

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

July 16, 2024

6:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mrs. Karema D. Dudley, Chairwoman, Mr. Leroy McMillan (via zoom), Ms. Cathy S. Johnson, Mr. Steve Scott, and Mr. Charlie D. Frost. Also present were Mr. Elijah Key, 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 Chairwoman, Mrs. Karema D. Dudley, at 6:01 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Mr. Charlie D. Frost.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. PROPOSED TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 – 2025

Mrs. Bruner, Director of Finance, presented the Board with a revised TRIM schedule. She stated that the district would receive information from the Department of Education regarding the certification of the Required Local Effort (RLE) millage rate as required by (s. 1011.62(4) (a) 1.a, F.S.). Mr. Key stated that the proposed tentative budget hearing will be moved back from July 30th to July 29th.

Ms. Johnson wanted to know when was the reporting date for the final budget. Mr. Key stated that the final budget hearing was scheduled for September 3rd. He stated that the final budget needed to be submitted to the Department of Education by September 8th. Ms. Johnson stated that she wanted to ensure that all components are included in the budget before submitting to DOE. Mr. Frost stated that he wanted to ensure that the district was not in violation of changing the dates on the TRIM schedule.

Following discussion, Mr. Steve Scott made a motion to approve the TRIM schedule with the date changes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

5. REQUEST PERMISSION TO ADVERTISE THE PROPOSED TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 – 2025

Agenda item #5 was tabled until the July 23rd board meeting.

6. NEW K-8 SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Mr. Scott Bruner and Ms. Erica Hagan, (DAG) shared with the Board a power-point presentation outlining an update on the new K-8 School. Ms. Hagan stated that DAG is working closely with Allstate. She stated that the request will be made to DOE and the legislature for more money. Mr. Bruner stated that it is very important for the Board to get the school requested. He stated that the Board will need to show DOE the need for the monies. He stated that the planning phase is in progress for construction. He stated that the project is moving forward at the right pace. He stated that a proposal for a guaranteed maximum price (GMP) is needed to begin advancing the new school project. He stated that the numbers need to be confident. He stated that the early

phase will need to begin early (August, September or October) in order to get the campus set up for construction and demolition of the pool property. A workshop was scheduled on July 29th to further discuss the new K-8 School. Mr. Frost thanked DAG and Allstate for their confidence to build the new school. Mrs. Dudley stated that she appreciated DAG and Allstate for taking the time to share information with the Board regarding the new K-8 school.

7. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Key stated that the 2024 – 2025 school calendars were approved with no changes. He stated that issues are with employees not being off on Good Friday and spring break not aligned with Leon County. He stated that the employees will work ½ day on Good Friday for planning. Mr. McMillan stated that he wanted employees to have Good Friday off and work President’s day. Mr. Key stated that he would bring a recommendation to the Board regarding the school calendar. He stated that it is a possibility that the district would receive school grades on July 24th.

8. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Ms. Johnson acknowledged Principal Camry Floyd for taking on the assignment to be principal at James A. Shanks Middle School. She stated that Principal Floyd is taking on the assignment with pride.

Board members thanked DAG and Allstate for sharing updates on the new K-8 school.

9. The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.