

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

October 28, 2014

6:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Roger P. Milton, Chairman; Ms. Audrey D. Lewis; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; Mr. Judge B. Helms; and Mr. Isaac Simmons. 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. Roger P. Milton, at 6:00 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Rev. Calvin Robinson, Pastor of Blessed Hope Missionary Baptist Church.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

The Superintendent and Board members recognized the following students who scored a perfect score on the FCAT: Mahets'i Martinez – Crossroad Academy; Ivan Uribe – Crossroad Academy; Karen Vasquez – James A Shanks Middle School; Kennalia Booth – Stewart Street Elementary School; Zakiyya Culver – Stewart Street Elementary School; Zyi'kiryah Jackson – Stewart Street Elementary School; Ja'liyah McCarthy – Stewart Street Elementary School; Justyce Miller – Stewart Street Elementary School; Tamaya Pope – Stewart Street Elementary School; Dayanara Hernandez-Valleci – Gretna Elementary School; Antwan Byrd – Chattahoochee Elementary School; Ty'riek Davis – Chattahoochee Elementary School; Quentaries Dunivan – Chattahoochee Elementary School; Towanda Walker – Chattahoochee Elementary School; Samuel Boykin – Greensboro Elementary School; Olivia Fulmer – Gadsden Elementary Magnet; Brooke Gordon – Gadsden Elementary Magnet; Trinesiah Sapp – Gadsden Elementary Magnet; Jatavion Sweet – Gadsden Elementary Magnet; Kendi Brown-Byrd – Havana Middle School; Jhirmaria Chandler – Havana Middle School; and Karla Hernandez – West Gadsden High School. A reception was held in honor of the students before the meeting. Each of the students received an award for their outstanding achievement.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Milton entertained a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Judge B. Helms, seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. September 23, 2014, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. September 23, 2014, 6:00 p.m. – Regular School Board Meeting

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

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

- a. Personnel 2014 – 2015

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. AGREEMENTS/PROJECT/GRANT APPLICATIONS

- a. Library License Renewal

Fund Source: 110 General Fund
Amount: \$21,230.82

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Federal Programs Purchase Orders

Fund Source: Federal
Amount: \$41,400.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Affiliation Agreement Between the School Board of Gadsden County, Florida and NF River Chase, LLC, d/b/a River Chase Care Center

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Panhandle Area Educational Consortium (PAEC) Virtual School Agreement

Fund Source: FEFP
Amount: Undetermined – based upon enrollment

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. K-12 Virtual School Participation Agreement

Fund Source: FEFP
Amount: Undetermined – based upon enrollment

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- g. Education Partnership Agreement. Panhandle Area Educational Professional Development Center and The Gadsden County School Board (Master In-Service Plan)

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. STUDENT MATTERS

- a. Student Expulsion - See back-up material

Case #02-1415-0051

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

- a. Inter-Local Agreement

Fund Source: 110
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Request for Approval of the 2013 – 2014 School Safety & Security Self – Assessment Form

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

10. CONSIDERATION, PROPOSAL, AND/OR ADOPTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND RELATED MATTERS

- a. Request to Advertise – Notice of Intent to Amend a Policy (Policy #4.111 and 4600)

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Request to Advertise – Notice of Intent to Amend a Policy (Policy #5517)

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

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.

*7. AGREEMENTS/PROJECT/GRANT APPLICATIONS

f. Gadsden Charter Academy Application

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

Mr. Mooneyhan addressed the Board to thank them for the opportunity to submit an application for a charter school. He thanked the committee for their work in reviewing the application, and to the School Board for granting an extension at the last meeting to allow the process and the outcome to have both integrity and clarity. He stated that recommendation from the committee to deny the application for the reasons stated regarding the vision and focus of the school and the evaluation of our leadership make clear of what direction we need to pursue to move forward with this effort. He stated that it was his hope to partner with the district so that the students would benefit most from the increased opportunity. He encouraged the Board to continue to pursue student excellence.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to deny the Gadsden Charter Academy Application. The motion was seconded by Ms. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended denial.

11. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. James stated that following the election, the Department of Education will make a decision on whether or not school grades will be suspended. He commended Mrs. Rosalyn Smith for her dedication and hard work to the district.

12. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Milton acknowledged Ms. Dorothy Thomas and Mr. Tyrone Smith for their dedication and hard work with the Tallahassee Community College afterschool and summer programs.

Mr. Frost stated that he was proud the district is headed in the right direction. He announced that the Fall FarmFest is scheduled for November 15th at the FAMU Research Center.

Mr. Helms stated that a Board member was needed to serve on the Legislative Committee.

Mr. Simmons was appointed to serve as the Board's liaison for the Legislative Committee, and Ms. Lewis was appointed to serve as the alternate.

The Board agreed to schedule the following meetings on November 18th: Workshop - 4:30 p.m.; Organization Meeting – 5:30 p.m.; and Regular Board Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Helms stated that he enjoyed his time serving as a Board member.

Mr. Simmons stated that it was an honor and pleasure to serve as a Board member along side Mr. Helms. He stated that Mr. Helms brought much to the Board, and he will continue to communicate with him. He stated that the district needed to find ways to help fund extra-curricular activities at schools.

Mr. James stated that the district usually work with coaches to help with the extra-curricular activities.

Mr. Milton stated that there are non-profit organizations that will help support the schools and extra-curricular activity programs. He encouraged everyone to join booster clubs and be supportive of schools.

In response to Mr. Simmons' concern regarding some of the schools not having afterschool programs for enhancing academics, Ms. Rose Raynak stated that all schools have a plan for afterschool programs with the assistance of federal funding.

In response to Ms. Lewis' concern regarding the district retaining teachers upon completion of the DROP, Mr. James stated that he was working on the issue. He recognized Ms. Lewis as one of the top 100 business leaders.

Ms. Lewis thanked Dr. Hightower and Mr. James for the Summer Institute. She stated that some of her books titled "Different Levels of Parent Involvement" were purchased during the Summer Institute. She stated that her books are being utilized in Chicago. She stated that district's are looking at ways to teach parental involvement to help with the educational process.

Mr. James stated that FAMU President, Dr. Elmira Mangum, expressed interest in doing great things with Gadsden County. He announced that Coach Corey Fuller was now the Interim Head Football Coach at FAMU.

Mrs. Smith announced that the grand opening for the Skyward Parent Portal is scheduled for November 18th. She stated that the technology team will share information with parents to have complete excess to their student's information.

Mr. Milton commended the Superintendent and staff for the student FCAT Achievement Award recognitions. He stated that a variety of schools were represented with excellent students.

Mr. James expounded on the district making progress. He stated that although the district is making progress, there are still some obstacles to overcome.

Mr. Milton thanked Mr. Helms for all he has done as an educator and Board member for the Gadsden County School District. He invited everyone to the groundbreaking ceremony for the new TCC Quincy House on November 17th at 4:00 p.m.

The Board scheduled a workshop on Monday, November 10th at 4:00 p.m. to discuss the Alternative Framework to Achieve Academic Excellence Program, and the Student Progression Plan.

13. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.