

Regular Meeting 11/03/2020 05:00 PM

Gadsden City Board of Education

Attendees

Voting Members

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff, President - District 3

Mrs. Nancy Stewart, Vice President - District 6

Hon. Allen Millican, Board Member - District 7

Dr. Nathan Carter, Board Member - District 2

Mr. Mark Dayton, Board Member - District 5

Mr. Mike Haney, Board Member - District 4

Ms. Adrienne Reed, Board Member - District 1

Non-Voting Members

Mr. Tony Reddick, Superintendent

Mrs. Christie Knowles, Board Attorney

A. Call to Order, Opening Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance

President Z. Andre' Huff called the meeting to order. Mr. Mark Dayton opened with prayer and pledge of allegiance.

B. Reports

1. Report of GCS Capital Funding Projects

Joe Billingsley, GCS Maintenance Supervisor, reported an update on Gadsden City Schools Capital Funding Projects.

Roofing of Ray Thompson Elementary in the approximate sum of \$429,000. This project will be funded with existing PSCA Funds.

A new PSCA bond issue of in the amount of \$6.3 million will be disbursed towards three projects with Gadsden City Schools:

ESMS roofing project in the approximate sum of \$1,000,000.00 LMS roofing project in the approximate sum of \$898,000.00

The remainder of the bond issue would be the funding source of a new Baseball/Softball/Tennis Complex for Gadsden City High School.

McKee and Associates have submitted preliminary architectural drawings with estimates to construct a baseball, softball and tennis complex on the existing campus of Gadsden City High School. This facility would create the opportunity for Gadsden City High School to maintain all sports on one campus. The scope of the work would include baseball and softball fields, tennis courts, concession building,

locker rooms, dressing rooms, restrooms, press box, and bleachers.

Mr. Billingsley suggested the projects begin as soon as plans could be finalized due to the rising costs of construction.

2. Perspective on School Rennovation and Consolidation from Kevin Gunnerson of Volkert

Superintendent Reddick introduced Kevin Gunnerson of Volkert, Inc. Mr. Gunnerson explained that Volkert is a Program Management Firm. The firm is hired to assess the system's facilities, determine the immediate needs of those facilities, determine any consolidation needs, and make the needed recommendations to the board for approval. Volkert would then oversee and manage any construction projects for the system from beginning to completion.

C. Board Action

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the regular board meeting held on October 3, 2020, were presented to the board for approval.

Motion made by: Mrs. Nancy Stewart Motion seconded by: Mr. Mike Haney

Voting

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Dr. Nathan Carter - Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

2. Board Policy Supervision of Low Risk Juvenile Sex Offenders

Superintendent Tony Reddick recommended the board approve the presented board policy JQG/JGFB, JBC, JCD: Superivision of Low Risk Juvenile Sex Offenders.

Pursuant to Annalyn's Law, the Superintendent shall be notified by local law enforcement when a low risk juvenile sex offender is enrolled or attending school within the board's jurisdiction for the purpose of appropriate supervision during the school day and during school activities.

Section 1. Definitions

In this policy, these terms shall have the following meaning:

- a. "Plan" refers to the "individualized student safety plan" developed following the Student's adjudication and/or enrollment in the school to serve as a behavior contract between contract between the Student and the School.
- b. "School" refers to "all school property and school-sponsored functions including, but not limited to, classroom instructional time, assemblies, athletic events, extracurricular activities, and school bus transportation" related to the Student's current school of record
- C. "Student" refers to "the low risk juvenile sex offender" designated by a juvenile court judge as having a low risk or re-offense.
- d. "Teachers and staff with supervision over the student" or "Supervision team" refers to school officials or staff who have a specific responsibility for the Student, including the school principal, the Student's assigned teachers and/or coaches, the Student's counselor, and if applicable, the Student's bus driver, during the subject school year and who will be privy to information regarding the Student's status. Teachers and staff with

- only passing and/or general contact with the Student shall not be privy to information regarding the Student's status.
- **e.** "Victim" refers to the victim, if known by and attending the same school as the Student, of the offense for which the Student was adjudicated delinquent.

□Section 2. Notification

Current Student

In the event a currently enrolled Student is adjudicated delinquent and designated "low risk" by the juvenile court, local law enforcement is expected to notify the local Superintendent and principal of the Student's school in writing.

□Newly Enrolled Students

In the event a Student seeks to enroll in the district as a new student, and that Student has been previously designated as a low risk juvenile sex offender, local law enforcement is expected to notify the local Superintendent and principal of the Student's school in writing.

☐Students That Change Schools Within the District

In the event a currently enrolled Student transfers to another school in the district or is promoted to another school in the district, the principal of the original school should notify designated law enforcement of the change as soon as practicable.

Following that notification, the principal of the original school should orally or in writing brief the principal of the new school regarding the original Plan and the transferring Student's status and circumstances. Regardless, the principal of the prior school must provide the Student's records and Safety Plan to the principal of the new school as soon as practicable.

The new principal should review the Plan and meet with the Student, the Student's parent or guardian, and the anticipated new Supervision Team to determine whether the current terms are sufficient or should be adjusted based on the Student's circumstances.

☐School Staff Changes

In the event the principal or a member of the Supervision Team leaves his position or is no longer responsible for supervising the Student, a replacement team member should be named, if necessary and appropriate, and briefed by the principal or the most senior member of the Supervision Team regarding the Student's status and Plan.

The student, his parent or guardian, and other members of the Supervision Team should be notified of changes to the Supervision Team within a reasonable timeframe.

Section 3. Plan Development and Maintenance

Upon proper notification from law enforcement, the Student's principal or designee will call together the anticipated Supervision Team to meet with the Student and/or the Student's parent or guardian to develop an appropriate Plan. This meeting should take place within 10 school days or as soon as practicable. In the even the Students' parent or guardian is unable or unwilling to meet, the principal or designee and the Supervision Team should meet with the Student within a reasonable timeframe to develop an appropriate Plan.

In the event the Victim attends the same school as the Student, the plan should include measures to reduce the likelihood of Victim and Student interaction.

The terms of the Plan and any updates to it must be memorialized in writing and approved by the principal or designee before being distributed to the Student and the Student's parent or guardian, as well as the Supervision Team.

The principal or designee should meet with the Student, the Student's parent or guardian, and the Supervision Team at least annually, but as often as deemed necessary by the

principal or designee to assess the Student's status and to determine whether adjustments should be made to the Plan.

Section 4. Supervision

The Student will be subject to the general Student Code of Conduct and any other conditions deemed necessary by the principal or designee as incorporated in the Student's Plan.

Members of the Supervision Team should report any suspected violations of the Plan to the principal or designee.

The school officials and staff responsible for supervising the Student on a daily basis should do so in a manner that is discrete and unobtrusive.

Section 5. Students with Disabilities

Discipline of Students with disabilities will be subject to applicable limitations and requirements imposed by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and implementing regulations.

Section 6. Violations of the Plan

In the event the Student violates the Student Code of Conduct or the Plan, the Student may be subject to discipline pursuant to board policy and/or reassessment of the Plan's conditions.

Section 7. Challenges to the Plan

In the event the Student and/or his parent or guardian object to conditions of the Plan or the application of a sanction, a challenge must be submitted in writing to the Superintendent or his designee to consider whether adjustment of the Plan or response modification is warranted. The Superintendent's decision shall be final. A response that constitutes disciplinary action will adhere to the applicable School disciplinary policies and procedures and the Student will be afforded the process due thereunder.

Section 8. Confidentiality

Information received by school officials or staff related to the Student's delinquent status must be treated as confidential from other students, staff members, officials and stakeholders. Any document identifying the Student's status should be safeguarded from unintentional disclosure by the members of the Supervision Team. Any school official or school employee who improperly discloses the Student's status to any other person may be subject to school discipline and/or criminal charges as provided by law.

Section 9. Retaliation

Members of the Supervision Team should make every effort to treat the Student with the same respect and courtesy to which every student is entitled. The Team is reminded that the Student has been deemed by the juvenile court as not likely to reoffend and should be encouraged to fully integrate into the student body as a successful student. Mistreatment of any student may be caused for discipline.

Section 10. Procedures

The Superintendent shall have the authority to develop appropriate training and additional procedures for staff members in furtherance of this policy.

Legal Reference: Ala. Act No. 2018-528, Ala. Code 16-1/51/1 (1975).

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican Motion seconded by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Voting

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Dr. Nathan Carter - Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

3. Surplus Property

Superintendent Reddick recommended the board approve the designated inventory listed from Emma Sansom Middle School, Mitchell Elementary, Floyd Elementary,

Motion made by: Mrs. Nancy Stewart Motion seconded by: Dr. Nathan Carter

Voting

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Dr. Nathan Carter - Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

4. Personnel Actions

Superintendent Reddick recommended the following personnel actions be approved:

Resigning:

Tiffany Gladden - ESMS Reading Teacher effective 10/19/2020

Rickey Matthew Watson - Systemwide/Striplin Elementary SPE Teacher effective 10/27/2020

Amanda Jill Walker - Striplin Elementary CNP Worker - effective 9/04/2020

Declined Position:

Misty Walden - ESMS Custodian effective 10/14/2020

New Employees:

Larissa P. Wallace - ESMS English Language Arts Teacher effective 11/2/2020

Adrian Rebekah Payne - Floyd Elementary Title I Aide effective 11/2/2020

Lori Whidby - Adams Elementary School SPE Aide effective 11/2/2020

Donna Rowland - Mitchell Elementary School CNP Worker effective 10/13/2020

Substitute Teachers

Frankie Huff

Carrie Gibbs

Jacqueline Gaddis

Casey Rogers

James Paschal

Janice Poleate

Support Substitutes

Shannon Long

Motion made by: Mr. Mike Haney

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Nancy Stewart

Voting

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Dr. Nathan Carter - Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

5. Monthly Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation

CSFO Cory Skelton presented the board with the monthly financial for examination and approval. The financial data and cash balances presented are based on the reconciled bank statements to the general ledger as of September 20, 2020.

Motion made by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Nancy Stewart

Voting

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Dr. Nathan Carter - Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

D. Information Items

1. Old Business

COVID report update: The state has created a statewide dashboard with weekly updates from all school systems. The link is:

Nurse Matlock has been sending a weekly report of Gadsden City Schools' numbers. The cumulative numbers for the month of **October** for Gadsden City Schools are:

Positive COVID testing students - 11 Positive COVID testing staff - 15 Close Contact students - 154 Close Contact Staff - 10 Symptomatic Students - 55 Symptomatic Staff - 9

Mr. Reddick reported the number of cases and exposures within Gadsden City Schools are some of the lowest in the state. The superintendent praised the faculty and staffs of the system for managing the CDC guidelines.

Board members addressed concerns about how the system was handling substitutes, student concerns, and instructional needs. Superintendent Reddick assured the board members, the system, the administration and the staff are doing everything within their means, to meet any struggles.

2. Next Regular Board Meeting December 8, 2020

Superintendent Reddick requested the board select a date that would work best for the board to conduct a work session. Optional dates would be November 13 or December 11.

E. Adjournment

President Huff ask for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican Motion seconded by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Voting

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes Hon. Allen Millican - Yes Dr. Nathan Carter - Yes Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

______ Date Superintendent/Secretary