

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

July 25, 2017

Immediately Following Tentative Budget Hearing at 6:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Isaac Simmons, Chairman; Mr. Steve Scott; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; Mr. Tyrone D. Smith; and Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis. Also present 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 Chairman, Mr. Isaac Simmons, at 6:11 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Elder Harry M. Cloud, Sr., Pastor of St. Stephens Primitive Baptist Church.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Simmons recognized Mrs. Lewis. Mrs. Lewis received a warm welcome from the Board and Superintendent.

Mr. Milton recognized Mr. Reginald James, former Superintendent of Schools, along with Coach Andrew Moten. He stated that Mr. James was in support of West Gadsden High School Boys Basketball Team. He encouraged Mr. James to continue his support to Gadsden County High school.

Ms. Sherrie Taylor presented the following 2016 – 2017 retirees to the Superintendent and Board: Ms. Melissa Jordan; Ms. Janice Monroe; Ms. Gracie Powell-Jones; Ms. Cynthia Reynolds; Ms. Carolyn Roberts; Ms. Deborah Willis; Ms. Mary Miller; Ms. Dorothy Fields; Ms. Martha Jones; Ms. Joann Lowe; and Ms. Dianne Garrett. Each of the retirees received a \$25.00 VISA Gift Card, fruit basket, and certificate of appreciation.

Mrs. Lewis recognized the Superintendent, Board and others for their thoughts and prayers during her illness.

Mr. Frost stated that he was concerned about personnel and the district's hiring process.

Mr. Scott thanked Mrs. Wood and the finance staff for an informative workshop.

Following Mr. Simmons' recognition of Elder Harry Cloud, Elder Cloud shared with the Board words of inspiration.

Mr. Milton recognized the Board members, principals, school administrators, and district staff for their participation in the PAEC Leadership Conference in Destin. He stated that the information shared during the conference was very informative.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Milton removed from the agenda item #7j – Rainbow All-Stars Solutions. Mr. Simmons 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. June 27, 2017, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. June 27, 2017, 6:00 p.m. – Regular School Board Meeting
- c. June 29, 2017, 9:00 a.m. – Special School Board Meeting
- d. June 29, 2017, 10:00 a.m. – Student Hearing
- e. July 11, 2017, 5:00 p.m. – Special School Board Meeting
- f. July 17, 2017, 10:00 a.m. – Special 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 2016 – 2017

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Personnel 2017 – 2018

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS

- a. Capital Health Plan Insurance Rates for 2017 – 2018

Fund Source: All Funds

Amount: See Attached Rate Sheets

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Insurance Committee Recommendation – Flex Spending

Fund Source: All Funds

Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

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

Fund Source: IDEA – Federal Fund
Amount: \$58,800.00 for ten months (\$5,880.00 per month)
\$6,000.00 for ten months (\$600.00 per month)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Agreement Between Cumberland Therapy Services, LLC, and Gadsden County School Board

Fund Source: FEFP Dollars
Amount: \$56.00 per hour

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. Agreement Between Cumberland Therapy Services, LLC, and Gadsden County School Board

Fund Source: IDEA
Amount: \$61.00 per hour

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- f. Cooperative Agreement For Inter-County Transfer of Exceptional Students Between Leon County School Board and Gadsden County School Board

Fund Source: State FTE Funds
Amount: (determined by formula)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- g. The School Board of Gadsden County, Contract with Independent Contractor Yolanda Smith-Ervin, MS under supervision of Lanicia Arnwine Marshall, LMHC, Ed.S.

Fund Source:IDEA Dollars
Amount: \$45.00 (per hour for actual hours worked)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- h. Contracted Music Therapy with Hakeem Leonard, MT-BC of Healing Hearts–

Fund Source: IDEA
Amount: \$25,000.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- i. Florida State University

Fund Source: Federal Programs
Amount: \$48,583.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

j. Rainbow All-Stars Solutions

Fund Source: Federal Programs
Amount: \$21,600.00

At the beginning of the meeting, Mr. Milton requested the Rainbow All-Stars Solutions Contract be removed from the agenda.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

k. Exceptional Student Education Policies and Procedures (SP&P)

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

a. Approval of 2017 – 2018 Code of Student Conduct

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 at the beginning of the meeting and acted upon during the DISCUSSION portion of the agenda.

*8. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

a. Request to Delete from Capital Assets and Sale Via Auction or Salvage

Fund Source: Applicable Funds
Amount: \$95,454.00.00

Mr. Simmons requested that the year 2016 – 2017 be added to the request to delete from the capital assets and sale via auction or salvage.

Following discussion, Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #8a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

b. Request to Delete and Dispose from Capital Assets – Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment and Sale Via Auction or Recycling Co.

Fund Source: All Funds
Amount: \$172,291.54

Mr. Simmons requested that the year 2016 – 2017 be added to the request to delete and dispose from the capital assets – furniture, fixtures and equipment and sale via auction or Recycling Co.

Following discussion, Mr. Steve Scott made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #8b. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

***10. CONSIDERATION, PROPOSAL, AND/OR ADOPTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND RELATED MATTERS**

a. Approval of Job Descriptions

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

Ms. Judith Mandela addressed the Board to state that she was concerned about the new title changes for the job descriptions as presented.

Mr. Milton stated that the job description title changes were necessary because the duties and responsibilities changed for the position.

Ms. Judith Mandela shared with the Board information on the comparison of salaries in the district to other school districts. She stated that Gadsden County was top heavy with high level positions compared to other districts. She stated that the Gadsden district has a history of adding personnel to top level positions.

Mr. Simmons stated that in the absence of Attorney Minnis, there be no comments from the Board at this time regarding the salary comparison information presented by Ms. Mandela. He stated that the Board accepts the salary comparison information with great respect.

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

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

11. FACILITIES UPDATE

In response to Mr. Hunter's request for the Board to schedule a workshop to discuss the district's lawn maintenance, the Board scheduled a workshop for Tuesday, August 1st at 5:00 p.m.

12. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Milton stated that the district had a very busy summer. He stated that the 3rd grade Reading Camp was completed. He stated that planning was taking place for back to school. He stated that there would be no 'Back To School Rally' this year. He stated he expects everyone to be ready to work on August 14th. He stated that the student enrollment numbers were not expected to decline this year. He stated that the projected student enrollment numbers are expected to increase.

13. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mrs. Lewis requested that each school provide the Board with a list of their back to school activities. She stated that the SAC rosters are to be presented to the Board for approval in September. She requested that each school have a parent liaison as the contact person for parents.

In response to Mrs. Lewis' concern regarding a plan of action for the district's RV, Mr. Milton stated that Federal Programs and the Technology Department was leading the way for usage of the RV. He stated that the district is moving towards getting a driver (volunteer), as well as fixing repairs as needed for the RV.

Mr. Scott requested the Superintendent share with the Board an update on what happened at the State Board Meeting.

Mr. Milton stated that as Phase 2 of the School Turnaround Plan, the district must partner with an external partner to provide onsite assistance. He stated that the Renseelaerville "R" Institute will provide a 3-day workshop for 3 staff persons at Gadsden County High School. He stated that the amended School Turnaround Plan must include ways to attract highly qualified teachers. He stated that if Gadsden County High School does not receive a letter grade of "C" or better, the district has to partner with an external partner or charter school for Gadsden County High School. He stated that the district has to begin negotiations with a charter company to have things in place before the end of the school year. He stated that the district was proactive with the School Turnaround Plan to include George W. Munroe Elementary School, West Gadsden Middle School, and James A. Shanks Middle School.

Mr. Rick Soskus addressed the Board to state that there was a need for the district to have parent liaisons. He stated that Civics was not being stressed in the schools. He stated that Civics need to be taught in grades 4 to 12. He stated that it was really cool when the School Board and the County Commissioner met together. He stated that savings were discussed that could benefit both entities. He stated that he wanted to see the two entities (School Board and Board of County Commissioners) meet more often.

Ms. Judith Mandela stated that she attended the Teacher-of-the-Year event in Orlando, Florida. She stated that teachers were charged with the task of returning to their districts to take control of things. She stated that she wants to create a teacher's council consisting of past Teachers-of-the-Year to promote positive things in the district.

Mr. Simmons recognized Gabriel, a student, from Riverside School. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

14. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.