClure advised the board chair to combine items IV.C.2.a through IV.C.2.f for action.

Mr. McClure reviewed each item and confirmed publication for adoption with board secretary. Mr. Brantley opened the meeting for public comment. There being none, Mr. brought it back to the board for further discussion. There being none, on roll call, all members present voted 'yes'. SMB 110215 P 178-240

**IV.E.1.a** Request approval for Annual Financial Report for June 30, 2015 with correction to page 34

Mrs. Shoop moved to approve. Ms. Compton seconded. Mr. Brantley opened the meeting for public comment. There being none, Mr. brought it back to the board for further discussion. There being none, on roll call, all members present voted 'yes'. SMB 110215 P 241-348

**Agenda Item V: Emergency Items**

Consider approval to waive board policy 9.201 allowing WWLLF.M. to broadcast the Avon Park High School vs. Sebring High School football game. Mrs. Shoop moved to approve. Ms. Compton seconded. Mr. Brantley opened the meeting for public comment. There being none, Mr. brought it back to the board for further discussion. There being none, on roll call, all members present voted ‘yes’. SMB 110215 P 349

**Agenda Item VI: Legislative Issues for Discussion and/or Possible Action**

Mr. Brantley shared Representative Pigman will be in Lake Placid on November 9, 2015 at the Florida League of Cities Town Hall Meeting.

**Agenda Item VII: Planning/Zoning Issues for Discussion and/or Possible Action**

None presented

**Agenda Item VIII: HCEA/HCESPA Comments**

Ms. Rice shared her appreciation of the Character Word presentation by Lake Country Elementary and how school district and other agencies handled the recent emergencies to ensure the safety of our students.

**Agenda Item X: School Board Attorney Comments**

None presented

**Agenda Item XI: Board Members’ Comments**

Mrs. Jan Shoop:

Mrs. Shoop thanked Mrs. Starling for her presentation and Lake Country Elementary for the Character Word program. Mrs. Shoop thanked Mr. McClure for his guidance.

Mrs. Donna Howerton:

Mrs. Shoop thanked Lake Country Elementary and Ms. Starling for their presentation. Mrs. Howerton reminded all present of Ag Venture starting tomorrow.

Ms. Jill Compton

Ms. Compton shared her appreciation for Mr. McClure and for presenters. Ms. Compton stated she was looking forward to Ag Venture.

**Mrs. Charlene Edwards**

**Mrs. Edwards shared her appreciation of the students that presented tonight. Mrs. Edwards thanked Ms. Chambers for her comments.**

**Chairperson Bill Brantley:**

**Mr. Brantley thanked all those who presented this evening. Mr. Brantley shared he would like to meet with the Sheriff's department to design a plan to be followed during emergencies to include review of procedure of the automatic call-out to parents and social media notification.**

**Agenda Item XII: Adjournment**

**There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.**

---

**Secretary**

---

**Chairperson/Vice Chairperson**