

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP

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

October 16, 2012

6:00 P.M.

This workshop was open to the public and electronically recorded.

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. MIDWAY ARTS AND SCIENCES ACADEMY OF EXCELLENCE CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION

Mr. Auburn Ford, Midway City Manager, shared with the Board an overview of the Midway Arts and Sciences Academy of Excellence Charter School Application. He introduced Councilwoman Smith, and Ms. Sonja Giles (potential member of the Governance Board). He stated that the mission of the Midway Arts and Sciences Academy of Excellence is to provide an innovative, challenging curriculum for students in an environment that furthers a philosophy of respect and high expectations for all students, parents, teachers, and staff. He addressed the following concerns with the Florida Charter School Application Evaluation Instrument 1) Student Performance – The school will participate in all applicable components of the Florida Assessment Program, including the Florida Common Core Assessment Test, Common Core Writing +, the Stanford Achievement Test (SAT), the Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI), and other age-appropriate tests that may be required or recommended by the state and the Sponsor. Appropriate measures for improvement will be instituted for students not making adequate progress towards the Sunshine State Standards; 2) Exceptional Students – The school will implement the state-approved policies and procedures for the provision of Specially Designed Instruction and Related Services for Exceptional Students; 3) English Language Learners – The school will implement the state-approved, English Language Learner (ELL) plan in effect in Gadsden County. This plan is in accordance with the requirements of the LULAC et.al.vs. State Board of Education Consent Decree (1990) in servicing English Language Learners (ELL); 4) School Climate and Discipline – Grades PreK-5 with the hours 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. 180 days of instruction, the school will comply with the required hours of instructional time in the core and selected areas of study per a state-approved Student Progression Plan (SPP); 5) Management – the school will have a

staffing plan and will adhere to Florida Statutes and Guidelines; 6) Employment – All employees will be hired and may be terminated at any time, all employees are prohibited from working with Gadsden County Public Schools and Midway Arts and Sciences Academy of Excellence Charter School at the same time and any other conditions in accordance with the City Charter.; 7) Business Plan – the school currently has a start up date for the 2014 – 2015 school year, and there is a cost analysis; 8) Action Plan – The Human Resources will come through the City of Midway. The City of Midway is requesting a ten (10) year contract term to operate the proposed charter school. The term would begin August 2015 and terminate June 30, 2025. He thanked the Board members, Superintendent, and Dr. Jackson for their support.

Dr. Sylvia Jackson, Director of K-12, thanked Mr. Ford for his professionalism demonstrated throughout the charter School application process.

Board members thanked Mr. Ford for his presentation of the Midway Arts and Sciences Academy of Excellence Charter Application. They expressed their concerns with the ten (10) year contract term for the charter school, food service, and transportation.

3. ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Rosalyn Smith, Deputy Superintendent, reminded the Board members of the following: 1) end of the first nine week grading period; 2) October 22nd student holiday/teacher planning day; 3) maintenance will have a half day training; 4) upcoming parent expo's; and 5) FTE student data loaded – looking for a better count.

4. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Frost stated that he had concerns with the auditor's questioning the fees for students who attend the Law Enforcement Academy. He requested the chairman look into the situation.

In response to his concern about how the funds from the Homeless Grant were distributed, Mrs. Wood stated that there are three sources of funding for the Homeless Grant (Gadsden Homeless Foundation, Title I, and Title X)

Mrs. Wood stated that the auditors have received various information referencing the fees for students who attend the Law Enforcement Academy. She stated that Ashmore & Ashmore met with the principals regarding their internal funds account.

Mr. Hinson inquired about the drainage problem at Havana Elementary School.

Mr. Helms reminded the Board members of the scheduled meeting on October 23rd, beginning with a workshop at 4:30 p.m., and regular meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Frost asked the Board members to wear pink in recognition of breast cancer awareness month.

5. The workshop adjourned at 7:55 p.m.