

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

November 18, 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 6:01 p.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Rev. Barry Cottle, Pastor of First Baptist Church in Chattahoochee.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Recited in unison.

4. RECOGNITIONS

Mr. James recognized Rev. Charles Morris, Pastor of New Bethel A.M.E. Church. He stated that Pastor Morris was interested in Career & Technical Education. He recognized Ms. Sherrie Taylor and Dr. Sheantika Wiggins for their efforts with the launch of the Skyward Parent Portal. He recognized the students from George Munroe Elementary School for reciting the poem "Invictus" at the Installation Ceremony. He also recognized the following individuals: newly elected Board members Mr. Simmons, Mr. Frost and Mr. Scott; Deldrick Grimes, East Gadsden High School student for a charge to the Board at the Installation Ceremony; and Mr. Roger Milton, Director of Tallahassee Community College Quincy House.

Mr. Frost encouraged everyone to seek office at least one time. He stated that he was proud to be from Gadsden County and a member of the Board. He appreciated everyone for what they were doing for the district.

Mr. Scott concurred with Mr. Frost and stated that he was proud to be from Gadsden County and a member of the Board. He stated that Gadsden County has safe schools.

Mr. James and the Board recognized Aliah Hutley and Alizah Hutley, twins from James A. Shanks Middle School, for their efforts in reading 100 books during the summer: The students were presented with an award.

Mr. Simmons recognized Pastor Barry Cottle. Pastor Cottle shared words of encouragement with the Board. He praised the principal, staff and students at Chattahoochee Elementary School for their great work. He stated that the leaders are doing a good job.

Mrs. Lewis recognized the Magnet Advisory Committee for a fantastic meeting at Havana Middle School.

Mrs. Smith stated that the district has applied for a magnet grant. She stated that the district is campaigning for community support for the magnet initiative.

Mrs. Lewis thanked Mr. Shepard for his dedication to the district.

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. October 28, 2014, 4:30 p.m. – School Board Workshop
- b. October 28, 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. STUDENT MATTERS

- a. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #17-1415-0211

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- b. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #18-1415-0211

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- c. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #22-1415-9106

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

- d. Student Expulsion – See back-up material

Case #23-1415-0071

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

8. SCHOOL FACILITY/PROPERTY

- a. Havana Middle School Gymnasium

Fund Source: 340
Amount: \$19,102.00 (additional amount)

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 Policy 5410 (Student Progression Plan)

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.

*9. EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

- a. Approval of School Improvement Plans

Fund Source: N/A
Amount: N/A

Mr. Scott stated that he was concerned that some of the school's monitoring progress reports were incomplete for the School Improvement Plans.

Mrs. Smith stated that fluent monitoring and enhancing of the School Improvement Plans can be done all year. She stated that the School Improvement Plans must be approved by December 1st. She stated that schools will be able to go back and make modifications according to the Peer Review Team.

Mrs. Lewis stated that she was concerned about the School Advisory Council paying very close attention to the School Improvement Plans. She stated that the School Improvement Plans must be aligned with the Florida Statutes.

Following discussion, Mr. Steve Scott made a motion to accept the School Improvement Plans that are complete and resubmit to the Board the incomplete plans. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

11. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Ms. Sherrie Taylor shared with the Board a power-point presentation showcasing parents in recognition of Parent Involvement Month. The following parents were recognized by the Superintendent and Board: Ms. Tanisha Barnes, Mr. Henry McGill, Ms. Willie Mae Smith, Ms. Felicia Scott, Ms. Leticia Brady, Ms. Jera Francis, Mr. Brodderick Neal, Ms. Patsy Willis, and Ms. Tyeshia Reed. Each of the parents received a certificate award.

The Board thanked Ms. Taylor for her hard work and dedication, and the parents for their support.

12. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Frost recognized Dr. Wiggins, Ms. Taylor, and staff for their hard work with the Skyward Parent Portal Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Mr. Simmons offered support services to Mr. Scott. He recognized Mr. Shepard for his hard work.

Mr. James announced that Mr. Mike Fernandez will be at the Gadsden Arts Center on Monday, November 24th at 10:00 a.m. to speak with high school students.

Mr. Frost stated that all coaches need to be informed that they represent the district at all times.

Mrs. Lewis stated that consideration of the Orlando Classic needed to be given when composing school calendars. She stated that many teachers are on leave during the Orlando Classic and substitutes are hard to find.

Ms. Ana Garcia, ESOL Program Specialist, shared with the Board an overview of the ESOL Program. She stated that the lack of bilingual paraprofessionals has a tremendous impact on the district.

Mrs. Smith stated that the district has a plan in place to train newly hired teachers to ensure ESOL Endorsement,

Following discussion, the Board agreed to find ways to give incentives to teachers for having the ESOL Endorsement.

The Board appointed Mr. Milton to serve as its liaison for the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mr. Scott was appointed to serve as the alternate.

Mr. Simmons was appointed by the Board to serve as its liaison for the Small School District Council Consortium.

Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to schedule the December Meeting on December 16th at 6:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Minnis requested an attorney-client session pursuant to Section 286.011(8), Florida Statutes. She announced that the following individuals would be attending the attorney client session: Mr. Reginald C. James, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for the Board, Ms. Gwendolyn Adkins, Retained Counsel, Mr. Zackery Scharlepp, Retained Counsel, Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis – Board Member, Mr. Isaac Simmons – Board Member, Mr. Charlie D. Frost – Board Member, Mr. Roger P. Milton – Board Member, Mr. Steve Scott – Board Member, and a certified court reporter.

Mrs. Lewis recessed the meeting at 7:15 p.m. to convene in an attorney-client session at 7:20 p.m., and adjourned at 7:28 p.m. The regular meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. James made a recommendation to accept the counsel's recommendation on case #201-1125 CAA.

Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the counsel's recommendation on case #201-1125 CAA. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

13. The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.