

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP

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

February 26, 2019

4:30 P.M.

This workshop was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis, Vice Chairwoman; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; Mr. Leroy McMillan; 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. Steve Scott was absent.

1. Call to Order

The workshop was called to order by the Vice Chairwoman, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis, at 4:34 p.m.

2. Financial Information

Mrs. Wood stated that the district received audit findings in the general ledger accounts and bank reconciliations. She stated that Ms. Shekinah Dawkins was hired in the finance department, and Mrs. Shirley Alday was retiring at the end of this fiscal year. She stated that the finance department is reorganizing staff to do reconciliation. She stated that the employees in the finance and IT department are attending Skyward training. She stated that bonuses are being entered by hand because staff is not familiar with entering information into Skyward. She stated that the district is continuing to roll out Employee Access. She stated that food service employees will receive employee access training by the end of February. She stated that the lead bus drivers will receive training and provide training to other drivers. She stated that two persons from each school will attend the employee access training and will train other staff at their schools. She stated that the district would not print paper checks as of July 1st. She stated that approximately staff at six schools along with the charter will receive recognition monies. She stated that some of the Career Technical Education teachers will received CTE funds. She stated that the district will continue to work gathering data for FEMA and the insurance company. She stated that the district is working with insurance adjusters and FEMA to ensure that all parties are working together. She stated that funds for the Best & Brightest teachers will be disbursed on April 1st.

Mr. Milton stated that the district is making sure that all vendors are paid in a timely manner. He stated that the district is doing everything possible to receive some cash flow from the insurance company and FEMA.

Mrs. Wood stated that the district will participate with the county municipalities to lobby legislative for hurricane recovery. She stated that legislation in the past was approved by the legislature for the use of sales tax collection above the current fiscal year's sales tax collection (windfall sale tax collection) to use for recovery and rebuilding in communities affected by the hurricane. She stated that all cities, except Greensboro, which does not have a manager presently, and County agreed to pursue similar legislation to provide funding for communities and school systems affected by Hurricane Michael in the panhandle.

Mr. Milton stated that a grand jury is continuing to look at all districts who are not in compliance to have a full-time officer or guardian at each school. He stated that he and Mr. Bruce James have a meeting scheduled with the Sheriff tomorrow (February 27th) to discuss the guardian program and other options to be in compliance with school safety.

Mrs. Wood stated that weekly meetings are held with FEMA representatives. She stated that site inspections at the schools will begin soon. She stated that updates to the financial disclosures will be sent to elected officials. She stated that Mr. Mays was hospitalized due to adverse reaction to medication for dental work.

3. School Board Requests and Concerns

In response to Mr. McMillan's concern regarding a rescheduled workshop to discuss student discipline, Mr. Milton questioned what areas of student discipline needed to be covered and which staff should attend the workshop. Mr. Milton stated that staff was working on the code of student conduct handbook.

Mr. Frost stated that the sheriff, school resource officers, principals, assistant principals and Mr. Bruce James should attend the workshop to discuss student discipline.

During a lengthy discussion on student discipline, Board members shared their concerns, made comments, and asked questions. Board members noted during the discussion, that the district's student code of conduct is one of the best, administration need to enforce rules of the student code of conduct handbook, and there should be an open line of communication with staff and parents.

4. The workshop adjourned at 5:55 p.m.