

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP

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

August 16, 2022

4:30 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; 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 4:35 p.m.

2. Financial Information

None.

3. Facilities Update

Mr. Hunter stated that the school year started with maintenance issues. He stated that there was a plan in place to change engineers to fast track to help get the AC units updated. He stated that work will begin tomorrow (August 17th) on the main water line break at Gadsden County High School. He stated that he hoped the main water line break would be repaired and ready for testing on Friday and back to normal on Monday. He stated that materials have been ordered to repair the AC unit at Greensboro Elementary School.

In response to Mr. McMillan's concern regarding the restroom facilities for students and staff, Mr. Hunter stated that portable units and hand washing stations are in place. He stated that there must be 2 days for testing and Saturday was not a day that testing could be done.

In response to Ms. Johnson's concern regarding the AC problems at Stewart Street Elementary School, Mr. Hunter stated that the compressor was out and there was a leak in building #3.

Mr. Key stated that the Board previously approved the Stewart Street Elementary School project but had to change engineers.

Mr. McMillan stated that the following items needed to be added to the regular meeting agenda: 10a –Special Facility Construction Account for the review process of the new school; 10b Request to approve five-year survey conducted by FDOE for update on renovations for Gadsden Elementary Magnet School.

4. Educational Items by the Superintendent

In response to Mr. Key’s question about when the final budget hearing was scheduled, Mr. Mays stated that the final budget hearing and the Annual Financial Report (AFR) was scheduled on September 8th at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Key stated that Ms. Caroline MacLeod, a consultant with PAEC, has been hired to assist finance.

In response to Ms. Dudley’s concern regarding Ms. MacLeod beginning to work prior to board approval, Mr. Key stated that she was needed and he approved her to begin contractual work.

Mr. Frost stated that there should be some kind of financial report from the finance department.

Mr. Key asked Mr. Maples to discuss and share with the Board the new logo for the district. He stated that he wanted the logo to be branded for the district so it doesn’t change with superintendents.

Mr. Maples shared with the Board a brief power-point presentation outlining an explanation and guide to branding a logo. He stated that consistent branding is critical in creating and maintaining a positive relationship between the school district and the people served. He stated that more than district marketing materials and logos, branding is a way to effectively tell the district’s story over time. He stated that by communicating who the district is in a consistent, compelling manner, students, families, staff and the community members can be encouraged to participate in working toward the district’s vision and encourage the sharing of thoughtful ideas. He stated that with an increase focus on the brand and execution of its placement and strategy, our hope is to provide a consistent brand that includes differentiation, personality, promise, and value proposition.

5. School Board Requests and Concerns

Mr. McMillan stated that the new school committee had an excellent meeting today. He stated that presentations will be provided to the FDOE committee on Thursday. He stated that the district will receive monies for the new school, but he does not know the position because there are 3 slots. He stated that the goal is to break ground on the new school in July 2023.

6. The workshop adjourned at 5:16 p.m.