

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP

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

July 26, 2022

4:30 P.M.

The workshop was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Leroy McMillan, Chairman; Mr. Steve Scott; Ms. Cathy S. Johnson; Mrs. Karema D. Dudley 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 4:30 p.m.

2. Financial Information

Mr. Mays stated that the district is in the process of closing out the 2021 – 2022 fiscal year. He stated that the general fund balance is above 3%. He stated that FEFP calculations as of June 10th deposit was \$966,374. He stated that the proposal from the insurance committee recommend the Board absorb the 4% rate increase for health insurance. He shared with the Board an overview of the health and dental insurance comparisons. He also stated that there will be no change in the dental rates.

Mr. Frost stated that he was concerned about staff not receiving their pay on time. He stated that staff should be paid on time. He stated that contractor invoices need to be paid on time.

Mrs. Dudley stated that she was concern about text books and materials for schools being ordered in a timely manner.

Mr. Key stated that text books should have been ordered in May. He stated that procedures and processes will be put in place for finance. He stated that PAEC has been contacted to assist with finance. He stated that he is responsible for the day to day operation of the district. He stated that employees can give him a call or send an email with their issues and concerns.

Due to tension during the meeting, Mr. McMillan reminded everyone that the meeting will be conducted in an orderly fashion.

Mrs. Dudley stated for clarity that budget decisions drive the day to day operation of the district.

Ms. Johnson stated that as a courtesy to employees, it is important to inform them ahead of time when there is a glitch.

3. Facilities Update

Mr. Hunter stated that the contractors are working at Gadsden County High School. He stated that there are candidates for the maintenance positions. He stated that the summer cleaning projects are going well and wrapping up. He stated that a few HVAC systems will need to be replaced. He stated that there are no significant delays in equipment. He stated that the compressors are being purchased. He stated that Greensboro

Elementary School has some issues that are being handled. He stated that the gym floor projects look very good. He stated that the painters will begin work soon. He stated that the screen work in the gym at Havana Magnet School and West Gadsden Middle School has started. He stated that contractors are working on a major HVAC leak at Gadsden County High School.

In response to Mr. Scott's concern regarding the need to waive bids on the purchasing policies for purchase orders, Mr. Hunter stated that he received bids from five contractors and he wanted to give all of them a job.

Mr. McMillan stated that custodial staff should be working 12 months because hiring contractors to work the summer is costly to the district.

In response to Mrs. Dudley's concern whether the schools are ready for teachers and students to return, Mr. Hunter stated yes.

4. Educational Items by the Superintendent

Mr. Key stated that procedures and processes are being put in place. He stated that he should be informed when employees have an issue or concern.

5. School Board Requests and Concerns

In response to Mr. Scott's question regarding whether Carter Parramore Academy would operate next year, Mr. Key stated that Carter Parramore Academy was set up to help students get caught up but has been created as another school instead of releasing the students back to their home school. He stated that FSA scores for those students at Carter Parramore Academy are going back to the home school. He stated that the home school doesn't even know the students because they have never been on their campus. He stated that Carter Parramore Academy will remain open.

Mr. Scott stated that he was concern about when the Board will have an opportunity to vote on the recruitment bonus for teachers. He stated that he received calls about bonuses and does not remember voting.

Mr. Key stated the vote cannot be brought to the Board until he has an accurate number of teachers. He stated that the Memorandum of Understanding is only an intention by both parties until the Board approves it.

Mrs. Minnis stated nothing should be discussed outside of the collective bargaining session. She stated that the Memorandum of Understanding is a part of the collective bargaining process. She stated that she was concern that the issue had not come to the Board in an executive session.

Mr. John Pat Thomas reminded the Board that the insurance information included the life insurance. He stated that stated that the Board's approval was needed because open enrollment was scheduled to begin Monday, August 1st.

Mr. McMillan stated that the insurance information has been presented to the Board but was not a part of the agenda and could not be voted on at this time. He stated that the insurance information could be placed on the July 28th special meeting agenda.

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