

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

August 22, 2017

6:00 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; Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis; 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 the Board; and others.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Isaac Simmons, at 6:00 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Reverend Patrick Faison of St. Matthew Missionary Baptist Church.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Milton stated that the district was prepared for the eclipse. He stated that there were no damages as a result of the eclipse.

Mr. Frost stated that bus issues are not out of the norm. He thanked Mr. Gay for taking the time to handle bus situations during the start of school.

Mr. Smith stated that he reported to the transportation department the first day of school, along with visiting schools. He stated that employees were excited and ready the first day of school. He stated that the district had a great start of the school year. He gave kudos to the Superintendent and Gadsden County High School Football Team on their first win.

Mrs. Lewis recognized pastors and deacons for welcoming students back to school at Gadsden County High school. She stated that there were no major complaints. She thanked the directors for visiting schools at the beginning and end of the first day of school.

Mr. Scott stated that he was happy to see more students than expected. He stated that the first day of school was a great start. He stated that he visited more than one school the first day. He stated that everything went very well the first day of school.

Mr. Simmons stated that he visited four schools the first day of school. He stated it was a great start the first day of school. He stated that leadership is engaged and involved. He quoted "It takes a village to raise a child". He recognized Dr. Kimblin NeSmith.

Dr. NeSmith stated that the Dr. Martin Luther King Committee of Chattahoochee reported to Chattahoochee Elementary School the first day of school. He recognized Ms. White and Ms. McWhite as members of the Dr. Martin Luther King Committee of Chattahoochee. He stated that the Dr. Martin Luther King Committee of Chattahoochee adopted Chattahoochee Elementary School. He stated that the committee refurbished and painted the outside of the school. He stated that the committee members greeted students on the first day of school. He stated that this is an ongoing engagement in the community of Chattahoochee. He stated that there are ongoing fundraising activities for Chattahoochee Elementary School.

Mr. Simmons commended the members of the Dr. Martin Luther King Committee of Chattahoochee.

Mr. Milton recognized Dr. Ronald Peterson, Principal of George W. Munroe Elementary School.

Dr. Peterson stated that he solicited the support of the members of the Fellowship Church of Midway. He stated that the members of the Fellowship Church of Midway came out in large numbers to assist with painting buildings and classrooms at George W. Munroe Elementary School. He stated that teachers also got involved in the George Munroe Clean-up Day. He stated that there were no excuses, all hands were on deck.

Mr. Smith recognized Mr. Hunter for his availability around the clock. He stated that it was encouraging to see principals and teachers appreciate Mr. Hunter for resolving issues in a timely manner.

Ms. Anne Radke addressed the Board to thank them for allowing her to give an update regarding the REAL Essentials Program. She stated that the REAL Essentials Program has been extended to teach students at Carter Parramore Academy and Crossroad Academy to 40 students. She stated that the REAL Essentials Program has 32 lesson plans. She stated that it is her mission to partner with the school district and contribute to the goal of helping Gadsden students become the best version of themselves and accomplish great things.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Simmons entertained a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Charlie D. Frost, seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. July 25, 2017, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. July 25, 2017, 6:00 p.m. – Tentative Budget Hearing
- c. July 25, 2017, Immediately Following Tentative Budget Hearing at 6:00 p.m. - Regular School Board Meeting
- d. August 1, 2017, 5:00 p.m. – Special School Board Meeting
- e. August 10, 2017, 5:00 p.m. – Special School Board Meeting

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

6. PERSONNEL MATTERS (resignations, retirements, recommendations, leaves of absence, terminations of services, volunteers, and job descriptions)
 - a. Personnel 2017 – 2018
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS
 - a. Agreement Between the Gadsden County Public Schools and Kavontaye Baker, PT, DPT, Physical Therapist
 Fund Source: FEFP Dollars
 Amount: \$61.00 (per hour for actual hours worked)
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
 - b. Renewal Contractual Agreement – PSTB Consulting, LLC
 Fund Source: Federal Funds
 Amount: \$10,000.00
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY
 - a. Havana Magnet School/Pressure Washing Services
 Fund Source: 110
 Amount: \$3,500.00
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
 - b. Licensure Agreement Between Gadsden County School and School Dude/Utility Essentials
 Fund Source: 110
 Amount: 4,175.00
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
 - c. Licensure Agreement Between Gadsden County School Board and School Dude
 Fund Source: 110
 Amount: \$7,665.00
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Ducky Johnson House Movers, Inc.

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

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

*7. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS

- c. Title I Parent Specialist

Fund Source: Federal Program
Amount: \$18,000.00

Mrs. Lewis requested Mrs. Raynak share with the Board a brief synopsis of the Title I Parent Specialist position.

Mrs. Raynak stated that the Title I Parent Specialist was not a new position. She stated that the position was being restructured. She stated that the Title I Parent Specialist position was specifically identified as targeted services for parent involvement and monitoring required federal programs. She stated that the position includes organization and facilitation of the Title I parent responsibilities for school sites, dissemination of Title I parent documentation, and collection of documentation and evidence of meeting compliance required by the Department of Education and Auditor General for monitoring and audits. She stated that the position, although separate from Parent Services and supervised by Federal Programs, will work in collaboration with the Coordinator of the Parent Resource Center.

Following discussion, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #7c. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Gadsden County School Board Head Start Program 2017 – 2018 Refunding Application and Program Improvement Plan

Fund Source: Head Start
Amount: \$2,631,736

Mrs. Lewis commended Mrs. Carolyn Harden for a very well written grant for the Head Start Program. She praised Mrs. Harden for providing the Board with a copy of the Policy Council agenda and minutes. She requested clarity on the coaches program.

Mrs. Harden stated that the coaches program was a Professional Development Program for teachers. She stated that the Board needed to schedule a meeting for Head Start Training.

The Board scheduled a meeting on Tuesday, October 24th at 2:00 p.m. for Head Start Training.

Following discussion, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #7d. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*9. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

a. Gadsden District K-12 Comprehensive Reading Plan

Fund Source: FEFP

Amount: \$314,952.00

Mrs. Lewis asked whether or not there were any difference with the Gadsden District K-12 Comprehensive Reading Plan compared to last year.

Mrs. Tammy McGriff-Farlin stated that the District's K-12 Comprehensive Reading Plan was a very fluid document. She stated that Reading Coaches are out at the school sites. She stated that Reading Coaches are Instructional Specialists who focus on reading. She stated that coaches work in the classrooms as Interventionists. She stated that the Reading Coaches provide support for new and beginning teachers.

Mrs. Lewis requested the district have reading literacy activities every month. She stated that she was excited about getting students to read.

Mrs. McGriff-Farlin stated that the district has partnered with the Gadsden Arts Center and the Gadsden County Retired Teachers Association. She stated that the district also has the Accelerated Reading Program.

Dr. Sylvia Jackson stated that the Reading Specialist spends 50% of their time working with students at Gadsden County High School.

Following discussion, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #9a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

10. FACILITIES UPDATE

Mr. Hunter encouraged everyone to focus on the positive. He stated that the district had 49 critical failures last year. He stated that there are currently 9 critical failures. He stated that the district has made some major improvements. He stated that he is working to upgrade many of the facilities. He thanked everyone for being a team player.

Mr. Frost appreciated Mr. Hunter for his dedication and hard work to the district.

11. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Milton stated that a memo was prepared to send to schools regarding the suspension of the use of facilities until further notice due to AC issues and problems. He stated that he was pleased that the before school programs had begun for the elementary and high schools. He stated that he had received a letter from St. John AME Church requesting the lease of the St. John Elementary School Property. He stated that he had lunch with staff and students at a couple of schools. He encouraged the Board to have lunch with staff and students. He also encouraged district staff to participate in lunch at schools. He gave kudos to everyone on the Gadsden County Team. He stated that he was very pleased with the opening of schools.

12. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Frost requested that Carter Parramore Academy be used for what it was intended for. He stated that Carter Parramore Academy should be for credit retrieval, and an alternative school for educating students.

Mr. Simmons stated that there was a request for Mr. Scott Watson to be replaced by Mr. Norman McMillan to serve as the Board's business representative on the Value Adjustment Board.

Following discussion, Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to appoint Mr. Norman McMillan to serve as the Board's business representative on the Value Adjustment Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

Mr. Simmons stated that in an effort to meet the district's challenges, he stated that the Board's involvement in every facet of the schools should include transportation, curriculum K-12 /professional development, finance, facilities, athletics, school functions, and parent services. He stated that he will share information with the superintendent and present at the August 29th meeting. He requested an update on the Capital Health Plan Insurance issue with employees.

Mrs. Wood stated that the major payrolls are done in June and July. She stated that the ACH payment for Capital Health Plan was not done normally. She stated that the Capital Health Plan payment was sent to marketing instead of reconciliation. She stated that some of the 12 month employees were affected. She stated that the district is working to reinstate Capital Health Plan for the employees. She stated that the error was partly triggered by the turnover in personnel.

Mr. Clarence Tennell addressed the Board in regards to the AC issues. He stated that the Superintendent had addressed his concerns with the AC issues.

Mr. Simmons thanked everyone for attending the Board meeting. He stated that with the commitment of everyone the district will move forward.

13. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.