

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

December 16, 2014

6:00 P.M.

This meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis, Chairwoman; Mr. Isaac Simmons; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; Mr. Roger P. Milton; and Mr. Steve Scott. 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 Chairwoman, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis, at 6:00 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

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

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Scott recognized the parents of Gadsden Elementary Magnet School for their enthusiasm. He stated that he attended a SAC meeting at Gadsden Elementary Magnet School which went very well.

Mrs. Lewis stated that Board members attended the Florida School Boards Association / Florida Association of District School Superintendents 69th Annual Joint Conference in Tampa. She stated that Gadsden district is doing a lot better than some other districts. She commended her colleagues, the Superintendent and staff for a doing a great job.

Mr. James recognized Mrs. Dorothy Inman Crews, Midway City Manager.

Mrs. Crews addressed the Board to speak on the City of Midway's educational needs. She stated that the City of Midway wants to be included in the district's plan of education. She stated that the City of Midway is the only city in Gadsden County that does not have a school. She requested the following from the district: 1) the consideration of making a priority to place a PreK – 5 school in Midway; 2) designate Midway for any new school siting; 3) include a representative from the City of Midway Council/ designee to serve on the school site committee to give input; and 4) seek grant opportunities if money becomes an issue.

Board members thanked Mrs. Crews for her presentation regarding the City of Midway's educational needs.

Mr. James requested Mrs. Crews schedule a meeting with him to further discuss the educational needs of Midway.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mrs. Lewis entertained a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Roger P. Milton, seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. November 10, 2014, 4:00 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. November 18, 2014, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- c. November 18, 2014, 5:30 p.m. – Organizational Meeting
- d. November 18, 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.

8. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS

- a. Unemployment Compensation Third Party Administrator

Fund Source: General Fund 110
Amount: \$1,630.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Technology Support for Teacher Evaluation System

Fund Source: 434 Race to the Top Federal Grant
Amount: \$3,000.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Lawn Maintenance for Head Start Program

Fund Source: 420 Federal Funds
Amount: \$4,200.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Annual License Renewal Imagine Learning

Fund Source: 420 Federal Grant Funds
Amount: \$7,500.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- e. Magnet Assistance Grant Initiative

Fund Source: General Fund 110
Amount: \$14,999.00

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. STUDENT MATTERS

- e. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #31-1415-9102

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

10. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

- a. Fire and Safety Inspections for Gadsden County Schools

Fund Source: 110
Amount: \$11,303.87

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

11. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

- a. School Field Trip Requests (Out-of-State)

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. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

- a. Budget Amendment Number One

Fund Source: 420 (Federal Fund)
Amount: \$-1,206,677.99

Mr. Simmons asked for an explanation of Budget Amendment Number One.

Mrs. Ferree stated that Budget Amendment Number One increases Title I, Part A budget by \$4,594.00 based on the actual award amount, establishes budget for Title I SIG 14-15 for \$165,590.00 and increases the HRSA award by \$180.00 due to an award correction. She stated that it also clears the remaining balances for sixteen prior year projects for which the district has received from the DOE audited final reports.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #7a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roger P. Milton and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*9. STUDENT MATTERS

- a. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #24-1415-9106

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation on student case #24-1415-9016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #26-1415-0231

Following discussion, Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation on student case #26-1415-0231. The motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Scott and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #29-1415-0061

The parent of student #29-1415-0061 addressed the Board to request a hearing.

Following discussion, Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to defer action on student case #29-1415-0061 until a hearing was held on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #30-1415-0061

The parent of student #30-1415-0061 addressed the Board to request a hearing.

Following discussion, Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to defer action on student case #30-1415-0061 until a hearing was held on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

*11. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

b. Approval of the 2014 -15 SAC Rosters

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

Mrs. Lewis stated that she was concerned that some of the SAC Rosters were presented with errors. She requested that the following schools: Gadsden Elementary Magnet School, James A. Shanks Middle School, St. John Elementary School, West Gadsden High School, and Gadsden Technical Institute resubmit their SAC Rosters at the January Board Meeting. She requested that each of the district schools submit a copy of their SAC agenda and minutes.

Following discussion, Mr. Steve Scott made a motion to approve all of the 2014 – 2015 SAC Rosters for the exception of Gadsden Elementary Magnet School, James A. Shanks Middle School, St. John Elementary School, West Gadsden High School, and Gadsden Technical Institute. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

Ms. Anne Radke, Program Administrator for “Build A Better Body” addressed the Board to request permission to teach “Real Essentials” an afterschool program at East Gadsden High School. She stated that funding has been secured for the Life Management Class.

Board members requested Ms. Radke meet with East Gadsden High School’s Principal and Assistant Principal to further discuss the afterschool program “Real Essentials”.

12. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

a. Approval of School Board Policies 4111 (Designation of a New Position), Number 4600 (Job Descriptions) and Number 5517.01 (Bullying and Harassment)

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation on agenda item #12a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roger P. Milton and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

13. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. James invited Board members to a Christmas Luncheon on Friday, December 19th beginning at 12:00 noon at the district office.

14. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Frost stated that he was concerned about employees at the Transportation Department not receiving information from the union. He stated that coaches need to represent the district at all times.

Mr. Scott stated that he was concern about whether students were being taught writing or keyboarding techniques for the upcoming Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) tests. He stated that he wanted to ensure that students were ready for the FSA tests.

Mr. Simmons requested the Board schedule a retreat in January to discuss goals and objectives for the upcoming year. He stated that coaches should take the responsibility for their own behavior and pay athletic fines when needed. He stated that all coaches have a code of ethics. He requested that the Boardroom be upgraded.

Mrs. Lewis stated that Mrs. Sharon Thomas will share with the Board the new ESE laws.

15. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.