

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

December 18, 2012

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. Roger P. Milton; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; Mr. Judge B. Helms; and Ms. Audrey D. Lewis. Also present were Mr. Reginald C. James, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; and others. Mrs. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for the Board, was absent.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Isaac Simmons, at 6:00 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Mr. Charlie D. Frost.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

Mr. James asked everyone to pause for a moment of silence in remembrance of twenty (20) students and sixteen (16) adults who were killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut.

The Superintendent and Board members recognized Representative Alan Williams for donating contribution monies from his campaign fund to the Gadsden Education Foundation. Principals from the various schools received donations from Representative Williams.

Mr. Joe Pappadakis of Chrysler Dodge in Quincy was recognized for donating \$500 and a swing set to Gadsden Elementary Magnet School.

Ms. Lewis recognized Superintendent and staff for providing valuable information at the Florida Turnaround Leadership Workshop.

Mr. Helms thanked the Quincy Kiwanis Club for a wonderful Christmas Party in support of our students.

Mr. Simmons commended the Deputy Superintendent and staff for providing an outstanding plan for the district at the Florida Turnaround Leadership Workshop.

Board members, Superintendent, and Ms. Beckwith recognized the following Unsung Heroes for the month of December: Mrs. Peggy Johns, Mrs. Shaneatika Wiggins Milton, Ms. Sharon Gilcrease, Mrs. Millie Anderson, Ms. Wanda McCall, Mrs. Joannette Thomas, and Mr. Tony Britt. Each of the employees was presented with awards by the Board members and the Superintendent. Ms. Beckwith stated that the unsung heroes are employees of the Walker Administration Building.

Ms. Beckwith recognized Coach Fuller for his hard work and dedication to the boys at East Gadsden High School.

Coach Fuller requested Mr. Pappadakis donate some accomplishments for the East Gadsden High School Fieldhouse. He thanked Mr. Joe Lewis for transporting the boys to and from games.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Simmons entertained a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Roger P. Milton, seconded by Mr. Judge B. Helms and carried unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. November 13, 2012, 4:00 p.m.. – Special School Board Meeting
- b. November 20, 2012, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- c. November 20, 2012, 5:30 p.m. – School Board Organizational Meeting
- d. November 20, 2012, 6:00 p.m. – Regular School Board Meeting

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

- e. Internal Funds Audit for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2012

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. AGREEMENTS/PROJECT/GRANT APPLICATIONS

- a. Professional and Technical Services

Fund Source: Federal Programs
Amount: \$27,675.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Purchase Order from General Fund

Fund Source: General Fund
Amount: \$13,133.34

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Purchase Orders for Head Start Program

Fund Source: Federal Funds – Head Start
Amount: \$10,750.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. STUDENT MATTERS

- b. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #28-1213-0231

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #29-1213-0231

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #30-1213-0071

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

10. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

- a. Proposal from City of Tallahassee to hook up natural gas at East Gadsden High School. Service will replace existing L.P. (liquid propane)

Fund Source: 110

Amount: Tap fee \$100.00; Monthly service meter charge: \$17.84; labor for changing equipment orifice's from L.P. to natural gas and easement survey; approximately \$8,000.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Request to Delete and Dispose from Capital Assets – Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment (7/1/12 – 12/13/12)

Fund Source: All Funds

Amount: \$284,283.90

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.

*6. PERSONNEL MATTERS (resignations, retirements, recommendations, leaves of absence, terminations of services, volunteers, and job descriptions)

a. Personnel 2012 - 2013

In response to Ms. Lewis' concern regarding the Public Information Office duties, Mr. James stated that the Public Information Office will focus on media and marketing for the district. He stated that there was no monetary increase.

In response to Mr. Helms' concern whether the upgraded positions were advertised, Mr. James responded yes.

Following discussion, Ms. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #6a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*7. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

a. Budget Amendment Number Seven

Fund Source: 434 (ARRA) Race To The Top
Amount: \$.00

Ms. Lewis requested an explanation for budget amendment number seven.

Mrs. Wood stated that budget amendment number seven was requested for correction by project number. She stated that there was zero change in funds.

Following discussion, Ms. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #7a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Judge B. Helms and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

b. Budget Amendment Number Eight

Fund Source: 420 Federal Funds
Amount: \$.00

Ms. Lewis requested an explanation for budget amendment number eight.

Mrs. Wood stated that budget amendment number eight establishes the budget by function and object to correspond to the award notice where the award differs from the grant application.

Following discussion, Ms. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #7b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

c. Budget Amendment Number Nine

Fund Source: 434 (ARRA) Race To The Top
Amount: \$00

Ms. Lewis requested an explanation of budget amendment number nine.

Mrs. Wood stated that budget amendment number nine was requested to correct the function and object by expenditure. She stated that the fiscal impact was zero.

Following discussion, Ms. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #7c. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

d. Budget Amendment Number Ten

Fund Source: 410 School Food Service
Amount: \$115,469.02

Ms. Lewis requested an explanation of budget amendment number ten.

Mrs. Wood stated that budget amendment number ten corrects the function and object by kitchen expenditures. She stated that in addition, this amendment budgets \$115,464.02 of the fund balance.

Following discussion, Ms. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #7d. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roger P. Milton and carried unanimously.

Mr. Frost left the meeting for a brief moment and did not cast a vote on agenda item #7d.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*8. AGREEMENTS/PROJECT/GRANT APPLICATIONS

d. Purchase Orders for Federal Programs – Title I and ESE IDEA

Fund Source: Federal Funds – IDEA and Title I
Amount: \$39,679.51

Ms. Lewis requested an explanation of the purchase orders for federal programs.

Mrs. Wood stated that the duties and responsibilities for Juan Sierra were to assist with the distribution of classroom libraries and set-up of gutters to promote more reading. She stated that the services would be paid based upon the hours worked. She stated that the duties and responsibilities for Anitria Daniels were assigned by the Director of Federal Programs and Director of ESE to include but not limited to McKay updates, home education intake, and exit set-up, plan, schedule and participate in all parent meetings and expos, Title I annual meetings, and school improvement.

Following discussion, Ms. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #8d. The motion was seconded by Mr. Judge B. Helms and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

e. Contract for Audit of Internal Funds for Individual Schools

Fund Source: General Fund
Amount: \$27,500.00

Ms. Lewis requested an explanation of the contract for audit of internal funds for individual schools.

Mrs. Wood stated that the contract for audit of internal funds for individual schools extension was for a second year and is in accordance with the bid provisions contained in the request for proposals.

Mr. Helms stated that the policy changes could be discussed at the Neola workshops.

Following discussion, Ms. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #8e. The motion was seconded by Mr. Judge B. Helms and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

f. Traneisha Galloway Charter School of Business and Integrated Technology Application

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

Ms. Traneisha Galloway shared with the Board corrections to the Charter School of Business and Integrated Technology Application that were requested by the School Board.

Mr. Simmons stated that the Board had received all information relating to the charter school application and was ready to make a decision.

Following discussion, Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to deny agenda item #8f. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended denial based on the committee's recommendation.

*9. STUDENT MATTERS

a. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #26-1213-0071

In response to Ms. Lewis concern regarding expelled students receiving support and additional help for counseling, Mrs. Smith stated that the district has a full-time behavioral specialist who assists students with additional help. She stated that she can make exit reports to the Board.

Following discussion, Ms. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #9a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*10. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

a. Fire and Safety Inspection of Educational Facilities

Fund Source: 110
Amount: \$10,913.83

Ms. Lewis asked if there were School Resource Officers in the middle and high schools. She stated that safety is very important for the students.

Mr. Helms requested the Superintendent find someone to train and perform fire and safety inspections.

Following discussion, Ms. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #10b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Judge B. Helms and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

c. Havana Middle School Outside Tennis and Basketball Court Upgrades

Fund Source: 379
Amount: \$10,140.00

Ms. Lewis thanked Mr. Shepard for the upgrades to the tennis and basketball courts at Havana Middle School.

Following discussion, Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #10c. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roger P. Milton and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*11. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

a. School Advisory Council Rosters

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

Ms. Lewis requested an explanation of the missing School Advisory Council rosters.

Mr. Maurice Stokes stated that he was working with the principals to rectify issues regarding the School Advisory Council rosters. He stated that Crossroad Academy Charter School was the only school missing their School Advisory Council roster. He stated that the other School Advisory Council rosters were approved at the November 13th Board meeting.

Ms. Lewis stated that in the future all School Advisory Council rosters needed to have Board approval earlier.

Following discussion, Ms. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #11a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

12. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. James stated that safety has dominated everything in education. He stated that the district will enhance its safety measures. He stated that Mr. Bruce James has added responsibilities to include safety/security investigative work. He stated that it is very important to keep the children safe. He stated that Dr. Tony Bennett was named the new Commissioner of Education. He stated that the high school grades will be arriving by the end of the week. He stated that the Administrator on Assignment position needed to be replaced.

13. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Frost asked if each school had a budget for sports. He also was concern about the how funds were set up for each of the school's budget.

Mr. James stated that there are a lot of sports that do not generate many funds. He stated that football and basketball is a sport that generates a lot of funds. He stated that the Board allocates funds to each school for sports.

Mr. Frost expressed his dismay with staff working for the district and allowing their children to attend school in another district. He stated that it is not acceptable and he was very compassionate about the issue.

In response to Ms. Lewis' concern regarding who would assume the duties and responsibilities of ensuring that students graduate, Mr. James stated that he and Mrs. Smith are the graduation coaches. He stated that he predicts that the high schools will receive a letter grade of "C" or "B" next year.

Mr. Helms stated that he appreciated the Superintendent for raising the issue with safety concerns. He stated that he was looking forward to the holidays. He reminded everyone of the district's Christmas luncheon on Friday, December 21st at 12:00 noon.

Mr. Frost recognized Mr. Helms for his assistance with the FHSAA regarding the incident with the West Gadsden High School girls' basketball team.

Mr. Helms thanked Mr. Frost for his concerns regarding the incident with the West Gadsden High School girls' basketball team. He stated that he was influenced on ensuring that the incident was investigated in a timely manner.

Mr. Milton stated that the Board previously scheduled the following workshops for policy review with Neola: January 10th, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; February 14th 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; March 5th 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; and April 14th – 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

The Board scheduled a workshop to discuss and review the City of Midway Charter Contract on Thursday, January 10, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. He requested Mr. James inform staff of the need to spend federal monies during the beginning of the year, and not all at once at the end of the year. He stated that Board members needed to receive packets no later than Thursday before the meeting day. He encouraged everyone to have a safe and happy holiday.

14. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.