

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

October 25, 2016

6:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Roger P. Milton, Chairman; Mr. Isaac Simmons; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; and Mr. Steve Scott. Also present were Dr. Pink Hightower, Interim Superintendent; Mrs. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for the Board; and others.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Roger P. Milton, at 6:01 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Mr. Charlie D. Frost.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Hightower recognized Dr. James Brown for his assistance with the district. He stated that Dr. Brown was very valuable to the district.

Mr. Frost recognized Mr. Hunter for his excitement and enthusiasm toward his job. He stated that Mr. Hunter was doing an excellent job as maintenance director. He also recognized Mr. K.D. Wright (bus driver) for being a dedicated bus driver.

Mr. Scott thanked Mr. Hunter for maintaining and the upkeep of the schools.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Milton added the following items to the agenda: #6b – Suspension without Pay of Employee #20161025-01-0091; #9e – Extension of Student Suspensions; #10x – Gadsden Elementary Magnet School Advisory Council Roster; #10y – Galloway Academy Charter School Advisory Council Roster and Meeting; #10z – Greensboro Elementary School Advisory Council Roster and Meeting; #10aa – St. John Elementary School Advisory Council Roster and Meeting; #10bb – East Gadsden High School Advisory Council Roster and Meeting; and #10cc – West Gadsden High School Advisory Council Roster and Meeting. He 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. September 27, 2016, 1:00 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. September 27, 2016, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- c. September 27, 2016, 6:00 p.m. – Regular 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)

- b. Suspension without Pay of Employee #20161025-01-0091

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

- a. Final Calculation 2015 - 16

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Budget Amendment

Fund Source: General Fund
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. AGREEMENTS/PROJECT/GRANT APPLICATIONS

- a. Contracted Service for Dual Enrollment Program

Fund Source: General Fund
Amount: \$21,297.60

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. PAEC - ESE Autism

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. PAEC – ESE Severe and Profound Disabilities

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Addendum Memorandum of Understanding Elder Care Services Foster Grandparent Program and Gadsden County School Board

Fund Source: IDEA Federal Funded

Amount: \$58,000.00 for ten months (\$5,880.00 per month)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. Vision Services for Exceptional Students

Fund Source: FEFP Dollars

Amount: \$14,500.00 est.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. STUDENT MATTERS

- a. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)

Case #04-1617-0051

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)

Case #08-1617-0071

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Student Expulsion - (See back-up material)

Case #09-1617-0071

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. Extension of Student Suspensions – (See back-up material)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

10. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

- a. School Field Trip Request (Out-of-State) – James A. Shanks Middle School

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. School Field Trip Request (Out-of-State) – East Gadsden High School

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Carter Parramore Academy School Improvement Plans
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- e. Chattahoochee Elementary School Improvement Plans
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- f. East Gadsden High School Improvement Plans
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- g. Gadsden Elementary Magnet School Improvement Plans
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- h. George W. Munroe Elementary School Improvement Plans
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- i. Greensboro Elementary School Improvement Plans
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- j. Gretna Elementary School Improvement Plans
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

k. Havana Magnet School Improvement Plans

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

l. James A. Shanks Middle School Improvement Plans

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

m. St. John Elementary School Improvement Plans

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

n. Stewart Street Elementary School Improvement Plans

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

o. West Gadsden High School Improvement Plans

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

p. Carter Parramore Academy School Advisory Council Roster and Meetings

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

q. Chattahoochee Elementary School Advisory Council Roster and Meetings

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- r. Galloway Academy Charter School Advisory Council Roster and Meetings

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- s. George W. Munroe Elementary School Advisory Council Roster and Meetings

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- t. Gretna Elementary School Advisory Council Roster and Meetings

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- u. Havana Magnet School Advisory Council Roster and Meetings

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- v. James A. Shanks Middle School Advisory Council Roster and Meetings

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- w. Stewart Street Elementary School Advisory Council Roster and Meetings

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- x. Gadsden Elementary Magnet School Advisory Council Roster
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- y. Galloway Academy Charter School Advisory Council Roster and Meeting
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- z. Greensboro Elementary School Advisory Council Roster and Meeting
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- aa. St. John Elementary School Advisory Council Roster and Meeting
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- bb. East Gadsden High School Advisory Council Roster and Meeting
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- cc. West Gadsden High School Advisory Council Roster and Meeting
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 and acted upon during the DISCUSSION portion of the agenda.

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

a. Personnel 2016 – 2017

In response to Mr. Simmons' concern whether employee exit interviews are being held, Dr. Hightower stated yes, that most frequently employees are seeking better opportunities and some are leaving for different reasons.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #6a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*9. STUDENT MATTERS

d. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)

Case #10-1617-0051

The mother of student #10-1617-0051 addressed the Board to request a hearing.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to defer action on agenda item #9d until a hearing could be held on Tuesday, November 1st at 6:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*10. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

c. District Improvement and Assistance Plan

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

In response to Mr. Simmons' concern about the procedure to help schools identified as low performing schools, Dr. Hightower stated that strategies are outlined in the District's Improvement and Assistance Plan to provide to the low performing schools aid in academic achievement and school improvement. He requested a workshop to further review and discuss the District's Improvement and Assistance Plan.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #10c. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

The Board scheduled a workshop on Tuesday, November 1st at 4:30 p.m. to further review and discuss the District Improvement and Assistance Plan.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

11. FACILITIES UPDATE

Mr. Hunter requested the Board's permission to get a purchase order in the amount of \$41,000.00 to pay for the repair damage to the building at Greensboro Elementary School. He stated that he will pursue to file a claim with the insurance company to help recover the cost of the damages.

Following discussion, Mr. Steve Scott made a motion to grant Mr. Hunter permission to get a purchase order in the amount of \$41,000.00 to repair damage to the building at Greensboro Elementary School, and to file a claim with the insurance company to help recover the cost of the damages. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

12. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Hightower stated that school grades had been received for Stewart Street Elementary School and James A. Shanks Middle School. He stated that Stewart Street Elementary School received a letter grade of "B" and James A. Shanks Middle School received a grade of letter grade of "C". He thanked the Board for their confidence in allowing him to serve as Interim Superintendent.

Mr. Milton congratulated James A. Shanks Middle School and Stewart Street Elementary School and all of the principals for a job well done.

13. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Frost stated that principals are allowed to contact him or any Board member with questions and concerns.

Mr. Scott stated that he was concerned about the use of facilities in the district. He shared a copy of the use of facilities form with the Board. He stated that the district has gotten relaxed with the use of facilities. He stated that there are limitations for the use of school facilities. He stated that he was especially concerned about the political event held at Carter Parramore Academy last week. He shared his sentiments regarding political signs on vehicles at the schools. He stated that principals are doing a wonderful job, but are stepping beyond their boundaries at times. He stated that the district must promote fairness, honesty and follow the rules and procedures.

Mr. Frost stated that the Board must adhere to the district's policies and procedures.

Mr. Milton stated that Dr. Hightower has the responsibility to ensure that no event is to take place on any district facility without the proper procedures in place.

Ms. Brenda Holt addressed the Board to share information regarding the event last Friday at Carter Parramore Academy. She apologized for any misunderstanding. She stated that she believes in being fair. She thanked everyone for their support in cleaning the school in short turnaround time.

Mr. Simmons stated that he entrust administrators to make the right decisions. He commended Ms. Holt for doing great things for Gadsden County. He thanked the maintenance department for their efforts to get things done. He stated that he was frustrated about the way the event happened. He stated that there should be some form of reprimand for not following the guidelines. He stated that everyone needs to follow the district's rules, regulations and guidelines.

14. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.