

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

August 1, 2017

5:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Isaac Simmons, Chairman; Mr. Steve Scott; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; and Mr. Tyrone D. Smith. Also present were Mr. Roger P. Milton, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; Mrs. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for Board; and others. Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis was absent.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Isaac Simmons, at 5:05 p.m.

2. FACILITY/PROPERTY

a. Proposed Site for the New Stewart Street Elementary School

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

Following a lengthy discussion on the proposed site for the New Stewart Street Elementary School and each Board member expressing their concerns, Mr. Steve Scott made a motion to defer action on agenda item #2a until Thursday, August 10th at 5:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith and carried unanimously.

Mr. Simmons stated that he wanted all Board members to participate in the discussion of the proposed site for the New Stewart Street Elementary School.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a. Lawn Maintenance

Mr. Hunter shared with the Board information on the current ground maintenance contracts. He stated that the current grounds maintenance contracts totaled \$200,016.00. He stated that if the district hired its own grounds maintenance personnel, the proposed total would be \$175,181.00 to include one head grounds keeper, a grounds keeper, a truck, zero turn mower, materials, and supplies.

Following discussion of the district's lawn maintenance, the Board agreed to move forward with the district hiring employees to maintain its lawn.

b. 2017 – 2018 Budget

Mrs. Wood shared with the Board a finance notebook. She stated that maintaining the finance notebook was a working process. She stated that budget information will be provided to the Board at each meeting. She requested the district appeal to AmeriCorps to continue the program. She shared with the Board an explanation of the following information in the finance notebook: student data, historical summary, employees by center, employee types, and the general fund by budget.

4. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

None.

5. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Frost stated that he enjoyed the meeting. He stated that there was good conversation between the Board, Superintendent and staff.

Mr. Smith recognized his son, Jeremiah. He stated that he was excited about the upcoming school year. He requested an update on the school reconfiguration at the next meeting.

Mr. Milton stated that the next school reconfiguration meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, August 9th at 10:00 am at the district office.

Mr. Scott stated that he was concerned about the district's finance. He stated that Ms. Mandela shared some interesting salary information with the Board at the last meeting. He stated that the DOE website has interesting information comparing districts who have the same number of students or close to the number of students in the Gadsden district. He encouraged the Board to review the information on the DOE website comparing districts. He stated that districts seem to perform better with less administrative staff.

Mr. Smith stated that there are many variables that contribute to student performance. He stated that there are many hidden variables when comparing and contrasting student performance.

Mr. Simmons stated that the Board need to take constant snapshots of the district's budget. He requested a date for a workshop to discuss the programs at Gadsden Technical Institute.

Mr. Milton stated that he prefer waiting until approximate two weeks into the school year before scheduling a workshop to discuss the programs at Gadsden Technical Institute. He stated that he want to have current enrollment information at Gadsden Technical Institute.

6. The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.