

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

May 28, 2013

6:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Isaac Simmons, Chairman; Mr. Roger P. Milton; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; Mr. Judge B. Helms; and Ms. Audrey D. Lewis. Also present were Mr. Reginald C. James, 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. Isaac Simmons, at 6:03 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Mr. Judge B. Helms.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

Mrs. Angela Sapp presented to the Board and Superintendent the following district science fair winners for the elementary schools: 1) 4th place winner – Eunique Le’Franc from Chattahoochee Elementary School; 2) 3rd place winner – Tylon Robinson from Gadsden Elementary Magnet School; 3) 2nd place winner – Jeremiah Outley from Stewart Street Elementary School; and 4) 1st place winner – Anthony Cooper from George W. Munroe Elementary School. Mrs. Sapp recognized Mr. Anthony Clum, the Science Coaches and Teachers.

The Board and Superintendent recognized the following outstanding School-Related Employees of the Year: 1) Ms. Merilyne McClendon – Chattahoochee Elementary School; 2) Ms. Myra Portillo – East Gadsden High School; 3) Mr. Jerome Falconer – Gadsden Elementary Magnet School; 4) Ms. Debra Akins - Gadsden Technical Institute; 5) Ms. Gloria Williams – George W. Munroe Elementary School; 6) Ms. Dolores Quintero – Gretna Elementary School; 7) Ms. Brittani Hannah – Havana Elementary School; 8) Mr. Clifford Oliver – Havana Middle School; 9) Ms. Donzella Harley – James A. Shanks Middle School; 10) Ms. Debra Lewis-Safford – St. John Elementary School; 11) Ms. A. Mitchell – Stewart Street Elementary School; 12) Ms. Andrika Conyers – West Gadsden High School; 13) Ms. Andrea Hayes – Carter Parramore Academy; and 14) Maintenance – Mr. Tony Britt.

Board members, Superintendent, and Ms. Beckwith recognized the following Unsung Heroes for the month of May: Ms. Gekettia Harris, Mr. Bruce James, Mr. Roger Lewis, Ms. Charlene Mathlin, Mr. Michael Pride, Mr. H. Gerard Moore, and Mr. Terry Harris.

Mr. James recognized Mr. Jonathan Hamilton and Ms. Mary Nelson of Pearson, and Mrs. Michelle Bridges to share with the Board an overview of the recognition for student achievement with SuccessMaker. Mr. Hamilton stated that 19 students from Greensboro Elementary School reached 80% level 3 targets scored a 3 or above on the FCAT. He stated that 16 students from Gretna Elementary School reached 80% level 3 targets scored a 3 or above on the FCAT. He stated that 26 students from Havana Elementary School reached 80% level 3 targets scored a 3 or above on the FCAT. The following principals and staff were recognized for their great student achievement with SuccessMaker: Greensboro Elementary School; Gretna Elementary School; and Havana Elementary School.

Mr. James recognized the 3rd grade students for scoring high on the FCAT Math. He stated that the district's math score proficiency rate was 71% exceeding the state average of 58%, and ranking the district's passing rate as 2nd highest in the State. He stated that in reading the district's proficiency rate was 41%. He stated that Gadsden Elementary Magnet School had the district's highest passing rate in reading at 83% followed by Crossroad Academy at 73%. He stated that writing has historically been another tested subject where the school district has led; however, the district's performance was not the exception to the state trend and experienced a decline across all tested grades. He stated that the district performed slightly below the state average in fourth grade and placed in the middle of the pack amongst the Big Bend districts.

Mr. Frost recognized Mr. Wayne Shepard for his hard work and dedication to the district.

Ms. Lewis recognized Mrs. Mary Davis for her hard work and dedication to the district. Ms. Lewis stated that she awarded students at Havana Elementary School who participated in a writing contest. She stated that the 1st place winner received \$100.00; 2nd place winner received \$50.00; and 3rd place winner received \$25.00. She also recognized 5th grade teacher Mis'Shaylanqua Smith for her acknowledgement of parents.

Mr. Helms commended the high school principals for starting their graduation ceremonies on time, and being well organized.

Mr. Milton recognized Ms. Delshauna Jackson, Mrs. Annette Harris, and Mr. Jerome Jordan.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Simmons added to the agenda item #6a – Extension of Employee Suspension. He entertained a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Roger P. Milton, seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. April 23, 2013, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. April 23, 2013, 6:00 p.m. – Regular School Board Meeting
- c. April 30, 2013, 9:00 a.m. – School Board Workshop
- d. April 30, 2013, 3:30 p.m. – Student Hearing
- e. May 7, 2013, 4:00 p.m. – Special School Board Meeting

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

6. PERSONNEL MATTERS (resignations, retirements, recommendations, leaves of absence, terminations of services, volunteers, and job descriptions)
 - a. Personnel 2012 – 2013
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
 - b. Personnel 2013 – 2014
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
7. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS
 - a. Budget Amendment Number Nineteen - REVISED
Fund Source: 420 Federal Funds
Amount: \$.00
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
 - b. Budget Amendment Number Twenty
Fund Source: 432 Targeted ARRA Stimulus Funds
Amount: \$.00
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
 - c. Budget Amendment Number Twenty-One
Fund Source: 434 (ARRA) Race To The Top
Amount: \$.00
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
 - d. Budget Amendment Number Twenty-Two
Fund Source: 420 Federal Funds
Amount: \$458,469.49
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
8. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS
 - a. Purchase Orders
Fund Source: Federal Funds – Title I Part A
Amount: \$31,664.00
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
 - c. Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program Award
Fund Source: USDA School Food Service
Amount: \$104,568.75
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. Letter of Agreement with Bond Counsel for Construction Loan
Fund Source: Capital Improvements Fund
Amount: \$25,000.00
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- f. Letter of Agreement with Financial Advisor for Construction Loan
Fund Source: Capital Improvements Fund
Amount: \$19,000.00
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- g. Education Partnership Agreement: Panhandle Area Educational Professional Development Center and The Gadsden County School Board
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- h. Education Partnership Agreement: Panhandle Area Educational Professional Development Center and The Gadsden County School Board
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- i. Education Partnership Agreement: Panhandle Area Educational Professional Development Center and The Gadsden County School Board
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- j. Education Partnership Agreement: Panhandle Area Educational Professional Development Center and The Gadsden County School Board
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- k. Updates to School Board Policies
Fund Source: General Fund
Amount: \$5,500.00
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. STUDENT MATTERS

- a. Student Expulsion – See back-up material
Case #80-1213-0211
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- b. Student Expulsion – See back-up material
Case #81-1213-0211
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- c. Student Expulsion – See back-up material
Case #82-1213-0211
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- d. Student Expulsion – See back-up material
Case #83-1213-0211
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- e. Student Expulsion – See back-up material
Case #84-1213-0211
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- f. Student Expulsion – See back-up material
Case #88-1213-0211
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

10. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

- a. Roof Work At James A. Shanks Middle School
Fund Source: Capital Outlay
Amount: \$4,595.00
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- b. Camera, Surveillance System for Warehouse
Fund Source: Capital Outlay
Amount: \$16,025.36
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

11. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. Medical Physicals 2013 - 2014

Fund Source: Transportation
Amount: \$7,000.00

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.

*7. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

- e. Sponsor Approval of Capital Outlay Plan for Crossroad Academy Charter School for 2013 – 2014

Fund Source: State of Florida Funds are Sent Through District
Amount: Estimated \$100,000.00 for 2013 – 2014

Mr. Helms requested and explanation of the Sponsor Approval of Capital Outlay Plan for Crossroad Academy Charter School for 2013 – 2014.

Mrs. Wood stated that the State of Florida Capital Outlay Funds is sent through the district for charter schools.

Following discussion, Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #7e. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roger P. Milton and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*8. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS

- b. Network Infrastructure Equipment & Services

Fund Source: Federal Programs
Amount: \$357,284.00

Mr. Simmons requested and update of the Network Infrastructure Equipment & Services.

Ms. Rose Raynak stated that Network Infrastructure Equipment & Services will provide laptops for students in grades 3rd through 5th who attend George W. Munroe Elementary School, Chattahoochee Elementary School, Greensboro Elementary School, and Gretna Elementary School.

Following discussion, Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #8b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Judge B. Helms and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

d. Services Pursuant to Agreement No. DESF 030928-PAEC

Fund Source: General Fund
Amount: \$88,655.33

Mr. Helms requested an update on the Services Pursuant to Agreement No. DESF 030928-PAEC. He stated that the district needed to keep in mind that at some point staff will be returning to the district's payroll when the DESF Contract end.

Dr. Sylvia Jackson stated that funding is allocated by the State for Reading Specialists which serves as the district's Reading Coordinator.

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

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*10. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

c. George Munroe Parking Lot

Fund Source: Capital Outlay
Amount: \$169,700.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

Ms. Lewis stated that she wanted to ensure that the district is in line with the bidding process.

Mr. Shepard stated that with past experience, the Board does not like to receive one bid. He stated that two bids for the project were received. He stated that one bid was received fifty minutes after the opening, therefore the bid was invalid. He stated that it would be in the best interest for the Board to reject the one bid and re-bid the project.

Attorney Minnis stated that any agency could reject a bid and start over to get a better price.

Following discussion, Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to reject the single bid received and re-bid. The motion was seconded by Mr. Judge B. Helms and carried unanimously.

12. CONSIDERATION, PROPOSAL, AND/OR ADOPTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND RELATED MATTERS

a. Discussion and Request to Advertise the Board's Intent to Revise all of Gadsden County School Board Policies and 2013 – 2014 Code of Student Conduct

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

Mr. Simmons stated that the Gadsden County School Board has worked diligently to have policies complete, accurate and up-to-date with the laws governing our district. He stated that as a result of the hard work of the Board,

staff members and Neola, Inc., the policies are ready for public review with final approval on June 25, 2013. He stated that the policies are available for public review at www.neola.com/gadsden-fl or visit the district's website. He invited everyone to log on to the website to review the updated policies and be present on June 25th for discussion and approval.

Following discussion, Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #12a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

13. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

a. School Improvement Grant 1003(g) Cohort I 2010-2013

Ms. Lewis requested an explanation on the School Improvement Grant 1003(g) Cohort 2010 – 2013 with parental involvement.

Mr. James Mills stated that increasing the involvement of parents within the two SIG schools was a high priority. He stated that the LEA's vision of SIG as a tool to increase parental involvement was based on the premise of supporting and improving the "curriculum of the home." He stated that to accomplish this goal, the LEA invested heavily through funding sources such as the SIG and Title I to purchase classroom libraries, form community partnerships, conduct community and town hall meetings, and allocate time for parents to visit the school. He stated that parent meetings were held at each of the SIG schools to share the goals of SIG, as well as discuss the tangible assets that the LEA had procured through the SIG to support initiatives and implementation steps. He stated that public relation announcements were also shared through the newspaper and radio informing parents of the opportunities to visit each site during non-school hours. He stated that each quarter, parents were invited to each site to collect report cards, meet with teachers, schedule conferences, and ask questions about the many new programs that were being offered at both East Gadsden High School and West Gadsden High School.

14. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

In response to Mr. Frost's concern about the district serving private schools, Ms. Rose Raynak stated that one of the requirements for Title I is to serve private schools. She stated that there is an interagency agreement between the counties and districts. She stated that because of the NCLB federal requirement districts must serve private schools.

Mr. Frost expressed his dismay regarding employees who work in the district and allow their children to attend school in another county.

Ms. Lewis recognized Ms. Darlean Youmans for resolving an issue with the telephone system.

Mr. Helms announced that a Summer Parent Workshop was scheduled for Wednesday, May 29th beginning at 6:00 p.m. at Carter Parramore Academy's Cafeteria. He stated that more names needed to be added to James A. Shanks Middle School contact list for Sonitrol in emergency situations. He encouraged the Board to continue to meet regarding budget concerns.

Mr. James stated that the position Administrator on Special Assignment was a valuable tool to use for the district. He asked the Board to re-consider the Administrator on Special Assignment position.

In response to Mr. Milton's request for an update on the recent reviewed technology plan, Ms. Smith stated that the district's disaster recovery plan is in process, and that all technology concerns will be addressed.

In response to Mr. Frost's concern whether an agreement had been reached with the departments regarding which student data and financial system to use, Mr. James responded yes, the issue has been resolved and a workable agreement has been reached for all departments to use Skyward. He stated that training will be provided for everyone to use Skyward.

Mr. Simmons encouraged the Board to attend the Florida School Boards Association Conference in Tampa on June 12th – 14th. He recognized Mr. Eric Hinson, Vice Chairman Board of County Commission.

Mr. Hinson stated that the county has partnered with the schools to provide summer jobs for youth.

15. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.