

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP

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

March 23, 2021

4:30 P.M.

This workshop was open to the public and electronically recorded.

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

1. Call To Order

The workshop was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Leroy McMillan, at 4:30 p.m.

2. Financial Information

Mr. Key stated that Board members will be receiving monthly financial reports from Mrs. Wood. He announced that Mrs. Wood will be retiring at the end of this school year and moving to Texas to be with her children.

Mrs. Wood shared with the Board information outlining the FEP Student FTE Counts Recalibrated and Unweighted. She stated that the 2020-21 February Survey – 3rd Count was 3,993.60, the FTE Forecast for 2021 – 22 was 3,881.34, with a change of -112.26, or -2.8% change. She stated that the unassigned fund balance of the general fund, representing the net current financial resources available for general appropriation by the Board totals \$8.1 million at June 30, 2020, or 17.8 percent of general fund expenditures as compared to an unassigned fund balance of \$4.2 million, or 8.7 percent of expenditures at June 30, 2019.

Mr. Key stated that a portion of the \$8.1 million was from insurance.

Mrs. Wood stated that a resolution will be prepared for the Board to restrict the amount of the final payment from the insurance settlement. She stated that the original budget was \$39,700,559, expenditures as of 02/28/2021 \$26,704,264, with the remaining budget \$12,996,295. She stated that the current estimated general fund budget was \$39,230,113, the estimated capital improvement fund budget was \$2,437,083, the estimated food service fund budget was \$3,574,948, the estimated federal fund budget was \$16,792,390, with the total current estimated revenue of \$62,034,534. She stated that the current revenue collected for the general fund budget was \$28,048,316, the current revenue collected for the capital improvement fund budget was \$2,054,182, the current revenue collected for the food service fund budget was \$1,885,439, the current revenue collected for the federal fund budget was \$6,498,341, with the total current revenue collected of \$38,486,277. She announced that Mrs. Melanie Davis was finishing (Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) this month. She invited everyone to a reception honoring Mrs. Davis on Thursday, March 25th at 2:00 p.m., at the warehouse. She stated that Mrs. Davis has been very instrumental in turning the food service program around. She stated that her duties will be divided between two staff members. She shared with the Board information on the School Board Gadsden County (SBGC) Appraisal Awards outlining the property that was self-insured and property that FSBIT would insure.

Mr. Key thanked Mrs. Wood for her dedication and service to the Gadsden District. He stated that this was the first time Gadsden received no audit findings.

Mrs. Wood stated that audit reports are very detailed. She stated that at the Chairman's request, she will be the property manager for the next three months. She stated that the finance department is not in the mortgage business. She stated that the Chattahoochee High school mortgagee owes \$200,000 and is not up to date on their mortgage payments. She stated that she is seeking guidance on how to proceed.

Mr. McMillan stated that the mortgagee has asked him for a reduced amount on the mortgage. He asked the Board if they would like to have the mortgagee pay the entire balance or cancel the mortgage. He requested guidance from the counsel.

Mr. Frost stated that the mortgagee of the Havana property had the same issue, and the Superintendent or district staff had a conversation with them and asked the mortgagee what they could do. The Board discussed the information and made a decision.

Mr. McMillan stated that he wants information on where the mortgagee stands on the mortgage. He stated that the mortgagee had not paid anything since January. He stated that the mortgagee has not paid as required. He stated that the district is no longer to carry the mortgage if they cannot pay.

Mr. Scott stated that the Board needs to review the contract (Chattahoochee High School) before a decision is made.

Mrs. Minnis stated that the Board need to look at what the mortgage requires. She stated that the Board also need to try to work things out with the mortgagee to avoid foreclosure.

Mr. McMillan requested the Board be provided with payment information on the Chattahoochee High School property. He stated that the Board needed to adhere to the contract.

Mrs. Wood updated the Board on FEMA. She stated that FEMA is receiving appeals for seven projects. She stated that this is part of the funding plan for the new school. She stated that the insurance proceeds net amount must be restricted for self-insurance and seed money for new schools. She asked the Board for suggestions on the monthly financial reports.

Board members and the Superintendent thanked Mrs. Wood for her dedication and hard work.

3. Educational Items by the Superintendent

None.

4. School Board Requests and Concerns

None.

5. The workshop adjourned at 5:28 p.m.