

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP

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

March 28, 2023

4:30 P.M.

The workshop was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Leroy McMillan, Chairman; Mrs. Karema D. Dudley; Ms. Cathy S. Johnson; Mr. Steve Scott; and Mr. Charlie D. Frost. Also present were Mr. Elijah Key, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; and others. Mrs. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for the Board was absent.

1. Call To Order

The workshop was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Leroy McMillan, at 4:32 p.m.

2. Financial Information

Mr. Mays shared with the Board an ESSER accounts payable report showing all expenditures by fund and object. He stated that the ESSER money that was sent back to the State was not specific for Gadsden County, but was for every district, statewide. He stated that the money is being reallocated and the district will need to reapply. He stated that the ESSER II remaining balance of \$1.5M will need to spent.

In response to Ms. Johnson's concern regarding how many teachers received retention money, Mr. Mays stated that he will compile a report, but noted that the funds came from ESSER III. Ms. Johnson stated that every employee should have receive money.

In response to Mr. Frost's question whether the same applied to ESSER II funds, Mr. Mays stated no, bonuses were from ESSER III funds. He stated that the total expenditures are only on accounts payable and does not include payroll. He stated that was a total of \$9,017,000.

Mr. Key stated that he needed perimeters from the Board in order to move forward with the financial audit.

Mr. Frost stated that he want the audit to reflect when Mr. Key first came into office.

Ms. Johnson stated that she want the financial audit to begin with the 2019 year. She stated that she also want to know about the actual spending, bank statements (checks and balances for all expenditures).

Mrs. Dudley agreed with Ms. Johnson (all checks and balances for all ESSER expenditures).

Mr. Scott concurred with his fellow Board members regarding the financial audit, but had concerns with how much of the insurance/FEMA monies were spent and the balance.

Mr. McMillan concurred with the Board members regarding the financial audit. He stated that this will allow Board members to know where they started and where they are now.

3. Facilities Update

Mr. Brad Arnold, Interim Director of Facilities, shared with the Board a copy of the Annual Energy Cost Report and the Maintenance Operation Cost Report. He stated that Stewart Street Elementary School AC replacement need to be re-bid because only one bid was received. He stated that Havana Magnet School AC is still being worked on and will be advertised for bid.

In response to Ms. Johnson's concern regarding what newspapers the bidding would be advertised, Ms. Davis stated that local as well as outside papers could be used for advertising.

Mr. Key stated that all the advertising would be paid by ESSER III funding.

Dr. Jackson stated that it is critical to get bids through and there is the option to spend ESSER II expenses in the ESSER III timeline.

Mr. Arnold stated that Greensboro Elementary School was burglarized. He stated that laptops and golf carts were stolen, as well as the windows and the fence were broken. He stated that everything should be repaired this weekend. He stated that one of the maintenance person resigned and the position has been advertised.

Mr. Key stated that someone broke into the field house at Gadsden County High School.

4. Educational Items by the Superintendent

None.

5. School Board Requests and Concerns

None.

6. The workshop adjourned at 5:05 p.m.