

# SCHOOLS FARE WELL IN STORM

**Wakulla News – November 29 1985**

Damage reports from the Wakulla County School System began flowing into the superintendent's office Monday, November 25 and the returns show that Hurricane Kate could have done such more damage to the county schools.

Superintendent Roger Stokley said that he was planning to meet with the principals of each school, but oral reports seemed to indicate little damage to county structures.

Stokley said that the storm had created a hectic atmosphere around the district office. Public school students in Wakulla County were given Thursday and Friday, November 21 and 22 off while the storm rushed through the area.

The superintendent added that many of the problems experienced by those at home, such as refrigeration, were not experienced by the schools. The prolonged power failure within the county was a major concern to the district as each school hoped that they would not lose their frozen food. However, Stokley said that the school freezers are set much colder than the home freezer and food loss was not as big a problem to the district as it was to some residents.

The schools do not have many trees around them to damage structures so much of the damage was done by winds. Stokley said that the schools came out pretty well, despite a third day away from school for students at Shadeville Elementary.

The power was restored at Shadeville late Monday morning, November 25. The superintendent estimated a loss there of about \$1,800 worth of frozen food such as pizza and corn dogs. Milk was another loss at all the schools.

Sopchoppy and Shadeville losses were restricted to food while Crawfordville lost some materials from the covered walkways. At the middle school trees fell on the outside fence that circles the complex. At Wakulla High the fence circling Reynolds Field was partially blown down on the north end of the field.

The decision to make up the lost days sometime before the end of the school year is still in question. Stokley said that superintendents from around the Panhandle are attempting to have the state cabinet throw out the lost school days due to the fact that some districts have lost so many hours of classes. The decision to waive the requirements is expected to take some time. It will not be addressed by the Wakulla County School Board.

Despite the hurricane, the school board took part in their annual reorganization of the board. Jackie Walker was selected as the new board chairperson while former chairperson Mike Falk was selected as the new vice-chair person.

The board also decided to restructure their meeting schedule. They will now meet in regular session on the third Monday of each month at 5:00PM. The board will also meet in workshop sessions on the first Monday of the month at 9:00AM.