



Regular Meeting
03/05/2024 05:00 PM
Gadsden City Board of Education
Central Office

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees

Voting Members

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff, Board Member - District 3
Mrs. Nancy Stewart, Board Member - District 6
Hon. Allen Millican, Board Chairman - District 7
Mr. Mike Haney, Board Member - District 4
Ms. Adrienne Reed, Board Member - District 1
Mrs. Rita Smith, Board Member - District 2

Absent:

Mr. Mark Dayton, Board Member – District 5

Non-Voting Members

Mr. Keith Blackwell, Superintendent
Mr. Ed Howard, Board Attorney
Mrs. Cory Skelton, Chief School Financial Officer
Ms. Nancy Foster, Superintendent Administrative Assistant

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

Chairman Allen Millican called the meeting to order. Mrs. Rita Smith led with prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance.

B. Recognition of Visitors/Guests

Mr. Andrew Roberts, representing C.A.R.E.S., presented the GCS Scholars Bowl team with a check for national competition expenses.

C. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented for approval.

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
Mr. Mike Haney - Yes
Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes
Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

D. Reports

1. Scholarship Presentations

Mr. Mark Proper with TCI Vocational School, presented GCHS student Amarion Jordan with a student of the month \$100 gift certificate.

2. GCS Maintenance Department

Superintendent Keith Blackwell recognized the Gadsden City Board of Education Maintenance Department under the direction of Joe Billingsley.

The maintenance department team members consist of

Joe Billingsley, Supervisor
Wanda Tedder, Secretary (not in attendance)
Frank Bishop
Andrew Elliott
Alan Jones
Craig Marbut
Daniel Mason
Tim Pollard
Trey Smith
Dale Vaughn
Nick White
Ebony Malone

E. Board Action

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the February 2, 2024, meeting were presented to the board for approval.

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mike Haney

Voting:

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes
Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes
Hon. Allen Millican - Yes
Mr. Mike Haney - Yes
Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes
Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

2. Surplus Property

Superintendent Keith Blackwell recommended the board approve listed property from Central Office Special Education Department, Floyd Elementary and Striplin Elementary.

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mike Haney

Voting:

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

3. Out of State Field Trip

a. GCHS - Cosmetology - Orlando, FL

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve the out-of-state field trip for GCHS Cosmetology students to attend the Premiere Orlando Show at the Orange County Convention Center the dates of May 31, 2024 thru June 3, 2024. The student will experience hands on Nail Art and application practices for job opportunities.

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Rita Smith

Voting:

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

b. Scholars Bowl - Chicago, IL

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve the out-of-state field trip request for GMS Scholar's Bowl team to attend the NAQT National Championship Competition in Chicago, Illinois between the dates of May 9, 2024, to May 13, 2024.

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Ms. Adrienne Reed

Voting:

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

c. Spanish Club - Dominican Republic

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve the out-of-state field trip request for GCHS Spanish Club students to travel to Dominican Republic between the dates of March 24, 2025 to March 31, 2025. This trip will enhance the classroom learning, by providing an opportunity for students to see, experience and understand the culture of what they have learned in the classroom.

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mike Haney

Voting:

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

d. Scholars Bowl - New Orleans, LA

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve the out-of-state field trip request for the GCHS and GMS Scholars board team to travel to New Orleans, LA to compete in the National Championship Tournament between the dates of May 24, 2024, to May 27, 2024.

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Rita Smith

Voting:

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

4. Summer Camp

a. Federal Programs Summer Camp

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve the following 2024 Summer Federal Programs:

"Emma Sansom Middle School Reading and Math Boot Camp"

6th - 8th grades, June 3-June 13, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (10 days) 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Homeless Children and Youth - Parent Teacher Resource Center
Preschool - 12th grade, May 28 - July 26, 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (Schedule to be determined)

District Summer EL/State EL programs
Parent Teacher Resource Center, Preschool-12th grade, May 28-July 26, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Schedule to be determined)

Title III District EL Summer School (Non-English Speakers)
GCHS 9th- 12th grade, May 30- June 13, May 30 - June 27, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (9 & 15 days) 7:30 a.m. - 12: 30 p.m.

Tutoring/Textbooks
GHS Annex, Preschool-12th grade, June 8-July 21, 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (schedule to be determined)

Summer Nursing Care
Parent Teacher Resource Center, May 28-July 26, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Schedule to be determined)

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Rita Smith

Voting:

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith – Yes

b. CTE Summer Camp

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve the CTE Summer Camp May 28-31, 2024, 9:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m.

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Rita Smith

Voting:

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

5. Bid - Solar Powered Go-Kart

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve the bid the Solar Powered Go Kart Build Program to Flying Classroom at \$157,000. The project is being funded through the ARP Act and the 21st Century. One bid was received.

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mike Haney

Voting:

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

6. Personnel Actions

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the following personnel actions be approved.

Retirement:

Effective Date

Paul Edmondson – Assistant Principal and District Fina Arts Supervisor 4/1/2024

Leave of Absence:

Brelon Malone – Adams Elementary ESSER Instructional Aide 1/3/2024 thru 2/26/2024

Reemployment:

Regenia Wright – Walnut Park Elementary School Custodian #2324.149 2/26/2024

Transfers:

Georgia Benson *from* Aide ESSER ARP Mitchell Elementary 1/3/2024
to Registered Behavioral Therapist ESSER Mitchell Elementary

Faye Williams *from* Central Office/Annex Secretary Receptionist 3/21/2024
to Walnut Park Elementary Secretary/Bookkeeper #2324.144

Substitutes

Nurse

Kennedy Underwood

Support

Christian Watts

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Nancy Stewart

Voting:

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes Hon.

Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith – Yes

7. Monthly Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation

CSFO Cory Skelton presented the monthly financial and bank reconciliation for the month of January 2024 for approval.

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

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

8. Superintendent Contract

The board was presented the Contract of Employment for superintendent Keith Blackwell by board Attorney Ed Howard.

The board requested a change in the contract for item 2-f from 2026 to 2025. The compensation of the Superintendent shall be adjusted each year beginning in January 2025 to increase his salary in the amount of the federal consumer price index for the prior year; provided, however, that if the legislature has provided an increase in teacher pay applicable in the same year (see paragraph 2.a. above), the Superintendent shall receive either the CPI increase or legislative increase, but not both, at the option of the Superintendent.

The contract with the above change was presented to the board for approval.

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

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith – Yes

F. Information Items 1.

Old Business

a. Work Session follow up information

I. EL Students Served

Follow up information from the work session was given to the board members regarding the number of EL students that are being served at each school site.

II. Diploma Options

Mr. Joel Gulledge, GCHS Principal, presented the board with a narrative of the three diploma types at Gadsden City High School that a student may earn.

*Alabama High School Diploma

*Advanced Diploma

*Honors Diploma

Mr. Gulledge explained the reason for having the Advanced Diploma type is to meet those students who would fall in the middle between a Standard and an Honors Diploma. Some students are on a higher level than the standard classes but are not ready for the rigor of AP classes. Those are the students who will fall under the Advanced Diploma type. These students can still take AP classes if they so choose, but are only required to take the Advanced Classes. Teachers will be able to solely focus on either Standard, Advanced, or Honors classes, which will allow them to reach students at their proper academic level.

The Advanced Diploma also falls in line with the new Titan Signature Academies.

*The career path would be for those students on the standard diploma.

*The college path would be those students on the Advanced diploma.

*The honor path would be those students on the Honors diploma.

2. New Business

No new business was discussed.

3. Next Regular Board Meeting

The next regular board meeting will be held at Gadsden City School Auditorium on Tuesday, April 9,2024 beginning 5:00 p.m.

G. Adjournment

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican
Motion seconded by: Mr. Mike Haney
Voting:
Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes
Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes
Hon. Allen Millican - Yes
Mr. Mike Haney - Yes
Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes
Mrs. Rita Smith – Yes

Secretary/Superintendent

Date