

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

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

June 30, 2015

4:00 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 4:00 p.m.

2. 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.

b. Personnel 2015 – 2016

In response to Mr. Simmons concern regarding a complete list of personnel for the 2015-2016 school year, Dr. Hightower stated that some of the employees were waiting on certification issues to be resolved. He stated that the employee certifications were due today (June 30th). He stated that the 2015 – 2016 employee list was inclusive of everyone for the exception of employees with certification issues, as well as those employees that were Board approved in the May Board meeting.

Mrs. Lewis requested an employee list outlining their locations.

Dr. Hightower stated that he would provide Board members with a list showing their locations.

Mr. Simmons stated that there is still a need for the district to provide a quality education to all students.

Following discussion, Mr. Roger P. Milton made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #2a. The motion was seconded by Mr. Isaac Simmons and carried unanimously.

Following discussion, Mr. Isaac Simmons made a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve agenda item #2b. The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlie D. Frost and carried unanimously.

ACTION REQUESTED: The Superintendent recommended approval.

3. ITEMS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. James announced that a renowned educator, Mrs. Marva Collins, from Chicago passed. He also announced that long time educator, Mr. Carl Daniels, and Mrs. Gwendolyn Smith had passed.

4. SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Frost announced that Gadsden Technical Institute students Terry Austin and Chet Ptachick attended the SkillsUSA national competition in Kentucky. He proudly recognized student Terry Austin for winning the national competition in power equipment technology.

Mrs. Lewis congratulated students at Havana Magnet School for scoring 100% on EOC Algebra.

Mr. James stated that the new high school principals are on campus at West Gadsden High School and East Gadsden High School.

Mr. Ronte Harris, GCCTA President, addressed the Board to express the following concerns regarding teacher frustrations. He stated that it is not easy being a teacher or leading teachers. He stated that there have been substantial cuts in the district without closing schools. He stated that the district is losing teachers. He stated that he feels the district is in an emergency state, and can only cut so much until quality will be cut soon. He stated that GCCTA's message is about quality in the classrooms. He stated that the district needs to figure out ways to be more competitive. He stated that annual teachers need some form of stability in the district. He stated that teacher conditions and salaries needed to be addressed.

Ms. Mandela stated that by law the district should have already had a new salary schedule. She stated that teachers want to be paid as professionals.

5. The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.