

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

GADSDEN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
MAX D. WALKER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
35 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BLVD.
QUINCY, FLORIDA

May 22, 2018

6:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Steve Scott, Chairman; Mr. Tyrone D. Smith; Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; and Mr. Isaac Simmons. Also present were Mr. Roger P. Milton, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; Mrs. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for the Board; and others.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Steve Scott, at 6:00 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Rev. Dr. Paul Ladd, Pastor of Faith Heritage Church.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Frost recognized Mr. William Alexander, former student at Gadsden Technical Institute, who competed at the State Level last year in the Power Equipment Program. He stated that Mr. Alexander is currently employed at All Pro Equipment. He praised the Power Equipment Program at Gadsden Technical Institute. He stated that the Small Engine Program at Gadsden Technical Institute rank the highest in the State.

Mrs. Lewis applauded Gadsden Technical Institute's commencement exercise. She stated that the speaker, Olympian Gold Medalist, Ms. Maciel Green was dynamic. She gave kudos to the Midway City Council for honoring the high school seniors in the Midway area.

Mr. Smith requested an ad be placed in the newspaper highlighting the programs at Gadsden Technical Institute.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Milton removed from the agenda item #8j – Preventative Maintenance Services with Brooks Building Solutions, Inc.

Mr. Scott entertained a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. April 17, 2018, 10:00 a.m. – Executive Session
Immediately Following Executive Session - School Board Workshop
- b. April 24, 2018, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- c. April 24, 2018, 6:00 p.m. - Regular School Board Meeting
- d. May 7, 2018, 6:00 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- e. May 14, 2018, 6:00 p.m. – Special School Board Meeting

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS

- b. Agreement for Security Services for 2018 – 2019

Fund Source: 1100 Fund – General
Amount: \$198,000.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Consulting Agreement with 3PM Consulting Group LLC for Assistance with Skyward Finance/HR Implementation

Fund Source: 1100 Fund – General
Amount: \$11,100

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

- a. Continuing Services for Construction Management on Minor Projects – District Wide

Fund Source: 1100
Amount: Cost proposal per project (not to exceed \$500,000)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Continuing Services for Mechanical Maintenance and Repair – District Wide

Fund Source: 1100
Amount: \$75.00/hourly rate (Key Heating and Cooling)
\$80.00/hourly rate (Engineered Cooling Services)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Fire Extinguisher Services – District Wide

Fund Source: 1100
Amount: \$4,500.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. Grounds Maintenance – JASMS, HMS, Administration & WGMS
 Fund Source: 1100
 Amount: \$300.00 – per cost (JASMS)
 \$400.00 – per cost (HMS)
 \$250.00 – per cost (Admin.)
 \$835.00 – per cost (WGMS)

 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- f. Licensure Agreement between Gadsden County School and School
 Dude/Utility Essentials

 Fund Source: 1100
 Amount: \$4,383.75

 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- g. LP Gas Contract for FY 2018 – 2019 (Suburban Propane)

 Fund Source: 1100
 Amount: \$45,000.00

 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- h. Pest and Weed Control for Athletic Fields – Gadsden County High School &
 West Gadsden Middle School

 Fund Source: 1100
 Amount: \$17,491.50

 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- i. Pest Control Services – District Wide

 Fund Source: 1100
 Amount: \$15,084.00

 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- k. Approval to Continue Agreement with North Florida Vault and Septic for
 Pump Out Services of Grease Traps and Sewer Plants

 Fund Source: 1100
 Amount: \$8,520.00

 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- l. Solid Waste Collection Agreement between Gadsden County School District
 and Waste Pro of Florida, Inc. – District Wide

 Fund Source: 1100
 Amount: \$135,000.00

 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Items preceded by an (*) asterisk were removed from the CONSENT agenda at the beginning of the meeting and acted upon during the DISCUSSION portion of the agenda.

*6. FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

a. Crossroad Academy Financial Reports

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

Mr. Simmons stated that it was the responsibility of the district to oversee charter schools. He stated that it is very important to address the financial issues as needed. In response to his question whether everything was in order financially with Crossroad Academy, Mrs. Wood stated yes, the charter has sufficient cash to operate. She stated that the charter revenues exceeds its expenditures, and the charter is in excellent financial shape.

In response to Mr. Smith's concern about readdressing the Galloway contract language, Mr. Milton stated that the district communicated with the Department of Education regarding Galloway Charter. Mr. Milton stated that the district did what it was supposed to do regarding Galloway Charter. He stated that Crossroad Academy Charter always provided financial reports to the district, and Galloway Academy did not.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #6a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*7. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS

a. Communities In Schools of Florida for AmeriCorps Vista

Fund Source: Federal Programs

Amount: \$25,000

Mrs. Lewis requested an overview of the Communities In Schools of Florida for AmeriCorps Vista Program.

Ms. Rose Raynak stated that the program was a continuation of services provided through Communities In Schools (CIS) of Florida for AmeriCorps Vista regular and summer members. She stated that the regular Vista members will serve at school sites as parent liaisons. She stated that summer Vista members will serve in the district summer school programs assisting as tutors and academic mentors for students. She stated that after completion of their term of service, each Vista member will be eligible for a small federal scholarship to a local postsecondary institution. She stated that placement is based on the need of the schools. She stated that the district is currently waiting on a response from the AmeriCorps Gadsden Reads Program. She stated that the AmeriCorps Gadsden Reads Grant was submitted in April.

Following discussion, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #7a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*8. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

- d. Grounds Maintenance – Athletic Fields at Gadsden County High School & West Gadsden Middle School (Bid No. 16-17:07)

Fund Source: 1100

Amount: \$1,965.00 per month – GCHS
\$1,965.00 per month – WGMS

In response to Mr. Smith's concern regarding the ground maintenance funds coming from prescribed budget or bidding, and training for the employees, Mr. Hunter stated that the grounds maintenance – athletic field contracts are continuing contracts from the 16-17 school year. Mr. Hunter stated that special training for the ground maintenance employees will be provided by Mr. David McPhaul, Instructor at Gadsden Technical Institute. He stated that the employees will receive hands on training.

Mrs. Lewis stated that she was concerned about training for the custodians at the schools. She stated that accountability was needed on a monthly basis for custodians.

Mr. Milton stated that professional learning will be provided to all employees.

Following discussion, Mr. Tyrone D. Smith made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #8d. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- m. Real Estate Brokerage Services – District Wide

Fund Source: 1100

Amount: 6% Brokerage Fee (unless property listed brokerage fee is paid by seller)

Mrs. Lewis requested a sold sign be placed on the property of Havana Elementary School.

Following discussion, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #8m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. FACILITIES UPDATE

Mr. Hunter stated that Havana Magnet School would be closed for the summer for renovations. He stated that the maintenance department would hire 8 student workers for the summer through the Board of County Commissioners summer program. He stated that the students will be paid by the Board of County Commissioners. He stated that James A. Shanks Middle School would be painted during the summer.

Mr. Simmons questioned whether it was the intent of the district to eliminate three contractors upon completion of the maintenance grounds employees.

Mr. Hunter stated that the sports contractors will still be maintained. He stated that two months assessments for the grounds maintenance contracts will be maintained.

10. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Milton requested a special meeting on Tuesday, May 29th at 6:00 p.m. for Board members to discuss and act on personnel, and the GESPA Contract.

11. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Smith stated that speeches for the high school graduation needed to be reflective of education.

Mr. Frost requested that graduation be carefully planned to accommodate everyone. He stated that he appreciated Dr. Wiggins and the IT Department for broadcasting and livestreaming.

Mrs. Judith Mandela, Vice President of GCCTA, addressed the Board with the concern of the non-renewals based on the evaluation modeling process. She stated that she was representing teachers with no voice. She stated that the evaluation process was not done correctly. She stated that the union created an evaluation survey. She shared with the Board teacher responses from the evaluation surveys.

Mr. Milton thanked Mrs. Mandela, all the teachers and employees for everything they do for the students and the district. He stated that all teachers have a voice. He stated that the Elementary and Secondary Area Directors are working hard to remove all barriers. He stated that he is available to talk to teachers as well as all employees. He stated that on July 16th all administrators will be trained on the evaluation process. He requested everyone work with the district in partnership.

Mr. Rick Soskis shared with the Board information on the “Be Safe Program”. He stated that “Be Safe Program” is a program for parents consisting of the following: Bright Futures – start in 8th grade, Testing – move to mornings and include frequent breaks and snacks, Redo’s – scheduling an appointment with Mrs. Minnis about how to push the envelope, FSU Outreach – requested a Board member call Heather Stitley to expand aggressively, Curriculum – include study for the U. S. Constitution yearly grades 4-12, and the Separation of Church from State – prevents government from impinging on “freedom of conscience”, was the core reason for the American Revolution, but a summary of our current sad condition would say that ignoring the fundamental tenet of our Constitution and allowing worship of a superhuman controlling power to influence government has led to some bad things for students in Gadsden County. Failing to adhere to strict separation of church from State has real repercussions, which our Founders understood, and we would do well to understand also. He requested the Board consider a resolution for a cap on the wining amount, not the amount to be accumulated, of the Florida Lottery and Powerball. He stated that the point is that any amount about the cap would go to the ten lowest performing public school districts in Florida on a rotating basis, forever. He stated that this resolution will be used to provide reason for Mr. Ramon Alexander and Mr. Bill Montford to introduce this in the Florida Legislature.

Mrs. Edna Hussein Forehand addressed the Board to introduce the Gretna Shade Tree Group Reading Program. She stated that the Executive Director, Mrs. Destiny Tolbert, will make a formal presentation to the Board at a later date.

Mr. Ronte Harris, President of GCCTA, addressed the Board with the concerns of evaluation process. He stated that the union is not running away from the evaluation process. He stated that the teacher's union wants the Board to stop sending home first year teachers and stop recycling failed leadership. He stated that the Board need to take action and make sure administrators are properly following the teacher's evaluation model.

12. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.