

## TENTATIVE BUDGET HEARING

GADSDEN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD  
MAX D. WALKER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
35 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BLVD.  
QUINCY, FLORIDA 32351

July 29, 2014

6:00 P.M.

This tentative budget hearing 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 Mrs. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for the Board; and others. Mr. Reginald C. James, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board was absent.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The tentative budget hearing was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Roger P. Milton, at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Milton stated that the Board received information to add items to the agenda. He stated that because the information was not received in a timely manner, he did not wish to add the following items to the agenda: a) #4b – Attachment to Reach One Teach One, Inc. d/b/a Galloway Academy (Foreign Language Immersion Charter School); b) #4d – Dual Enrollment Articulation Agreement Between Tallahassee Community College and Gadsden County Schools 2014 – 2015; c) #4e – Career Pathways Articulation Agreement Between Tallahassee Community College and Gadsden County Schools 2014 – 2015; and d) #4f - Memorandum of Agreement Between Gadsden County Schools and Gadsden County Health Department 2014 – 2015. He added to the agenda item #4c – Contracts with DESF.

2. PUBLIC HEARING – Tentative Budget and Millage Rate

- a. Approval of Resolution Number 14-01 for the Tentative Millage Rates for the 2014 – 2015 fiscal year

Fund Source: All Funds Budget

Amount: Refer to the millage rates and amounts stated on the resolution

Mrs. Ferree stated that Resolution Number 14-01 stated that the School Board of Gadsden County, Florida pursuant to Chapters 200 and 1011, Florida Statutes approve tentative millage rates for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. She stated that at the public hearing and in full compliance with Chapter 200, Florida Statutes, the Gadsden County School Board adopted the tentative millage rates for the fiscal year 2014 – 2015 in the following amounts: Required Local Effort Including Prior Period Funding Adjustment – 4.8880 – Proposed Amount To Be Raised - \$6,832,640.00; Capital Outlay – 1.5000 – Amount To Be Raised - \$2,098,477; and Discretionary Operating – 0.7480 – Amount To Be Raised - \$1,046,441. She stated that the total millage rate to be levied was less than the roll-back rate computed pursuant to Section 200.065(1), F.S. by 7.86 percent. She stated that the Gadsden County School Board adopted each tentative millage rate for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 by separate vote prior to adopting the tentative budget.

Following discussion of the tentative millage rates, Mr. Milton entertained a motion for public comment. There was no public comment.

Mr. Judge B. Helms made a motion to adopt the tentative millage rates as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Approval of Resolution Number 14-02 for the 2014 - 2015 Tentative Budget for fiscal year 2014 – 2015

Fund Source: All Funds Budget

Amount: Refer to tentative budget and/or budget summary attached to agenda item

Following discussion of the tentative budget for fiscal year 2014 – 2015, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion that the School Board of Gadsden County, Florida pursuant to Chapters 200 and 1011, Florida Statutes, approve the tentative millage rates and tentative budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015; and the Gadsden County School Board set forth the appropriations and revenue estimate for the budget for fiscal year 2014 – 2015. He stated that at the public hearing and in full compliance with Chapter 200, Florida Statutes, the Gadsden County School Board adopted the tentative millage rates and the budget in the amount of \$63,403,698.51 for the fiscal year 2014 – 2015. He stated that the attached budget of the Gadsden County School Board, including the millage rate as set forth therein, is hereby adopted by the School Board, of Gadsden County as a tentative budget for the categories indicated for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. The motion was seconded by Ms. Audrey D. Lewis and carried unanimously.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** The Superintendent recommended approval.

3. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TRANSCATIONS

a. Budget Amendment Number Sixteen

Fund Source: 434 (ARRA Race To The Top) Funds  
Amount: \$43.76

Mrs. Ferree stated that budget amendment number sixteen increases budget for Common Core State Standards roll forward based on the remaining grant award.

Following discussion, Ms. Audrey D. Lewis made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #3a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

4. AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS

a. Memorandum of Understanding – CIS of Florida

Fund Source: N/A  
Amount: N/A

In response to Mr. Simmons' concern regarding an overview of any changes to the Memorandum of Understanding – CIS of Florida, Mrs. Smith stated that the MOU with CIS of Florida was to provide the establishment and operation of a local project under the AmeriCorps VISTA program pursuant to Title I, Part A of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act. She stated that there were no changes or new language to the MOU with CIS of Florida.

Mr. Milton stated that he was familiar with the continuation of the MOU – CIS of Florida, and there was no financial impact to the district.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #4a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Judge B. Hems and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

b. Approval of Reach One Teach One, Inc. d/b/a Galloway Academy (Foreign Language Immersion Charter School

Fund Source: N/A  
Amount: N/A

Ms. Taneisha Galloway, addressed the Board to answer their questions and concerns regarding the Reach One Teach One, Inc. d/b/a Galloway Academy (Foreign Language Immersion Charter School),

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #4b to include the enrollment cap of 108 students. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously with Mr. Helms, Mr. Simmons, Mr. Frost and Mr. Milton voting. Ms. Lewis left the meeting for a brief period and did not cast a vote.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** The Superintendent recommended approval.

c. Contracts with DESF

Fund Source: General Fund

Amount: \$175,319.32. Note this is a decrease from the PY.

Following discussion, Mr. Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #4c with the inclusion to terminate the DESF contracts on June 30, 2015. The motion was seconded by Mr. Judge B. Helms and carried unanimously.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** The Superintendent recommended approval.

Ms. Sandra Washington addressed the Board to request the Board reconsider their previous decision and approve the contract with Catapult Learning, LLC. She pleaded with the Board and requested their continued support for the students of Gadsden County to attend Catapult Learning, LLC.

Board members commended Ms. Wallace for her tenacity and perseverance with Catapult Learning, LLC.

Mr. Milton thanked Dr. Jackson for her attendance at the meeting.

The Board members scheduled a special meeting on Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. to discuss and act on the following items: a) Attachment to Reach One Teach One, Inc. d/b/a Galloway Academy (Foreign Language Immersion Charter School); b) Dual Enrollment Articulation Agreement Between Tallahassee Community College and Gadsden County Schools 2014 – 2015; c) Career Pathways Articulation Agreement Between Tallahassee Community College and Gadsden County Schools 2014 – 2015; and d) Memorandum of Agreement Between Gadsden County Schools and Gadsden County Health Department 2014 – 2015.

Mr. Helms reminded the Board of the regular Board meeting scheduled on Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

5. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

None.

6. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Frost shared with the Board a flyer requesting support for one of the district's former students, Ron Wilson, who has reached the executive producer's round and earned a second audition on American Idol.

Mr. Simmons stated that he wanted to discuss the number of legal issues with the district to minimize legal issues.

Mrs. Minnis stated that an attorney-client session was needed to discuss the district's legal issues.

Ms. Lewis shared with the Board a list of concerns and issues addressed to the Superintendent, Chairman, and other Board members. She stated that some of the issues and concerns had already been addressed, or were in the process of being handled. She stated that there were still some issues and concerns that needed attention.

The Board agreed to schedule a workshop to discuss the Havana Middle School Project.

7. The tentative budget hearing adjourned at 8:10 p.m.