

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP

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

June 23, 2020

4:30 P.M.

This workshop was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present via telephone conference: Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis, Chairwoman; Mr. Leroy McMillan; Mr. Steve Scott; and Mr. Tyrone D. Smith. Also present were Mr. Roger P. Milton, 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 Chairwoman, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis, at 4:32 p.m.

2. Financial Information

- a. Florida Retirement System Rates for 2020-21
- b. 2019-20 Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) Fourth Calculation
- c. Comparison by Years of Unweighted Recalibrated Student FTE

Mrs. Wood stated that the district was exactly one week to the end of the 2019 -2020 fiscal year. She shared information with the Board regarding the 2019 – 2020 FEFP Student Fourth Calculation which was \$4,813.75. She stated that the district's FEFP audit report revealed 40 findings in 18 centers. She stated that 70% of the findings were at one school. She stated that the district has a total of \$400,000 in findings. She stated that the district needs to review its procedures and policies. She stated that the district has received 8 checks from insurance totaling \$6,280,000.72. She stated that the district's budget release issue was not able to be resolved before the system will be shut down for fiscal year-end processing. She stated that there is a cash flow issue with the State of Florida. She stated that cash advance requests would not be processed until July 2nd, anticipating funds will be received on July 8th. She stated that there are 10 named storms for this hurricane season. She stated that the district will be challenged to prepare for storms during this COVID-19 pandemic. She stated that Board approval request to delay the full implementation of Board Policy #6.541 Vacation Leave Payment/DROP. She stated that Section 1 Parts A, and B, define maximum amounts of vacation leave that twelve-month employees may accumulate. She stated that by delaying the full implementation of these two paragraphs for active employees, all employees will have an opportunity to fully utilize vacation time that has accumulated. She stated that because the legislators have not reconvened, the districts will have to deal with teacher salary increases based on certification. She stated that there will be an increase in the Florida Retirement System. She stated that the insurance committee recommended no change in the employee deductions for dental insurance. She stated that the base dental plan remains at no cost to the employee. She stated that there will be no change to the Board's benefit premiums per employee. She stated that the base plan remains at \$18.20 per month per employee.

She stated that the insurance committee recommended no change in the life insurance premiums for active employees who choose additional life insurance. She stated that active employees do not pay any premium for life insurance of one times the employee's salary. She stated that this premium is paid by the Board. She stated that the Board's premium for the one times the employees' salary would increase from \$.17/\$1,000 of salary per month per employee to \$.21/\$1,000. She stated that the annualized cost of this increase in premium is approximately \$12,490.09 based on the current salaries and numbers of employees. She stated that the increase for retirees would be from \$2.53/\$1,000 of coverage per month to \$3.53/\$1,000 of coverage per month or 40% increase with the following options: retirees can choose a flat \$10,000 life insurance policy with a premium of \$35.30 per month, or retirees life insurance plan would be subject to an additional reduction of 25% of the retired face amount of life insurance coverage at age 75.

Mr. Milton left the workshop at 4:55 p.m. due to a prior engagement.

Mr. Mays shared with the Board an overview of the district's budget. He stated that he is working to close out purchase orders for this fiscal year and opening new ones for the 2020 – 2021 fiscal year. He stated that the district is continuing to work to balance the budget.

In response to Mr. McMillan's concern about where the district is financially, Mrs. Wood stated that the district is alright financially. She stated that grant entitlements will be received by July 8th. She stated that the district will be careful about release of payments. She stated that the district is moving in the right direction. She stated that employees pay is first. She stated that as of June 23rd the district has a total of 792 employees.

Mrs. Lewis thanked Mrs. Wood and Mr. Mays for their update on the district finances.

3. Educational Items by the Superintendent

On behalf of the Superintendent, Dr. Sylvia Jackson requested verification of all Board members that were on the telephone conference call. She advised all individuals on the telephone conference call to email Mrs. Mary Davis of their participation.

4. School Board Requests and Concerns

None.

5. The workshop adjourned at 5:21 p.m.