

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

June 26, 2012

6:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Judge B. Helms, Chairman; Mr. Eric F. Hinson; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; Mr. Roger P. Milton; and Mr. Isaac Simmons. 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. Judge B. Helms, at 6:05 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Dr. Kimball Thomas, Principal of East Gadsden High School.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

Board members were recognized for their distinction as a Certified Board. They received an award at the FSBA Spring Conference in Tampa.

Mr. Hinson stated that Mr. Helms was his replacement on the Florida High School Athletics Association Board of Directors. He stated that he was not seeking re-election as a School Board Member. He stated that he was running for the Office of Board of County Commission.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Helms 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. May 22, 2012, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. May 22, 2012, 6:00 p.m. – Regular School Board Meeting
- c. June 7, 2012, 9:00 a.m. – Special Board Meeting
- d. June 7, 2012, School Board Workshop - Immediately following Special Board Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

- a. Budget Amendment Number Thirty

Fund Source: 420 (Federal) Funds
Amount: \$14,411.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Crossroad Academy Monthly Financial Reports

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. AGREEMENTS/PROJECT/GRANT APPLICATIONS

- c. Continuation of Agreement with Professional Pest Management for Pest and Weed Control for Athletic Fields

Fund Source: 110
Amount: \$12,629.50

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Continuation of Agreement with McCall Services for Pest Control

Fund Source: 110
Amount: \$22,000.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. Continuation of Lawn/Grounds Maintenance Agreements

Fund Source: 110
Amount: \$30,110.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

f. Continuation of Lawn/Grounds Maintenance Contracts

Fund Source: 110
Amount: \$98,471.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

g. Continuation of L. P. Gas Service with Empire Gas

Fund Source: 110
Amount: \$121,389.56

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

h. HVAC Service Agreement with Brooks Air Systems for East Gadsden High School

Fund Source: 110
Amount: \$45,924.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

i. HVAC Service Agreement with Brooks Air Systems for West Gadsden High School

Fund Source: 110
Amount: \$38,220.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. BIDS

a. 2012 Fuel Bid for 2012 – 2013 School Year

Fund Source: Transportation Department
Amount: \$900,000.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

b. Bread Bid – Bid #1213-01

Fund Source: 410
Amount: Bids Awarded to the Vendor with the Lowest Bid

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

c. James A. Shanks Road Paving – Bid #1213-04

Fund Source: General (Earmarked for Paving)
Amount: \$18,180.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Paving of Outside Basketball Courts – Bid #1213-05

Fund Source: General (Earmarked for Paving)
Amount: \$46,575.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

12. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

- b. Florida Association of District School Superintendents Annual Dues for 2012 - 2013

Fund Source: General
Amount: \$10,479.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

13. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. Medical Physicals 2012 - 2013

Fund Source: Transportation
Amount: \$7,000.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Items preceded by an (*) were removed from the CONSENT agenda at the beginning of the meeting and acted upon the DISCUSSION portion of the agenda.

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

- a. Personnel 2011 – 2012

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Personnel 2012 – 2013

In response to Mr. Frost's concern regarding Dr. Nash's position, Dr. Hightower stated that Dr. Nash's position should be corrected to Coordinator for 21st Century.

Dr. Hightower requested the following corrections: Mrs. Rosalyn Smith's position as Deputy Superintendent, and Dr. Sylvia Jackson's position as Director of K-12.

Mr. Hinson questioned the position of Dropout Prevention Coordinator/Assistant Principal at Shanks Middle School.

Dr. Hightower stated that Mr. Rocky Pace will resume his duties from Carter Parramore Academy as Dropout Prevention Coordinator to Dropout Prevention Coordinator/Assistant Principal at Shanks Middle School.

Mr. Frost asked if Mr. Pace would be eligible to work after DROP retirement.

Dr. Hightower stated that the FRS Rule states that an employee in DROP Retirement must be out of work a minimum of six months, total of twelve months, or forfeit their retirement for six months.

Mr. Frost expressed his disagreement with some of the personnel appointments.

In response to Mr. Hinson's concern whether all positions were budgeted for, Mr. James stated, yes.

Following discussion, Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #6a & b with the noted corrections. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

***7. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS**

c. School Board Truth In Millage (TRIM) Timetable

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

Mr. Simmons stated that a budget workshop was needed before the final budget hearing.

Mrs. Wood suggested rescheduling the Tentative Budget Hearing from July 24th to July 31st.

Following discussion, Board members scheduled a special meeting on July 10th at 4:00 p.m. to discuss the budget and other issues.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendents recommendation to approve agenda item #7c with the correction to reschedule the Tentative Budget Hearing from July 24th to July 31st. The motion was seconded by Mr. Eric F. Hinson and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

***8. AGREEMENTS/PROJECT/GRANT APPLICATIONS**

a. Purchase Orders for Federal Projects

Fund Source: Title I Part A
Amount: \$77,494.90

Mr. Simmons stated that he was concern about having more than one purchase order for the same company.

Mrs. Wood stated that there was more than one purchase order to the same company, because there were two different kinds of books, different schools, as well as different sources.

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

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

b. Continuation of Solid Waste Collection Agreement with Waste Pro

Fund Source: 110
Amount: \$80,733.84

Mr. Simmons asked if items could be re-bid; or automatic renewal. He stated that the district needs to keep options open for bidding.

Mrs. Wood stated that the Continuation of Solid Waste Collection Agreement can be automatically renewed for additional one year terms at the mutual agreement of the School Board and Waste Pro. She stated that the Board determines how bids are written.

Mr. Milton stated that the Board has the option to automatic renewals.

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

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*10. STUDENT MATTERS

a. Student Transfers – See back-up material

Ms. Sandra Yon, parent of student #062612-02, addressed the Board to request an out-of-district transfer to Leon County.

In response to the parent's public records request for student data, Attorney Minnis stated that the district could only provide a student count number, and not student data information.

Dr. Kimball Thomas, Principal of East Gadsden High School addressed the Board to share improvements at the school.

Ms. Phoebe Tennell, parent of student #061212-03, addressed the Board to request an out-of-district transfer to Leon County. She stated that she was not aware of all the programs the district had to offer 9th graders.

Mr. Hinson stated that the district needed to do a better job of marketing schools.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to defer action on agenda item #10a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost.

Mr. Milton made a motion to approve agenda item #10a.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Hinson made a motion to defer action on agenda item #10a, b, c & d. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost.

Mr. Simmons stated that the Board needs to take separate action on agenda item #10a, b, c & d.

Mr. Eric F. Hinson made a motion to rescind the action on agenda item #10a, b, c & d. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost.

Mr. Eric F. Hinson made a motion to defer action on agenda item #10a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #10b, c & d. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #95-1112-0051

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #96-1112-0051

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #97-1112-0231

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*11. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

- a. Carpet and Tile Replacement for Greensboro Elementary School

Fund Source: 379

Amount: \$82,943.30

Mr. Eric F. Hinson made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #11a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Carpet and Tile Replacement for Havana Middle School

Fund Source: 379

Amount: \$137,319.33

Mr. Eric F. Hinson made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #11b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*12. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

a. Curriculum Pilot for Expansion at Gadsden Elementary Magnet School

Fund Source: General Revenue

Amount: Approximately \$36,000 (cost of teacher without benefits)

Mr. Simmons stated that the curriculum pilot for expansion at Gadsden Elementary Magnet School was minimal cost to retain students. He stated that he was willing to support the expansion at Gadsden Elementary Magnet School.

Mr. Frost stated that he was concerned about pilot schools. He stated that pilot schools take away from other schools. He stated that the district was headed in the right direction. He asked where would the students at Gadsden Elementary Magnet School attend 8th grade.

Mr. James stated that the Board has an obligation to have an accelerated program for students. He stated that this pilot program is the forerunner for the district's IB Program.

Following discussion, Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #12a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried with Mr. Simmons, Mr. Helms, and Mr. Milton voting "aye". Mr. Frost voted "nay". Mr. Hinson stepped out of the meeting and did not cast a vote.

Ornyll Lewis, student at Gadsden Elementary Magnet School, thanked the Board for the opportunity to continue attending Gadsden Elementary Magnet School.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

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

a. Discussion and Request to Advertise the Board's Intent to Amend School Board Policy 2.25 (subsection Code of Student Conduct)

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #14a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

15. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. James stated that he and the coaches and staff attended the Common Core Standards Conference last week. He stated that school grades were delayed.

Mr. Hinson returned to the meeting.

16. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Simmons stated that the district was approaching a new fiscal year. He stated that Gadsden County is a great school system. He stated that the Board needed to invest more time. He stated that the district has to change its perception and market the good things at the schools. He stated that he was concerned about having student Board representatives, and recognizing retirees.

Mr. Hinson shared some student success stories. He stated that he was concerned about placing a net around the racquetball court at Havana Middle School.

17. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.