

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

June 23, 2009

6:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Judge B. Helms, Chairman; Mr. Isaac Simmons; Mr. Eric F. Hinson; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; and Mr. Roger P. Milton. Also present were Mr. Reginald C. James, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; Mrs. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for the Board; and others.

1. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Judge B. Helms, at 6:05 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Rev. Tony Hannah, Pastor of Henshaw Chapel AME Church Cottondale.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

Mrs. Shaia Beckwith-James recognized Mr. Anthony Clum as the recipient of the Sherry Smith Fellowship Award. She stated that Mr. Clum teaches at George W. Munroe Elementary School.

Mrs. Denise Hannah, District Volunteer Coordinator, presented Superintendent James with the 2008 – 2009 Volunteer/Community Involvement Award for Region I. The Volunteer/Community Award was from the Florida Association of District School Superintendents and Commissioner Eric Smith.

Mr. James recognized Ms. Monica Smart and asked her to give the Board a brief overview of the James A. Shanks Make-Over Project.

Ms. Smart stated that the goal for the James A. Shanks Make-Over was to raise expectations of parents, grandparents and neighbors for their students, using this needed “near-extreme makeover” as a focal point to draw attention to the need to raise those

expectations. She stated that the makeover would consist of cleaning, scraping paint where needed, painting the entire facility where needed. She stated that hardy plants would be planted by a design based on what plants are available from donating nurseries (determination of availability is ongoing). She stated that sod would be placed in as many bare areas as the supply of sod allows. She stated that routine floor finishing would be performed by custodial staff, possibly with assistance from volunteers or employees from large companies. She solicited volunteers to provide labor between July 11th at 8:00 a.m. and July 18th at 5:00 p.m. She stated that the entire school was scheduled for an extreme make over. She stated that everyone's support was needed with the Shanks Make-Over Project.

Mr. Milton recognized Ms. Valencia Denson, Assistant Principal, for her dedication and hard work at Stewart Street Elementary School.

Mr. Hinson recognized Cadet Dukes and Cadet Dukes with the Gadsden Leadership Academy.

Cadet Dukes and Cadet Baker addressed the Board to solicit funds for the Gadsden Leadership Academy. Cadet Dukes stated that everyone's support was needed to help raise scholarship monies and for the summer program. She stated that their goal was to raise approximately \$12,000.00.

Mr. Hinson thanked the administrators, teachers, staff and parents for a great school year. He stated that the district is moving forward. He solicited the Board's support for an adult basketball team in Havana. He stated that the first game was scheduled for July 11th.

Mr. Frost recognized Mrs. Ethel Marshall for her hard work and dedication. He stated that Mrs. Marshall works in the Media and Technology Department.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Helms pulled from the agenda item #8h – Contractor for IRS Section 125 Compliance. He entertained a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Roger P. Milton, seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. May 12, 2009, 5:00 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. May 18, 2009, 9:00 a.m. – Special Board Meeting
- c. May 26, 2009, 4:00 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- d. May 26, 2009, 6:00 p.m. - Regular School Board Meeting
- e. June 2, 2009, 4:00 p.m. - Student Hearing
- f. June 2, 2009, Following Student Hearing at 4:00 p.m., Student Hearing
- g. June 2, 2009, 5:30 p.m. – Special Board Meeting

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

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

- c. Reduction of 5 days and Approval of the 2009 – 2010 Twelve Month Employee Calendar

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

- a. Approval of bills and vouchers - See back-up material

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Budget Amendment Number Twenty-Four

Fund Source: 410 (School Food Service) Fund
Amount: \$.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Budget Amendment Number Twenty-Five

Fund Source: 110 (General) Fund
Amount: \$.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Budget Amendment Number Twenty-Six

Fund Source: 432 (Targeted ARRA Stimulus) Fund
Amount: \$873,752.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. Budget Amendment Number Twenty-Seven

Fund Source: 420 (Federal) Fund
Amount: \$45,781.29

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- f. Project Application – State Fiscal Stabilization Fund

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. CONTRACT/PROJECT/GRANT APPLICATIONS

- a. Cooperative Agreement for Inter-County Transfer of Exceptional Students Between Leon County School Board and Gadsden County School Board

Fund Source: State FTE Funds
Amount: (determined by formula)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

b. FSU/Multidisciplinary Services 2009 – 2010 School Year

Fund Source: IDEA Dollars
Amount: \$13,000.00 est.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

c. Contract with Kaylor Miles, M.Ed.

Fund Source: IDEA
Amount: \$20,000.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

d. Agreement Between the Gadsden County Public Schools and INVO HealthCare Associates, Inc.

Fund Source: FEFP Dollars
Amount: \$58.00 (per hour for actual hours worked)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

e. AmeriCorps Gadsden Reads

Fund Source: Volunteer Florida and Title I, Part A Basic
Amount: \$304,258 from Volunteer Florida and \$53,998.00 from the School Board of Gadsden County

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

f. Program Improvement Funds

Fund Source: Head Start (Federal)
Amount: \$208,940.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

g. Head Start Expansion Application

Fund Source: Head Start (Federal)
Amount: \$450,633.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

i. Agreement of Revised ESOL Endorsement InService Program

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. BIDS

a. Food and Non-Food - Bid #0910-02

Fund Source: 410

Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

b. Milk – Bid #0910-03

Fund Source: 410
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

c. Bread – Bid #0910-04

Fund Source: 410
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

d. Produce – Bid #0910-05

Fund Source: 410
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

e. Beverage – Bid #0910-06

Fund Source: 410
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

10. STUDENT MATTERS

c. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #99-0809-0061

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

11. FACILITY/PROPERTY

a. Continuing L.P. Gas Service with Empire Gas Original Bid Award May 22, 2007
– Bid #0708-07

Fund Source: 110
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

b. Lawn Maintenance for East Gadsden High School – Bid #0910-08

Fund Source: 110
Amount: \$18,200.00 (26 weeks)

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)

a. Personnel 2008 – 2009

Dr. Willie C. Green addressed the Board to speak on agenda item #6a – personnel. He provided the Board with a letter stating his concerns regarding personnel, and a letter of complaint filed with the Commission on Ethics.

Following the Chairman and the Superintendent's concern regarding Dr. Green addressing the Board, Mrs. Minnis stated that individuals addressing the Board should only be allowed to speak to a specific item of concern.

Mr. Milton stated that he felt that Dr. Green should be given an opportunity to address his concerns at the end of the meeting.

Following Mr. Helms disallowance of Dr. Green to address the Board, Dr. Green asked if he would be allowed to speak at the end of the meeting.

Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #6a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried with Mr. Helms, Mr. Frost, Mr. Simmons and Mr. Milton voting "aye". Mr. Hinson voted "nay".

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

b. Personnel 2009 – 2010

Mr. Hinson requested the Board defer action on agenda item #6b until the Superintendent submits a plan of action for East and West Gadsden High Schools.

Mr. James stated for clarification that agenda item #6b included more than personnel for East and West Gadsden High Schools. He stated that a plan of action will be submitted for East and West Gadsden High Schools, as well as Carter Parramore Academy at a Special Board Meeting on July 14th.

Mr. Hinson made a motion to defer action on agenda item #6b.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Simmons stated that personnel appointments must be made by a certain date following the Legislature.

Dr. Bridges stated that personnel appointments must be made by June 30th.

Mr. Hinson made a motion to defer action on agenda item #6b until June 30th, with the exception of all teachers.

The motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Simmons stated that all personnel appointments must be made by the Superintendent.

Following discussion, Mr. Eric F. Hinson made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #6b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*7. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

g. School Board Truth in Millage (TRIM) Timetable

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

Mr. Milton requested an overview of the Truth in Millage (TRIM) Timetable.

Mrs. Wood stated that Board approval is requested for the Truth in Millage (TRIM) timetable with the following key dates: 1) July 21st - request permission to advertise tentative budget; 2) July 23rd - advertise tentative budget hearing; 3) July 28th - tentative budget hearing; and 4) September 8th - final budget hearing and Superintendent's Annual Financial Report.

The Board agreed to begin all of the budget meetings at 6:00 p.m., for the exception of the July 28th tentative budget hearing to begin at 5:01 p.m.

Following discussion, Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #7g. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*8. CONTRACT/PROJECT/GRANT APPLICATIONS

j. Student Data Management System – CrossPointe

Fund Source: General Fund
Amount: \$200,000.00 (First Year)
\$50,000.00 (Second Year)

Mr. Frost requested that a workshop be scheduled to further discuss the CrossPointe proposal. He stated that he wanted to ensure that the services with CrossPointe are not being duplicated by PAEC.

Following discussion, Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to defer action and schedule a workshop to further discuss agenda item #8j. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

The Board scheduled a workshop on Tuesday, July 14th at 6:00 p.m. to further discuss the CrossPointe proposal.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

***10. STUDENT MATTERS**

- a. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #96-0809-0051

Ms. Hattie Cobb, parent of student #96-0809-0051, addressed the Board to request a hearing.

Following discussion, Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to defer action on student case #96-0809-0051 until a hearing was held on July 14th at 4:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #97-0809-0061

Ms. Maria Valadea, parent of student #97-0809-0061, addressed the Board to request a hearing.

Following discussion, Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to defer action on student case #97-0809-0061 until a hearing was held on July 14th at 5:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Eric F. Hinson and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

***11. FACILITY/PROPERTY**

- c. HVAC – Full Service Agreement for West Gadsden High School

Fund Source: 110

Amount: \$34,915 year / \$2,910.00 month

Mr. Simmons stated that he was concerned whether or not the HVAC equipment was under warranty.

Mr. Shepard stated that the HVAC equipment was under warranty. He stated that the contract was a full service agreement with Brooks Air Systems for all HVAC equipment at West Gadsden High School. He stated that the contract was for all emergency calls, routine maintenance, parts and labor to diagnose, repair or replace failed components of equipment covered under the agreement.

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

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

12. **CONSIDER, PROPOSAL, AND/OR ADOPTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND RELATED MATTERS**

- a. Discussion and Request to Advertise the Board's Intent to Amend School Board Rule 2.25, Sub-Section Position Description

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the request to advertise the Board's Intent to Amend School Board Rule 2.25, Sub-Section Position Description. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

13. **EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Mr. James stated that he was extremely proud of the four "A" schools. He stated that progress with the elementary and middle schools was great. He stated that the success did not extend to the high schools. He stated that he would submit a plan of action for East Gadsden High School, West Gadsden High School, and Carter Parramore Academy at a Workshop scheduled on July 14th at 6:00 p.m. He requested that the Board help the district make a first class alternative center. He stated that all teachers will be evaluated at East and West Gadsden High Schools to see their performance over the last year. He stated that there are some challenges in the high schools. He stated that data provided to the district has given clear indications of the problems that are hindering the district from moving forward, and they will be addressed.

14. **SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS**

Mr. Hinson stated that he was concerned about the progress of East Gadsden High School and West Gadsden High School. He stated that everyone needs to be serious about moving the district forward. He reminded the Board of what he said would happen a year ago if students were sent from Carter Parramore Academy to their home school. He stated at that time both high schools would fail. He stated that vocational education needs to be a priority.

Mr. Frost stated that it was time for everyone to get involved. He stated that help is needed in the community. He stated that he supports all of the students.

Mr. Hinson stated that the Board set policies and procedures. He stated that the Board needed to continue with what was working for the district.

Mr. Simmons encouraged the Board to follow the Roberts Rules of Order when conducting meetings.

Mr. James shared with the Board information on the lease agreement with Rev. Philip May regarding the Greensboro Elementary School property.

15. The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.