

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP

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

August 17, 2010

4:30 P.M.

This workshop was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Isaac Simmons, Chairman; Mr. Roger P. Milton; and Mr. Judge B. Helms. Mr. Eric F. Hinson arrived at 5:05 p.m. Also present were Mr. Reginald C. James, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; Mrs. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for the Board; and others. Mr. Charlie D. Frost was absent.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The workshop was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Isaac Simmons, at 4:35 p.m.

2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a. UPDATE ON TOBACCO FREE POLICIES

Ms. Jowita Cincy shared with the Board a power-point presentation updating Tobacco Free policies. She stated that comprehensive tobacco control model policies are implemented in K-12 schools in Gadsden County. She stated that CDC Key outcome indicator 1.7.1 states that a proportion of schools or school districts are reporting the implementation of 100% tobacco free policies. She stated that the focus was on de-normalizing tobacco behavior (modeling), de-normalizing the tobacco industry, promoting cessation to violators, and reducing exposure to secondhand smoke. She stated that the Federal Law Pro Children Act of 1994 states that “no person shall permit smoking within any indoor facility owned or leased or contracted for and utilized by such person for provision of routine or regular kindergarten, elementary, or secondary education or library services to children”. She stated that State laws include Florida Clean Indoor Air Act, and Florida Statute 386.201-386.209. She stated that additional supportive policies are Florida High School Athletic Association – 31.1 Use of Alcohol and Tobacco, National School Boards Association – 2.8 Comprehensive Tobacco-Free Schools Policy, and American Academy of Pediatrics – Policy Statement – Tobacco Use: A Pediatric Disease. She stated that the following making the case for tobacco free schools: 1) policies that prohibit tobacco use at schools provide economic and social benefits as well as health benefits; 2) de-normalizes behavior and changes student expectations for other venues; 3) provide health environment for students, faculty and administration; 4) almost

90% of all students begin before 18 years of age; 5) Florida spends over \$11 billion on lost productivity and health care due to tobacco use; 6) over 50% of student day spent at school. Their attitudes towards tobacco use are influenced by their peers and educators at school; 7) CDC recommendation for tobacco free school policies to prevent tobacco use and prevention; and 8) Healthy People 2010 Objective 27.11: increase smoke-free and tobacco-free environments in schools, including all school facilities, property, vehicles, and school events, to 100%. She stated that the Gadsden County School Board's Tobacco Policies 2.95, V states the following: 1) family, school and community partnership, long term effective partnerships improve the planning and implementation of health promotion projects and events within each school and throughout the community; 2) the School Board has included several provisions regarding tobacco use at the district; and 3) enhance current tobacco policies by creating tobacco policy section separate from others. She stated that the National School Boards Association works to develop strategies to strengthen state-level partnerships that involve state school boards associations and other key stakeholders to support tobacco prevention among youth through comprehensive tobacco-free school policies. She stated that the National School Boards Association 2.8 state the following: 1) NSBA urges local school boards to enact and enforce; 2) Comprehensive Tobacco-Free School Policies that include: a) prohibition of tobacco use by students, school staff, parents, and visitors on school property, in school vehicles, and at school sponsored functions; b) prohibition of tobacco advertising or promotional products on school property, in school vehicles, in school publications, and at school sponsored functions; c) provisions for informing students school staff, families, visitors, and the community about the policy; d) tobacco use prevention education for students; e) provision of information about or referrals to tobacco cessation programs for students and school staff; and f) subject to any state laws to the contrary, a stipulation that it shall not be a violation of this policy for an American Indian adult to utilize tobacco on school district property as a part of a traditional Indian cultural ceremony. She stated that elements that include the implementation of comprehensive tobacco free policies in schools are enforcement plan for students, staff and visitors that encourages cessation, and a communication plan.

Following the power-point presentation updating tobacco free policies, Board members thanked Ms. Cincy for the information.

b. **HAVANA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORP. – HAVANA
NORTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL**

Ms. Amy McBride (Havana Community Development Corporation Northside High Project) and Mr. David Tillman (GPI Southeast) shared with the Board a power-point presentation outlining information on Havana Northside High School.

Ms. McBride stated that Havana Northside was public property funded by the public with public taxes and governed by the Gadsden County School Board which consists of publicly elected officials. She stated that the Havana Community Development Corporation, Inc. was incorporated on March 6, 2009.

She stated that on March 17, 2010 IRS determination of public charity status with tax exemption under section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code. She stated that the vision is to establish and maintain a close knit, self-sufficient community of young and old people who are physically, emotionally and psychologically healthy and productive in the community. She stated that the mission is to provide an manage an organic garden and market/community kitchen; provide recreation and sports, physical education, health education and childhood obesity programs; provide adult education classes/trades; provide after school tutorial/learning center for slow learners and elderly; provide a childcare learning center to assist in improving the learning curve for low income and disadvantaged pre-school age children; provide social and recreational activities for all ages through plays, movies and speakers; provide support for At-Hope Children; provide a Senior Citizen Daycare Facility for respite to the elderly; provide a business hub for small businesses and social services agencies; provide source of revenue to the city by establishing museums of historical significance; provide shelter for temporary relief from the weather; and provide protection to the community with a Sheriff Department Sub-station and an EMS Sub-Station. She stated that the advantages to the community, city and county would be provide necessary services that are closer to residents; help citizens help themselves; create pride in citizens resulting in free advertising for businesses and parents with children; be a role model for other communities; create jobs/trades/businesses; provide tutorial assistance to complement the schools; provide better health care options; provide knowledge for positive life choices; create cohesive family units; increase tourism and spending; provide work study programs for college students; provide transition for inmates returning to society; provide activities for the elderly; provide interaction between elderly and young; and provide a substation for county agencies.

Mr. Tillman shared with the Board short video clips of the school existing property/buildings at Havana Northside High School.

During the presentation, Board members shared their concerns, made comments and asked questions.

Mr. James stated that he will forward to the Board a recommendation on the Havana Northside High School property upon further discussion with the attorney and the Board.

3. FINANCIAL DATA REPORT

Mrs. Wood reminded Board members of open enrollment and for them to take care of their insurance paper work. She stated that insurance representatives were currently visiting individual work sites. She reported that 893 individuals were currently on payroll. She stated that the district must review charter schools monthly reports. She stated that Crossroads Academy has completed 12 years of operation, and is a sound charter school. She stated that the City of Midway is seeking ways to have a viable charter school. She stated that Crossroads Academy Charter School does not participate in the Florida Retirement System and salaries are higher than the district because of the benefits package. She stated that last year the district received \$143,000 distribution in

capital outlay funds. She stated that the district provide reimbursements for charter school food service and transportation. She stated that although there is no lien on the new school buses, Capital City Bank is holding titles to the new school buses until paid in full. She stated that the bus company has been paid for and the delivery of the school buses. She stated that there are many safety features on the buses. She stated that the bus auction was successful, and that local bidders were able to secure a bus. She stated that all the buses were sold at the auction.

4. ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

None.

5. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

None.

6. The workshop adjourned at 5:45 p.m.