

Gadsden County Public Schools

Reconfiguration News

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

APRIL 11, 2017



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- School Board approves plan
- Superintendent selects team members to implement plan
- Reconfiguration team has first meeting, subcommittees are formed and team leaders selected

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Embracing The Vision

On April 4, 2017, the Gadsden County School Board approved Phase I of the district's plan to reconfigure several schools.

The approved plan calls for suspending operations at both St. John and Gretna Elementary and combining all high school students into one high school, presently known as East Gadsden High. The reconfiguration plan will also change the grade levels at Greensboro Elementary, West Gadsden, George. W. Munroe Elementary, and James A. Shanks Middle schools. These measures will not only improve the educational opportunities for all students, but the recent decision will reduce overall costs for operating schools for improved efficiency.

With much excitement and commitment, the process to make the vision a reality has begun effective 2017-18 school year.



"Unity is strength...when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved."

Mattie J.T. Stepanek

The Journey To A New Destination Begins

On April 7, 2017, the journey for the reconfiguration process was started. Superintendent Roger P. Milton organized a reconfiguration planning committee.

The committee was subdivided into several

subcommittees consisting of a chairperson for each major focus area. The newly formed subcommittees were provided with expectations required for encountering successful outcomes. The subcommittees will be closely monitored and advised to

ensure implementation is completed within the necessary timeframe. The subcommittee leaders will be soliciting individuals to build their own individual teams to assist with completing their designated tasks.



*“There will be sunny
and stormy days
ahead as we travel
the road to
reconfiguration.”*



What To Expect From The Reconfiguration

During the reconfiguration process, schools will begin to improve procedures as they begin to operate more efficiently. With this efficiency and improvement, the District will be able to generate and maintain a renewable source of funding that could be used for employee compensation.

This plan will also allow for and increase access to

resources available to all schools.

As the process progresses, expect to see expanded course and program offering for students.

It will be exciting to return music and art to all elementary schools, expand the career and technical programs, offer more advance courses, and increase the athletic

opportunities throughout the District.

Even though the reconfiguration will be a very intricate and taxing process with high priority, the teaching and learning of Gadsden County Public School students still remains TOP PRIORITY.

Collaboration among all parties involved will ensure a successful transition.

Oversight, Finance and Staffing

The **Oversight** subcommittee will be led by Superintendent Roger P. Milton. This subcommittee will make sure the overall reconfiguration project is progressing in a timely manner and deadlines are met. This committee will keep the School Board informed as the process moves forward. Everyone involved will report to the Oversight subcommittee.

The **Finance** subcommittee will develop

and implement protocols for the establishment of school budgets based on the new configuration of schools. Finance will also ensure the availability of funds needed to implement the reconfiguration process.

The **Staffing** subcommittee will develop staffing plans and recommend the placement of teachers and staff.

Facilities, Transportation and Rezoning

The **Facilities** subcommittee will collaborate with principals and the Inventory Control subcommittee to establish protocols for removal and transfer of equipment. This team will implement necessary procedures for the physical closing of school facilities and oversee any facility modifications needed at receiving schools.

The **Transportation/Rezoning**

subcommittee will work to establish new attendance zones. It will redraw and recommend new attendance zones for the reconfigured schools. Transportation will also take the necessary measures to review and re-establish transportation routes for the affected schools.

Educational Programs and Technology

The **Educational Programs** subcommittee will explore and review existing programs, recommend continuation of programs, and recommend additional programs for schools. Another responsibility will be to collaborate with instructional technology in the development of protocols for redistribution of instructional technologies and materials. It will oversee all tasks related to instructional programs to ensure they meet

the needs of reconfigured schools. This subcommittee is also responsible for the accurate handling of student records between schools.

The **Technology** subcommittee will consist of administrative and instructional duties. This subcommittee will collaborate with Human Resources, Finance and the Student Information Systems to ensure a smooth transition for the management systems.

Protocols will also be established for the collection and redistribution of all instructional technologies.



Inventory Control and School Food Service

The **Inventory Control** subcommittee, along with the Facilities subcommittee will be responsible for most of the labor intensive duties. The Inventory Control subcommittee will collaborate with other subcommittees to determine where equipment will be placed.

This subcommittee will also account for all distribution and deliveries of equipment using a great deal of record keeping and manpower.

This committee must deter the misplacement of all School Board property.

The **School Food Service** subcommittee will work with all schools to ensure that property, located in the cafeterias, is transferred, stored, and identified in accordance with federal, state and local requirements.

“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success”.
-- Henry Ford

Parent/Community, Staff/Student Acclimation and Communication

Each of these subcommittees will work very closely together. The **Parent and Community Engagement** subcommittee will be critical to establish and implement protocols to keep parents and the community engaged during reconfiguration.

The **Staff and Student Acclimation** subcommittee will work with students, parents, teachers and staff concerning their feelings and adjustments in the new school and work environments. This subcommittee will design activities to ease the concerns

and ensure the transition is as smooth as possible for all school stakeholders.

The **Communication** subcommittee, is responsible for transparency and communication with the public. Protocols will be implemented to keep ALL

stakeholders informed. All subcommittees will collaborate closely with this subcommittee to provide adequate, accurate and timely information.



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"Putting Children First"

Carter-Parramore /Hope Academy

Chattahoochee Elementary

Crossroad Academy Charter School

****East Gadsden High School (Merging with West Gadsden
Grades 9-12 only/Name Change)**

Gadsden Central Academy

Gadsden Elementary Magnet

Gadsden Technical Institute

Galloway Academy Charter School

****George Munroe Elementary (Changing to Grades PK-3)**

****Greensboro Elementary (Changing to Grades PK-3)**

****Gretna Elementary (Closing 2017-18)**

Havana Magnet School

****James A. Shanks Middle School (Changing to Grades 4-8)**

****St. John Elementary (Closing 2017-18)**

Stewart Street Elementary

****West Gadsden High School (Grades 4-8/Name Change)**

**** Schools Affected by 2017-18 Reconfiguration**



The Best Is Yet To Come

As the implementation of the reconfiguration continues, Gadsden County Public Schools will continue to keep everyone informed about the project's progress.

We are excited as we embark on this monumental task. We will seek the collaboration of all students, parents, staff, businesses and residents of Gadsden County as we embrace the changes and opportunities that will evolve from this journey.

If you would like to volunteer and assist the Gadsden County School District with the 2017-2018 reconfiguration, please do not hesitate to contact our office.



"The secret of change is to focus all of our energy, not to fighting the old, but on building the new."

--Socrates

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