

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

October 22, 2013

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. Roger P. Milton; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; Mr. Judge B. Helms; and Ms. Audrey D. Lewis. Also present were Mr. Reginald C. James, 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 6:04 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Mr. Charlie D. Frost.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

The following individuals were recognized by the Superintendent and Board for raising student performance: Ms. Valencia Denson, Ms. Mary Jo Boutwell, Ms. Teresa Montero, Ms. Stacey Manley, Ms. Arnel Del A Cruz, Mr. Calvin Robinson, Ms. Tameka Rumph, Ms. Diane White, Ms. Wendy Gee, Mrs. Nakeshia Harris, Mrs. Tamela Hinson-Maynor, Ms. Nahketah Kirkland, Ms. Crystal Love, Ms. Germaine Brown, Ms. Tawanda Scott, Ms. Pamela Jones, Ms. Julie Viel, Ms. Jasmine Sailor, Ms. Latanja Peoples, Ms. Koneisha Cofield, Mr. Buford Manion, Ms. Tammy Starks, Mr. Steve Scott, Ms. Shirley Commodore, Ms. Pamela Mills, Ms. Talia Cotton, Ms. Erica Farmer, Ms. Eugenia Combs, and Mr. Anthony Clum. Each of the individuals received a certificate.

Ms. Lewis commended Bishop Jerome Showers, Dr. Sylvia Jackson, and the Exceptional Student Education Department for their outstanding efforts toward the "Making A Difference Conference" in Havana a success. She also recognized the Title I Staff and Parent Services for partnering with Bishop Showers. She stated that the meeting was very informative.

Mr. Helms congratulated Dr. Jackson for creating a parenting pamphlet focusing on literacy.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Simmons added to the agenda item #8m – Annual License Fees for Software Renewals, and a revision to agenda item #9c – Student Expulsion - Case #09-1314-9102. He entertained a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Judge B. Helms, seconded by Mr. Roger P. Milton and carried unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. September 24, 2013, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. September 24, 2013, 6:00 p.m. – Regular School Board Meeting
- c. October 1, 2013, 4:00 p.m. – Student Hearing
- d. October 1, 2013, 5:00 p.m. – Student Hearing
- e. October 1, 2013, 6:00 p.m. – Special School Board Meeting

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. AGREEMENTS/PROJECT/GRANT APPLICATIONS

- a. Purchase Orders from General Fund

Fund Source: General Fund
Amount: \$40,383.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Purchase Orders for Copiers

Fund Source: General Fund 110 Fund and Federal Projects 420 Fund
Amount: \$16,386.96 General Fund and \$1,149.00 IDEA

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Purchase Order for Media and Technology

Fund Source: General Fund 110 Fund
Amount: \$56,577.12

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Purchase Orders for Dell Computers

Fund Source: Carl Perkins Grant in 420 Fund; Race To The Top in 424 Fund
Amount: \$31,730.46

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. Purchase Orders for Federal Programs

Fund Source: Title I
Amount: \$22,662.28

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- f. Blanket Purchase Orders for Maintenance
Fund Source: General Fund
Amount: \$10,800.00
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- g. School Board Approval to Pay Open Invoice to Mike Bryant Lawn Care
Fund Source: 110
Amount: \$5,000.00
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- h. School Board Approval to Pay Open Invoice to Brooks Air Systems
Fund Source: 110
Amount: \$28,048.00
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- i. PAEC Agreement – STEM Transportation
Fund Source: FEFP
Amount: \$1,800.00
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- j. Agreement Between Gadsden County School Board and Elevation Healthcare
Fund Source: FEFP
Amount: \$58.00 per hour
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval
- k. Interlocal Agreement with the Gadsden County Board of County Commissioners,
Department of Public Works
Fund Source: 110
Amount: As Per Attachment B
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.
- l. Denial of the E. M. Watson School of Arts Charter School Proposal
Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendents recommended denial.
- m. Annual License Fees for Software Renewals
Fund Source: 110 General Funds
Amount: \$21,230.82 and \$48,616.00
ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. STUDENT MATTERS

- a. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #07-1314-0211

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #08-1314-0051

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #09-1314-9102

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

10. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

- a. Solid Waste Collection Agreement with Waste Pro for East Gadsden High School

Fund Source: 110

Amount: \$8,370.00

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.

*9. STUDENT MATTERS

- c. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #10-1314-0051

Mr. Tommy Knight addressed the Board to request a hearing for student case #10-1314-0051.

Following discussion, Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to defer action on agenda item #9d until a hearing was held on Tuesday, October 29th at 5:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Judge B. Helms and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*6. PERSONNEL MATTERS (resignations, retirements, recommendations, leaves of absence, terminations of services, volunteers, and job descriptions)

- a. Personnel 2013 – 2014

Mr. Helms stated that he will meet with the Superintendent regarding personnel and give a report to the Board. He stated that he was concerned about positions being presented to the Board late.

Following discussion, Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #6a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

***7. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS**

- a. Two Revenue Loans – Financing for the Classroom Addition at Havana Middle School – Two Resolutions in Accordance with Section 1001.14 F.S. and Chapters 57-665 And 70-693, Laws of Florida

Fund Source: Two Bank Loans and \$1 Million From Capital Outlay Millage
Amount: \$4,095,000 Combined Loan Amount

Mr. Simmons stated that the Two Revenue Loans – Financing for the Classroom Addition at Havana Middle School – Two Resolutions in Accordance with Section 1001.14 F.S. and Chapters 57-665 And 70-693, Laws of Florida were previously discussed in a workshop.

In response to Mrs. Minnis' concern regarding the acceleration rate being due immediately with Sun Trust Bank, Mr. Gollahon stated that the loan was tax exempt and the acceleration would only occur if default on the loan.

Following discussion, Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #7a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

***10. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY**

- b. Re-Roofing Building #3 at Havana Elementary School Bid #1314-03

Fund Source: 379
Amount: \$27,400.00

Mr. Helms stated that he was concerned about re-roofing building #3 at Havana Elementary School when the students will be moved out of the building in 6 months. He asked if it would be cheaper to patch the roof.

Mr. Shepard stated that the roof on building #3 at Havana Elementary School has been patched and patched. He stated that this was the cheapest price to re-roof building #3. He stated that re-roofing building #3 at Havana Elementary School was one of the cost items presented earlier.

Following discussion, Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #10b. The motion was seconded by Ms. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Architectural Services by Clemons, Rutherford and Associates for the New PreK through 3rd Grade Classroom Wing at Havana Middle School

Fund Source: 379

Amount: \$453,750.00

In response to Mr. Simmons' concern regarding the final layout and final pricing for the new PreK through 3rd Grade Classroom Wing at Havana Middle School, Mr. Shepard stated that phase 3 documents were ready for bidding and the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) will be presented to the Board.

Following discussion, Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #8c. The motion was seconded by Ms. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Five Year Work Plan

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

In response to Mr. Helms' concern whether or not Havana Elementary School was included in the five year work plan, Mr. Shepard stated that no monies will be spent on Havana Elementary School except for the re-roofing of building #3.

Following discussion, Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #8d. The motion was seconded by Ms. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*11. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

- a. Approval of District Title I Parental Involvement Plan

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

Mr. Simmons requested an overview of the District Title I Parental Involvement Plan.

Ms. Sherrie Taylor stated that the District Title I Parental Involvement Plan was revised according to the Department of Education. She stated that parents receive more hands on training. She stated that the Title I Parental Involvement Plan provide support necessary to help Title I schools plan and implement effective parent involvement activities to improve student achievement, and to build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement.

Ms. Lewis commended Ms. Taylor and her staff for their hard work in the parent services department.

Following discussion, Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #11a. The motion was seconded by Ms. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

b. Gadsden County Controlled Open Enrollment Plan

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

Mr. Simmons stated that he was concerned about the transportation with the Controlled Open Enrollment Plan.

Ms. Taylor stated that the district's policy was clear in stating that the transportation for out of zone attendance will be provided by the parent, unless the Superintendent deems it differently.

Mr. Helms stated that all forms for out of zone attendance needed to be completed correctly.

Ms. Taylor stated that the Controlled Open Enrollment Plan protects the district with class size.

Following discussion, Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #11b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

Mrs. Cynthia Riley addressed the Board to request a hearing to rescind the Board's previous decision on student case #02-1314-0231.

Following discussion, Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to rescind the Board's previous decision on student case #02-1314-0231, and to reschedule a hearing. The motion was seconded by Ms. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

The Board scheduled a hearing on Tuesday, October 29th at 6:00 p.m. for student case #02-1314-0231.

12. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. James stated that Mrs. Bonnie Wood was leaving the district and had a new job in Atlanta. He stated that Mrs. Wood will be missed.

13. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Frost recognized Mrs. Rosalyn Smith, Mrs. Bonnie Wood, and Mr. Wayne Shepard for their hard work.

Mr. Helms stated that a free Ethics Training was scheduled on October 30th at the Four Points Sheraton in Tallahassee. He stated that the law has changed for School Board's reorganization meetings. He stated that the reorganization meetings could be held anytime during the month of November. He thanked Mrs. Wood for her dedication and hard work to the district. He stated that Mrs. Wood was a real trooper.

Board members scheduled the reorganization meeting on Tuesday, November 19th at 5:30 p.m.; workshop at 4:30 p.m.; and regular meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Simmons stated that the ethics training was mandated for all elected officials.

Mrs. Minnis requested an attorney-client session pursuant to Section 286.011(8), Florida Statutes.

Mr. Simmons announced that the following individuals would be attending the attorney-client session: Mr. Reginald C. James, Superintendent, Mrs. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for the Board, Ms. Gwendolyn Adkins, Retained Counsel, Mr. Zackery Scharlepp, Retained Counsel, Mr. Isaac Simmons - Board Member, Mr. Roger P. Milton - Board Member, Mr. Charlie D. Frost, - Board Member, Mr. Judge B. Helms – Board Member, Ms. Audrey D. Lewis – Board Member; and a certified court reporter.

14. The Chairman recessed the meeting at 7:25 p.m. to convene in an attorney-client session at 7:30 p.m., and adjourned at 8:05 p.m. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:08 p.m. and adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Board members convened in executive session at 8:12 p.m., and adjourned at 8:25 p.m.