

## SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP

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

January 10, 2017

1:30 P.M.

This workshop was open to the public and electronically recorded.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Isaac Simmons, Chairman; Mr. Steve Scott; Mr. Charlie D. Frost; Mrs. Audrey D. Lewis; and Mr. Tyrone D. Smith. Also present were Mr. Roger P. Milton, 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. Isaac Simmons, at 1:33 p.m.

2. OVERVIEW OF HEAD START/PRE-KINDERGARTEN HOME INSTRUCTION FOR PARENTS OF PRESCHOOL YOUNGSTERS (HIPPY)

Mrs. Carolyn Harden, Head Start Pre-K Director, welcomed the Board to the Annual HeadStart/Pre-Kindergarten Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) and Head Start Training. She introduced Mrs. Gail Jones with the National HIPPY Office, and Mrs. Delores Peace with the Head Start Office.

Mrs. Jones introduced the district's home visitors (Ms. Elizabeth Hightower, Mrs. Priscilla Jackson-Clark, Ms. Delfina Perez, and Ms. Shakiriya Gilcrease), and Coordinator (Mrs. Lakysa Perkins). She shared with the Board a power-point presentation outlining the facts of the HIPPY Program. She stated that HIPPY is a parent involvement and school readiness program. She stated that HIPPY offers free home-based early childhood education for three, four and five year old children working with their parent(s) as their first teacher. She stated that the parent is provided with a set of developmentally appropriate materials, curriculum and books designed to strengthen their children's cognitive skills, early literacy skills, social/emotional and physical development. She stated that HIPPY was developed in 1969 in Israel at the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) Research Institute for Innovation in Education at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem; in 1984 HIPPY programs were established in the United States; in 1985 the first Florida HIPPY program began in Miami; in 1988 HIPPY USA was established at NCJW to provide training and technical assistance to all HIPPY programs; in 1991 HIPPY USA became an independent, non-profit, educational organization; in 1996 The Florida HIPPY Training & Technical Assistance Center was opened at the University of South Florida; and in 2008 Florida HIPPY had 15 sponsoring agencies which utilize the services of 21 professional coordinators and approximately 115 Home Visitors to serve more than 2,500 children in 17 counties. She stated that HIPPY begins with the basic tenet that all parents want the very best for their children, but might need support and help in developing their children's potential. She stated that HIPPY gives parents the tools, skills and confidence they need to be the primary educators of their children. She stated that HIPPY teaches parents how to engage their children in

educational activities. She stated that HIPPY delivers services through home visits by trained peers from the community. She stated that HIPPY provides additional learning experiences through group meeting activities and special events. She stated that HIPPY is primarily cognitive-based focusing on language development, problem solving, logical thinking and perceptual skills. She stated that HIPPY's curriculum covers the skills necessary to acquire reading and other literacy skills. She stated that HIPPY's curriculum is developmentally appropriate and builds on the child's interests and maturing skills. She stated that HIPPY offers skill development through a variety of approaches. She stated that HIPPY fosters social-emotional and physical development in children. She stated that the Florida HIPPY Training and Technical Assistance (T&TA) Center was opened in 1996 and is based at the University of South Florida in Tampa. She stated that the role of the state office is to work in collaboration with HIPPY USA's national office in Little Rock, Arkansas to provide training, technical support, and guidance to all of the HIPPY programs in the state of Florida. She stated that currently, the state HIPPY office is staffed by seven employees.

During the power-point presentation of the HIPPY Program, Board members asked questions, shared their concerns, and made comments. The Board thanked Mrs. Jones for her presentation.

Mr. Milton encouraged Board members to do home visits, and look for opportunities to get engaged in educating students. He stated that he wants the district to increase student enrollment in the HIPPY Program each year.

The Board recessed the workshop at 2:40 p.m., and reconvened at 2:53 p.m.

### 3. OVERVIEW OF HEAD START/PRE-KINDERGARTEN STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

Mrs. Delores Peace introduced the district's Head Start/Pre-K management staff (Mrs. Carolyn Harden, Director; Mrs. Cynthia Riley, Mrs. Mary Williams, and Ms. NiAra Randolph). She shared with the Board a power-point presentation outlining the Head Start/PreK standards and regulations. She stated that the Office of Head Start (OHS) is an agency that must provide appropriate training and technical assistance or orientation to the governing body, and advisory committee members, and the policy council, including training on program performance standards and training indicated in 1302.12(m) Training on Eligibility. She stated that the purpose of the training was to ensure the members understand the information they receive and can effectively oversee and participate in the programs in the Head Start agency. She stated that the objectives are to provide background and foundational information that supports effective program governance, and to provide training on the roles and responsibilities of the governing body. She stated that Head Start has served more than 31 million children since it began in 1965 and the first Early Head Start grants were awarded in 1995. She stated that the purpose of the Head Start Act (Sec 636) is to promote the school readiness by enhancing children's cognitive, social, and emotional development through the provision of health, educational, nutritional, social, and other services that are determined, based on family needs assessments, to be necessary. She stated that the eligibility requirements for enrollment in Head Start consist of the following: a) Early Head Start (EHS); younger than three years old, and pregnant women; Head Start (HS) three years to compulsory school age; income equal or below poverty line, or eligible for public assistance, or child is homeless, or child in foster care; over income 10% of participants can be over income, additional 35% below 130% of the poverty line, the determining income, and that certain military pay and allowance was excluded. She stated that the overall enrollment requires a program must ensure at least 10% of its total funded enrollment is filled by children eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), unless a waiver is granted. She stated that the Program Governance is a formal structure that includes a Governing Body, a Policy Council (delegate level

Policy Committee), and a Parent Committee. She stated that the general responsibilities of the Governing Body is to legally and fiscally administer and oversee the Head Start and/or Early Head Start programs. She stated that the general responsibilities of the Policy Council is to direct the Head Start and/or Early Head Start Programs. She stated that the general responsibilities of the Parent Committee is to advise. She stated that the Board must use ongoing monitoring results, data on school readiness goals, and other information to conduct its responsibilities. She stated that each Head Start Agency shall ensure the sharing of accurate and regular information for use by the governing body and the policy council, about program planning, and Head Start agency operations. She stated that advisory committees may be established for effective governance and program improvement. She stated that if established to oversee key program governance responsibilities, the Board must establish structure, communication, and oversight so that the Board maintains legal and fiscal responsibility, and notify the responsible Head Start official of its intent. She stated that with impasse procedures the governing body and policy council jointly must establish written procedures for resolving internal disputes between the governing board and policy council in a timely manner that include impasse procedures. She stated that effective Head Start systems ensure quality Head Start services. She stated that Gadsden County local Head Start agencies design services for children and families that meet the needs of their local community and follow the Head Start Program Performance Standards. She stated that the Office of Head Start (OHS) manages grant funding and oversees local agencies providing Head Start services.

During the power-point presentation of the Head Start/PreK standards and regulations, Board members asked questions, shared their concerns, and made comments. The Board thanked Mrs. Peace for her presentation.

#### 4. EDUCATIONAL ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Milton invited the Board to ESE Parent Night Out 6:30 p.m. at Carter Parramore Academy. He announced that Saturday school begins Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. He stated that he attended the forecasting meeting with the Deputy Superintendent and other staff regarding DA schools. He stated that assistance will be provided to schools needing assistance.

#### 5. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Simmons reminded the Board of the Retreat beginning tomorrow (January 11<sup>th</sup>) at 9:00 a.m. in the Board room.

#### 6. The workshop adjourned at 4:00 p.m.