

MINUTES

**MINUTES
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING
CITY COMMISSION AND VOLUSIA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
CITY OF HOLLY HILL, FLORIDA
OCTOBER 14, 2003**

1-3. CALL TO ORDER

Opening Comments

Introduction of City Commission Members and School Board Members

Mayor William Arthur called the joint meeting to order in the Conference Room at City Hall, 1065 Ridgewood Avenue at approximately 6:00 p.m. Attending with Mayor Arthur were Commissioners Arthur Byrnes, Paul Lockeby, Lou Schmitt, and Roland Via.

Volusia County School Board Vice-Chairman Earl McCrary introduced himself and fellow School Board members Judy Conte, Judy Anderson, and Candace Langford.

Also attending from the City were City Manager Joe Forte, and City Clerk Jeaneen Clauss.

Also attending from the School Board were Superintendent Bill Hall, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services Fred Miller, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel Services Peromnia Grant, Director for Site Acquisition and Intergovernmental Coordination Saralee Morrissey, Assistant Superintendent for Financial Services Bill Kelly, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and School Improvement Services Dr. Chris Colwell, Executive Director for Facilities Services Patricia Drago, and Agency Clerk Judy Zollinger.

4. DISCUSSION TOPICS:

a & c. Overview of Student Achievement & No Child Left Behind Act / Adequate Yearly Progress

Dr. Chris Colwell, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and School Improvement Services, spoke about the high standard of measurement that the State of Florida has selected. Our high standards make for a good economic development too. Unfortunately, there isn't an equal bar measurement between states – so your state can select lower standards and come out looking very good in comparison. This however is recognized and they are working towards equitable federal measurement. All students are measured and Volusia County is recognized as being very good at educating children from poverty.

b. Funding Issues / Optional Sales Tax

Mr. Bill Kelly, Assistant Superintendent for Financial Services, spoke about the increase that they have seen in their revenues the regular increases they have had to deal with in their expenditures coupled with the class-size reduction mandate. The additional half cent sales tax is helping a lot – they are running about ten and a half percent above the amount they projected. This money is ear-marked for the construction projects. A question was raised regarding the amount of money budgeted for school supplies – they budget \$27.50 per student per year.

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d. Development Issues / New Schools Under Construction

Ms. Patricia Drago, Executive Director for Facilities Services, spoke about the new middle school that will be built near Holly Hill and relieve some of the crowding issues currently faced in Holly Hill. Once this school is opened (late 2004), they will access the improvements needed at Holly Hill Middle School. The improvements at Mainland High School should be completed in about two years.

5 & 6. COMMENTS / CLOSING COMMENTS

City Commission and School Board Members

Commissioner Schmitt complimented the way they stretched the dollar down here, as compared to where he grew up in New York.

Commissioner Via expressed a desire for more public use of the school facilities, so that they didn't have to build more public facilities for things that could be done there after school hours. Mr. Hall stated that security is the issue.

Mayor Arthur complimented the elevation of scholastic standards.

Everyone indicated that they really enjoyed this meeting and were leaving with a better understanding of the issues and views of each other.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The joint meeting officially adjourned at approximately 6:55 p.m.

Attest:

City of Holly Hill

Jeaneen P. Clauss, CMC
City Clerk

William D. Arthur
Mayor