

**MINUTES OF THE  
GADSDEN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
DATED OCTOBER 3, 2017**

The Gadsden City Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, October 3, 2017, at 5:00 P.M. at Donehoo Elementary School. Board members present: President Deborah Howard, Vice President Wayne Watts, Kelly Cochran, Frank Cylar, Mike Haney, Z. Andre' Huff, and Nancy Stewart. Dr. Ed Miller, Superintendent and Secretary of the Board, and Attorney Cleo Thomas were also in attendance.

Ms. Howard called the meeting to order, and Rev. Z. Andre' Huff opened the meeting with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS/AWARDS**

President Howard recognized Mr. Hector Baeza, principal of Donehoo Elementary School. Mr. Baeza welcomed everyone to Donehoo Elementary and recognized his staff. Mr. Baeza praised his staffed and students for the outstanding academic achievements that have been accomplished. Donehoo has nine students currently enrolled in the enrichment program. That is the maximum number of students Donehoo Elementary has ever had in the enrichment program. Donehoo Elementary Pre K, directed by Ms. Jackson and Ms. Watkins, performed for the board members. Also, the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students performed "Celebrate", directed by Mr. Ali Sullivan, who works with these students two days a week. After the performances, Mr. Baeza introduced the staff of Donehoo Elementary.

**BOARD ACTION**

The approval of Agenda was erroneously omitted from the agenda. President Howard spoke to the board regarding some confusion of the 2/3 vote for approval of the agenda. Dr. Wayne Watts requested that this item be placed back on the agenda for the next board meeting.

**Minutes Approved**

The minutes of budget hearing #1 and minutes of regular meeting for September 12, 2017 including budget hearing #2 were presented to the Board for approval. Mrs. Nancy Stewart made the motion to approve and second was made by Mrs. Kelly Cochran. The motion carried.

**Capital Recovery and Reinvestment Resolution**

Todd Smith, Schneider Electric, gave an update to the board regarding the progress of the Capital Recovery Plan. After numerous site visits, Schneider Electric is ready to begin replacing HVAC units, windows, LED lighting, telephone systems, water fountains and various other energy saving equipment and costs. At this point, the approved Capital Recovery and Reinvestment Plan is awaiting the signed resolution for the funding of the project. Mr. Stephen Cummings, BBVA Compass Bank, addressed the board regarding for the Capital Recovery Plan and the Resolution. Mr. Cummings explained that the resolution is a document that would formalize the approval of the financing for the project. The resolution is to be signed by the current president of the board, (Ms. Deborah Howard) and the current Secretary of the board, (Superintendent Ed Miller). The resolution would give rights to one or both parties to sign documents regarding the loan for the funding of the project that was approved by the board in August, 2017. President Howard raised the question regarding the difference in the amount of the loan and the amount that was approved, being a \$300,000.00 difference. The funding for the Schneider project was \$9.2 million the amount of the loan reflects \$9.5 million. Mr. Cummings explained that the \$300,000.00 difference was a 3% cushion allotted for cost overruns. Ms. Howard asked if the minutes should reflect the \$9.5 million. Mr. John Pickering, Attorney representing BBVA, explained the signed resolution would supersede and alleviate that concern. Mr. Todd Smith, Schneider Electric, explained that the additional amount would also give the board the flexibility to add any additional cost efficient equipment if necessary during the improvements. Dr. Wayne Watts, raised concern regarding the difference in the terminology in the

documents. Mr. Todd Smith, assured the board that cost of the project to Schneider Electric is \$9.2 million. The access amount is strictly a cushion and is there to protect the board. Dr. Watts asks what the difference was in the certificate and the resolution that was included in the board packet. Mr. Cummings explained the Resolution is a document that gives the rights for the bank documents to be signed by the assigned parties and is considered an action item. The certificate puts the resolution into place and certifies the information is correct. Dr. Watts was concerned about the terminology regarding “any one of them” and “unanimous consent”. Mr. Pickering explained the two provisions. The term stating “any one of them” is included in the resolution to account for the availability of either party for signatures of the loan document. The language regarding the “unanimous consent”, could be omitted from the document. The normal rulings of the board would supersede. Mr. Pickering recommended that statement be struck from the document. Mr. Z. Andre’ Huff had a question regarding the collateral for the loan. Mr. Pickering explained the collateral came in three forms. The equipment, assignment of the contract with Schneider, and general obligation of the board. Mr. Pickering addressed the \$300,000.00 difference. Mr. Pickering clarified that Schneider Electric would be paid \$9.2 million for the project. The addition \$300,000.00 would sit in a Capital Improvement account and no one would be able to use those funds until the board approved the funding.

Superintendent recommended that the board approve the resolution for the funding. Mr. Huff asked the resolution be reworded. Mr. Frank Cylar motioned that the board table the recommendation and signing of the resolution until the terminology could be corrected. Dr. Wayne Watts seconded. After discussion with Mr. Pickering, attorney representing BBVA Compass Bank, Superintendent Miller told the board the wording could be changed immediately that would indicate any changes would require full board approval. President Howard called for a vote for the motion on the floor.

Kelly Cochran – No	Frank Cylar - Aye	Mike Haney – No
Deborah Howard – Aye	Z. Andre Huff – No	Nancy Stewart – No
Wayne Watts – Aye		

The motion did not carry.

Superintendent recommended the board approve the resolution with the changes that Mr. Pickering suggested. Sub section III will be struck from the resolution. Mrs. Nancy Stewart motioned to approve. Mrs. Kelly Cochran seconded.

Kelly Cochran – Aye	Frank Cylar - No	Mike Haney – Aye
Deborah Howard – No	Z. Andre Huff – Aye	Nancy Stewart – Aye
Wayne Watts – No		

### **Surplus Property**

Superintendent Miller recommended that the surplus property items listed on the report from Mitchell Elementary School and Donehoo Elementary School be approved. Mrs. Kelly Cochran made the motion and second was made by Mr. Mike Haney. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Out-of-State, Overnight Field Trip Requests**

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the out-of-state field trips of Gadsden Middle Schools Clubs to Orlando, Florida for participate in a STEAM Application series learning the engineering behind ride design at Universal Studios on February 17 thru February 20, 2018. Motion was made by Mr. Mike Haney and seconded by Mr. Wayne Watts. Motion was unanimously approved.

### **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 August 31, 2017.

On motion made by Mrs. Nancy Stewart and seconded by Mr. Mike Haney, the Superintendent’s recommendation concerning the August, 2017, Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation was unanimously approved.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Superintendent recommended that the Board go into executive session to review matters relating to the reputation, good character, and professional competence of certain individuals and pending legal matters. Mrs. Nancy Stewart made the motion to go into executive and a second by Mrs. Kelly Cochran. Motion carried on a four to three vote. Dr. Watts discussed his concerns regarding voting to dismiss into executive session when he doesn’t know what will be discussed and he was also concerned that executive sessions takes too long and it discourages the general public waiting. President Howard called for a vote.

Kelly Cochran – Aye	Frank Cylar – No	Mike Haney – Aye
Z. Andre’ Huff – Aye	Deborah Howard – No	Nancy Stewart – Aye
Wayne Watts – No		

Board convened to executive session.

**Personnel Actions**

The Superintendent recommended that the following personnel actions be approved:

Part A

**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.

**RETIRING**

<b><u>Retiring:</u></b>			<b><u>Effective Date</u></b>
Teresa “Terry” Summerall	w/f	Central Office Federal Programs Bookkeeper/Data Manager (12 months)	10/01/2017
Nancy Blackwood	w/f	Central Office Title I Director	11/01/2017

**RESIGNING**

<b><u>Resigning:</u></b>			<b><u>Effective Date</u></b>
Cliff Farabee	w/m	Eura Brown Elementary School Custodian	09/22/2017

**NEW PERSONNEL**

<b><u>New Employee:</u></b>			<b><u>Effective Date</u></b>
Kimberly Lynn Green	w/f	Emma Sansom Middle School Social Studies Teacher Class B, Elementary K -6 Major: Elementary Education Excellent references Interviewed by Dr. Asbury, Mr. Young	09/14/2017 (contingent upon Board approval)
Sally Lynn Waldrop	w/f	Adams Elementary School Title I Intervention Aide Excellent references Interviewed by Mrs. Smitherman, Ms. Blackwood	10/02/2017 thru 05/25/2018, only (contingent upon available funding) (contingent upon Board approval)

**SUBSTITUTES**

**Substitute Teachers – New for 2017 - 2018:**

Amber Edwards	Barbara Kirby
Kana Goldsmith	Shatae Martin
Pauline Hilliard	Cristal McElroy
Kelly Hyde	Holly Ray
Julie Johnson	Dantez Robinson
Rita Jovic	Takeyia Lipscomb

Jillian Sherrhouse                      Arteria Ramsey  
Doris Barrax                                Christian Patton

**Substitute Teachers – Reapplying 2017 - 2018:**

Jennie Adamson                      Glenda Jackson  
Shelia Blevins                          Bernekia Stanford  
Patryna Goosby                        Meagan Miller  
Anna Graham  
Katherine Hood

**Support Substitutes – New for 2017 - 2018:**

Latoya Crutcher  
Cassandra Thomas (bus aide)

**Support Substitutes – Reapplying 2017 - 2018:**

Pollyanna Elliott Davis

**Nurse Substitutes – New for 2017 - 2018:**

Catherine Larkin  
Suzanna Bridgeland

**GADSDEN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNEX  
COMMUNITY EDUCATION/21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS  
2017-2018**  
August 9, 2017 through September 30, 2017 (Monday thru Friday – Elementary Schools & Monday thru Thursday – Middle & High Schools) (3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.)

**Five Elementary School Lead Teachers**

**Two Elementary School Teachers**

**Thirteen Elementary School Assistants**

**GADSDEN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNEX  
COMMUNITY EDUCATION/21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS  
2017-2018**  
August 14, 2017 through September 30, 2017 (Monday thru Friday – Elementary Schools & Monday thru Thursday – Middle & High Schools) (3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.)

**One Middle School Lead Teacher**

**Three Middle Schools Assistants**

TBD

**One High School Lead Teacher**

**Two High School Academic Tutors**

**One High School Teacher**

**One High School Family Liaison**

TBD

**GADSDEN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNEX  
COMMUNITY EDUCATION/21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS  
2017-2018**  
August 9, 2017 through May 25, 2018 (Monday thru Friday – Elementary Schools & Monday thru Thursday – Middle & High Schools) (3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.)

**Three Elementary School Lead Teachers**

**Two Elementary School Teachers**

Grace Walton (Transferred from Assistant)

TBD

**Seven Elementary School Assistants**

**One Family Liaison**

TBD

**GADSDEN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNEX  
COMMUNITY EDUCATION/21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS  
2017-2018**  
September 5, 2017 through May 25, 2018 (Monday thru Friday – Elementary Schools & Monday thru Thursday – Middle & High Schools) (3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.)

**Enrichment Leaders**

TBD

**COMMUNITY EDUCATION/21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
 AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS  
 2017-2018**  
 September 5, 2017 through September 30, 2017 (Monday thru Friday – Elementary Schools & Monday thru Thursday – Middle & High Schools) (3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.)

- Two Elementary School Enrichment Leaders**
- One High School Enrichment Leader**

**GADSDEN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNEX  
 COMMUNITY EDUCATION/21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
 AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS  
 2017-2018**  
 August 14, 2017 through May 25, 2018 (Monday thru Friday – Elementary Schools & Monday thru Thursday – Middle & High Schools) (3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.)

- Two Middle School Lead Teachers**
- Two Middle School Teachers**  
TBD
- Four Middle School Academic Tutors**  
TBD
- Four Middle School Assistants**  
TBD  
TBD

**GADSDEN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNEX  
 COMMUNITY EDUCATION/21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
 AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS  
 2017 – 2018  
 SUBSTITUTES**

- Substitutes**  
Reed Chambers  
Hilda Moody

**Part B**

**RECOMMENDATION  
 FEDERAL PROGRAMS  
 DIRECTOR**

**FEDERAL PROGRAMS DIRECTOR: (Transfer)**

<b><u>Name:</u></b>	<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>To</u></b>	<b><u>Effective Date</u></b>
Hector Baeza h/m	Donehoo Elementary School Principal	Central Office Federal Programs Director	11/01/2017

On motion made by Mr. Mike Haney and second by Mrs. Kelly Cochran, the personnel actions were unanimously approved.

**INTRODUCTION ITEMS**

**AASB 2017 Annual Convention**

The Annual AASB Convention is scheduled for December 7-9, 2017 in Birmingham, AL at Hyatt Regency Birmingham – The Wynfrey Hotel.

**Accreditation Training**

AdvancED Accreditation Board Training is scheduled for October 24, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

The Gadsden City Board of Education was awarded the “School Board Member Academy President’s Award 2017” by AASB at the annual district meeting. This award is given to the board for demonstrating a commitment to excellence in education through boardsmanship training.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

Minutes

October 3, 2017  
Approved 11/14/17

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 7, 2017, at 5:00 P.M. at Walnut Park Elementary School.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned upon motion by Mr. Z. Andre' Huff and a second by Mrs. Nancy Stewart.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ed Miller, Secretary