

## REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

September 22, 2015

6:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis, Chairwoman; Mr. Isaac Simmons; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; and Mr. Steve Scott. Also present were Mr. Reginald C. James, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; Ms. Elizabeth Barron, Attorney for the Board; and others. Mr. Roger P. Milton was absent.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chairwoman, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis, at 6:05 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Rev. Howard Adams.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

The Superintendent and Board recognized the following business owners: Pat Thomas & Associates Insurance, Inc., Ochlockonee Point Apartments, Barkley Security, Rev. Clarence Jackson & Destiny Center, Piggly Wiggly, Massey Drugs, Ausley & McMullen Law Firm, Clemons Rutherford & Associates, City of Gretna, City of Quincy, Gadsden County Sheriff Department, Envision Credit Union, Cook Brothers, Inc., Bishop Titus Deas & Deliverance Temple Ministries, Rev. Julius Harris & New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church, Rev. Dedric Streeter & Elizabeth Church of Christ Written In Heaven, Rev. Eddie Hadley & Pine Bloom Missionary Baptist Church, Curtis Richardson, Pastor Victor Lewis, Bishop Jerome Showers, Bell & Bates Home Center, Havana Kiwanis Club, Quincy Kiwanis Club, Gadsden County Men of Action, Inc., Representative Alan Williams, First Presbyterian Church, and Hinson Oil. Each business owner was presented with a certificate of special recognition.

Ms. Sherrie Taylor announced that the district would be participating in the statewide observance of DADS Take Your Child to School Day on Wednesday, September 30th. She stated that the district's kick-off celebration was scheduled for Tuesday, September 29th, Gadsden Elementary Magnet School beginning at 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. featuring Chancellor Hershel Lyons with the Division of Public Schools.

The Board presented Mr. James with a plaque and gift honoring his retirement.

Mr. James expressed his gratitude and thanked the Board for their support.

Mr. Simmons recognized Ms. Charlotte Rice with United Way.

Ms. Rice solicited the Board's support to become reading pals for the Reading Pals Volunteers United Program. She stated that members could become a reading pal and make a difference in the community. She stated that volunteers are matched one-to-one with a child in kindergarten, first, or second grade. She stated that volunteers report during the after school setting for one hour a week. She stated that volunteers present each student with a brand new book every week. She stated that volunteers utilize a user-friendly curriculum that is tailored to the needs of a young struggling reader. She stated that volunteers receive training and mentor certification from UWBB and Gadsden County School District. She stated that the program is currently at Greensboro Elementary School on Tuesdays from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.; and at St. John Elementary School on Tuesdays from 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Simmons stated that the district will provide transportation to pick up books for the Reading Pals Volunteer United Program.

The Board recessed the meeting at 6:35 p.m., and reconvened at 6:50 p.m.

## ITEMS FOR CONSENT

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

### 5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. August 25, 2015, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. August 25, 2015, 6:00 p.m. – Regular School Board Meeting
- c. September 8, 2015, 6:00 p.m. – Final Budget Hearing

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

6. PERSONNEL MATTERS (resignations, retirements, recommendations, leaves of absence, terminations of services, volunteers, and job descriptions)

a. Personnel 2015 – 2016

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

a. Charter School Financial Reports

Fund Source: General Funds pass through to Charter School

Amount: N/A – presentation information only

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. AGREEMENTS/PROJECT/GRANT APPLICATIONS

b. Vision Services for Exceptional Students

Fund Source: FEFP Dollars

Amount: \$14,500.00 (est.)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

c. Contracted Services with The Gadsden County School Board and Britney Desir, Speech Pathologist of Therapeutic Endeavors, LLC

Fund Source: FEFP Dollars

Amount: \$58.00 per hour

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

d. Contracted Service for Dual Enrollment Program

Fund Source: General Fund

Amount: \$21,297.60

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

f. Gadsden District Instructional Leadership and Faculty Development Grant

Fund Source: Specific Appropriation 104 for Administrative Professional  
Development

Amount: \$18,348.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

- a. Repair of HVAC Unit at East Gadsden High School

Fund Source: 340  
Amount: \$13,290.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. HVAC Equipment Project at James A. Shanks Middle School/Health Clinic

Fund Source: 420  
Amount: \$15,000.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Roofing Project at James A. Shanks Middle School Health Clinic

Fund Source: 420  
Amount: \$11,320.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Replace Duct Work at James A. Shanks Middle School/Health Clinic

Fund Source: 420  
Amount: \$14,107.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. Five Year Work Plan

Fund Source: N/A  
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

10. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

- a. Gadsden County Controlled Open Enrollment Plan

Fund Source: N/A  
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. The 2015 – 2016 SAC Rosters

Fund Source: N/A  
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. District Digital Classroom Plan

Fund Source: N/A  
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. Gadsden District K-12 Comprehensive Reading Plan

Fund Source: FEFP  
Amount: \$335,949.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

11. CONSIDERATION, PROPOSAL, AND/OR ADOPTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND RELATED MATTERS

- a. Amendment and Updating School Board Policies

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.

\*8. AGREEMENTS/PROJECT/GRANT APPLICATIONS

- a. Federal Programs Purchase Orders

Fund Source: Federal  
Amount: \$44,813.00

Mrs. Lewis stated that a correction on page #23 regarding the date was needed to read June 30, 2016.

Following discussion, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item 8a with the correction of a date change on page #23 to read June 30, 2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** The Superintendent recommended approval.

Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to reverse the Board's action on agenda item #8e. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to reverse the Board's action on agenda item #10b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

e. Memorandum of Understanding – CIS of Florida

Fund Source: Federal  
Amount: \$12,000.00

Mrs. Lewis requested clarification on the Memorandum of Understanding. – CIS of Florida.

Ms. Rose Raynak stated that renewal of an annual Memorandum of Understanding with Communities in Schools of Florida was to provide the establishment and operation of a local project under the AmeriCorps VISTA program pursuant to Title I, Part A of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act. She stated that the primary purpose of this MOU is for the Gadsden County Schools to provide the site with up to (5) AmeriCorps VISTA members (serving as Parent Liaisons) to perform volunteer service to strengthen and supplement efforts to eliminate poverty and poverty-related human, social and environmental problems as specified in the Project Application.

Following discussion, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #8e. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** The Superintendent recommended approval.

\*10. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

b. 2015 – 2016 Gadsden County District Parental Involvement Plan

Fund Source: N/A  
Amount: N/A

In response to Mrs. Lewis' concern regarding the clarity on the VISTA Volunteers, Ms. Taylor stated that the district was working to get volunteers from the community.

Following discussion, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #10b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

## 12. FACILITIES UPDATE

Mr. Shepard shared with the Board the following updates: a) HRSA Grant closing Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>; b) waiting on paperwork for boiler installations at James A. Shanks Middle School; c) continuing to work with Mrs. Harden on removal of portables for PreK use; d) reminded Board of utility bill at Havana Elementary School; e) received call from Mr. Jim Brennan (American Legion Post 84) regarding the purchase of the Havana Elementary School property; and f) Board has to advertise for a realtor to sell the property.

Following Mr. Simmons' solicitation of the Board to advertise for a realtor to sell the Havana Elementary School property, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to put an RFP in place to sell the Havana Elementary School property. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

Mr. Shepard stated that the Board room renovations will be completed by the next regular Board meeting.

## 13. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. James announced that Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup> was a district-wide in-service day for staff.

## 14. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Frost stated that he was concerned about parents not being able to enter the bus loop on rainy days at Stewart Street Elementary School. He stated that there could possibly be an addition to the bus loop in the form of an "L" shape to help with the rain issues.

Mr. Shepard stated that a portion of the property belonged to the city, and that he would research the issue to see what could be done.

Mr. Simmons stated that he was concerned about a replacement for Mr. Shepard upon his retirement. He stated that he wished to proceed with advertising the position.

Mr. Frost stated that he visited East Gadsden High School, and Principal Jackson stated that the students are smart. He stated that James A. Shanks Middle School ranked lower in school discipline. He stated that Gadsden County School District is a very good school district. He applauded all schools.

Mr. Scott commended the administrators at East Gadsden High School and West Gadsden High School. He stated that the students seemed focused and task-oriented. He stated that he was concerned about finding ways to help fund schools.

Mr. Simmons stated that he will take the lead and charge of putting things in place to increase teacher salaries. He stated that he wanted to schedule an executive session with the chief negotiator to start the process. He thanked Mr. Shepard and staff for their dedication and hard work. He stated that he and Mrs. Lewis will attend the Florida School Boards Association Federal Issues & Advocacy Conference in Washington on September 29 – 30, 2015. He thanked Mrs. Ferree and Mr. Mays for the dialogue regarding the budget.

Mrs. Lewis thanked Ms. Barron for attending the meeting.

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