

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

August 10, 2017

5:00 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. 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. Mr. Charlie D. Frost was absent.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Isaac Simmons, at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Milton recognized Ms. Ann Sherman as a member of the Gadsden County Athletic Hall of Fame Committee.

Ms. Sherman introduced the following members of the Gadsden County Athletic Hall of Fame Committee: Coach Vernell Ross, Ms. Lizzie Thomas, and Mr. Eugene Lamb. She invited Board members to attend the Hall of Fame Recognition Black Tie Event on Saturday, August 19th with a reception beginning at 6:00 p.m., followed by the recognition program at 7:00 p.m. She stated that the committee was requesting the Board's support of 15 banners to be held at Gadsden County High School. She stated that the recognition banners will showcase athletes from the former Havana Northside High School and Carter Parramore High School.

Following discussion, the Board instructed the Superintendent to move forward with the Hall of Fame Committee's request to place 15 banners in the gymnasium at Gadsden County High School showcasing former athletes of Gadsden County.

Mr. Smith stated that he visited schools this week. He stated that schools are in high demand. He stated that there was a waiting list for students at Stewart Street Elementary School.

Mrs. Lewis stated that there was standing room only for parents and students who attended Gadsden County High School's 9th grade orientation.

Mr. Milton stated that he had visited schools and staff are excited about returning. He stated that district staff are assigned to schools on Monday to welcome students. He stated that 8 students that are zoned for Stewart Street Elementary School were put on a waiting list. He stated that transportation is being provided for the students to attend George W. Munroe Elementary School or James A. Shanks Middle School. He stated that there are some scheduling problems at two schools. He challenged the schools to have schedules available for students during orientation. He stated that he was excited about the 1st day of school on Monday, August 14th.

In response to Mrs. Lewis' concern about staffing at Gadsden County High School, Mr. Milton stated that currently there were approximately three vacant positions at Gadsden County High School. He stated that James A. Shanks Middle School currently has 4 vacant positions, and West Gadsden Middle School currently had two vacant positions. He stated that the elementary schools were well equipped.

In response to Mrs. Lewis' concern regarding the Reading Coaches being able to help out in the classrooms, Mr. Milton stated that Reading Coaches are assigned to schools and will be used in the classrooms. He stated that the technology specialists will also be assigned to schools.

Mrs. Lewis commended Ms. Sherrie Taylor for her work with the Teacher-of-the-Year, Rookie Teacher-of-the-Year, and School Related Employee of-the-Year Celebration. She thanked Envision Credit Union for sponsoring the celebration. She also commended Mrs. Joannette Thomas for her work with the 21st Century Program and producing a newsletter for the months of June and July. She encouraged parents to join the Triple "A" Team (Academic, Attendance, and Attitude).

Mr. Milton stated that attendance was a priority this school year. He stated that the district will partner with McDonalds to offer incentives to students with perfect attendance. He stated that the district will partner with Centennial Bank to offer incentives to teachers and bus drivers with perfect attendance. He stated that the Gadsden Arts Center will partner with George Munroe Elementary School. He stated that principals are encouraged to support and engage in the 21st Century Programs.

Mrs. Lewis stated that she thoroughly read the School Turnaround Plan. She stated that the School Turnaround Plan was an excellent plan for educating students.

The Board congratulated the Superintendent for completing the program and certification requirements of the Florida Superintendent Special Certification Program, in accordance with Section 1001.47(4), Florida Statutes and State Board of Education Rule 6A-1.551, FAC.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Simmons entertained a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith, seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

2. AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS

c. Rainbow All-Stars Solutions

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

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

3. FACILITY/PROPERTY

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

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: \$138,458.00

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. School Resource Deputy Contract

Fund Source: General Fund
Amount: \$226,982.36

Mr. Scott stated that he was concerned about the agreement to pay 75% of the expenses for the School Resource Deputy program.

Mr. Bruce James stated that there was a need for the district to negotiate with the Sheriff's Department for a 50/50 contract for the school resource deputies. He stated that the district is in line with other counties who contract with school resource deputies.

Mr. Simmons noted that the School Resource Deputies are spending more time at the schools.

Mr. Milton stated that quarterly meetings are held with the Sheriff's Department to discuss safety issues.

Following discussion, Mr. Steve Scott made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #2a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

b. Security Contract Extension

Fund Source: General Fund
Amount: \$198,000.00

Mr. Simmons questioned what the district could do to save funding with the Security Contract without jeopardizing safety.

Mr. Bruce James stated that the Security Officer's responsibilities are different from the School Resource Deputy. He stated that the Security Guards monitor the hallways at Gadsden County High School. He stated that principals also utilize behavioral specialists to monitor hallways. He stated that the district is in a good position to continue services with the security contract.

Following discussion, Mr. Steve Scott made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #2b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*3. FACILITY/PROPERTY

a. Proposed Site for the New Stewart Street Elementary School

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

Mr. Simmons stated that he wanted to retain the historic integrity of the Carter Parramore Academy site.

Board members shared their concerns and made comments regarding the use of Gretna Elementary School to house students at Carter Parramore Academy.

During the discussion, Board members agreed to look into the possibility of using the site at Gadsden Elementary Magnet School or Gadsden Technical Institute to house students at Carter Parramore Academy.

Following discussion, Mr. Tyrone D. Smith made a motion to instruct the Superintendent to look into the possibility of using the site at Gadsden Elementary Magnet School or Gadsden Technical Institute to house students at Carter Parramore Academy. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis and carried with Mr. Simmons, Mr. Smith and Mrs. Lewis voting "aye". Mr. Scott voted "nay".

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

4. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

None.

5. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Simmons instructed Mr. Hunter to provide the Board with a cost estimate for covering the walkways at Gadsden County High School.

Mr. Scott stated that the bathrooms have been completed at Greensboro Elementary School and James A. Shanks Middle School. He stated that all school records have been moved from Gretna Elementary School and St. John Elementary School. He stated that the Science Specialists needed to be located at the schools.

Mr. Milton stated that many teachers were leaving the district because of salary increases in Leon and Jefferson Counties.

Mr. Smith suggested finding ways for new teachers to connect with the community.

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