



## MEETING MINUTES

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### Attendees

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### 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 Members:

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

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

Chairman Allen Millican called the meeting to order. Gadsden City High School JROTC presented the colors followed by the pledge of allegiance. Mrs. Rita Smith led with prayer.

## B. Recognitions

### 1. Teachers of the Year

Superintendent Keith Blackwell, along with Assistant Superintendent Sharon Maness, recognized the 2024-2025 Teachers of the Year for Gadsden City Schools.

Nicole Tudor - Adams Elementary  
Margaret Haygood - Donehoo Elementary  
Jennifer Strain - Eura Brown Elementary  
Amy Smith - Floyd Elementary  
Caydance Gilchrist - Mitchell Elementary  
Alyssa Daniell - Striplin Elementary  
Vankedra Bradford Wilson - Thompson Elementary

Brittany Weems - Walnut Park Elementary  
Leita Conner - Emma Sansom Middle  
Brian Bankston - Gadsden Middle  
Vera Schofield - Litchfield Middle  
Brooke Burns - GCHS

### **Systemwide Winners**

Elementary - Alyssa Daniell - Striplin Elementary  
Secondary - Brooke Burns - GCHS

## **2. Student Awards and Achievements**

Superintendent Blackwell and board members recognized students for each school for outstanding achievement.

### **Adams Elementary School, Tomasina Smitherman, Principal**

**School Spelling Bee Winner** Messifa Laby

#### **Top AR Points**

5<sup>th</sup> Grade - YaneyIn Juan Jiminez  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade - Hunter Stephens  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - Madison Tate  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - Kai' Cen Kirksey  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade - MateoDavid Juan Lucas

### **Donehoo Elementary School, Ernest Calloway, Principal**

**School Spelling Bee Winner** - Tyi Williams

#### **Top AR Points**

5<sup>th</sup> Grade - De'Marrio "Prince" Harris  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade - Alana Gordon  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - Israel Andres -Miguel  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - Caisley Williams  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade - Aliviah Moore

### **Eura Brown Elementary School, Katie Holland, Principal**

**School Spelling Bee Winner** - Brooklyn Kwan

#### **Top AR Points**

5<sup>th</sup> Grade - Layla Mostella  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade - Frances Robinson 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Grade - Charlotte Bailey  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - George Simmons  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade - Emerson Wills

### **Floyd Elementary School, Shasta Helms, Principal**

**School Spelling Bee Winner** - Christopher Pipkin

#### **Top AR Points**

5<sup>th</sup> Grade - Cesar Dubon  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade - Adrianna Rakestraw  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - Rileigh Tolbert  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - Tynasia Thompson  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade - Kailey Jones

**Mitchell Elementary School, Leanne Reed, Principal**

**School Spelling Bee Winner** - Caroline Hathcock

**Top AR Points**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade - Audry Womack
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade - Caroline Hathcock
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - Khloeigh Cambron
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - Cadence Brown
- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade - Charlotte Hathcock

**Striplin Elementary School, Anthony Ash, Principal**

**School Spelling Bee Winner** - Elijah Simpson

**Top AR Points**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade - Freya Knowles
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade - Gabriel Hill
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - Yasmyn Francisco Ixchop
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - Adelia Pedro Miguel
- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade - Harlan Ledford

**Thompson Elementary School, Patrice Maxwell, Principal**

**School Spelling Bee Winner** - Gabriel Avirett

**Top AR Points**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade - Simeon Avery
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade - Gabriel Avirett
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - Leonitus Rivera
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - Alyssa Berduo
- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade - McKinley Williams

**Walnut Park Elementary School, Kristen Woods, Principal**

**School Spelling Bee Winner** - Jeslyn Wondercheck

**Top AR Points**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Edwin Bamaca
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade - Penelope Gutierrez
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - Malia Morris
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - Dayani Solis
- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade- Jonathan Tillery

**Emma Sansom Middle School, Charlton Giles, Principal**

**Student Government Representatives**

- Kennedy Edwards - President
- Aubrey Abney - Vice-President
- Miazia Jones - Treasurer
- Zamya Densmore - Secretary
- Demarion White - Historian

**BETA Club Officers**

- JaNiya Patrick - President                      Aubree
- Sullivan - Vice-President
- Ty'ajah Thomas - Treasurer
- Pedro German - Secretary
- Aubrey Watson - Chaplain

**School Spelling Bee Winner** - D'Angelous Woodgett

**Scholars Bowl Team Captain** - Jameson Wood

**Most Outstanding Band Student** - Garryn Ray

**All-State Middle School Treble Choir (1<sup>st</sup> Soprano)** - Briley Owens

**Senate Page for 2024 State Legislature** - Jameson Wood

**Gadsden Middle School ,Chance Goodwin, Principal**

**6<sup>th</sup> grade Scholars Bowl Team – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in State Competition in Elementary Division**

Noah Sherrouse, Captain

Bronner Skaggs

Michael Yother

Iris McEleny

Wattsie Alexander

Kate Harris

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Scholars Bowl Team – Middle School State Champions**

Latika Prasadh, Captain

Grey Stephens

Lowndes Robinson

Andrew Nguyen

Colt Enders

Noah Sherrouse

**School Spelling Bee Winner – Michael Yother**

**Student Government Representatives**

Dianaesha Davis - President

David Pugh - Vice President

Latika Prasadh – Treasurer

Zoe Laster - Secretary

**Litchfield Middle School,Charlie Parker, Principal**

**ACAP High Scoring Students**

6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Nery Gaspar Perez, Amir Swain, Bryson Thomas Russell

7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Zoey Flores, Marcy Pointer, Amanii Rutledge

8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Milan Adkison, T'Anah Dandridge, Jayveon Duckett, Xylia Scott

**Scholars Bowl Team Members**

Xylia Scott

T'Anah Dandridge

Bryson Thomas Russell

Ja'Niyah Lindsey Jayveon Duckett

**School Spelling Bee Winner- Donovan Sims**

**Runners-up** Hayden Dowdy, Cameron McCormick

**Gadsden City High School, Joel Gullede, Principal**

**National Merit Finalists- Sally Whitt, Mithun Rameshkumar**

**Alabama Seal of Biliteracy Recipients**

Fermin Baltazar Diego

Brandon Bamaca Agustin

Jessie Matias

Elias Tomas

Kimberly Lopez Francisco

Amanda Juan Francisco

Adrian Caamano Martinez

Angelica Castaneda

Cladis Juan Francisco

Elisa Juarez Mateo

Katty Mateo Andres

Emily Ramirez Chavez

Ruby Ramos Palmeros

Jafete Manriquez Hernandez

Brian Gaspar

Litzy Ramirez Gonzalez

Ashley Cruz Garcia

Irma Gaspar

Diana Matias Agustin

Ashi Ramirez Marroquin

### **C. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was presented 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

### **D. Reports**

No reports were given.

### **E. Board Action**

#### **1. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the April 9, 2024, meeting were presented to the board for approval.

Motion made by: Mr. Mike Haney  
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

#### **2. Surplus Property**

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve listed property from Floyd Elementary as surplus.

Motion made by: Rev. Z. Andre' Huff  
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

### **3. Out of State Field Trip**

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve the out-of-state field trip for GCHS JROTC Academic Team to travel to Washington, D.C. to compete in the Leadership and Academic Bowl Championship. The dates of the trip are June 21, 2024 thru June 28, 2024.

Motion made by: Mrs. Nancy Stewart

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. CNP Bid**

#### **a. GMS Ventilation-Hood Bid**

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve and award the bid for Gadsden Middle School's ventilation/hood system to Modern Heating and Cooling in the amount of \$460,959.00. No other bids were submitted for this bid.

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

#### **b. ESM Ventilation-Hood Bid**

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve and award the bid for Emma Sansom Middle School's ventilation hood system to Modern Heating and Cooling in the amount of \$558,901.00. No other bids were submitted.

Motion made by: Rev. Z. Andre' Huff

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

**c. GMS Cooler Freezer Bid**

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve and award a bid for replacement of the current cooler/freezer system at Gadsden Middle School to Hotel and Restaurant Supply for the amount of \$127,500.00. The following bids were submitted.

Hotel and Restaurant Supply - \$127,000.00

Birmingham Restaurant Supply Company - \$127,544.00

Motion made by: Mrs. Rita Smith 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. Walnut Park Cooler Freezer Bid**

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve and award the bid for a collar/freezer system at Walnut Park Elementary to Birmingham Restaurant Supply Company. The following bids were received.

Birmingham Restaurant Supply Company - \$92,434.00  
Hotel and Restaurant Supply - \$92,950.00

Motion made by: Rev. Z. Andre' Huff

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. Textbook Adoption – Career Technology (Cosmetology and Barbering, Education and Training, and Hospitality and Tourism**

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve the adoption of the state-approved textbooks for Career Technology, Cosmetology and Barbering, Education and Training, and Hospitality and Tourism. All the textbooks on the state list have been approved and meet all state standards. This does not mean that all books on the state approved textbook list will be

purchased, but only that they will be approved in case courses are added in the future.

Motion made by: Mr. Mike Haney

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

## 6. Personnel Actions

### a. Part A

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the following personnel actions be approved:

#### **Retirement:** **Effective Date**

Deidra Holland Central Office - Special Education Coordinator 6/01/2024

Julie M. Abel Mitchell Elementary - Special Education Teacher 6/1/2024

Faye Williams Secretary/Receptionist- Central Office Annex 9/01/2024

Susan Wills Scruggs Mitchell Elementary – Library Media Specialist 6/1/2024

#### **Resignation**

Col. Carl Harrison GCHS – Teacher 4/1/2024

Andre' Wright Thompson Elementary – Custodian (10-month) 3/22/2024

LaTonya Marks Striplin Elementary – Special Education Aide 3/11/2024

Kendra McCleary Floyd Elementary – Custodian (10-month) 3/29/2024

#### **Transfers**

Marcia Thompson *from* Walnut Park ESSER AIDE 4/9/2024  
*to* Walnut Park Secretary/Bookkeeper (#2324.151)

#### **New Employee**

Elijah Jones Floyd Elementary – Custodian (#2324.153) 4/10/2024

#### **Substitute Teachers**

*Non-Certified*

Erin Hightower

Pauline Hilliard



**2024 Federal Summer School Programs Emma Sansom Middle School Reading and Math Boot Camp May 30-July 18**

Michelle Cylar Paraprofessional

**Emma Sansom Middle School Reading and Math Boot Camp June 3-June 13**

America Jayroe	Lead Teacher Jessica
Nunnally	Lead Teacher
Jonathan McKay	Teacher Jessica
Dillard	Teacher
Emma Westbrook	Teacher

**Gadsden City High School Non-English Speakers Summer School May 30-June 13**

Brooke Burns	History Teacher Madison
Buchanan	English Teacher

**Gadsden City High School Non-English Speakers Summer School May 30 – June 27**

Angela Jones	Lead Teacher
Frances Harp	Math Teacher
Joresa Bothwell	Science Teacher
<i>Substitute</i>	
John Page	English

**Parent Teacher Resource Center May 30 – July 27**

Diana Hilton	EL Teacher
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**GHS Annex June 7 – July 27**

Jamie Whitaker	Teacher
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**Parent Teacher Resource Center May 30 – July 27**

Kim Walker	Custodian
Lynne Whisenant	Homeless Liaison
Kristi Matlock	Nurse Kelly
Herrera	Interpreter

***Substitutes:***

<i>Elementary</i>	<i>Secondary</i>	<i>Elementary and Secondary</i>
Katie Watford	Augustin Martinez	Lauren Wood
Rachel Westcott		Caren Diaz
		Ginet Colamenares

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

**b. Part B**

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve the personnel action to terminate the employment of Charlotte Byers, custodian at Floyd Elementary School effective April 10, 2024.

Motion made by: Rev. Z. Andre' Huff

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

**7. Monthly Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation**

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

Motion made by: Mr. Mike Haney

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

**F. Information Items**

**1. Old Business**

No old business was discussed.

**2. New Business**

The STEM Festival is scheduled for April 27, 2024 beginning at 11:00 a.m. and will last until 2:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

**3. Next Regular Board Meeting**

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at the Central Office. There will be a 4:00 p.m. meeting for all board members to attend. The regular meeting will immediately follow, The AASB Whole Board Training for all board members will begin immediately following the regular meeting.

**G. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned.

Motion made by: Mrs. Rita Smith

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

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Secretary/Superintendent

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Date