

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP

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

July 16, 2019

1:00 P.M.

This workshop was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Steve Scott, Chairman; Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis; Mr. Leroy McMillan; and Mr. Tyrone D. Smith. 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 workshop was called to order by the Chairman; Mr. Steve Scott, at 1:05 p.m.

2. REVIEW OF SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Dr. James Brown stated that the workshop was being held to address the Board's concerns regarding the newly proposed School Board policies.

Board members reviewed and discussed the following newly School Board proposed policies:

a) **Policy Number 6.511 – Absence Without Leave** – Any district School Board employee who is willfully absent from duty without leave shall forfeit compensation for the time of such absence, and his or her employment shall be subject to termination by the district school board; b) **Policy Number 2.50 – Board Member Participation in Activities** – Each member of the Board is encouraged to participate in the activities and programs conducted by state, regional and national associations of the School Board. The Superintendent shall include an amount in each proposed annual budget to cover expenses to support the participation of the Board in activities and programs conducted by the State and other organizations as the Board chooses. Any reimbursement for Board member travel outside of the state of Florida must be approved in advance by the School Board; c) **Policy Number 5.321 – Bullying and Harassment** – It is the policy of the Gadsden County School District that all of its students and school employees have an educational setting that is safe, secure and free from harassment and bullying of any kind. The District will not tolerate bullying and harassment of any type. Conduct that constitutes bullying and harassment is prohibited; d) **Policy Number 3.90 – Charter Schools** – The purpose of this policy is to ensure the highest quality of instruction and safety for all Charter School participating students and to maintain accountability for the appropriate use of all allocated resources; e) **Policy Number 3.21 – Directives, Procedures, and Administrative Manuals** - The Superintendent shall have authority to issue such directives and to prescribe such procedures as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of School Board rules and the provisions of Florida Statutes and State Board of Education rules. The Superintendent may issue such administrative manuals or booklets of instruction as he/she may deem necessary for the effective administration of the District school system and distribute them to the employees

directly concerned. Insofar as to provisions of such manuals and directives are consistent with these School Board rules, Florida Statutes, or State Board of Education rules, the provisions thereof shall be binding upon all employees; f) **Policy Number 5.31 – Use of Reasonable Force** – Maintaining a safe and orderly learning environment is an important responsibility for all educators. A variety of strategies are available to maintain discipline and encourage appropriate and responsible behavior. Staff response to problem students behavior shall always be proportional to the nature and extent of the disruption, conflict or problem; g) **Policy Number 5.40 – Student Attendance** – A student who is absent without the principal’s approval shall have his/her parent(s) as defined by Florida Statutes, report such absences to the school center in the manner prescribed by the Code of Student Conduct; h) **Policy Number 232 – Placement of Instructional Personnel** – The School Board believes that the appropriate placement of qualified and competent staff is essential to the successful functioning of the District; i) **Policy Number 6.34 – Political Activities of Employees** – Pursuant to State law, instructional staff members who are employed by the School Board shall not participate in any political campaign for an elective office while on duty; j) **Policy Number 3.80 – School Volunteers** – A school volunteer is any nonpaid individual who gives his/her time to a school or school staff member while performing assigned duties. Duties assigned to school volunteers shall be consistent with Florida Statutes and State Board of Education rules; k) **Policy Number 6.22 – Teaching Out-of-Field** – The employment or assignment of out-of-field teachers may occur when a qualified and appropriately certificated teacher is unavailable. Any teacher who is employed or assigned out-of-field shall be required to satisfy the course credit requirement in State Board of Education rule if he or she is appointed in a subsequent school year(s). The deadline for earning the six (6) semester hours of college credit or equivalent in the appropriate field shall be one (1) calendar year from the date of initial appointment to the out-of-field teaching assignment; and l) **Policy Number 7.70 – Purchasing and Bidding** – All purchases of supplies, materials, equipment and services made from district funds shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent or his designee as established by School Board rule. No person, unless authorized by the Superintendent or acting on the basis of School Board rules may make any purchase involving the use of district funds and no unauthorized expenditures will be approved by the School Board.

Board members asked questions, shared their concerns and made comments during the review and discussion of the newly proposed School Board policies.

Following discussion and review of the newly proposed School Board policies, Mr. Milton thanked Dr. Brown for his hard work in updating the policies. He also thanked the staff for their input working with the policies. He commended Sheriff Young for a well-planned Guardian Training Program. He stated that the training for the Guardian Program was held Monday thru Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. He stated that he was glad to participate in the Guardian Training Program. He stated that the district has received school grades and the overall district’s grade is a “C”. He stated that the district has purchased four new school buses for this school year. He stated that the Best & Brightest Lawsuit has settled. He stated that the district will receive a Memorandum of Understanding for the teacher’s union to assist with attracting and retaining teachers. He stated that the Turnaround School Supplemental Services Allocation (TSSSA) will work with schools who have received a letter grade of “D” or “DD”.

3. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

None.

4. The workshop adjourned at 3:50 p.m.