

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

April 26, 2016

6:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Roger P. Milton, Chairman; Mr. Isaac Simmons, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; and Mr. Steve Scott. 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. Roger P. Milton, at 6:00 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Rev. Timothy Cole, Pastor of New Zion A.M.E. Church.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

The Superintendent and Board recognized the following District History Fair Winners: Jr. Division – Le’Vontae Camiel - 1st Place Group Documentary, Frederick Butler – 1st Place Group Documentary, Anquine Jordan – 1st Place Group Documentary, Michaelyah Howard – 1st Place Individual Documentary, Aellissa Geathers – 1st Place Group Exhibit, Allan Snyder – 1st Place Group Exhibit, Alexis Pavon – 1st Place Group Exhibit, A’Maj Shaw – 1st Place Group Exhibit, and Khalia Mortimore – 1st Place Individual Exhibit. District History Fair Winners Sr. Division: Trineshiah Sapp – 1st Place Individual Exhibit, Lykimbria Jackson – 1st Place Group Exhibit, Shaun Potter – 1st Place Group Exhibit, Quanvonta Mazion – 1st Place Individual Website, Shainitra Anthony – 1st Place Group Website, Marquis Hinson – 1st Place Group Website, Fernanda Rincon, 1st Place Individual Documentary, Chauncey Harrison – 1st Place Group Documentary, Josiah Porter – 1st Place Group Documentary, and Ivana Shaw-Simpson – 1st Place Group Documentary. District Science Fair (Overall Winners): Anthony Diaz – 1st Place, Jada Lindsey – 2nd Place, and Donald Woods – 3rd Place. Each of the student winners received a trophy.

The Superintendent and Board recognized the following High Impact Teachers: Ms. Sandra Joseph – Greensboro Elementary, Ms. Sharita Baker, St. John Elementary, Ms. Shonda Pruitt, Stewart Street Elementary, and Mr. Breshaun Chambers, Havana Magnet School. Each of the teachers received a plaque award, portfolio, and \$1,000 for classroom supplies.

Mr. James announced that Mrs. Audrey Lewis was elected to The Gallery of Distinction at FAMU. He stated that the Induction Ceremony was scheduled for May 20th. He stated that he nominated Mrs. Lewis for the FAMU Gallery of Distinction.

Mrs. Lewis stated that a student from East Gadsden High School will tour Washington, DC as a winner of the Talquin Electric Youth Tour.

Mr. Scott commended all the administrators for their efforts with preparing students to take tests.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Milton added to the agenda item #9f – Extension of Student Suspensions – Case #40-1516-0071 and #45-1516-0071. He entertained a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Charlie D. Frost, seconded by Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. March 29, 2016, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. March 29, 2016, 6:00 p.m. – Regular School Board Meeting
- c. April 7, 2016, 10:00 a.m. - Special School Board Meeting
- d. April 11, 2016, 4:00 p.m. – Executive Session

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

- a. Budget Amendment Number 2

Fund Source: All Funds

Amount: See Budget Amendment Number 2 Form ESE 139

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. School Board Truth in Millage (TRIM) Timetable

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS

- a. Letter of Agreement – POWER Buying Group

Fund Source: 410 Federal Food Service

Amount: \$4,000.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. First 12 month extension on Capital City Bank Construction Loan

Fund Source: Capital Funds

Amount: Two bi-annual payments due November 1, 2016 and May 1, 2017 for a total of \$371,543.66

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Approval of 2016 – 2017 fiscal year debt service payments with IBM Credit LLC

Fund Source: General Fund

Amount: One annual payment of \$56,749.84 due on April 12, 2017

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. Approval of 2016 – 2017 fiscal year debt service payments with Sun Trust Bank

Fund Source: Capital Funds

Amount: Two bi-annual payments of \$100,683.31 each which are due on July 1, 2016 and January 1, 2017 for \$201,366.62
Bus Lease purchase one annual payment due January 20, 2016 totaling \$222,281.45

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- f. Federal Programs Purchase Orders

Fund Source: Federal

Amount: \$111,933.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval

- g. Chattahoochee Elementary School Summer Camp

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- h. Children's Defense Fund (CDF) Freedom School Program

Fund Source: Federal Funding – Children's Defense Fund

Amount: No cost to the district, all operational costs to be assumed by CDF

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. STUDENT MATTERS

- b. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #36-1516-0211

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Student Expulsion – See back-up material
CASE #37-1516-0051
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- d. Student Expulsion – See back-up material
CASE #38-1516-0071
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- e. Student Expulsion – See back-up material
CASE #39-1516-0071
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- f. Extension of Suspensions – See back-up material
CASE #40-1516-0071
CASE #45-1516-0071
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

11. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

- a. School Field Trip Requests (Out-of-State) – East Gadsden High School
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- c. School Improvement Plans – Chattahoochee Elementary School
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- d. School Improvement Plans – George W. Munroe Elementary School
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- e. School Improvement Plans – Greensboro Elementary School
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- f. School Improvement Plans – Gretna Elementary School
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- g. School Improvement Plans – Havana Magnet School
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- h. School Improvement Plans – St. John Elementary School
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- i. School Improvement Plans – Stewart Street Elementary School
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- j. School Improvement Plans – James A. Shanks Middle School
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- k. School Improvement Plans – East Gadsden High School
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- l. School Improvement Plans – West Gadsden High School
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- m. School Improvement Plans – Carter Parramore Academy
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. Mr. Milton deviated from the norm and addressed item #9a first.

*9. STUDENT MATTERS

- a. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #35-1516-0211

The mother of student #35-1516-0211 addressed the Board to request a hearing.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to defer action on agenda item #9a until a hearing could be held on Tuesday, May 3rd at 4:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

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

a. Personnel 2015 – 2016

Mrs. Lewis thanked the Superintendent and Board for having the opportunity to serve with them. She stated that she was retiring and would be a candidate for District One School Board Seat. She stated that she love Gadsden County.

Mr. James and the Board members stated that it was pleasure working with Mrs. Lewis.

Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #6a. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*8. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS

b. Benefit Administration Contract Rate Reduction Contract Amendment with TSA Consulting Group

Fund Source: Applicable payroll changes in the 110 and 420 funds

Amount: Variable dependent on monthly payroll charges

In response to Mr. Frost's request for clarity on the Benefit Administration Contract Rate Reduction Contract Amendment with TSA, Mrs. Ferree stated that amendment for the contract reduction was from \$5.76 to \$4.08, per year, per regularly scheduled employee.

Following discussion, Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #8b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*10. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

a. Licensure Agreement Between Gadsden County School and School Dude/Utility Essentials

Fund Source: 110

Amount: \$5,315.00 (includes a one-time fee of \$1,140.00 for training)

In response to Mr. Simmons' request for an explanation of the Licensure Agreement Between Gadsden County School and School Dude/Utility Essentials, Mr. Hunter stated that the School Dude/Utility Essentials Program will allow the District to establish benchmarks for energy consumption and costs, develop plans to reduce energy use and track conservation progress.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #10a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

b Licensure Agreement Between Gadsden County School and School Dude

Fund Source: 110

Amount: \$7,665.00

Mr. Simmons requested a brief overview of the Licensure Agreement Between Gadsden County School and School Dude.

Mr. Hunter stated that the Board's approval was needed to renew the Licensure Agreement with School Dude for work orders and requests.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #10b. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*11. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

b. Student Progression Plan 2015 – 2016

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to defer action on agenda item #11b until a special meeting on Tuesday, May 3rd at 2:00 p.m. to further review and discuss. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

12. FACILITIES UPDATE

Mr. Hunter shared with the Board an update on facilities. He stated that the Life Safety Inspection Reports will be shared with the Board at a later date. He stated that the District was given two free water heaters for two schools that did not have hot water. He stated that the hot water heaters will be monitored remotely for a year.

13. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. James stated that a State meeting was scheduled for next week to discuss the issue of whether portfolios were needed for student promotion beyond the 3rd grade.

14. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Frost stated that he was concerned about food service workers at James A. Shanks Middle School parking closer to the their work area near the cafeteria. He stated that James A. Shanks Middle School parents are concerned about not having enough parking space for visitors. He requested Mr. Milton look into the parking issues at James A. Shanks Middle School.

Mr. Scott stated that he was concerned about two of the schools not submitting their School Improvement Plans. He stated that he was also concerned about student attendance and discipline at the schools.

Mr. Milton shared information with the Board regarding the Jones Diversified Marketing Group. He stated that there are no upfront fees and funding can be provided.

Ms. Monica Smart addressed the Board to present a check in the amount of \$900.00 from the Adaryll Lee and the Sow-A-Seed Foundation for the district's Head Start Program.

The Superintendent and Board thanked Ms. Smart for her presentation to the Board for the Head Start Program.

Mr. Ronte Harris addressed the Board to thank them for what has been done thus far with collective bargaining. He stated that there has been a slow down. He stated that the GCCTA proposal addresses the following issues: retention of teachers, paying comparable salaries, and improving a quality education for students. He stated that he wanted to move forward. He stated that the GCCTA and GESPA unions are committed to each other. He recognized Ms. Regina Munroe, President of GESPA, and Mr. Henry Hatten, Vice President of GESPA. He stated that he values the jobs of the GESPA staff.

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

The Board convened in executive session at 7:50 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining issues; and adjourned at 8:35 p.m.