

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

June 29, 2010

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 Mr. Eric F. Hinson. 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 6:00 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Bishop Terry Fitzgerald, Pastor of Faith Apostolic Christian Tabernacle Services, Inc.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

On behalf of the Board, Mr. James recognized Jerome Maples, West Gadsden High School student, for his outstanding service as a student Board representative. Jerome was given an appreciation token for his service.

Mr. James recognized the middle schools for their progress made on their recent FCAT test scores.

Mr. Hinson recognized Mt. Zion AME Church for their Family and Friends Day Program. He stated that Mt. Zion's goal is to educate the congregation. He also recognized the town and citizens of Havana for supporting the summer basketball league. He thanked all the employees for their hard work.

Jerome Maples recognized West Gadsden High School teachers, Mr. Tom Davis and Dr. Gail Bridges-Bright for being his mentors.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Simmons thanked Jerome Maples for his outstanding service on the Board.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Simmons entertained a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Roger P. Milton, seconded by Mr. Judge B. Helms and carried unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. May 25, 2010, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. May 25, 2010, 6:00 p.m. – Regular School Board Meeting
- c. June 2, 2010, 4:00 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- d. June 22, 2010, 5:00 p.m. – School Board Workshop

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

- a. Approval of bills and vouchers - See back-up material

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Budget Amendment Number Thirty-Two

Fund Source: 420 (Federal) Funds
Amount: \$-2853.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Budget Amendment Number Thirty-Three

Fund Source: 110 (General) Funds
Amount: \$0.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Budget Amendment Number Thirty-Four

Fund Source: 420 (Federal) Funds
Amount: \$.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. Budget Amendment Number Thirty-Five

Fund Source: 420 (Federal) Funds
Amount: Increase of \$466,718.85

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- f. Project Application – State Fiscal Stabilization Fund

Fund Source: Fund 431 State Fiscal Stabilization Funds
Amount: \$1,763,036.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

h. Crossroad Academy Monthly Financial Reports

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. AGREEMENTS/PROJECT/GRANT APPLICATIONS

a. Cooperative Agreement for Inter-County Transfer of Exceptional Students Between Leon County School Board and Gadsden County School Board

Fund Source: State FTE Funds
Amount: (determined by formula)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

c. Kaylor Miles, Licensed Mental Health Counselor

Fund Source: IDEA
Amount: \$71,500.00 (est.)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

d. Agreement Between the Gadsden County Public Schools and INVO HealthCare Associates, Inc.

Fund Source: FEFP Dollars
Amount: \$58.00 (per hour for actual hours worked)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

e. Agreement Between the Gadsden County Public Schools and Leaps and Bounds Occupational Therapy Services, LLC.

Fund Source: FEFP Dollars
Amount: \$58.00 (per hour for actual hours worked)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

f. Contract Between the School Board of Gadsden County, Florida and Art Therapist

Fund Source: IDEA
Amount: \$15,500.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

g. Medicaid Administrative Claiming

Fund Source: Medicaid
Amount: \$9.00 per random sampling form

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- i. Continuing L.P. Gas Service with Empire Gas, Original Bid Award May 22, 2007 – Bid #0708-07
 Fund Source: 110 Funds
 Amount: Firm Mark Up .25
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- j. Solid Waste Collection Agreement with Waste Pro
 Fund Source: 110 Funds
 Amount: \$79,692.60
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- k. Interinstitutional Articulation Agreement Between TCC and Gadsden County Public Schools
 Fund Source: N/A
 Amount: N/A
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- l. Approval of Gadsden County Classroom Teachers Association, July 2008 – June 2011 Collective Bargaining Contract
 Fund Source: N/A
 Amount: N/A
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- m. Approval of Gadsden Educational Staff Professional Association, July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010, Collective Bargaining Contract
 Fund Source: N/A
 Amount: N/A
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. BIDS

- a. School Food Service Bid Awards for 2010 – 2011 School Year
 Fund Source: 410 Funds
 Amount: Bids Are Awarded to the Vendor with the Lowest Bid
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- b. 2010 – 2011 Diesel Fuel Bid #1011-16
 Fund Source: Transportation Department
 Amount: \$675,000.00
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Interior/Exterior Painting of Havana Middle School – Bid #0910-15
Fund Source: 378 Funds
Amount: \$133,206.00
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

10. STUDENT MATTERS

- a. Student Expulsion – See back-up material
Case #91-0910-0071
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- b. Student Expulsion – See back-up material
Case #92-0910-0071
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

11. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

- a. Leasing Southside School
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- c. Request to Delete from Capital Assets – Motor Vehicles
Fund Source: Applicable Funds
Amount: \$654,900.00
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- d. Deletion of Software & Audio Visual (AV) Material
Fund Source: All Funds
Amount: \$3,975,850.02
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

12. EDUCATIONAL/MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

- a. Letter of Intent – Lawson Preparatory Academy Charter School
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Medical Physicals 2010 – 2011

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

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. PERSONNEL MATTERS (resignations, retirements, recommendations, leaves of absence, terminations of services, volunteers, and job descriptions)

- a. Personnel 2009 – 2010

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Personnel 2010 – 2011

Mr. Milton stated that the Board was presented with a staffing plan at a previous workshop. He stated that he needed more time to review the personnel information to ensure that the numbers match.

Mr. Frost stated that personnel was totally the Superintendent's responsibility.

Mr. Simmons explained that the Board's decision was to accept or reject the proposal. He stated that the Board could only turn down the action if they had some issue with the process and not because of individuals on or not on the list.

Following discussion, Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #6a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Judge B. Helms and carried unanimously.

Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #6b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Eric F. Hinson and carried unanimously.

In response to Mr. Hinson's concern whether or not budget amendments affected the districts fund balance in anyway, Mr. Simmons stated yes.

Mr. Simmons asked that amendments be red flagged that would put the district's fund balance below 3%.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- *7. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

- g. School Board Truth In Millage (TRIM) Timetable

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

Mr. Helms requested the Board set times for the upcoming TIME timetable.

The Board agreed to schedule the following: a) Special Board Meeting – July 20th at 6:00 p.m. – Request to Advertise Tentative Budget Hearing; b) Tentative Budget Hearing – July 27th at 6:00 p.m.; and c) Final Budget Hearing and Superintendent’s Annual Financial Report - September 7th at 6:00 p.m.

In response to Mr. Simmons request to schedule a workshop to discuss the district’s budget before the Tentative Budget Hearing, the Board scheduled a workshop on Tuesday, July 13th at 6:00 p.m.

Following discussion, Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation to approve agenda item #7g. The motion was seconded by Mr. Eric F. Hinson and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

***8. AGREEMENTS/PROJECTS/GRANTS APPLICATIONS**

b. FSU Multidisciplinary Services 2010 – 2011 School Year

Fund Source: IDEA Dollars
Amount: \$20,000.00 est.

Mr. Frost made a motion to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation to approve agenda item #8b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roger P. Milton and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

h. Contract with Behavior Management Consultants, Inc., & Gadsden County School Board

Fund Source: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
Amount: \$125,000.00 (est.)

Mr. Frost stated that he was concerned about the estimated per hour amount for the Behavior Management Consultants.

Mrs. Wilma Jackson stated that the Behavior Management Consultants are allocated \$125,000 per year. She stated that the maximum figure could be less based on the number of hours worked per week. She stated that the Behavior Management Consultants handle all special cases. She stated that the Behavior Management Consultants serve students at George W. Munroe, Stewart Street, Gadsden Central Academy, Havana Elementary and Havana Middle Schools.

In response to Mr. Milton’s concern about the recent audit findings, Mrs. Wilma Jackson stated that the recent audit findings have been addressed and staff have to sign in and out.

Following discussion, Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation to approve agenda item #8h. The motion was seconded by Mr. Judge B. Helms and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

n. Life Insurance for 2010 - 2011

Fund Source: All Funds with Payroll

Amount: See the attached rate sheet – both employee and Board parts of premiums decrease

Mr. Helms stated that he appreciated the insurance committee for all their hard work. He stated that he needed to be more abreast of the insurance committee findings and requested the Board defer action in order to allow ample time for further discussion.

Following discussion, Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to defer action on agenda item #8n until a special meeting was held on Friday, July 2nd at 9:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Eric F. Hinson and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

o. Dental Insurance for 2010 – 2011

Fund Source: All Funds with Payroll

Amount: See the attached rate sheet – both employees and Board parts of premiums decrease

Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to defer action on agenda item #8o. The motion was seconded by Mr. Eric F. Hinson and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*9. BIDS

d. Lawn Maintenance District Wide – Bid #1011-01

Fund Source: 110 Funds

Amount: \$99,271.00 (July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011)

Mr. Frost requested an explanation of the bidding process for the lawn and maintenance service.

Mr. Shepard stated that the bids are open to the public and advertised in the local papers for three weeks. He stated that there was a mandatory walk through of all properties, and the bids were opened in a public forum.

Following discussion, Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #9d. The motion was seconded by Mr. Judge B. Helms and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*11. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

b. Selling Chattahoochee High School Property

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

Mr. Helms stated that he was concerned that the contract for the Chattahoochee High School property was too long, and he did not agree with selling the property below the appraised value.

Mr. Simmons stated that the district has been cited for having too much vacant property. He stated that the district needed to liquidate property. He stated that insurance cost has been reduced, and utilities have been cut off. He stated that the district has been instructed and encouraged to sell vacant properties by the Department of Education. He stated that he thinks that it would be in the interest of the district to sell the property.

Following discussion, Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #11b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried with Mr. Frost, Mr. Simmons, Mr. Hinson and Mr. Milton voting "aye". Mr. Helms voted "nay".

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

13. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

None.

14. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Hinson recognized Mr. Shepard for moving swiftly on projects at Havana Elementary School.

Mr. Simmons requested the Board's assistance to have a special meeting to resolve a disciplinary issue with one of the students at West Gadsden High School. He stated that the Board would be canvassed to schedule a meeting time.

Pastor Terry Fitzgerald addressed the Board to share his concern regarding the Board's recognition of students. He stated that the Board could better recognize students with trophies rather than certificates. He stated that his daughter attends EGHS and she received her 3rd National Congressional Award; and his son attends Havana Elementary School. He stated that both children are AAU players.

Mr. James requested Pastor Fitzgerald bring his daughter to the Board meeting for recognition. He stated that he appreciated the confidence Pastor Fitzgerald has in the district to serve his children.

Mr. Hinson stated that Florida A&M University offer scholarships to students with an AA degree. He stated that students attending Havana Elementary School, Havana Middle School and East Gadsden High School who score Level 5 on the FCAT are rewarded by going to lunch with him.

Mr. Milton stated that although the dual enrollment program is housed at East Gadsden High School, he was advocating for a building in Gadsden County to house all TCC programs.

Mr. Simmons invited Pastor Sandra Gardner to share with the Board an overview of the after-school program housed at Sycamore United Methodist Church.

Pastor Sandra Gardner stated that during the “Wonderful Wednesday” after-school program students are provided hot meal, Bible study, and mentors to assist with homework assignments. She stated that the after-school program started with a grant, but the church has picked up the tab. She stated that the after-school program is a good program for mentoring, recreation and Bible time.

Mr. James thanked Pastor Gardner for her service to the students of Gadsden County.

Ms. Betty Peterson addressed the Board to share her concern regarding the need to find grant monies to start a Boys & Girls Club in the Greensboro area. She stated that the students in Greensboro need an after-school program.

Mr. Simmons requested Ms. Peterson meet with the new Director of the Chattahoochee Boys & Girls Club (Ms. Cherry Rankin) to discuss ways to start a Boys & Girls Club in the Greensboro area. He announced his retirement from the City of Tallahassee to begin on Thursday, July 1st.

15. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.