

## SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

September 10, 2013

4:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Isaac Simmons, Chairman; Mr. Roger P. Milton; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; Mr. Judge B. Helms; and Ms. Audrey D. Lewis. Also present were Mr. Reginald C. James, 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 4:06 p.m.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Simmons entertained a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Roger P. Milton, seconded by Mr. Judge B. Helms and carried unanimously.

2. AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS

c. Title X Homeless

Fund Source: Title X Homeless  
Amount: \$43,000.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

d. Security Camera's – HVAC Surveillance

Fund Source: 379  
Amount: \$12,700.00

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.

### \*2. AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS

- a. Agreement Between Gadsden County School District and Alternatives Unlimited, Inc.

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

Mr. Helms stated that he was in favor of delaying action for one more year. He stated that written notification was needed to explain that the percentage will change from 10/90 to 15/85 for the 2014 – 2015 year, and that an adjustment will be made to the administrative cost.

Mr. Simmons stated that he was concerned about the services already being duplicated without approval of the contract. He stated that the district needs to enhance programs that are currently in place. He stated the addendum with Catapult services needed to be deleted from the contract.

Mrs. Minnis stated that a correction was needed to section 14.02 page #8 fourth sentence to read “2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit”.

Following discussion, Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation with the changes for written notification to Alternatives Unlimited, Inc. explaining that the percentage will change from 10/90 to 15/85 for the 2014 – 2015 year, and that an adjustment will be made to the administrative cost, removal of the addendum, and correction on page #8 fourth sentence to read “2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

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

- b. Charter for Crossroad Academy School of Business

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

Mr. Simmons stated that agenda item #2b was a follow-up review relating to the issues of Section C – Transportation and Section D – School Food Service. He stated that upon review of the new legislation relating to charter schools, both parties must have a mutual agreement with transportation and school food service for charter schools. He stated that if no agreement, the original charter contract will remain. He stated that he would like to defer acted to

further review the transportation and school food service sections of the charter agreement.

Mr. Milton stated that he would like to be included in the dialogue along with the transportation director, Mrs. Wood and Crossroad Academy. He stated that the Board could proceed with approval for the other sections of the Crossroad Academy Charter contract with the exception of transportation and school food service.

Mr. Simmons asked Mr. Forehand if he would be willing to meet with district staff to further discuss transportation and school food Service for Crossroad Academy Charter School.

Mr. Forehand responded yes, and that he wanted to ensure that the Board received copies of the transportation and school food service sections of the charter.

Mrs. Wood stated that the district had just received the financial cost report from Crossroad Academy Charter School.

Following discussion, Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to approve agenda item #2b with the exception of the transportation and school food service sections. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roger P. Milton and carried with Mr. Helms, Mr. Milton, Mr. Simmons, and Ms. Lewis voting “aye.” Mr. Frost voted “nay.”

**ACTION REQUESTED:** The Superintendent did not recommend approval.

\*3. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

a. Technology Plan Addendum

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: \$.00

Mr. Helms asked if all schools were included in the technology upgrades for installation.

Mr. James stated that there was a two part phase for the technology upgrades. He stated that some of the schools were included in the first phase.

Mr. Helms asked if Crossroad Academy Charter School was included in the upgrades, and if ERATE was based on the number of students.

Mrs. Wood stated that ERATE was based on expenditures, and that all schools have the same process for accountability.

Mrs. Wiggins stated that the technology plan upgrades will be completed in two phases, and was based on ERATE funding. She stated that because she was not familiar with the process for charter schools receiving ERATE funding, she will research information on charter schools.

Mrs. Wood stated that prior to 2011 the charter has not received ERATE funds. She stated that the charter has been included in ERATE funding for the 2011, 2012, and 2013 years.

Mr. James stated that during the EMT meeting, Mrs. Wiggins was commended for her work in the technology department.

Following discussion, Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #3a. The motion was seconded by Ms. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

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

4. **ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Mr. James stated that there has been a breakdown on the district's lawn service.

Mr. Shepard stated that there were under bids on the lawn service contracts. He stated that the contractors for lawn service cancelled the bids. He stated that the lawn service bids were re-bid and will be opened tomorrow (September 11<sup>th</sup>).

Mr. James stated that the district's Lead HVAC employee (Mr. Ricky Sherman) was injured in a car accident. He stated that the district is contracting for HVAC services. He stated that the district will receive high school grades in December. He stated that Duval County has mastered the art of increasing high school grades. He stated that an Algebra teacher was needed at East Gadsden High School. He stated that the district needed to promote that teachers will receive a pay increase.

5. **SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS**

Mr. Simmons requested the Board convene in executive session following the workshop at 5:00 p.m.

6. **The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.**