

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

May 16, 2019

10:00 A.M.

The meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis, Vice-Chairperson, Mr. Charlie D. Frost, Mr. Leroy McMillan, Mr. Tyrone D. Smith, and Mr. Steve Scott via video conference. 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 Vice-Chairperson, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis, at 10:15 a.m.

2. AGREEMENTS / CONTRACTS

a. Beamon v. Gadsden County School Board

Discussion in the case Beamon v. Gadsden County School Board was delayed until a court reporter could attend the meeting. Mr. Milton stated that the case Beamon v. Gadsden County School Board could be discussed in an attorney-client session.

b. Morris v. Gadsden County School Board

Mr. Will Pafford, Attorney for Ausley McMullen Law Firm, addressed the Board to share an update on the case Morris v. Gadsden County School Board. He stated that both parties have agreed that their respective interests would best be served by resolving plaintiff's claims in the lawsuit without any further proceedings.

Mr. Milton made a recommendation to accept the settlement agreement in the case Morris v. Gadsden County School Board.

Mr. Steve Scott made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the settlement agreement in the case Morris v. Gadsden County School Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leroy McMillan and carried unanimously.

- c. St. John Elementary School Property Commercial Contract with American Advanced Senior Care, LLC

Following discussion, Mr. Tyrone D. Smith made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda 2c. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leroy McMillan and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. 2018 – 2019 School Safety Officer Agreement with the City of Quincy

Following discussion, Mr. Steve Scott made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #2d. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. 2018 – 2019 School Safety Officer Agreement with the City of Gretna

Following discussion, Mr. Steve Scott made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #2e. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

3. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Milton stated that graduations were taking place for 5th to 7th grade students. He stated that commencement for Gadsden County High School was scheduled for Friday, May 24th 6:00 p.m. at Jaquar stadium. He encouraged Board members to attend graduation activities. He stated that early dismissal days are the last three days (May 29th, 30th and 31st) of school. He stated that testing was going very well. He stated that Envision Credit Union Representative Ramon Anderson provided discount cards for teachers and staff to use throughout the year. He stated that he is working with Envision Credit Union to provide financial literacy to citizens and parents.

On behalf of the Board, Mrs. Lewis will work with Envision Credit Union to provide financial literacy to parents and staff.

Mr. Milton encouraged the Board to get involved with district initiatives to help move the district from good to great.

4. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Milton requested a workshop to discuss the future of the district's ten year facilities plan.

Mrs. Lewis requested a workshop to discuss and visit the district's vacant properties.

Mr. McMillan requested the Board take a stand and decide whether or not to keep or sell the vacant properties.

Mr. Smith stated that he was excited about the site visits for the vacant properties. He stated that the Board should look into the future of the district. He stated that new and upgrades are better for the district. He stated that the Board need an alternative measure for Gretna Elementary School. He stated that the district need to find ways to curtail issues with the AC units. He thanked Mrs. Davis for her hard work and her return to work following an illness. He recognized Dr. Wiggins for her dedication and hard work.

Mr. McMillan stated that he had an opportunity to be part of an after-school play at Greensboro Elementary School. He praised the students for their performance in portraying their parts in the play about bullying. He stated that the students did an awesome job. He stated that good things are going on in the schools. He stated that the students received certificates and treats for their great performance.

Mrs. Lewis stated that she was thankful for the partnership with Four Star Freightliner and Gadsden Technical Institute's diesel program. She stated that it will be an advantage for the district to budget for advertising and marketing.

Mr. Smith stated that there are sponsorships to assist with advertising and marketing the great things in the district.

Mr. McMillan stated that a public relations person needed to be considered to assist with moving the district from good to great.

Mrs. Lewis stated that she previously worked in public relations for the district. She stated that she want the district to tell its own story. She stated that advertising is powerful.

Mr. Frost challenged the Board to find out why teachers are taking their students to attend school in other districts. He stated that student out-of-district transfers are a priority for the district.

Mrs. Lewis stated that employees could be surveyed to give feedback on why they are choosing other districts to educate their children.

Mr. Smith stated that everyone need to demonstrate good customer service at all times.

Mr. Scott stated that what people expect from an educational institution will vary. He stated that discipline and testing have an integral factor on parent's decisions about where to educate their children.

Mr. Milton encouraged Board members to check their mail boxes more often because of date sensitive material and mail.

Mrs. Lewis recessed the meeting at 11:05 a.m. to convene in an attorney-client session. The attorney-client session adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

The Board reconvened in the special meeting at 12:26 p.m.

2. AGREEMENTS / CONTRACTS

a. Beamon v. Gadsden County School Board

Mr. Milton made a recommendation to accept the settlement agreement in the case Beamon v. Gadsden County School Board.

Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the settlement agreement in the case Beamon v. Gadsden County School Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith and carried with Mr. Frost, Mr. Smith and Mrs. Lewis voting "aye". Mr. Scott and Mr. McMillan voted "nay".

5. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.