

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP

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

March 29, 2011

4:30 P.M.

This workshop was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Judge B. Helms, Vice Chairman; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; Mr. Eric F. Hinson; and Mr. Isaac Simmons. Also present were Mr. Reginald C. James, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; and others. Mr. Roger P. Milton, Chairman; and Mrs. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for the Board, were absent.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The workshop was called to order by the Vice Chairman, Mr. Judge B. Helms, at 4:39 p.m.

2. FINANCIAL DATA REPORT

Mrs. Wood shared with the Board the following budget status summary reports:

1) 110 - General Fund – Encumbered \$1,814,570.01; 2) 300 – Capital Outlay Funds- Encumbered \$131,056.11; 3) 410 – Food Service Fund – Encumbered \$367,046.55; 4) 420 – Contracted Federal Projects – Encumbered \$871,496.43; 5) 431 – State Fiscal Stabilization – Encumbered \$2,000; 6) 432 – Targeted ARRA Stimulus Funds – Encumbered \$156,280.07; 7) Other ARRA Stimulus Grants – Encumbered \$0.00; and 8) Education Jobs Fund – Encumbered \$0.00.

3. ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. James stated that the Student Success Act (Senate Bill 736) passed legislation. He asked Dr. Hightower to give the Board a brief overview of Senate Bill 736.

Dr. Pink Hightower shared with the Board a brief overview of Senate Bill 736. He stated that Senate Bill 736 will no longer require teacher tenure; evaluations will be done every three years; the 97-day rule will no longer be in tact; and a new performance appraisal for principals. He stated that Senate Bill 736 is designed for teachers to do their job (teach).

Mr. James stated that Senate Bill 1466 (Class Size Reduction) was being discussed by legislation. He stated that there will be flexibility with class size. He stated that all schools were in test prep mode. He stated that there have been some changes in testing. He stated that the proficiency level has been raised. He stated that he was sure that the district will survive the test changes. He stated that the challenges will be with the new math. He stated that he predicts no failing schools this year. He stated that East Gadsden High School received a glowing review from the State. He stated that he will share with the Board a list of what other districts are proposing to cut in order to reduce their budget.

4. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

In response to Mr. Frost concern regarding the district reimbursement for Title I, Mr. James stated that Mr. Smith with the Department of Education will be recommending that the district be taken off reimbursement beginning July 1st.

Mr. Helms thanked Dr. Shirley Aaron for her continued work with the Havana Health and Wellness Center Steering Committee. He stated that Board members should have received an update from the Havana Health and Wellness Center Steering Committee meeting. He requested that item #10e – Request to delete from capital assets – motor vehicles be added to the regular Board meeting agenda.

5. The workshop adjourned at 5:45 p.m.