

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

February 26, 2019

6:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis, Vice Chairwoman; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; 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. Steve Scott was absent.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Vice Chairwoman, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis, at 6:05 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Pastor Annie McMillan with Throne of Grace Ministry.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in Unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Sylvia Jackson and Principal Pamela Jones recognized the following 10th grade students for their achievement on the PSAT Test: Gamiyah Germany, Ya'Mya Roberts, Aliza Hutley, and Rontavious Thomas. Each of the students scored within the 83% percentile nationally. The Superintendent and Board congratulated each of the students for their high achievement. The parents of each of the students were also recognized.

Mr. Frost thanked Dr. Jackson and Mrs. Vicki Johnson for their work in making sure the parents and students were invited to attend the meeting for recognition.

Mrs. Lewis recognized Ms. Ann Radke who shared with the Board an update on the Real Essentials Life Skills Program. Ms. Radke stated that the Real Essentials Life Skills Program participation was great at Carter Parramore Academy. She stated that the program was well supported by Major Jackson, Mrs. Grant Whaley, Mrs. Jeanne Gunn and Mrs. Shareka Williams.

Mrs. Gunn and Mrs. Williams shared positive views about the Real Essentials Life Skills Program.

Mr. Frost requested that Mrs. Shareka Williams and Mr. Edgar Griffin be invited to attend the student discipline workshop.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mrs. Lewis entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith and carried unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. January 22, 2019, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. January 22, 2019, 6:00 p.m. - Regular School Board Meeting

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

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

- a. Personnel 2018 – 2019

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

- a. Permission to Write Off Internal Funds NSF Check

Fund Source: Internal Funds – Stewart Street Elementary School
Amount: \$25.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS

- a. Mortgage Modification Agreement for Faith Apostolic Christian Tabernacle Services, Inc.

Fund Source: General Fund – 1100 Fund
Amount: Delayed Mortgage Payments of \$2,300.00 per month

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Renewal of Virus Malware Software

Fund Source: General Fund
Amount: \$26,388.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. District Wide Microsoft License Renewal

Fund Source: Digital Education Plan
Amount: \$34,968.84

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Renewal of Mainline VMware Support (AS400)
 Fund Source: General Fund
 Amount: \$8,731.00
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- e. Email Security System
 Fund Source: Digital Education Plan
 Amount: \$13,013.25
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- f. Notification of Purchase of Data Center Hardware
 Fund Source: General Fund
 Amount: \$207,686.49
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- g. 2019 – 2022 English Language Learners Plan (ELL)
 Fund Source: N/A
 Amount: N/A
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

10. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

- b. School Field Trip Request (Out-of-State) James A. Shanks Middle School
 Fund Source: N/A
 Amount: N/A
 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.

*8. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS

- h. Hover vs. Gadsden County School
 Mr. McMillan stated that he was concerned about the settlement agreement for the Hover case.
 Attorney Will Armistead with Coppins Monroe stated that as required with all court actions, this matter was referred to mediation by the judge. He stated that as a result of the mediation, the plaintiff will be responsible for his attorney’s fees and cost of litigation as well as satisfying any outstanding liens. He stated that the district has liability insurance coverage for this matter and the carrier is aware of the recommended settlement amount.
 ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*9. STUDENT MATTERS

- a. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #32-1819-0051

Mr. McMillan stated that students are given chance after chance. He stated that the Board is too lenient with giving students a second chance. He stated that he was thankful to serve a God who gave him a second chance. He stated that the Board cannot continue to allow this type of student behavior.

Mr. Milton stated that the students and parents have met with him to discuss their student behavior, and to lay down some ground rules. He stated that Board members have been invited to meet with the parents and students. He stated that the options for student disciplinary action are to expel, alternative placement or home school for students.

Mr. Smith advocated to do something at the elementary level to meet with parents of students with discipline issues.

Mr. Milton stated that there is need to be able to change student behavior at the elementary level. He stated that there are a lot of resources put into the elementary schools.

Mrs. Lewis stated that teachers can identify students with behavior issues. She stated that there need to be a plan of action. She stated that a meeting can be held with the parents to discuss their student discipline issues.

Mr. Smith requested the Board consider agreeing to establish relationships with elementary students and their parents.

Mr. Frost stated that in the past PTA and PTO's were powerful. He expressed issues that students are currently faced with.

Mr. Smith volunteered to reach out to parents of students at Stewart Street Elementary School with discipline issues. He challenged the Board to volunteer to reach out to parents at other schools. Mrs. Lewis stated that she would volunteer to reach out to parents at Havana Magnet School.

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

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

CASE #34-1819-0051

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

CASE #35-1819-0051

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Student Expulsion – See back-up material
CASE #36-1819-0051
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- e. Student Expulsion – See back-up material
CASE #37-1819-0051
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- f. Student Expulsion – See back-up material
CASE #38-1819-0051
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*10. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

- a. School Field Trip Request (Out-of-State) – Stewart Street Elementary School
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

In response to Mr. McMillan’s concern to have the Superintendent approve all out-of-state field trip requests, Dr. Jackson stated that it is the Board’s policy to have all out-of-state field trip requests presented to the Board for approval.

Following discussion, Mr. McMillan made a motion to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation to approve agenda item #10a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

11. FACILITIES UPDATE

Mr. Hunter stated that it was a short winter. He stated that grass cutting was in progress. He stated that he was concerned about HVAC controls. He stated that James A. Shanks Middle School need a major renovation with HVAC controls. He stated that the good news is that a new secretary (Mrs. Amy O’Donnell) has been hired with the maintenance department. He stated that huge advances have been made with the work order system. He stated that maintenance is gathering information for the energy management system.

12. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Milton stated that things are moving well at the schools. He stated that the Board need to negotiate and have conversations regarding the use of the Gretna Elementary School property and the St. John Elementary School property. He stated that the schools need to be removed from the district’s facility list.

Mr. Frost stated that the Gretna Elementary School Property has been used for Law Enforcement Active Shooter Training. He stated that the property could possibly be utilized for training. He stated that he want to receive recurring funds for the property. He stated that the cafeteria could be revamped for public use as a community center. He stated that he want to explore more options for the Gretna Elementary School property.

Mr. McMillan stated that he was concerned about negotiating the Gretna Elementary School property. He stated that he agreed with Mr. Frost's concerns to revamp the Gretna Elementary School property to use as a training center, and a community center for public use.

Mr. Smith stated that it is not good business for the district to put the Gretna Elementary School property and the St. John Elementary School property on the market to sell and then go back to do an investment. He stated that a workshop was needed for further discussion. He stated that he was concerned about using investment funds to revamp the Gretna Elementary School property.

Mr. Milton stated that the district does not have the funds to invest in revamping the Gretna Elementary School property. He stated that Mr. Scott was absent due to his mother's illness. He stated that Mr. Mays was hospitalized. He asked everyone to keep Mr. Scott and Mr. Mays in prayer.

13. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Frost expressed his concerns about employees sending their students to other districts. He stated that the issue needed to be addressed. He stated that the Gadsden district has the best schools in the State of Florida.

14. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.