

**MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MANATEE COUNTY**  
**SPECIAL MEETING, TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2003**

The School Board of Manatee County met in special session at the School Board Administration Building on Tuesday, April 22, 2003, at 5:30 p.m. Members present: Barbara A. Harvey, Chairman, Frank Brunner, Harry G. Kinnan, Walter E. Miller, and Larry Simmons. Also present: Dan Nolan, Superintendent.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the Superintendent's Contract.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT**

On November 15, Superintendent Dan Nolan notified the Board of his intent to retire at the end of his current contract (June 30, 2003). The Board subsequently voted to utilize the services of Dr. Wayne Blanton, Executive Director of the Florida School Boards Association (FSBA), to conduct the Manatee County School District 2003 Superintendent Search. A 16-member Citizens Advisory Group was then formed to review résumés and conduct background calls of superintendent candidates. The Citizens Advisory Group's final meeting was held on March 20, to approve a list of five semi-finalist superintendent candidates to the Board for consideration. During Special Meeting on April 4, 2003, the Board voted to adopt the list of five semi-finalists (Dr. Roger Dearing, Dr. Nicholas A Fischer, Dr. Joseph Joyner, Dr. H. Benjamin Marlin, and Dr. Frank Satchel), and to continue the process with candidate interviews. Two candidates (Dr. Joseph Joyner and Dr. H. Benjamin Marlin) were offered positions with other school districts, and subsequently withdrew from the Manatee County search.

After the interview process, during a Special Meeting on Thursday, April 17, the Board voted to rank the candidates in order of preference as follows: 1- Dr. Roger Dearing; 2 - Dr. Frank Satchel; 3 - Dr. Nicholas Fischer. Also, at its April 17 Special Meeting the Board voted unanimously to approve entering contract negotiations with Dr. Roger Dearing. Since that time, Chairman Harvey and Mark Barnebey, School Board Attorney, have conducted extensive contract discussions with Dr. Dearing.

Chairman Harvey laid out the chronological events leading to tonight's meeting. She pointed out the Board had given her authority to negotiate a contract with Dr. Dearing,

which she said she has done. She encouraged unity among the Board to bring the new Superintendent to Manatee County.

Mr. Barnebey discussed details of the contract.

Board Members discussed the contract at length.

Dr. Dearing was contacted by telephone to participate with the Board in reviewing changes and modifications.

Mr. Brunner moved, with a second by Mr. Simmons, to approve the contract with Dr. Dearing as amended. Motion carried 50. (Copy of Contract can be found in the Supplemental Minute Book.)

Chairman Harvey congratulated Dr. Dearing, and asked if he accepted (the contract).

Dr. Dearing responded, "Yes Ma'am!"

Audience and Board Members gave a round of applause.

Dr. Dearing stated he would inform his Board tonight that he has reached a binding agreement for his contract with the Manatee County School Board to begin on July 1, and that there is a desire for him to start earlier. He queried whether or not this Board would desire for him to start earlier; and if that is the case, if there is agreement that the conditions of this contract would take effect on whatever his first day of service may be.

Mr. Brunner moved, with a second by Mr. Kinnan, that if at any time between May 15 and June 30, 2003, Dr. Dearing is able to start in his position, the Board agrees to the conditions of this contract to take effect on the starting day.

Mr. Barnebey said that while Dr. Nolan is still serving as Superintendent during his contract, which ends June 30, Dr. Dearing could be referred to as "Superintendent Designee" for which a separate contract will need to be drawn.

Chairman Harvey suggested the possibility of Dr. Dearing spending a day or two each week in Manatee County until such time that he is able to begin full time service.

Dr. Dearing responded that he still has 87 days vacation and 70 sick leave days, which will allow him to spend one day a week in this district until he can assume the position.

Mr. Barnebey noted that the basis for calling tonight's meeting on an emergency basis was that two candidates of the five semi-finalists were already lost to other districts, and that Dr. Dearing was meeting with his Board tonight, at which time it was likely that they were going to discuss extending his contract, and therefore there was a need for this district to act expeditiously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Harvey adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

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Dan Nolan, Secretary

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Barbara A. Harvey, Chairman