MINUTES OF THE
GADSDEN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
DATED NOVEMBER 14, 2017

The Gadsden City Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, November 14, 2017, at 5:00 P.M. at Walnut Park Elementary School. Board members present: President Deborah Howard, Kelly Cochr an, Frank Cylar, Mike Haney, Z. Andre’ Huff, Nancy Stewart and Vice President Wayne Watts. Dr. Ed Miller, Superintendent and Secretary of the Board, and Attorney Cleo Thomas were also in attendance.

RECOGNITION

President Howard called the meeting to order and thank Ms. Kristen Woods, Principal of Walnut Park Elementary School for hosting the board meeting. Mr. Frank Cylar opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

President Howard called for approval and discussion of approval of the agenda. Dr. Wayne Watts discussed with the board the intent of his motion in July for approval of the board agenda. Dr. Watts intent was for the agenda to remain majority vote of approval rather than the 2/3 vote of approval. Superintendent Miller stated that the purpose of the approval of the agenda was to prevent items of severity being added to the agenda without prior notice. Robert’s Rule of Order recommends a 2/3 vote of approval and the local city council recognizes a unanimous approval. The recommendation of 2/3 vote came from the recommendation of the school board association and the state department. Superintendent Miller also stated that the agenda is sent to the board members five days prior to the regular meeting. Mrs. Nancy Stewart and Rev. Andre’ Huff wanted clarification on why there was confusion. Superintendent clarified that the original motion was to approve the agenda with a 2/3 vote. The 2/3 vote only pertained to the approval of the agenda, no other action items on the agenda. President Howard asked there be more communication regarding the agenda. Ms. Howard stated this had been requested to be put back on the agenda in June and it was just now being discussed. After further discussion, Superintendent Miller stated that the agenda does not have to be approved at every meeting. What would need the 2/3 vote of approval, would be if an item is to be added to the agenda.

President Howard introduced Ms. Kristen Wood, Principal of Walnut Park Elementary School. Ms. Woods thanked the board, the faculty and the community for the support given to Walnut Park Elementary. Ms. Woods introduced the third grade hand bell choir, directed by Mrs. Karen Abercrombie. The students performed “God Bless America”.

REPORTS

Math and Reading Tutoring Program – Mrs. Sharon Maness, Director of Special Services, reported the progress of the Math and Reading Tutoring Program. A meeting was held on October 24, 2017 with the committee of the program. The committee members are as follows, Sharon Maness, Hector Baeza, Director of Federal Programs, Keith Blackwell, Director of School Operations, Nancy Croley, Retired Educator and Former Principal of Walnut Park Elementary, Olivia Gray, Senior Juvenile Probation Officer, Deidre Holland, Special Education Coordinator, Deborah Parks, Housing Authority, Tony Reddick, Director of Student Services, Rhonda Perry, Director of School Improvement, Quez Williams, Boys & Girls Club, Heathner New, Chamber of Commerce and Dr. Ed Miller, Superintendent of Gadsden City Schools. The committee was developed to have community input. The discussion was when to have the tutoring. The decision was made to have the tutoring 30 minutes before school in the mornings and two hours after school in the afternoons. Tutoring will be available during these times for students Kindergarten thru 3rd grade. Additional tutoring services are currently provided for grades 4th and 5th by Title I programs and Twenty First Century. The Math and Reading Tutoring Program offers a wider variety of services for our students with funds offered by the Gadsden City Council. The program is currently soliciting retired teachers and educators to provide these tutoring services. The program is looking to begin immediately. Principals of elementary schools will be sending out letters to parents giving details of the tutoring program.
BOARD ACTION

MINUTES APPROVED

On motion by Mr. Mike Haney, seconded by Mrs. Kelly Cochran, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the regular meeting held on October 3, 2017.

TURF AND ROOFING BIDS

The Superintendent recommended the board accept the low bid for new field turf at the Gadsden City High School Football Stadium, from Sprinturf in the amount of $410,472.00. The bid includes to furnish and install new synthetic field turf system and athletic accessories, including concussion pad. Motion was made by Mr. Mike Haney and seconded by Mrs. Kelly Cochran to approve the recommendation. Unanimous vote to approve.

The Superintendent recommended the board accept the low bid for reroofing Adams, Deonehoo, and Floyd Elementary Schools, from Mid-Western Roofing in the amount of $577,270.00. Mrs. Nancy Stewart motioned to approve and seconded by Mrs. Nancy Stewart. Motion was unanimously approved.

CNP BID

Superintendent Miller noted that Mr. Johnnie Parker, Child Nutrition Director, had already determined the low bid on the CNP bread bid as Flowers Baking Company in the amount of $70,108.00 and recommended that Mr. Parker’s recommendation be accepted. Motion was made by Dr. Wayne Watts to approve and seconded by Mrs. Nancy Stewart. Motion was unanimously approved.

OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the out-of-state field trips of ESMS and GMS Band/Choir to Disney World to perform during May 2, 2018 thru May 5, 2018. Also GCHS DECA, to visit Orlando, FL theme parks to receive behind the scene instruction, during January 31, 2018 thru February 4, 2018. Motion was made by Mrs. Nancy Stewart and seconded by Mr. Mike Haney. Motion was unanimously approved.

SURPLUS PROPERTY

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, on motion by Rev. Andre’ Huff, and second by Mrs. Kelly Cochran, the Board unanimously approved designating certain equipment at Floyd Elementary and Gadsden City Board of Education Central Office as surplus property.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT AND BANK RECONCILIATION

The Superintendent provided copies of the monthly financial report and bank reconciliation for examination by the Board. The financial data and cash balances presented to the Board are based on the reconciled bank statements to the general ledger as of September 30, 2017.

On motion by Mr. Mike Haney and seconded by Mrs. Kelly Cochran, the Superintendent’s recommendation concerning the September Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Superintendent recommended that the Board move into executive session to review matters relating to the reputation, character, and professional competence of certain individuals and pending legal matters and that business will follow the executive session. Rev. Andre’ Huff made the motion to go into executive session to review matters relating to the reputation, character, and professional competence of certain individuals and pending legal matters and second was made by Mrs. Kelly Cochran. Motion carried by majority. Ms. Deborah Howard and Dr. Wayne Watts opposed.
PERSONNEL ACTION

The Superintendent recommended that the following personnel actions be approved:

PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

Under Alabama law all new employees are subject to a criminal background check, and all employment recommendations are contingent upon a satisfactory criminal background report.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resigning:</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexis Wise</td>
<td>12/01/2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>b/f Gadsden City High School English Teacher</td>
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<td>Lora Boswell Dorman</td>
<td>01/02/2018</td>
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<td>w/f Systemwide – Litchfield Middle (home school) Special Education Teacher</td>
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<tr>
<th>Resigning:</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sabrina Chumley</td>
<td>10/02/2017 thru 03/30/2018</td>
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<td>w/f Gadsden City High School CNP Manager</td>
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<td>Medical Leave of Absence:</td>
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<td>Effective Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sabrina Chumley w/f Gadsden City High School 10/02/2017 thru 03/30/2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>CNP Manager (contingent upon Board approval)</td>
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<th>Resigning:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Traci Higgins w/f Gadsden City High School 11/15/2017</td>
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<td>Central Office Head Bookkeeper</td>
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<td>Systemwide 11/15/2017</td>
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<td>Math/Reading</td>
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<td>Head Bookkeeper</td>
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<td>Systemwide</td>
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<th>Transfer:</th>
<th>From</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chance Goodwin</td>
<td>w/m Systemwide</td>
<td>Donehoo Elementary</td>
<td>11/15/2017</td>
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<td>Instructional Coach Principal</td>
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<td>Math/Reading</td>
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<tr>
<td>Traci Higgins</td>
<td>w/f Gadsden City High School 11/15/2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Head Bookkeeper</td>
<td>Federal Programs Bookkeeper/Data Manager</td>
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<td>New Employee:</td>
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<td>Robert Richard Thompson w/m Systemwide – GCHS (home school) 11/02/2017</td>
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<td>Special Education Teacher Emergency (working on Masters in Special Ed.) Excellent references Interviewed by Mrs. Maness, Dr. Asbury</td>
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<td>Belinda Davis Martin w/f Eura Brown Elementary School 10/24/2017</td>
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<td>Custodian Excellent references Interviewed by Mrs. Katelyn Holland</td>
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<td>Cassandra D. Thomas b/f Systemwide 10/06/2017</td>
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<td>Special Education Bus Aide Excellent references Interviewed by Mrs. Maness</td>
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<td>SUBSTITUTE</td>
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<td>Substitute Teachers – New for 2017 - 2018:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexandra Rich – certified</td>
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<td>Phillip Renda Jr.</td>
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<td>Shalina Peoples</td>
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<td>Sheila Haynie – certified (retired teacher)</td>
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<td>Loretta Jones</td>
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<td>Courtney Gray</td>
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<td>Tiffany Jackson</td>
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<td>Carol Bartl</td>
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<td>Ivyette Hart</td>
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<td>Kayla Hood</td>
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<td>Jessica Parker</td>
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<td>Melissa Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brianna Sumpter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Substitute Teachers – Reapplying 2017 - 2018:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Janice Davis</td>
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Five Elementary School Lead Teachers
Janie Browning (SES) w/f
Regina Duke (DES) w/f
Adrienne Edwards (TES) b/f
Kim Miller (AES) w/f
Susan Wills (MES) w/f

Three Elementary School Teachers
Elaine Gray (AES) w/f
Stephanie Tow Gibson (SES) w/f
Grace Walton (DES) w/f

Eight Elementary School Assistants
Debra Bishop (DES) w/f
Nikki Blount (SES) b/f
J’Keilyn Desmond (MES) b/m
Ashleigh Edwards (MES) w/f
Diana Hilton (AES) h/f
Robin Kinard (DES) b/f
Onna Miller (AES) b/f
Orsola Turner (TES) b/f

One Middle School Lead Teacher
Malcolm Dailey (LMS) b/m

Two Middle School Assistants
Azaria Collins (LMS) b/f
1 TBD

One High School Lead Teacher
Jay Dowdy (GCHS) w/m

One High School Academic Tutor
Christina Caldwell (GCHS) w/f

Two Elementary School Academic Tutors/Teachers
Cheri Williams (MES) w/f
Denise Shelvin (TES) b/f

Two Enrichment Leaders
Kana Goldsmith w/f
India Steele w/f

Elementary School Academic Tutors/Teachers
Kim Back (EBES) w/f
Kim Brakett (WPES) w/f
Allison Correll (WPES) w/f
Terrie Dickson (DES) w/f
Kim Fleming (SES) w/f
Tiffany Glover (AES) b/f
Tricia Gruver (EBES) w/f
Jennifer Henslee (AES) w/f
Stacy Holcomb (WPES) w/f
Jackie Isom (SES) w/f
Connie Klein (FES) w/f
Shannon Morgan (MES) w/f
Patrice Mosley (EBES) b/f
Vicky Porter (EBES) w/f
Leanne Reed (WPES) w/f
Vanessa Roberts (MES) w/f
Ann Smith (MES) w/f
Tameka Stephens (AES) b/f
Minutes

November 14, 2017

APPROVED 12/5/17

Jennie Thomas (WPES) w/f
Lavonda Thomas (TES) b/f
Kathy Trotter (EBES) w/f
Monica Washington (WPES) b/f
Andrea White (TES) w/f
Cheri Williams (MES) w/f

Substitutes
Keri Buchmann w/f
Emily Elkins w/f
Paula Elliott w/f
Margaret Haygood b/f
Yolanda Juddine b/f
Mary Kate Mayes w/f
Rebecca McKinney w/f
Shannon Morgan w/f
Amy Pippin w/f
Mackele Ragland b/f
Angela Swatek w/f
Betrina Thomas b/f
Lavonda Thomas b/f
Alicia Walker w/f
Andrea White w/f
Shaniqua Appleton b/f
Brandi Batton w/f

Mrs. Nancy Stewart motioned to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation concerning personnel actions and second was made by Mrs. Kelly Cochran. President Howard asked for discussion. Mr. Frank Cylar stated as he discussed in executive session, he did not feel as though Chance Goodwin was a good fit as principal for Donehoo Elementary School due to the demographics of the school and community. Mr. Mike Haney stated his discontent of Mr. Cylar stating what was discussed in executive session and he was opposed to his remarks. Mrs. Nancy Stewart state she was opposed as well. President Howard called for a vote. The motion carried with a 6-1 vote.

Cochran – Aye Cylar – No Haney – Aye Howard – Aye
Huff – Aye Stewart – Aye Watts - Aye

INTRODUCTION ITEMS/REMINDERS

Superintendent Miller reminded the Board of the AASB Annual Convention which is scheduled for December 7-9, 2017, in Birmingham at The Hyatt Regency – The Wynfrey Hotel.

The Career Tech Showcase will be held November 17, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at GCHS.

Schools will be closed on November 10, 2017, in observance of Veterans Day.

Gadsden City Schools will be closed November 20-24, 2017, in observance of the Thanksgiving Holidays.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The Superintendent told the Board that schedules are included in their packets for the GCHS Veterans Day Program, the Holiday Events systemwide, and Athletic Schedules. A Google calendar of events has been created for board members to access systemwide events.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for 5:00 P.M. on December 5, 2016, at Striplin Elementary School.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Nancy Stewart and seconded by Rev. Andre’ Huff.

Approved: ____________________________ Ed Miller, Secretary