

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

April 28, 2020

6:00 P.M.

The meeting was open to the public and electrically recorded.

The following Board members were present for the telephone conference: Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis; Mr. Leroy McMillan; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; Mr. Steve Scott; and Mr. Tyrone D. Smith. Also present via telephone conference were Mr. Roger P. Milton, 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 Chairwoman, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis, at 6:00 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Mr. Leroy McMillan.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Omitted.

4. RECOGNITIONS

On behalf of Mrs. Carolyn Francis, Mrs. Vicki Muse Johnson recognized the district volunteer winners; Mr. Ron Nicholas – George W. Munroe Elementary School; Ms. Annie Chandler – Havana Magnet School; and Ms. Sandreka Washington – James A. Shanks Middle School. The Superintendent and Board thanked each of the volunteer winners for their work.

Mrs. Lewis thanked everyone for joining the telephone conference.

Mr. McMillan thanked the City of Chattahoochee and others for providing meals to students.

Mr. Smith thanked everyone for their work during these trying times. He stated that he was glad to be standing in a time like this.

Mrs. Lewis thanked the school food service staff for their work. She also thanked Second Harvest of the Big Bend, Family Worship & Praised Center (CDC), and North Florida Education Development Corporation (NFEDC) for their service in preparing meals for the students.

Mr. Milton thanked Mrs. Mandela and the Gadsden County Classroom Association (GCCTA) for their work and efforts with teachers working from home. He stated that a Memorandum of Understanding outlining an agreement between the district and GCCTA will be presented for Board action soon. He thanked Mrs. Wood and the finance team for their hard work. He recognized Dr. Wiggins and Ms. Raynak for their efforts making sure technology devices were received. Dr. Wiggins and the technology department imaged and licensed all the chrome books. He stated that all the chrome books are at the schools. He

stated that the district's goal is to have a device in every home to assist students with continuing their education. He stated that budget amendments will be written for the use of technology funds at a later date. He requested Dr. Jackson and Mrs. Farlin have principals to monitor the devices for student use. He stated that the devices will only be used for its intended purpose to educate. He stated that Mrs. Perkins was seeking funds to secure a facility to house all PreK students. He stated that Mrs. Thomas and the Exceptional Student Education Department received a no finding of non-compliance on their Exceptional Education Review Compliance Self-Assessment. He congratulated Mrs. Thomas and the ESE Department for a great job. He stated that the district received its financial audit review today. He appreciated Mrs. Vicki Johnson and the parent services department for their work with food service in sending out messages through parent link. He thanked Mr. Gay and the bus drivers for their part in distributing meals to the schools and community sites. He thanked the principals and other staff for their hard work. He announced that there will be a principal's meeting Thursday morning via telephone conference.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Tyrone D. Smith made a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. March 24, 2020, 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)

- a. Personnel 2019 – 2020

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Personnel 2020 – 2021

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. GESPA Salary Increases for Secretaries

Fund Source: 1100 General Fund
Amount: \$4,023 for 2019 – 2020
\$16,091 annualized for 2020 – 2021

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS

- a. Articulation Agreement between Tallahassee Community College (TCC) Healthcare Professions to RN Transition Program and Gadsden Technical Institute (GTI) Nursing (LPN) Program

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Approval of Agreement with Lamier Technical Services, LLC

Fund Source: Federal
Amount: \$70,000.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

c. Head Start 2020 Summer Program Application

Fund Source: Head Start
Amount: \$366,869.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

d. Head Start Cost-of-Living-Adjustment (COLA) and Quality Improvement Funds Application

Fund Source: Head Start
Amount: \$104,229.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

e. Head Start 2020 Disaster Recovery Application

Fund Source: Head Start
Amount: \$10,878,933.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

a. Software Renewal-Dude Solutions, Inc.

Fund Source: 1100 Fund
Amount: \$4,280.64

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

b. Software Renewal-Dude Solutions, Inc.

Fund Source: 1100 Fund
Amount: \$9,454.38

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. FACILITIES UPDATE

None

10. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Milton stated that anyone with questions or concerns regarding the district's Pupil Progression Plan for promotion and retention requirements contact one of the Area Directors. He stated that discussion is taking place to close out this school year and open a new school year. He stated that all fieldtrips have been cancelled. He stated that parents should contact schools directly regarding refunds. He stated that discussion is taking place regarding graduation for the high school seniors. He stated that anyone with suggestions or concerns regarding graduation, please contact Dr. Sylvia Jackson. He stated that the district will maximize all efforts to seek funding from FEMA regarding COVID-19. He stated that the district is doing a well check on staff. He encouraged the principals and supervisors to check on their staff, and the teachers to check on students. He stated that the ESE staff stand ready to assist.

11. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mrs. Lewis thanked the principals for checking on students and parents during this challenging time.

Mr. Frost thanked Mr. Milton for doing a good job. He stated that his job was not an easy one.

Mr. Scott questioned whether the district had established a date and time for students to get their personal items from the schools.

Mr. Milton stated that parents will have a scheduled date and time to come on the school campus to pick up their student's personal items. He stated that congratulations to seniors should be posted on the district's website.

Mr. Milton requested Dr. Jackson work with the high school principal to gather information on the seniors.

Mr. Smith stated that the district needs a step by step guide to reopening schools.

Mr. Milton stated that the district will continue to operate under the CDC guidelines. He stated that work may need to be done in small groups. He stated that he was not anticipating any big issues with closing out this school year, or opening the new school next year.

Mr. McMillan thanked Mr. Milton and his staff for doing a great job. He also thanked Mrs. Wood for a thorough report on the district's finances.

Mrs. Lewis thanked Mr. Milton for all his work for the district. She also thanked Mrs. Wood and the area directors for their work. She encouraged everyone to be a team player.

Mrs. Mandela thanked Mr. Milton and Dr. Jackson for working with GCCTA. She stated that the Department of Education has given district's flexibility for teacher certification and professional development. She encouraged the district to extend endorsements for ESOL and reading. She requested GCCTA partake in the discussion on opening school next year. She thanked the support staff and teachers for working with parents and students.

Mr. Milton gave kudos to the teachers for working virtually with students. He stated that the district is working through challenges. He encouraged teachers to take advantage of the flexibility and certification extensions.

Dr. Jackson announced that teacher appreciation week was May 4th – 8th.

Mr. Emmanuel Sapp (concerned citizen) thanked Mr. Milton and district staff for their work. He asked if Dr. Wiggins could share senior photos with Dr. Sutherland to broadcast on the City of Quincy's WQTN channel. He stated that it would be to the district's advantage to use 21st Century funds to help students who are behind to improve their test scores.

Ms. Shelanda Shaw (concerned citizen) thanked Mr. Milton and staff for their work. She also recognized teachers at Gadsden County High School who were doing a great job. She stated that students have attended school for twelve years and certainly deserve some type of graduation ceremony. She stated that the seniors could be recognized during the Christmas holidays.

Mr. Milton stated that a graduation could be held in June to recognize the high school seniors. He stated that he was open for graduation suggestions.

Mrs. Lewis thanked everyone for their participation in the telephone conference. She encouraged everyone to be safe.

The following individuals participated in the telephone conference call: Mrs. Bonnie Wood, Mr. LaClarence Mays, Dr. Sylvia Jackson, Mrs. Sharon Thomas, Mrs. Vicki Muse Johnson, Dr. Sheantika Wiggins, Ms. Rose Raynak, Ms. Lakysa Perkins, Ms. Pamela Jones, Mrs. Edna Hussein Forehand, Mrs. Judith Mandela, Ms. Shelanda Shaw, and Mr. Emanuel Sapp.

12. The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.