

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP

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

October 23, 2012

4:30 P.M.

This workshop was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Judge B. Helms, Chairman; Mr. Eric F. Hinson; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; Mr. Roger P. Milton; 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 workshop was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Judge B. Helms, at 4:35 p.m.

2. FINANCIAL DATA REPORT

Mrs. Wood shared with the Board information on the student/teacher ratio, and the district's staffing plan. She also shared with the Board the following budget status summary report: 1) 110 – General Fund – Encumbered \$6,959,340.04; 2) 300 – Capital Projects – Encumbered \$239,414.13; 3) 410 – School Food Service – Encumbered \$1,479,381.93; 4) 420 – Federal – Encumbered \$762,111.85; 5) 432 – Targeted ARRA Stimulus Funds – Encumbered \$54,826.07; and 6) 434 – ARRA Race To The Top – Encumbered \$193,038.95. She stated that the state has unfunded mandates to provide an additional hour of instruction beyond the normal school day for each day of the school year for districts with one or more of the 100 lowest performing elementary schools based on the state reading assessment. She stated that the extended school day is a state mandate.

Mr. Joe Lewis, Director of Transportation, stated that there are unexpected expenses in transportation due to the extended school day. He stated that there are 75 buses used per day, compared to 65 last year. He stated that there is an increase in maintenance and fuel. He stated that it is challenging to transport students in a timely manner. He suggested that the start and end of school times be rescheduled with the possibility of building extra time into the regular school day. He requested the Board purchase 10 new buses.

Mr. James stated that he would schedule a meeting with Mrs. Smith and Mr. Lewis to discuss the issues and concerns with the transportation department. He stated that he would bring a recommendation to the Board.

3. ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Smith stated that the Board's approval was needed for an evaluation of the Technology Department by MGT of America, Inc. She stated that MGT of America, Inc. will ensure that the technology review of the Gadsden County Schools contains the appropriate methodological steps to guide subsequent activities and decisions regarding technology operations.

Mr. James announced that a reception was scheduled for October 24th at 5:00 p.m. for teachers whose students made 65% leaning gains in reading and mathematics. He stated that the teachers would receive Race To The Top and School Improvement performance pay.

4. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Frost asked if ESE teachers were entitled to stipends from school grade calculations.

Mr. James announced that West Gadsden High School Homecoming Parade was scheduled for Thursday, October 25th at 4:00 p.m.; and East Gadsden High School Homecoming Parade was scheduled for Friday, October 26th at 4:00 p.m. He stated that a Roast & Toast for Coach Vernell Ross was scheduled for Saturday, October 27th, 7:00 p.m. at Havana Middle School.

Mr. Hinson invited Board members to a FAMU Gala on November 10th honoring him as one of their outstanding alumni.

5. The workshop adjourned at 5:35 p.m.