

FINAL BUDGET HEARING

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

September 15, 2009

6:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Judge B. Helms, at 6:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MILLAGE LEVY FOR THE 2009 – 2010 FISCAL YEAR

Ms. Wood stated that the proposed state law required local effort millage rate is 5.482, the proposed local discretionary millage rate was .498, the proposed supplemental nonvoted discretionary millage rate was .25, the proposed critical operating needs nonvoted millage rate was .25, and the proposed capital improvement millage rate was 1.50 mills, when all are combined they amount to more than the rolled back rate by four point forty-three percent.

Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to adopt the recommended state law required local effort millage rate of 5.482, the proposed local discretionary millage rate of .498, the proposed supplemental nonvoted discretionary millage rate of .25, and the proposed capital improvement millage rate of 1.50 mills, as the millages to be levied for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to adopt the recommended supplemental discretionary millage rate of .25 as necessary for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to adopt the recommended critical operating needs millage of .25 as necessary for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

3. APPROVAL OF 2009 – 2010 FINAL BUDGET

Fund Source: All Funds

Amount: Total Estimated Revenue = \$58,996,791.35
Total Projected Expenditures = \$55,005,292.08

Ms. Wood stated that the Board previously had several workshops to discuss the 2009-2010 budget. She stated that the total estimated revenues were \$42,112,925.97; total estimated revenues, other financing sources, and fund balance were \$44,334,454.67. She stated that the total estimated revenues, other financing sources, and fund balance for state fiscal stabilization funds were \$1,948,278.00; and the total estimated revenues, other financing sources, and fund balance for other ARRA Stimulus Grants were \$199,845.16.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to adopt the final budget for the 2009-2010 fiscal year as it was presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

4. APPROVAL OF 2008 – 2009 SUPERINTENDENT’S ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Fund Source: All Funds

Amount: Total Actual Revenue = \$63,123,389.66
Total Actual Expenditures = \$61,322,079.12

Ms. Wood stated that the actuarial calculations were prepared for the purposes of complying with the requirements of Statement No. 45 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and have been made on a basis consistent with the understanding of the accounting standards. She stated that determinations of the liability associated with the benefits described in the report for purposes other than satisfying the district’s financial reporting requirements, may produce significantly different results.

Following discussion, Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to approve the 2009-2010 Superintendent’s Annual Financial Report and schedule a workshop for further discussion. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

5. AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS

a. Amendment to Contract with Barkley Security

Fund Source: General Fund

Amount: \$175,392.00 (\$12.18/hour x 10 Security Guards x 8 hours/day x 180 days of school)

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #5a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

b. Loan to Purchase 24 School Buses

Fund Source: Capital Improvements Fund

Amount: Loan Amount \$1,818,042.00 with a fixed rate of 3.45%

Mrs. Minnis stated that she has contacted Mr. Mayfield at the Capital City Bank and have not been presented with the final closing documents. She stated that there was a deadline of September 25th for new bid guidelines, and after September 25th the price of school buses would increase. She stated that there will not be a lien on the school buses with the Capital City Bank loan.

Mr. Milton suggested the Board defer action on agenda item #5b until the regular Board meeting on September 25th. He stated that the contract for State bidding was good until then.

In response to the Board's concern regarding review of the entire loan document, Mr. James stated that he wished for the Board to review the entire loan document with Capital City Bank before approval.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to defer action on agenda item #5b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roger P. Milton and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

6. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. James stated that the State has approved a new measurement for calculating school grades. He stated that he will share with the Board a power-point presentation outlining the new measurements for calculating school grades at the Retreat scheduled on Saturday, September 19th.

7. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Milton requested that the Board's seating arrangements around the credenza include Jerome Maples, Student School Board Representative.

Mr. Simmons reminded the Board of the Retreat scheduled for Saturday, September 19th beginning at 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. He asked that Board members share their concerns and discuss issues relating to the district's vision.

Mr. Helms made the following announcements of the upcoming scheduled meetings: 1) School Board Retreat, Saturday, September 15th, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; 2) School Board Workshop, Tuesday, September 22nd, 4:00 p.m.; and 3) Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, September 22nd, 6:00 p.m. He requested that the attorney review information regarding annexing property into the City of Greensboro and agenda for the next meeting. He stated that the Value Adjustment Board Hearing was scheduled for Thursday, October 8th at 12:50 p.m.

Jerome Maples stated that the students are concern about having a substitute Social Studies Teacher. He stated that there was a great need for a permanent Social Studies Teacher at West Gadsden High School.

Mr. Helms advised Jerome to speak with the Superintendent first regarding issues and concerns that he or the students may have.

8. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.