

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

March 27, 2018

6:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Steve Scott, Chairman; Mr. Tyrone D. Smith; Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; and Mr. Isaac Simmons. Also present were Mr. Roger P. Milton, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; Mrs. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for the Board; and others.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Reverend Matthew Bryant, Jr., Pastor of Hopewell AME Church.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison

4. RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Milton recognized Ms. Mary McLeroy, member of the Carter Parramore Super Reunion Committee. Ms. McLeroy recognized the following members of the Carter Parramore Super Reunion Committee: Mrs. Arrie Battles, Ms. Emma Gunn, and Ms. Avonnette Henry. On behalf of the Carter Parramore Superior Reunion Committee, Mrs. McLeroy petitioned the Board to have the name Carter Parramore remain the same when the building is raised. She stated that Carter Parramore is very important to the committee members and the community. She stated that scholarships have been given to students at the high school for the last 10 years. She stated that the committee members love Gadsden County. She stated that if the name Carter Parramore is remained the same the committee will purchase the school mascot.

Mr. Scott recognized Ms. Meghann Bryant, Education Specialist with the Joe Budd Youth Conservation Center. Ms. Bryant addressed the Board to share information on the Joe Budd Youth Conservation Center. She stated that the Joe Budd Center provide free programs to cater to the educational programs that teachers teach in the classrooms.

Mrs. Lewis recognized Mr. Dennis and Mr. Hatcher with the Boys & Girls Club of Havana. Students from the Boys & Girls Club of Havana were brought to the Board meeting to see how the School Board conduct business. Mr. Dennis stated that the students will attend the Board meetings quarterly as an educational fieldtrip.

Mrs. Lewis also recognized Ms. Vickie Johnson, member of the Gadsden County Advisory Board for Big Bend Hospice. Ms. Johnson solicited support for the Annual Dr. Jessie Furlow Memorial Fundraiser which will be held on Saturday, April 14th at the Golf Club of Quincy. She stated that the event will feature delicious food, a Silent Auction, a Live Auction, door prizes, and music and entertainment that will be performed by Mr. Stanley DuPont and “The Tallahassee Nights Live Band.” She stated that the event also commemorates the life, memory and invaluable contributions of Dr. Jessie Furlow, who served as an Associate Medical Director of Big Bend Hospice for many years.

Mrs. Lewis encouraged everyone to support Big Bend Hospice of Gadsden County.

Mr. Smith recognized the principals and teachers for working diligently to do what is best for the students. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Scott entertained a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. February 26, 2018, 6:00 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. February 27, 2018, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- c. February 27, 2018, 6:00 p.m. - Regular School Board Meeting
- d. March 5, 2018, 5:00 p.m. - Student Hearing
- e. March 5, 2018, 6:00 p.m. – Student Hearing

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

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

- a. Personnel 2017 – 2018

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS

- a. P.O.W.E.R. Buying Group for July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 –

Fund Source: Fund 4100 School Food Service
Amount: Approximately \$1,000,000.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

c. Software Licenses

Fund Source: 1100 Fund General Fund – Digital Classroom Allocation
Amount: \$56,968.84

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. STUDENT MATTERS

a. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #91-1718-0211

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

b. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case#92 - 1718-0211

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

c. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #94-1718-0051

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

d. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #97-1718-0211

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

e. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #98-1718-0051

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

a. Fire Alarm System at Havana Magnet School

Fund Source: 379
Amount: \$46,461.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

10. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

a. School Field Trip Request (Out-of-State) – Gadsden Elementary Magnet School

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. School Field Trip Request (Out-of-State) Stewart Street Elementary 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.

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

- b. 2018 – 2019 Calendars

In response to Mr. Simmons' request for the proposed changes to the 2018 – 2019 calendars, Dr. Hightower stated that the committee included paid holidays within the calendar. He stated that early release days are not included in the calendar.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #6b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- *7. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS

- b. Cafeteria Equipment and Furniture for GCHS

Fund Source: 4100 Fund Food Source
Amount: \$148,183.59

Mr. Simmons requested an explanation of the cafeteria equipment and furniture to be replaced at Gadsden County High School.

Mr. Milton stated that the cafeteria at the high school would be upgraded to change the setting and culture. He stated that the funds could only be used for food service items. He stated that the high school's cafeteria would be redesigned.

Mr. Simmons stated that he was concerned about the amount of money used to redesign the high school cafeteria. He questioned what could be done to enhance the current use of facility policies.

Mr. Milton stated that the amount for use of facilities could be increased. He stated that mandates to enforce fee changes with the use of facilities needed to be done. He stated that Senate Bill 7026 requires a School Resource Officer to be on school campus any time there are students are on campus.

Mr. Simmons requested a workshop to further discuss security and fees for use of facilities.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #7b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*10. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

c. Adopted Instructional Materials/Textbooks for 2018 - 2019

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

Mr. Simmons stated that he was concerned about the adoption of new textbooks.

Dr. Sylvia Jackson stated that the State of Florida requires that all instructional materials have been reviewed, selected and adopted by the district School Board in accordance with the School Board hearing and public meeting requirements as specified in section 1006.283(2)(b)8, Florida Statutes.

Mrs. Tammy Farlin stated that the community was invited to participate in the textbook adoption process.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #10c. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*11. CONSIDERATION, PROPOSAL, AND/OR ADOPTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND RELATED MATTERS

a. Approval of School Board Policy 2.95, Wellness Program

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

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

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

Mr. Ronte' Harris, President of GCCTA, recognized his colleagues. He stated that teachers do phenomenal work in the district. He stated that he was concerned about the district's evaluation process. He requested the Board pay close attention to this year's evaluations to make sure school administrators follow proper scoring. He state that teacher evaluation process scores of "highly effective" or "effective" are directly tied to any pay raises teachers might receive. He stated that if the proper evaluation process is not followed, many teachers might not receive pay increases.

Ms. Judith Mandela, Vice President of GCCTA, addressed the Board to question why teachers were not offered raises for this school term from the \$600,000 in funds that remained from the 2016 – 2017 school year. She expressed frustration about why the Board has not come to an agreement on the teacher collective bargaining contract for this school year. She stated that many teachers leave the district because of salaries. She stated that teachers with no stability effects the classrooms.

Mr. Scott stated that the School Board meetings are not the place to discuss salaries, but should be discussed in collective bargaining sessions.

Mr. Milton stated that the Board is all about business. He stated that everyone must work together. He stated that it is the priority of the Board to increase salaries. He stated that he and the Board are constantly looking at ways to reduce staff and increase salaries.

Mr. Smith welcomed all teachers, faculty and staff to the budget and financial meetings to get a better understanding of the holistic version of the budget process.

12. FACILITIES UPDATE

Mr. Hunter stated that the maintenance department is conducting business as usual. In response to Mr. Simmons' request regarding an update on the main water break at West Gadsden Middle School, Mr. Hunter stated that there was a 4' water line break, along with other leaks. He stated that West Gadsden Middle School students would be released early on Thursday and Friday due to scheduled water tests.

Mr. Milton stated that any time there is a main water break, the Health Department must be informed, boil water and test sampling must also be done.

Mr. Smith left the meeting at 7:15 p.m. due to a prior obligation.

In response to Mr. Simmons' concern about lawn equipment, Mr. Hunter stated that training will be provided for staff. He stated that positions have been advertised and interviews are currently being scheduled.

Mr. Frost stated that he was concerned about staff working outside in the heat. He stated that staff should be aware of the working conditions in lawn maintenance.

13. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Milton stated that the district is planning for summer programs. He stated that some of the summer programs may be consolidated. He stated that FSA Testing is beginning to take place. He stated that April is School Volunteer Month. He recognized the following High Impact Teachers that were at the Board meeting: Mrs. Mellany Wiggins and Ms. Sandra Joseph. He requested a workshop to discuss school safety, and fees for use of facilities.

14. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mrs. Lewis encouraged schools to have student educational fieldtrips at Joe Budd Wildlife Conservation Center. She stated that the fieldtrips are free at the Joe Bud Wildlife Conservation Center.

15. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.