

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP

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

December 20, 2022

4:30 P.M.

This workshop was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Leroy McMillan, Chairman; Mrs. Karema D. Dudley; Mr. Steve Scott; Ms. Cathy S. Johnson; and Mr. Charlie D. Frost. Also present were Mr. Elijah Key, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; Mrs. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for the Board; and others.

1. Call To Order

The workshop was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Leroy McMillan at 4:35 p.m.

2. Financial Information

None.

3. Facilities Update

Mr. Hunter shared with the Board the following facilities update:

- Maintenance building renovation \$880,000 (roof, water damage, insulation damage – complete gutting of building), three new offices, move from old office and then redo that space. This is a project from hurricane Michael.
- Fencing at West Gadsden Middle School
- Maintenance building awning to cover access to restroom
- Kimball electric – wants to have a P.O. for \$2,500
- Grounds crew is coming on board so fencing will be the district's responsibility

Mr. Hunter introduced Mr. Jack Baker with DAG to share with the Board the schematic design of the Gadsden K-8 School. Mr. Baker expressed his appreciation to the Board.

Mr. Donald Gray, Ms. Erica Hagen, and Mr. Ken Green with DAG each talked about the schematic design. Mr. Gray stated that information from all the meetings with staff was compiled into the plans. He stated that ways were found to maximize the bus drop-off and pickup with controlled access, and the following:

- Minimize cost
- 120 cars
- Included ways to advance technology and potentially use solar power. Plan is to have solar panels on all classroom windows.
- All students will pass by a center node
- Cafetorium serves total 700, 3 serving lines with different type seating based upon grade level and restrooms specific to elementary and middle school
- Anywhere/Any time learning space
- Main circular lobby for multiple venues/spaces
- Controlled lobby space
- School will open in 2025 and they are making sure technology is at the forefront

- Current Shanks gym will be remodeled and renovated, add larger restrooms, weight room and multi event room, and the coaches lockers
- Parking towards King Street and controlled either by fence or buildings
- School capacity is 1,575 students per DOE requirements but there are built in designs to accommodate another 60 students.
- Square footage of classroom is 850-884 square feet per DOE guidelines

Mr. McMillan stated this completes the schematic design for the Gadsden K-8 school and are now moving on to the next phase.

Mr. Hunter stated the district can no longer make design changes. He introduced Mr. Brad Arnold as the maintenance contact since he will be retiring.

4. Strategic Continuous Improvement Plan

Dr. James Brown, former deputy superintendent, shared with the Board an overview of the 2023 – 2027 Strategic Continuous Improvement Plan: Vision – The Gadsden County School District comprises a system of excellence that prepares ALL students to live and successfully complete in a global society; Mission – The Mission of the Gadsden County School District is to collaborate with all stakeholders to provide a safe, caring, rigorous and engaging instructional environment in which students can learn and succeed; and Core Beliefs – The Gadsden County School District believes that all students will learn when instruction is engaging, rigorous, differentiated and individualized; learning environments must be safe and supportive; schools exist to foster the development and well-being of the whole child; understanding and respecting diversity enriches students’ lives; every student has a right to a high-quality education; success requires shared responsibility, collaboration and communication among all staff, families, students and the community; engaged families combined with highly effective teachers and school leaders are the central components of a successful school; positive character education is essential to whole child development; high quality customer service is a critical component of high-quality education; everyone must be held to the highest ethical standards to achieve excellence; everyone must contribute to and be held accountable for student achievement; and all district services must be linked to student achievement, growth and development. He stated that the teaching and learning goal is to prepare each student for academic and job-related success by providing rigorous learning environments that are engaging and instruction that is aligned with Florida Standards. He stated that the culture and climate pillar goal is to develop and sustain a safe, positive and healthy school environment for all stakeholders, resulting in optimal school achievement. He stated that the family and community engagement pillar goal is to provide a comprehensive family and community engagement program that provides meaningful experiences to families in an effort to help them increase their involvement in their child’s education. He stated that the human resources pillar goal is to recruit, retain, and maintain a highly qualified professional staff. He stated that the support systems pillar goal is to improve and maintain the efficacy of systems, processes and overall operations of the district.

Following Dr. Brown’s presentation of the 2023 – 2027 Strategic Continuous Improvement Plan, the Board members and Superintendent thanked him for sharing updated information.

5. Educational Items by the Superintendent

None.

6. School Board Requests and Concerns

None.

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