

## REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

November 16, 2021

6:00 P.M.

The meeting was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Leroy McMillan, Chairman, Mr. Steve Scott, Ms. Karema D. Dudley, Ms. Cathy S. Johnson, and Mr. Charlie D. Frost. Also present were Mr. Elijah Key, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board, Ms. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for the Board; and others.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Leroy McMillan, at 6:00 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Pastor Greg Taylor of The Excellence Church.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison

4. RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Key recognized the following students that made perfect scores on the FSA test: Alexis Ortiz Antonio – Gadsden County High School – FSA Algebra I EOC; Mario Walker – Havana Magnet School – FSAA Civics EOC; Timothy Campbell – Stewart Street Elementary School – FSAA Grade 5 Science; Richard Cooper – Stewart Street Elementary School – FSAA Grade 5 Science; Angel Montoya-Mendiola – Havana Magnet School – Civics EOC; Rigoberto Cortes-Lopez – Greensboro Elementary School – FSA Grade 3 Mathematics; Kaylee Davis – Greensboro Elementary School – FSA Grade 3 Mathematics; Juan Domingo Mateo – Greensboro Elementary School – FSA Grade 3 Mathematics; Jer’Mius Hadley – Greensboro Elementary School – FSA Grade 3 Mathematics; Ricardo Hernandez-Celes – Greensboro Elementary School – FSA Grade 3 Mathematics; Damian Martinez – Greensboro Elementary School – FSA Grade 3 Mathematics; and Kayden Murphy – Greensboro Elementary School – FSA Grade 3 Mathematics. He stated that the students received certificates from the Department of Education. He stated that the students making perfect scores on the FSA test and the students on the Superintendent’s Academic Achievers straight “A” list will have a fieldtrip with the Superintendent. He thanked the parents for their support and what they are doing with their students.

Principal Michael Sneed shared with the Board an update on James A. Shanks Middle School. He stated that the science students are consistently engaging in real-world, hands-on activities that strengthen their understanding of the academic standards. He stated that to reach the school’s goal in science, the best strategy that he suggests is Project Based Learning. He stated that the students can learn by actively engaging in the real world and personally meaningful projects. He stated that the 8<sup>th</sup> grade biology students created edible replicas of the cell. He stated that the 7<sup>th</sup> grade students designed and created shoes (engineering unit). He stated that one of the school’s goals

this year was to develop relationships and create partnerships with local businesses and community members: Mr. Freddy Figures purchased staff t-shirts; the Gadsden County Sheriff's Department provided a staff lunch for team-building, and a positivity board to prepare our youth to live and experience a more positive, productive and safe life by offering services to combat bullying, school violence and to help with anger management; Mr. Bobby Fishscale donated supplies and provided words of encouragement for the students; Tau Theta Omega Chapter of AKA donated book bags and supplies for the students; and Centennial Bank provided a meal for the teachers during pre-planning. Mr. Sneed thanked Mr. Key for riding the school bus with the students during school bus safety week.

Principal Pamela Jones shared with the Board an update on Stewart Street Elementary School. She stated that Stewart Street Elementary School students are working hard to Exceeding Expectations Everyday (E3). She stated that her and staff are reviewing the IReady data. She stated that there are monthly iReady challenges and weekend Kahoot challenges. She stated that teachers are planning and preparing, using data to drive instruction, and using data to tier instruction. She stated that students are exceeding expectations in professional growth, exceeding expectations in academics, exceeding expectations in the safety of faculty, staff and students, exceeding expectations in Social and Emotional Learning (SEL). She stated that students are recognized weekly for exceeding expectations in academics, attendance and attitude. She stated that students heard historical facts about Hispanics contribution in history and learned about various Mexican dishes. She stated that students learned about the importance of remaining drug free. She stated that various organizations visited the school to speak with students. She stated that during the month of October students dressed in pink on Friday's. She stated that a breast cancer walk was held as a culminating activity. She stated that students used the theme of the day to dress as their career of choice. She stated that various guest speakers visited either in person or via Zoom to talk about different career opportunities. She stated that students dressed in their favorite storybook or movie character and paraded the school to show off their costumes. She stated that staff celebrations were held to show appreciation. She stated that staff appreciated the wonderful custodians for the hard work of keeping the campus clean. She stated that birthday celebrations are held each month, staff members partake in a birthday treat for all members who have birthdays during the month. She stated that each month a teacher and staff member who exceeds expectations every day are recognized for their excellence. She stated that the staff showed appreciation to their principal on Boss' Day.

Mr. Key recognized the Gadsden County High School Football Team on the win in Jacksonville last week. He stated that the team will play again this Friday (November 19th) against the Jacksonville Boles in Jacksonville, Florida.

Mr. Frost thanked Mr. Sneed for sharing an update on James A. Shanks Middle School. He also recognized Dr. Marvin Thomas, Dean at Shanks, for believing in the students. He stated that there are great things going on at Shanks and all of the schools.

Mrs. Dudley recognized Ms. Towanda Scott for completing the Principal Leadership Academy.

#### ITEMS FOR CONSENT

Mr. Key added to the agenda item #8d- Gadsden County Classroom Teacher Association (GCCTA) Contract for 2021 and 2022.

Mr. McMillan entertained a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Steve Scott, seconded by Mrs. Karema D. Dudley and carried unanimously.

5. REVIEW OF MINUTES

- a. October 26, 2021, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. October 26, 2021, 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 2021 -2022

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

7. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL

- a. Superintendent’s Annual Financial Report 2020 – 2021

Fund Source: All Funds Listed in the Budget  
Amount: Refer to Annual Financial Report (AFR)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS

- a. Project Manager American Rescue Plan (ARP)

Fund Source: ARP Grant  
Amount: To Be Determined (TBD)

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Cooperative Agreement between Gadsden County School Board and Positive Behavior Supports Corporation

Fund Source: IDEA  
Amount: Safety Care Training (as needed) - \$175.00 per person  
Safety Care Training Recertification - \$100.00 per person

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Gadsden County Classroom Teachers Association

Fund Source: N/A  
Amount: N/A

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

9. STUDENT MATTERS

- a. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #15-2122-0091

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #16-2122-0051

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

#### 10. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

- a. Request to Approve the Annual Certification of Facilities Data and the 2021 – 2022 Five Year Work Plan

Fund Source: Varies

Amount: Varies

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

#### 11. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

- a. Adjunct Instructor Job Description

Fund Source: General Funds

Amount: To Be Determined (TBD)

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.

#### \*8. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT/PROJECT APPLICATIONS

- b. Cooperative Agreement between Gadsden County School Board and Positive Behavior Supports Corporation

Fund Source: IDEA

Amount: Registered Behavior Technicians: \$30 per/hour (as needed)

Board Certified Behavior Analyst: \$75.00 per/hour (as needed)

Mrs. Judith Mandela, President of the Gadsden County Classroom Teachers Association, addressed the Board to inquire about how the behavior technicians and the behavior analyst positions are different from what the district already has.

Mr. Key stated that the behavior technicians and behavior analysts are individuals that are contracted but not district employees. He stated that the districts have set aside monies from the Department of Education to address behavior issues for students.

Ms. Sharon Thomas, Director of Exceptional Student Education, stated that the individuals are registered behavior specialists trained to implement and monitor behavior interventions for students.

Following discussion, Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #8b. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Karema D. Dudley and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

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

a. Approve / Amend Policies

Fund Source: N/A

Amount: N/A

Following discussion to amend / approve Board Policies, Mrs. Karema D. Dudley made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #12a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

13. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Key invited Board members to visit Holmes County School District on Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> to tour their K-8 school. He thanked the Board for assisting with the pay raises for the teachers. He stated that the district is working on pay increases for the non-instructional employees. He stated that he is trying to keep the best educators in Gadsden County.

14. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Frost challenged everyone to mentor a student for at least one or two days a week.

Mr. Scott stated that the district's website needed to be updated.

Ms. Judith Mandela, President of the Gadsden County Classroom Teachers Association, addressed the Board to thank them for approving the GCCTA contract. She also thanked the GCCTA members and the bargaining team for their hard work. She stated that nobody wants to work for 30 years and not get a pay increase.

15. The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.