

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

October 24, 2017

6:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Isaac Simmons, Chairman; Mr. Steve Scott; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis; 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.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Elder A. Louis Ivey, Pastor of Friendship Primitive Baptist Church.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

In honor of Disability Awareness Month, Mr. Milton recognized Mrs. Sharon Thomas who recognized the following students to showcase their student achievements: Daishnay Richardson- East Gadsden High School Graduate, Karla Grande - West Gadsden High School Graduate, Kevin Jarina - Gadsden County High School, Janna Fryson – East Gadsden High School Graduate, Jalen McCarthy, Crossroads Academy, and Jordan Crews – Crossroads Academy. Each of the students shared with the Board their achievements.

Mr. Milton recognized Ms. Penny Taylor, Director of Healthy School, Mr. Joe Davis, Florida Coordinated School Health Communications Chair, and Mr. Zack Gibson, Chief Child Advocate and Director of the Governor's Office of Child Adoption. Ms. Taylor, Mr. Davis and Mr. Gibson presented the Superintendent and Board with the Florida Healthy School Silver Level Award (Healthy District Flag).

Mrs. Lewis stated that she was concerned about the employees not having information on the KidsCare Program. She requested Mr. Joe Davis share with the Board information on the Florida KidsCare Program.

Mr. Davis shared with the Board information on the Florida KidsCare Program. He stated that Florida KidCare provides health and dental insurance to all Florida kids from birth through the end of age 18, even if one or both parents work. He stated that most families pay nothing at all, and many families pay just \$15 or \$20 a month. He stated that full-pay options are also available.

The Superintendent and Board thanked Ms. Taylor, Mr. Dixon and Mr. Gibson for their presentation of the Florida Healthy School District Silver Flag.

Mr. Milton introduced Mrs. Tammy Farlin, Area Director of Elementary Education.

Mrs. Farlin shared with the Board a power-point presentation regarding the Accelerated Reader 360 and Star program. She stated that the Accelerated Reader 360 was a computer-based program that motivates students to read. She stated that the Accelerated Reader 360 program helps teachers monitor students' progress and promotes reading practice. She stated that Star Reading is a short reading assessment, adaptive, provides data on students' path to mastery, helps determine ZPD, and provides more time for learning and less time for testing. She stated that the Accelerated Reader 360 program works in the way of having students choose a book, reads at individual pace, takes a short quiz, earns points for reading and sets individual goals. She stated that the Accelerated Reading 360 program is aligned with the Superintendent's vision to improve reading proficiency. She stated that the following are non-negotiables for Accelerated Reader: a) by December 2017, 100% of schools implementing Accelerated Reader 360 will have established goals for at least 90% of students; and b) by the end of the 2017-18 school year, at least 90% of students will have met their individual Accelerated Reader goals. She stated that the district needs to select a first grade class at any elementary school, read "Quackers" to the students, commit to read monthly, and join the celebrations.

Mrs. Lewis commended Principal Delshauana Jackson for her leadership skills and the way she analyzes student data and share with her team members. She also commended Crossroads Academy for a good audit report.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Simmons made a motion to entertain the remaining consent agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Charlie D. Frost, seconded by Mr. Tyrone D. Smith and carried unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. September 26, 2017, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. September 26, 2017, 6:00 – Regular School Board Meeting
- c. October 3, 2017, 4:00 p.m. – Student Hearing
- d. October 3, 2017, 5:00 p.m. – Student Hearing
- e. October 3, 2017, 6:00 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- f. October 3, 2017, Immediately Following Board Workshop at 6:00 p.m. Special 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 2017 – 2018

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. AGREEMENTS/PROJECT/GRANT APPLICATIONS

- d. Head Start Policies and Procedures

Fund Source: Head Start

Amount: -0-

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. STUDENT MATTERS

- a. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)

Case #13-1718-0051

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)

Case #14-1718-0051

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)

Case #16-1718-0211

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- f. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)

CASE #19-1718-0051

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- g. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)

CASE #23-1718-0051

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- h. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)

CASE #24-1718-0051

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- i. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)
CASE #28-1718-0051
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- j. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)
CASE #29-1718-0051
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- l. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)
CASE #32-1718-0051
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- m. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)
CASE #35-1718-0051
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- n. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)
CASE #36-1718-0051
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- o. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)
CASE #38-1718-0091
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- q. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)
CASE #40-1718-0051
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- r. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)
CASE #42-1718-0051
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

- a. Request to Delete Vehicles from Capital Assets

Fund Source: Applicable Funds
Amount: \$99,973.00

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.

*7. AGREEMENTS/PROJECT/GRANT APPLICATIONS

- a. Proposal Between GCSB Beginning Teacher Program and G & W Education Consultants

Fund Source: Title II
Amount: \$15,000.00

Mrs. Lewis stated that she was pleased to have the Beginning Teacher Program in place. She questioned whether the Beginning Teacher Program would help other teachers receive their certification.

Dr. Pink Hightower stated that the State of Florida has a required Teacher Certification Program.

Following discussion, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #7a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Proposal to the School Board of Gadsden County from Resolutions in Special Education (RISE) for Professional and Technical Services for ESE Consultation

Fund Source: IDEA
Amount: \$4,500.00

In response to Mrs. Lewis' concern about whether all employees will participate in the RISE Training Program, Mrs. Sharon Thomas, Director of Exceptional Student Education, stated that all employees will participate in the RISE Program.

Following discussion, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #7b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. 2017 – 18 Best and Brightest Scholarship

Fund Source: FLDOE
Amount: N/A

Mrs. Lewis requested a synopsis of the Best and Brightest Scholarship.

Dr. Hightower stated that the Department of Education has given the authority to school districts to set the criteria for the Best and Brightest Scholarships for the 2017 – 2018 year. He stated that the recommendation was to utilize the 2016 – 2017 FLDOE criteria. He stated that the 2016 – 2017 criteria established the ACT and SAT Qualifying scores for eligibility. He stated that first year teachers will qualify based upon test scores only. He stated that beyond the first year, to qualify, a teacher will need the qualifying test scores as well as a highly effective evaluation.

Following discussion, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #7c. The motion was seconded Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

***8. STUDENT MATTERS**

- c. Student Expulsion - (See back-up material)

Case #15-1718-0211

The parent of student #15-1718-0211 addressed the Board to request a hearing.

Following discussion, Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to defer action on agenda item #8c until a hearing could be held on Monday, October 30th at 11:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)

Case #17-1718-0051

The parent of student #17-1718-0051 addressed the Board to request a hearing.

Following discussion, Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to defer action on agenda item #8e until a hearing could be held on Monday, October 30th at 10:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- k. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)

Case #31-1718-0051

The parent of student #31-1718-0051 addressed the Board to request a hearing.

Following discussion, Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to defer action on agenda item #8k until a hearing could be held on Monday, October 30th at 12:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- p. Student Expulsion – (See back-up material)

Case #39-1718-0051

The parent of student #39-1718-0051 addressed the Board to request a hearing.

Following discussion, Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to defer action on agenda item #8p until a hearing could be held on Monday, October 30th at 1:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

Board members scheduled a Special Board Meeting on Monday, October 30th at 2:00 p.m. to discuss and act on the instructional hours due to Hurricane Irma, and to discuss Carter Parramore Academy Castaldi Report.

*10. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

- a. Approval of School Advisory Council (SAC) Rosters

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

Mr. Bill Stinson addressed the Board to share his concern regarding the composure of the School Advisory Council (SAC) Rosters. He stated that the SAC Rosters are not composed appropriately. He stated that the SAC Rosters are incompatible with State Statutes.

Mr. Scott stated that the make-up of the School Advisory Council (SAC) Rosters should be a balance of between the parents and teachers.

Mr. Frost stated that he was concern that no one can make people serve on a School Advisory Council Committee.

Mrs. Lewis stated that 51% of the SAC Roster should be made up of parents. She stated that the SAC Rosters needed to have more community, parent and business involvement.

Following discussion, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to defer action on agenda item #10a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

Mrs. Justine Newsome, Paraprofessional at Stewart Street Elementary School, addressed the Board with the concern about Skyward. She stated that she did not want her personal information going online. She wanted to know if it was mandatory for employees to have their personal information on Skyward.

Mr. Milton stated that yes, it was mandatory that all employees receive paystubs online. He assured Mrs. Newsome that her personal information would be safe and secure online.

11. FACILITIES UPDATE

Mr. Hunter shared the following highlights with the Board: a) Gadsden County High School lights in gym replaced with LEDs; b) maintenance technician stationed at high school; c) quotes are coming in for re-roofing at James A. Shanks Middle School; d) back hoe is operational; e) receiving quotes for hard equipment; f) received Castaldi Analysis Report for Carter Parramore Academy; and g) received a preliminary report from the union regarding on-call procedures; and h) requested Board's direction on St. John Elementary School and Gretna Elementary School properties.

In response to Mrs. Lewis' concern regarding the dark areas at Gadsden County High School, Mr. Hunter stated that he was aware of the lighting issues at the high school

In response to Mrs. Lewis' observation of the following, AC unit leak at Havana Magnet School, and the possibility of having steps where the steep hill is at the football field; Mr. Hunter stated that he will work out a plan to correct the problems.

In response to Mr. Frost's concern regarding the asphalt not being place to fill a hole at Gadsden Technical Institute, Mr. Hunter stated that the asphalt will be used for speed bumps.

In reference to Mr. Smith's concern about the portables at Stewart Street Elementary School, Mr. Hunter stated that the maintenance work was complete, but waiting on the IT Department. He stated that a switch had to be order by the IT Department.

12. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Milton stated that he will lift the suspension of the use of all facilities in November for all schools except James A. Shanks Middle School.

Mr. Smith requested the Superintendent remind principals of the resources needed for the upkeep of the facilities. He stated that all use of facility fees did not need to be waived.

Mr. Milton requested a brief executive session to discuss collective bargaining issues. He requested a workshop to share the updates on professional development and academic progress. He stated that he received an email regarding an update on the top two Turnaround Plans for Gadsden County High School. He stated that if the grade of "C" or better is received, no changes will be made; if the grade of "C" is not made the district must enter into a contract with an external partner or charter. He stated that signed contracts are due January 31st. He stated that there is continuing discussion between the DOE and FADSS regarding the Turnaround Plans. He stated that on Monday, October 30th at a special meeting he will bring a recommendation to the Board to reconsider the November 20th and 21st makeup days, he will recommend the dates of January 2nd, March 9th and March 30th. He stated that HCDC has requested new terms for the Havana Northside High School property.

Following discussion on the request from HCDC, the Board agreed to begin foreclosure on the Havana Northside High School property.

13. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mrs. Lewis stated the Board has what it needs to enforce student discipline. She stated that she wanted to ensure that each employee and student understands the Student Code of Conduct. She requested that each principal encourage teachers to take attendance. She stated that we are accountable for children at all times. She requested a report of attendance at each school. She encouraged parent services to take on marketing discipline to encourage parents to join the Triple "A" Team (Attendance, Attitude and Academics). She proposed the Board give students at Carter Parramore Academy a

nine-week probationary period. She requested a workshop to discuss the programs at Gadsden Technical Institute.

Mr. Scott stated that he was concerned about building number 3 at James A. Shanks Middle School. He reminded everyone of the parent expos next week at the schools.

The Board scheduled the organization meeting on Tuesday, November 21st at 5:30 p.m.; regular school board meeting at 6:00p.m.; and a workshop at 4:30 p.m.

Ms. Aimee McBride addressed the Board to request the procedures for foreclosure on the Havana Northside High School property.

Mrs. Minnis stated that she will provide information on foreclosure to Ms. McBride.

Ms. McBride stated that she wanted to purchase the Havana Northside High School building for the City of Havana.

Mrs. Minnis stated that she would request an executive session at the November 21st meeting.

Mr. Simmons thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

14. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

The Board convened in executive session to discuss collective bargaining issues at 8:00 p.m., and adjourned at 9:50 p.m.