

## FINAL BUDGET HEARING

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

September 3, 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, 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 6:02 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Superintendent Elijah Key.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NUMBER 2024-03 for Final Millage – FDOE Form ESE 524

Fund Source: General Fund and Capital Project

Amount: Refer to millage rates and amounts stated on the Resolution

Mrs. Dudley stated that Resolution Number 2024 – 03, FDOE Form ESE 524 was for the final millage levies to be adopted by the Board for fiscal year 2024 – 25. She stated that the total millage was 5.3870, and the rates were initially approved on July 30, 2024, at the tentative budget hearing. She stated that no rates have changed.

Following Mrs. Dudley's reading of Resolution Number 24-03, and Mrs. Bruner's explanation of Resolution Number 2024-03, the Board voted unanimously to approve Resolution Number 2024-03.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

5. APPROVAL OF THE 2024 – 2025 FINAL BUDGET – FDOE form ESE 139

Fund Source: All Funds Budget

Amount: Refer to final budget

Following Mrs. Bruner's overview of the budget for fiscal year 2024-2025, Mr. Steve Scott made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2024 – 2025 final budget – FDOE form ESE 139. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leroy McMillan and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

6. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2024-04 – BOARD’S INTENTION ON USE OF GENERAL FUNDS

Fund Source: General Funds

Amount: N/A

Mrs. Dudley stated that the Board’s intention that services identified in the previously adopted budgets by Resolutions 2024-01, 2024-02, and 2024-03, as well as any subsequent amendments presented to the Board for approval, are the only services that the district would provide in the absence of federal funds.

Following discussion of agenda item #6 – Resolution Number 2024 – 04 - Board’s Intention on use of General Funds, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. Resolution Number 2024 - 05 – Adoption of Final Budget

Fund Source: All Budget Funds

Amount: Refer to final budget

Following Mrs. Dudley’s reading of Resolution Number 2024 – 05 Adoption of the Final Budget for fiscal year 2024 – 2025, the Board voted unanimously to approve. Mrs. Bruner stated that the final budget consisted of a combination of federal and general funds of \$110,763,482.75 for fiscal year 2024 – 2025.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

8. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Key invited everyone to the Girls Volleyball Game this week against Munroe. He also invited everyone to the Gadsden County High School Football Game Friday (September 6) against Godby High School at 7:00 p.m. He stated that there will be a meet and greet at 5:30 p.m. before the football game on Friday. He stated that the high school football team was victorious against Tennessee last Friday.

9. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Ms. Johnson stated that One Gadsden Foundation was partnering with Second Harvest for a food drive on Friday (September 6) beginning at 10:00 a.m.

In response to Mr. Scott’s concern regarding whether everything relating to insurance has been paid and up to date, Mrs. Bruner stated yes, but one benefit was currently being brought up to date.

Mr. McMillan apologized for a statement made at the last meeting regarding Pat Thomas Insurance having the authority to set prices. He stated that they do not have the authority to set prices for the Board. He stated that he was sorry if anything was said wrong.

Mr. Frost stated that he appreciated the high school football team. He stated that some districts have employees do online benefit enrollment. He stated that the responsibility is then placed on the employee for their benefits.

In response to Mrs. Dudley’s question if the Food Service Director position had been filled, Mr. Key stated yes, that Mr. Samuel Burgess has been hired to fill the position. He stated that Mr. Burgess would be introduced to the Board at the next meeting.

Ms. Johnson stated that she wanted to have a workshop to address one of the audit concerns regarding processes not being in place. She stated that Mrs. Bruner was doing a great job.

10. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.