

## SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP

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

February 14, 2022

5:00 P.M.

The workshop was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Leroy McMillan, Chairman, Mr. Steve Scott, Ms. Cathy S. Johnson, Mrs. Karema D. Dudley, and Mr. Charlie D. Frost. Also present were Mr. Elijah Key, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; and others. Mrs. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for the Board was absent.

1. Call To Order

The workshop was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Leroy McMillan, at 5:00 p.m.

2. Architect Presentation – Clemons, Rutherford & Associates

Mr. Hunter introduced Mr. William Rutherford, Principal in Charge of Clemons, Rutherford & Associates. He stated that Mr. Rutherford and the staff of Clemons, Rutherford & Associates would be presenting to the Board information on the architectural design of the New K-8 School.

Mr. Rutherford introduced the following staff members: Mr. Greg Kelly, Project Architect; Mr. Will Rutherford, Senior Project Manager; Melinda Lindsey, Project Manager; Mr. Matt Scarnige, Electrical Engineer; Mr. Robert George, Civil Engineer; and Mr. Todd Sloan, Assistant Project Manager. He stated that Clemons, Rutherford & Associates have been in business for 63 years, designed schools in 38 Florida school districts, located in Tallahassee, Florida, have 26 special facility funded schools, more than any other architect firm in the State of Florida, and most familiar with Gadsden County School Board goals. He stated that team consistency increases efficiency, productivity and quality which equals a zero learning curve. He stated that Clemons, Rutherford & Associates is highly knowledgeable of the Department of Education related codes.

Mr. Greg Kelly stated that Clemons, Rutherford & Associates is familiar with Gadsden's K-8 vision. He stated that the Board wants a new K-8 school that is inspiring for kids, student safety, statement architecture – bold presence, retain original gymnasium, existing school must remain operational during construction, separation of grade levels, connectivity to outdoors, after hour community use, sustainability/net zero, and sufficient stacking for parent drop off. He shared with the Board numerous site layouts. He stated that a concept and tool will be developed for selling to the Gadsden public. He stated that there will be good use of the sloped site. He stated that there will be landscaping and outdoor gathering areas. He stated that circulation patterns will include traffic issues, pedestrian, vehicular, on-site vs. off-site, service and parking. He stated that there will be inspiring finishes with color usages. He shared information on the site analysis and site grading.

Mr. Rutherford stated that Clemons, Rutherford & Associates should be selected as the architect for the new K-8 school because of its familiarity with the Gadsden County School Board K-8 Vision of Excellence; has knowledge of site and building programs; has more Special Facilities Construction Account (SFCA) funded projects than any firm in the State; has a strong relationship with DOE, especially with SFCA funded schools; net zero & sustainability expertise; creative and cost conscious; team consistency with exclusive consultants; and no learning curve.

Board members asked questions, shared their concerns and made comments during Clemons, Rutherford & Associates' presentation of the architectural design for the new K-8 school. They thanked Clemons, Rutherford & Associates for their presentation.

3. Educational Items by the Superintendent

Mr. Key stated that the Gadsden County High School Boys Basketball Team will travel to Santa Fe on Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. He stated that Crossroads were district champs. He stated that the Board needed to schedule a date for an employee hearing as well decide if they want the entire Board or a committee for the hearing. He requested the Board schedule an executive session at the end of the next Board meeting to discuss salary increases for non-instructional staff.

4. School Board Requests and Concerns

Mr. Scott stated that he was concerned about Gadsden Elementary Magnet School being a school within a school on the new K-8 campus.

Mr. Key stated that there will be a gifted program on the new K-8 school campus. He stated that the district does not have a true gifted program.

Mr. McMillan stated that Clemons, Rutherford & Associates shared with the Board an excellent presentation on the architectural design of the new K-8 school. He stated that the students deserve a new school. He stated that he wants a new school that students can be proud of.

5. The workshop adjourned at 6:10 p.m.