

**Board Meeting  
Item 1-1.1**

**ORLANDO, FLORIDA  
June 25, 2002**

The School Board of Orange County, Florida, met in public hearing and regular session on Tuesday, June 25, 2002 at 5:45 p.m. Present were: Susan Landis Arkin, chairman; Judge Richardson Roach, vice chairman; Barbara T. Rushing, Linda H. Sutherland, Karen Ardaman, and Kathleen B. Gordon and Berton R. Carrier; school board members; Deborah Manuel, deputy superintendent, instruction and curriculum services; Frank C. Kruppenbacher and Andrew B. Thomas, school board attorneys; and Ronald Blocker, superintendent.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

The chairman announced that any individual who would like to address an item on the agenda could do so by completing the appropriate form at the board table.

**Adoption of Agenda:** Mr. Blocker requested a finding of an emergency and the following changes to the agenda: an addendum to 2.1 (Request Approval of the Personnel Agenda dated June 25, 2002, Including the Designation /Creation of Positions to be Filled, the Minimum Job Qualifications for the Positions, Salary Schedules, Appointments and Terminations of Select Personnel; the addition of 2.8 (Request Approval of 36-Month Lease Agreement for Two (2) Copiers With Lanier Worldwide, Incorporated for the Period of July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2005), 2.9 (Request Approval of Selection of Carlman Booker, Inc., d/b/a Carlman Booker Reis Public Relations to Provide Communications Services and the Execution of a Contract with Carlman Booker, Inc., d/b/a Carlman Booker Reis Public Relations) and 12. 1(Request Approval of the Settlement of the Edna Rodriguez-Negron Claim Against The School Board of Orange County, Florida); the withdrawal of 3.1 (Request Approval of the Expulsion of a Student for the Remainder of 2001-2002 School Year, Including Summer School and the 2002-2003 School Year); and a revision to only the attachment for 3.8 (Request Approval of the Expulsion of Students in Conjunction with the Waivers of Out-of-School Student Expulsion and The District Behavior Contracts).

Mrs. Sutherland requested that 10.4 (Request Approval of Settlement Agreement ("Settlement Agreement") by and Between the School Board of Orange County, Florida ("OCSB") and Hardin Construction Company, LLC f/k/a Hardin Construction Group, Inc., ("Hardin") Regarding the Continuing Contract for Construction Management Services) be moved to Nonconsent #1.

The chairman found good cause to amend the agenda as requested.

It was moved by Mrs. Gordon and seconded by Mr. Carrier to amend the agenda as requested.

The motion passed unanimously with all board members present voting on it.

**Request Approval of Revisions to Execute Limitation Policy "Asset Protection" (EL-9) and new Governance Process Policy "Procurement and Purchasing" (GP-14)- Public Hearing:** Mrs. Arkin stated that the board had discussed and created a new lobbying policy and a change to the Executive Limitation Policy "Asset Protection". She added that the board decided that lobbyists would register and that a system would be set up to monitor this so there would never be an appearance of impropriety.

Mrs. Arkin stated that the change in the Asset Protection policy requires that the superintendent formalize the procedures for lobbyists and implement those procedures for staff. The new policy, "Procurement and Purchasing" requires that, when a bid is let, board members refrain from meeting to discuss bids or proposals with principals or their representatives of companies that will bid or submit a proposal.

Mrs. Arkin opened the floor for public input and there was none.

Mr. Roach requested that Mr. Carrier clarify his comments made at a previous meeting regarding the issuing of the Request for Proposal (RFP).

Mr. Carrier stated that he wanted to make sure that the community understood that the board would not put itself in the position to be lobbied by people who would want to take part in the \$2 billion construction project. He added that at the same time, the board did not want to limit its ability to be able to talk with the constituents it represents. Once the RFP was out, he stated that he would be uncomfortable talking to someone about a particular piece of business.

Mrs. Rushing stated that, in addition, each board member was required, ethically, to refrain from giving preferential treatment to any contractor who may be a friend or who may be trying to influence the bid before an RFP is out.

Mrs. Gordon stated that it puts board members at a disadvantage when other board members refer vendors/contractors to fellow board members, and she hoped that the policies would address that issue.

Mrs. Arkin stated that the policies would address this issue and that it would be appropriate for board members to refer the vendors/contractors to the appropriate staff person.

Mr. Kruppenbacher stated that when staff currently puts out an RFP, usually staff and board contact with bidders is precluded. Current purchasing department practices are set up so that there is only one point of contact of whom any bidder may ask questions. This avoids legal issues and inappropriate lobbying. He added that the board was locking down these procedures for itself and building in the board's public statement regarding lobbying.

Mrs. Rushing stated that there are some contractors and vendors who were on continuing contracts and that the board needed to be careful about how it handled itself in those situations. She added that the board wanted to make sure staff was never pressured by any one board member about any particular contractor

It was moved by Mrs. Sutherland and seconded by Mr. Roach that the revisions to Executive Limitation Policy "Asset Protection" (EL-9) and New Governance Process Policy "Procurement and Purchasing" (GP-14) be approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

**Adoption of Consent Agenda:** It was moved by Mrs. Sutherland and seconded by Mr. Roach that the consent agenda be approved.

Approve Minutes

*(Legally Required Board Action)*

1.1 June 11, 2002 – Work Session

1.2 June 11, 2002 – Board Meeting

Human Resources and Operation Issues

*(Legally Required Board Action)*

2.1 Request Approval of the Personnel Agenda Dated June 25, 2002, Including the Designation/Creation of Positions to be Filled, the Minimum job Qualifications for the Positions, Salary Schedules, Appointments, and Terminations of Select Personnel as Shown Thereon

Mrs. Sutherland requested that Mr. Blocker address the fact that, although personnel were on the agenda for approval, board members did not have jurisdiction over personnel matters.

Mr. Blocker stated that by state law, the school board must approve the personnel recommendations of the superintendent unless information unbeknownst to the superintendent and his staff is brought to board members' attention which would indicate that this person should not be employed or work around children.

2.2 Request Approval of Contract With David Lee Scherer to Provide Webmaster Services to the Community Relations Department

2.3 Request Approval of Contract With Celestra Hauserman to Furnish and Install Demountable Wall System for Changes Within the Educational Leadership Center

2.4 Request Approval to Establish a Contract for Service With Performance Learning Systems and Professional Development Department for the 2002-2003 School Year

2.5 Request Approval to Enter Into a Contract With WebED Inc. for ESOL Strategies Online Course Service for 150 OCPS Employees

2.6 Request Approval of Orange County Public Schools Performance-Based Pay Program for School Administrators

2.7 Request Approval of Revised Salary Schedule for School Psychologists and Occupational and Physical Therapists

2.8 Request Approval of 36-Month Lease Agreement for Two (2) Copiers With Lanier Worldwide, Incorporated, for the Period of July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2005

2.9 Request Approval of Selection of Carlman Booker, Inc., d/b/a Carlman Booker Reis Public Relations to Provide Communications Services and the Execution of a Contract With Carlman Booker, Inc. d/b/a Carlman Booker Reis Public Relations

Approve Student Expulsions

*(Legally Required Board Action)*

3.1 Request Approval of the Expulsion of a Student for the Remainder of 2001-2002 School Year, Including Summer School and the 2002-2003 School Year

**(Withdrawn)**

3.2 Request Approval of the Expulsion of a Student for the Remainder of 2001-2002 School Year, Including Summer School and the 2002-2003 Year, Including Summer School

3.3 Request Approval of the Expulsion of a Student for the Remainder of 2001-2002 School Year, Including Summer School and the 2002-2003 School Year

3.4 Request Approval of the Expulsion of a Student for the Remainder of 2001-2002 School Year, Including Summer School and the 2002-2003 Year, Including Summer School

3.5 Request Approval of the Expulsion of a Student for the Remainder of 2001-2002 School Year, Including Summer School and the 2002-2003 Year, Including Summer School

- 3.6 Request Approval of the Expulsion of a Student for the Remainder of 2001-2002 School Year, Including Summer School and the 2002-2003 Year, Including Summer School
- 3.7 Request Approval of the Expulsion of a Student for the Remainder of 2001-2002 School Year, Including Summer School and the 2002-2003 Year, Including Summer School
- 3.8 Request Approval of the Expulsion of Students in Conjunction With the Waivers of Out-of-School Student Expulsion and The District Behavior Contracts
- Approve Grant Applications *(Legally Required Board Action)*
- 4.1 Request Approval of Application for a Title V, Innovative Programs Grant (Formerly Title VI)
- 4.2 Request Approval to Submit Grant Application to the Florida Department of Education Under the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Entitlement Project
- 4.3 Request Approval of Application for a Title II, Part A – Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund Grant (Formerly Title II, Eisenhower)
- 4.4 Request Approval of the Grant Renewal Agreement With the Department of Health to Fund the Full Service Schools Program
- 4.5 Request Approval for a Grant Application for the Professional Development for Music Educators Program
- 4.6 Request Approval of the Submission of an Application for Title III Federal Funds for Language Enriched Pupils
- 4.7 Request Approval to Submit Application for the Community Technology Program Grant to the U. S. Department of Education
- 4.8 Request Approval to Submit Proposal to the Florida Department of Education under the Grants to Reduce Alcohol Abuse
- 4.9 Request Approval of the Submission of an Application for the Jacob K Javits Gifted & Talented Students Education Program
- 4.10 Request Approval of the Submission of a Grant Application for the Mentoring Programs
- 4.11 Request Approval of the Submission of an Application for the Early Reading First Program
- 4.12 Request Approval to Submit a Reading Coach Model Grant Application to the Florida Department of Education
- 4.13 Request Approval of the Submission of an Application for the Florida Universal Literacy Projects
- 4.14 Request Approval for a Grant Application for the Cultural Partnerships for At-Risk Children and Youth Program
- Approve Education Services Related Items *(Legally Required Board Action)*
- 5.1 Request Approval for Continuation of the 2001-02 School Improvement Plans Until Approval of 2002-03 School Improvement Plans
- 5.2 Request Approval for the Location of the Satellite Campus of Princeton House Charter School at 1914 Edgewater Drive, Orlando, Florida for the 2002-2003 School Year and at 4832 Fairview Street, Orlando, Florida for the 2003-2004 School Year
- 5.3 Request Approval for the Delay of the Opening of KOTA Charter School Until the 2003-2004 School Year
- Approve Work Force Education Issues (None) *(Legally Required Board Action)*
- Approve Curriculum/Program Services Issues *(Legally Required Board Action)*
- 7.1 Request Approval of Cooperative Agreement With Reading for the Blind and Dyslexic

Approve Real Estate Issues

*(Board Policy EL6)*

- 8.1 Request Approval of Lease Agreement With Cain & Bultman for Central Area Maintenance Subject to One Year Termination Provision and Option to Purchase  
Mr. Kruppenbacher stated that the board's approval of this item would be with the understanding that the attorneys in the real estate area were authorized to continue to adjust the language to further protect the district.
- 8.2 Request Approval of 2002 Update to Orange County School Facilities Element  
Mrs. Arkin stated that she wanted the board's approval of this item, to be with the stipulation that the inaccurate data contained in it be corrected. She added that this stipulation was acceptable to Orange County. There was board consensus; therefore, the board's approval would stipulate that the data be corrected.
- 8.3 Request Approval of the School Facility and City Property Joint Use Agreement for Boone High and Blanker K-8 Schools/City of Orlando
- 8.4 Request Approval of Interlocal Agreements Regarding School Overcrowding and Land Use Approvals

Approve Business and Finance Functions

*(Legally Required Board Action)*

- 9.1 Request Approval of Bids to be Awarded – June 25, 2002
- 9.2 Request Approval of Renewal of OCPS Property and Casualty Insurance Program
- 9.3 Request Approval of Florida Eligibility Guidelines of Free and Reduced Price Meals
- 9.4 Request Approval of Settlement of Worker's Compensation Claim: Lisa Poczik v Orange County School Board

Approve Construction Related Issues

*(Legally Required By Law)*

- 10.1 Request Approval of the Certificate of Final Inspection for the Immediate Needs Project at Lee Middle School
- 10.2 Request Approval of the Certificate of Final Inspection for the Immediate Needs Project at Lockhart Elementary School
- 10.3 Request Approval of the Certificate of Final Inspection for the Immediate Needs Project at Lockhart Middle School
- 10.4 Request Approval of Settlement Agreement ("Settlement Agreement") by and Between the School Board of Orange County, Florida ("OCSB") and Hardin Construction Company, LLC f/k/a Hardin Construction Group, Inc., ("Hardin") Regarding the Continuing Contract for Construction Management Services Entered Into by the Parties August 31, 1999 ("Continuing Contract")  
**(Moved to Nonconsent #1)**
- 10.5 Request Acceptance of the Facilities & Environmental Services Report to the Board for the Month of May 2002
11. Approve Change Orders *(None)* *(Board Policy E11/Legally Require Board Action)*  
Approve Legal Issues
- 12.1 Request Approval of the Settlement of The Edna Rodriguez Negron Claim Against the School Board of Orange County, Florida
13. Accept Superintendent's Monitoring Reports

The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Rushing highlighted 8.2 (Request Approval of 2002 Update to Orange County School Facilities Element), stating that it was exciting to see what the district had been able to achieve in the last five years with Orange County Government--both in facilities and in the shared use of facilities, such as the Field of Dreams. She requested that the School Facilities Element be posted on the website once it goes through the review process with the state.

Mr. Roach highlighted 8.3 (Request Approval of the School Facility and City Property Joint Use Agreement for Boone High and Blanker K-8 Schools/City of Orlando), stating that the baseball field and the playfield would be upgraded because of the work the City of Orlando was doing with the district. The fields would open up to the community after school hours.

Mr. Blocker stated that with the approval of the lobbying policy, the board had directed him to develop a policy and procedures. He would be working with legal staff to have these ready by the first of August.

Mr. Blocker introduced the following newly appointed administrators: Jeffrey Bauer, assistant principal, Frangus Elementary; Jill Dorsett, assistant principal, Jones High; Arnetta Heidelberg, assistant principal, Meadowbrook Middle; Harrison Peters, assistant principal, Olympia High; Laura Tracy, principal, Arbor Ridge Elementary; Blanche Bolden, principal, Hungerford Elementary; Juan Colon, assistant principal, Southwest Middle School; Carl Colton, principal, Cypress Creek High Relief School; Carol Kindt, principal, Chain of Lakes Middle; Regina Ponce, principal, John Young Elementary; and Brenda Wells, principal, Oak Ridge High School.

**ENDS Discussion:** Mr. Blocker stated that ten schools plus one charter school had received a grade of F. Under the grading system used last year, there were no F schools. The new grading system reflected the Governor raising the bar. He also stated that there was an increase in the number of A schools (from 23 to 37) and B schools (from 20 to 29). He added that the number of D schools declined from 31 to 7 and that a lot of the hard work was reflected in the progress made. He stated under the new grading system, the district had over three times as many A schools as F schools. A total of 53 schools showed an increase in their school grades while 22 showed a decrease. The increases were seen in both elementary and middle schools.

Mr. Blocker presented an overview of the successes of Washington Shores and Wheatley Elementary Schools and Carver Middle School. He stated that these were urban cohort schools which are identified by the following: high poverty which is indicated by free and reduced lunch; a high mobility rate among the student population; and high teacher turnover.

Mr. Blocker stated that receiving an F was not acceptable. He stated that he was making a commitment to do whatever was necessary to make sure that these schools did not receive an F again. He added that a school district intervention plan had been implemented with specific school based interventions. Also, a continuous assessment system is being set up. Once it is completed, any class in the district will be able to be monitored from the principal's office, the area superintendent's office and the superintendent's office. Using this tool, the need for assistance would become transparent immediately. Weekly school-wide collaborative planning would continue, but a different approach will be used for the schools identified as urban cohorts. Also, after-school and Saturday tutorial programs would be strengthened.

Mr. Blocker stated that the core of the Charter District application was to close the achievement gap. The previous ENDS report showed a significant disparity between the achievement of African-American students and non-African-American students and between the achievement Hispanic students and Anglo students.

Mr. Blocker stated that certain primary issues have to be addressed for the urban cohort schools. It is difficult to recruit, hire and retain skilled staff members. Higher performing schools have a very stable faculty. Also, the time spent on operations impacts time spent on instruction.

Therefore, faculty training needs to be intensified and increased and recruitment and retention strategies must be developed.

He also detailed the following specific needs: specialized training; assistance to principals/school staff; emphasis on K-12 literacy; stability of instruction; class size reduction; assessment model/constant monitoring and support for new teachers. He added that the K-3 plan will be implemented in the cohort urban schools, and a pool of substitute teachers will be hired and trained in effective reading and math strategies for the population they will serve.

Mr. Blocker presented the following four questions he asked staff to answer:

1. How do F schools compare with other schools with similar demographics across the state and central Florida?
2. What is the effect of A-B transfers and magnet transfers on the school grades, FCAT scores, and grade point averages of schools in Orange County?
3. How do schools in Orange County perform compared to similar schools in Orange County? (Regression Analysis)
4. What are the relative strengths and weaknesses of F schools in Orange County as shown by the School Grade Report and FCAT reports?

At the request of Mr. Blocker, Lee Baldwin, senior director, program services, shared with the board preliminary results for the four aforementioned questions. Dr. Baldwin stated that Orange County has many more poor schools than the surrounding districts. Six schools have poverty rates of greater than 90% of free and reduced lunch prices and 23 schools have more than 80% of free and reduced lunch prices.

He added Polk County was an exception to this with one school with 90% of its students on free and reduced priced lunches receiving an A and three schools with at least 86% of their students on free and reduced priced lunches receiving a B. He added that this warranted more study.

He stated that A-B and magnet transfers have greatly affected all three of the high schools that received a grade of F. He added that this was a complex analysis, and more information will be brought back to the board.

Dr. Baldwin stated that the district has done a regression analysis for the last several years. He shared a chart that compared the percent of students on free and reduced lunch in a school and the total grade points that they earned this year. The dots on the chart formed a relationship between poverty and the school grade points earned. There were exceptions to the rule. Some schools with 80-90% of students on free and reduced priced lunches had done well and others

had not. He also shared a chart showing the relationship of poverty to the amount of annual learning gains made through the year.

He further stated that the district was studying the issue of the relative strengths and weaknesses of F schools in Orange County as shown by the School Grade Report and FCAT results. He added that the strengths and weaknesses for the F schools were individual to each particular school. Mollie Ray and Ivey Lane Elementary Schools had annual learning gains of around 70%. This compares favorably with the district average of 73%.

Dr. Baldwin explained how the grades were generated. Schools received points based on meeting standards, the percentage of students who made annual learning gains and the progress of the lowest 25 % of students in the school in reading.

Mrs. Rushing asked whether these were based on the fourth grade FCAT scores.

Dr. Baldwin responded that these were based on grades 3-10.

At the request of Mr. Blocker, Dr. Deborah Manuel presented an overview of the Comprehensive Academic Achievement Plan. The elements of this plan are intended to support and enhance classroom learning for all classrooms. The goal of the plan was to implement developmental, accelerated and remedial strategies required to ensure student achievement. Everyone must agree to use the strategies and to know how to work with these students in improving their learning.

Dr. Manuel also gave an overview of the academic design, the requirements of the designs, and the district and state benchmarks and standards.

Mr. Blocker stated that he would visit each school that had earned an F grade. He added that an F grade would not be tolerated. Things would be put in place so the schools would not receive an F grade again. He added that this would require a unified community effort, and during the visits he would be soliciting from the school communities their perspectives on what would enhance and increase academic achievement. The feedback from the community will be integrated into the action plan.

Mr. Blocker stated that for the F schools there would be intensive training for teachers and staff, a better monitoring system in place so there will be a more timely response to the needs of the schools, and additional resources will be placed to support these schools in their efforts.

Mrs. Arkin stated that the board appreciated the honesty and completeness of the information and also the diligence and thoroughness with which the superintendent was attacking this issue to provide the kind of support for the schools and community that they need.

Mr. Carrier stated that he was excited and happy to hear the vim and vigor with which the superintendent stated that F schools would not be tolerated. He thanked the superintendent, area superintendents and staff for being proactive.

Mrs. Sutherland stated that she appreciated Mr. Blocker's candor and honesty. She asked what kinds of radical things he had looked into.



Mr. Blocker stated that he was not discounting anything. He stated that it was time to hold people accountable, but it was not fair to hold them accountable until they had been given what they need. Obstacles needed to be removed in order to provide stability in these schools. He added that if the necessary support was provided and no results were seen, then it would be time to revisit the issue and determine what else needed to take place. He stated that the district wanted to marry the right people with the right school and stand back and watch them do their thing.

Mrs. Sutherland asked whether the district was going to look at reallocating funds.

Mr. Blocker stated that the district was already revisiting its budget priorities to see what could be done. The district was looking at class size to make sure that it was at a manageable level as identified by the schools.

Mrs. Sutherland also asked whether these schools were the ones to which the district had allocated the pre-K programs.

Mr. Blocker responded that they were and that this was one of the earlier priorities identified in meeting with the schools. Pre-kindergarten would help strengthen the preschool population entering kindergarten.

Mrs. Rushing stated that she appreciated the superintendent's presentation and his emphasis on making sure that the schools were achieving. She added that the public did not understand that the standards had changed every year. She also requested an analysis based on last year's standards of what the grades would have been this year.

Mrs. Ardaman asked Dr. Baldwin to explain the point system for the lowest 25 % of students.

Dr. Baldwin stated that the policy and rules say that a student in level one or two has to demonstrate more than a year's growth. He added that how that year's growth was measured has not been announced.

Mrs. Ardaman asked whether the district had been able to identify the reason for staff mobility.

Mr. Blocker stated that in some teachers' minds it may be easier working at one school than another. The teachers had to feel the mission at a school. Other reasons may be that staff may get employment closer to home or move from one part of town to another. He added that it was disheartening when principals, having fully staffed their schools, hear on the first day that a teacher has changed his or her mind about teaching there. The urban cohort principals become fulltime human resource departments when they would rather put their time in things that would enhance achievement.

Mrs. Rushing suggested that the district analyze the option of additional pay for teachers at the cohort urban schools. She commended the teachers for working with the students at the F schools.

Mrs. Arkin asked whether, as the district looked at the possibility of schools opting out of certain state guidelines, requirements or statutes under charter district status, there would be an even greater focus on sharing what those opportunities would be with the urban cohort schools.

Mr. Blocker responded affirmatively and stated that the charter district program literally is tailor made for an urban cohort school.

Mrs. Arkin referred to the Executive Limitation “Learning Environment”, which requires school communities where there are meaningful relationships among staff, students and other adults involved in the learning process. She stated that the environment in high school tended to be the least personalized and asked how this limitation would play into the plan for the urban cohort schools.

Mr. Blocker stated the area superintendents began investigating ways this could happen at their schools when the board passed the policy.

Mrs. Arkin also wondered whether, as the comprehensive academic plan was implemented, the district would focus on structural issues in a school that impact the classroom. She stated that these are often based on assumptions that are rarely questioned, and she worried that without looking for those barriers, success would be elusive.

Mr. Blocker responded that the district indeed would be doing that.

Mrs. Ardaman added that she believed the physical structure could be a tool or an impediment as well.

Mrs. Gordon commended the superintendent and his staff on the report. She added that attendance was of the essence for the F schools and she expressed her concern for these schools. She also stated that she would pledge to do everything she could to help the children in the community. Mrs. Gordon also shared that Mrs. Sutherland was honored for her outstanding work at the Florida School Boards Association last week.

**Nonconsent #1: Request Approval of Settlement Agreement (“Settlement Agreement”) by and Between the School Board of Orange County, Florida (“OCSB”) and Hardin Construction Company, LLC f/k/a Hardin Construction Group, Inc., (“Hardin”) Regarding the Continuing Contract for Construction Management Services Entered Into by the Parties August 31, 1999 (“Continuing Contract”):** Mr. Blocker stated that this settlement was a business decision to resolve the conflicts the district has with Hardin Construction Company.

Mrs. Sutherland stated that she had a problem with settling this issue because she know what these schools had been through, since they are located in her district. She added that she would be compelled to vote no.

It was moved by Mrs. Rushing and seconded by Mrs. Ardaman that the settlement agreement (“Settlement Agreement”) by and between the School Board of Orange County, Florida (“OCSB”) and Hardin Construction Company, LLC f/k/a Hardin Construction Group, Inc., (“Hardin”) regarding the continuing contract for construction management services entered into

by the parties August 31, 1999 (“Continuing Contract”) be approved.

The motion passed 5-2 (with Mrs. Sutherland and Mr. Carrier voting no.)

Mr. Kruppenbacher clarified that the contractor was due money for certain work they had performed and before the district terminated the contract. Under the law, the contractor was still entitled to payment for certain work it had done. Using outside auditors, the district decided to withhold a conservative, prudent amount to protect itself. He further clarified that this contractor was not receiving money it was not legally entitled to. In fact, Hardin was receiving less money than it might have gotten through litigation.

He added that the board had set in policy, and it had been reiterated by the Construction Oversight Value Engineering Committee (COVE), that the experience with contractors who have previously performed on OCPS jobs was to be taken into consideration when awarding new contracts.

Mr. Blocker stated that earlier this year the board gave him the authority to remove contractors if they were not performing and that is what happened in this case.

**Statement of Policy Level Issues the Board Would Like to Agenda for Subsequent Meetings or Work Sessions:**

Mrs. Rushing reported that the Florida School Boards Association had sent the board members information soliciting input for its legislative platform this year. She shared that the due date is August 7.

Mr. Roach requested a schedule of the work session topics that had been mentioned by board members.

Mrs. Arkin stated that she had sent an e-mail to each board member regarding work sessions. She added that she has almost finished redrafting the mitigation language in the facilities policy. She believed it would address board members concerns, and she would have the superintendent and legal counsel review it first and then distribute it to board members for future discussion.

Mrs. Sutherland requested that Mrs. Arkin e-mail board members a form listing the various work session topic, so board members could rank their priorities.

Mrs. Arkin stated that she would create a form and would also do her best to schedule as many work sessions as possible.

Mr. Roach asked how the board members could support cutting the visual arts program administrator when ENDS policy requires arts education.

Mrs. Arkin stated that it was not in the purview of the board to tell the superintendent how he needs to staff the organization. She added that the board needs to decide whether or not the superintendent was making reasonable progress meeting the desired results articulated for the arts in ENDS policy.

Mr. Blocker stated that he was a supporter of the arts and believed in the arts. He added that arts help to create a well-rounded individual. He indicated that he did not plan to shortchange or walk away from the arts.

**Special Order:** Cecil Allen did not show to address the board.

**Special Order:** Doug Head, chair of the Orange County Democratic Executive Committee, 800 Mayfair Circle, Orlando, Florida, 32803, reported that the Orange County Democratic Committee voted to support the board's sales tax initiative. He also addressed the board regarding the Governor's improper campaign visit to Dr. Phillips High School.

**Special Order:** Bill Humphreys, president, Orange Education Support Professionals Association, 1020 Webster, Orlando, Florida, 32804, addressed the board regarding the purpose of the recent name change from Orange Education Support Personnel Association to the Orange Education Support Professionals Association. He added that the name change better reflected who they were and who they represent.

Mrs. Gordon stated that the name had changed from the state level.

**Special Order:** Brian Roquemore, president and CEO, America's All Stars, 924 North Magnolia Avenyue, Suite 311, Orlando, Florida, 32803, addressed the board regarding the America's All Stars and Positive Action.

**Special Order:** Paul Hampton withdrew his request to address the board.

**Special Order:** Marian "Mimi" Jove, 5307 Jade Circle, Orlando, Florida, 32812, addressed the board regarding the district's M/WBE policy.

Mr. Roach stated that he appreciated Ms. Jove coming to the board and expressing her opinion.

**Information and Future Meeting Dates:** Mr. Blocker stated he had a correction from the last meeting. The basketball coach at Dr. Phillips High School is not African American; he is Caucasian.

Mr. Blocker announced the following upcoming meetings:

|                 |           |                 |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|
| July 30, 2002   | 3:30 p.m. | Work Session    |
| July 30, 2002   | 5:30 p.m. | Board Meeting   |
| August 13, 2002 | 3:30 p.m. | Work Session    |
| August 13, 2002 | 5:30 p.m. | Board Meeting   |
| August 27, 2002 | 3:30 p.m. | Linkage Session |
| August 27, 2002 | 5:30 p.m. | Board Meeting   |

**Reports by Attorneys:** Mr. Kruppenbacher reported that staff would be reviewing the policy dealing with visits to schools by candidates and will have a report for the board at the end of July.

Mr. Roach stated that he would like to see the board have hot topic sessions for the public to help promote communication.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

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Chairman

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Secretary

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