

Volusia County Schools
~**School Board Notes**~

April 12, 2016
School Board Meeting

SCHOOL DISTRICT UPDATE

The school board heard a report regarding the Transportation Security Administration's security review of student transportation. Four main areas were reviewed, including security management and accountability, personnel security, faculty security and vehicle security. Volusia County Schools earned a 97% for overall performance; the industry average is 80%. In addition, the Government Finance Officers Association awarded the School District of Volusia County the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its 2014-15 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting.

During the last three board meetings, information has been shared that the district is moving in the right direction based on criteria from outside organizations. In addition to the two presented above, Saralee Morrissey became the first school planner in the U.S. to be named a fellow by the American Planning Association. With this level of expertise, we have greater confidence as we move forward with construction funded by the ½ cent sales tax. Finally, our purchasing department recently received the designation of Excellence in Public Procurement from the Florida Association of Public Procurement Officials. This gives the public confidence that the district was recognized for excellent purchasing practices and efficiencies.

NEW TEACHER CENTER SEED GRANT

The school board heard a [presentation](#) about Volusia County Schools' partnership with the New Teacher Center (NTC) and the 3-year SEED grant, which is over \$1.4 million. The grant will support instructional coaches, who coach and mentor teachers, by funding an instructional program lead, three lead coaches, and professional development and online tools. Fifty percent of Volusia's elementary schools and 50 percent of our middle schools (about 30 schools) will be randomly selected by NTC to participate in this program for the first two years. During the last year of the grant, all instructional coaches across the district will receive NTC coaching support and/or training.

VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD APPOINTMENT

The school board appointed Nick Conte, executive director for the DeLand Area Chamber of Commerce, as the district's citizen member to serve on the Value Adjustment Board. Linda Cuthbert will serve as the school board's representative.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The school board approved the consent agenda, including the following items:

- Submittal of an application to the Florida Department of Education for a 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program at [Campbell Middle](#), [Starke Elementary](#) and [Westside Elementary](#) schools
- Twenty-six University High students to travel to New York City to compete in the Essentially Ellington Jazz Festival, May 4-8, 2016
- Eighteen Galaxy Middle students to travel to Menomonie, Wisconsin, to participate in the Science Olympiad at the University of Wisconsin, May 19-22, 2016
- Purchase of computer hardware from capital funds for deployment during summer/fall 2016 for elementary and middle school media centers, middle school online course recovery labs, refresh of CTE classrooms at Pine Ridge, Taylor and University high schools, student laptops for high school CTE culinary programs, and the continued refresh of school-based staff devices.

NEXT SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Workshop: Tuesday, April 26, **4 p.m.**, DeLand Administrative Complex, 200 N. Clara Ave., DeLand, regarding construction costs

Regular Meeting: Tuesday, April 26, **5:30 p.m.**, DeLand Administrative Complex

During school board meetings, a live audio broadcast can be accessed from the School District of Volusia County's website at <http://myvolusiaschools.org>.

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