

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees

Voting Members

Hon. Allen Millican, Board Chairman - District 7
Mr. Mark Dayton, Board Member - District 5
Ms. Adrienne Reed, Board Member - District 1
Mrs. Rita Smith, Board Member - District 2

Absent Members

Mr. Mike Haney, Board Member – District 4
Mrs. Nancy Stewart, Board Member – District 6
Rev. Z. Andre’ Huff, Board Member – District 3

Non-Voting Members

Mr. Keith Blackwell, Interim 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

Chairman Millican recognized Councilmen Kent Back and Steve Smith in attendance.

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Rita Smith

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith – Yes

D. Reports

1. Fire Academy Report - Eric Estes, Gadsden City Fire Department

Superintendent Keith Blackwell introduced Fire Chief Will Reed and Training Officer Eric Estes. Officer Estes reported on the Firefighter Academy at Gadsden City High School. Students are able to attend classes to complete state certification in the Firefighter Academy. Once completed, the students have the ability to start to work with the Fire Department if they are interested. The program is currently only offered to seniors. The program is becoming a great success. The goal of the program is to employ students who complete the program locally.

E. Board Action

1. Approval of Minutes January 18, 2024

The minutes of the January 18, 2024, regular meeting was presented to the board for approval.

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Rita Smith

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

2. Surplus Property

Superintendent Keith Blackwell recommended the board approve listed property from Emma Sansom Middle and Floyd Elementary Schools as surplus items.

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

3. Out of State Field Trip - GCHS Band

Superintendent Keith Blackwell recommended the board approve the out-of-state field trip request from GCHS Band Director Chris Benedetti for the marching band to attend the Fiesta Flambeau Parade in San Antonio, TX the dates of April 30, 2025 thru May 5, 2025. The students will visit New Orleans, LA and then travel to San Antonio, TX. The cost of the trip will be \$1000 per student.

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican
 Motion seconded by: Mr. Mark Dayton
 Voting:
 Hon. Allen Millican - Yes
 Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes
 Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes
 Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

4. GCS 2024-2025 School Calendar

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approved the proposed 2024-2025 GCS School Calendar.

2024-2025

Approved 2/6/2024

July 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

November 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



P.O. Box 184
 Gadsden, AL 35902
www.gcs.k12.al.us

1st Semester	
July 4th	Closed Independence Day Holiday
Aug 1st-7th	Teacher Inservice #1-5
Aug 8th	First Day of School for Students
Sept 2nd	Labor Day
Oct 11th-14th	Fall Break for students
Oct 14th	Teacher Inservice #6
Nov 11th	Veterans Day Observed
Nov 25th-29th	Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec 23rd-Jan 6th	Christmas Holidays for students

2nd Semester	
Jan 6th	Teacher Inservice #7
Jan 20th	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Feb 17th	Teacher Inservice #8/Variance Day
March 24th-28th	Spring Break
Apr 18th	Good Friday
May 22nd	Last day of school for students
May 22nd	High School Graduation
May 23rd	Teacher Inservice #9/Variance Day
May 23rd	High School Graduation(Rain date)
May 26th	Closed Memorial Day
June 19th	Juneteenth Holiday

Progress Report Dates	Report Card Dates
TBA	End of 1st 9wk
TBA	1st 9wk Report
TBA	End of 2nd 9wk
TBA	2nd 9wk Report
TBA	End of 3rd 9wk
TBA	3rd 9wk Report
TBA	End of 4th 9wk

Semester Exam Dates/Test Dates	
TBA	Mid Term Exams
TBA	Makeup Exams
TBA	Grades 6,7,9,10,11
TBA	Make-up Grades 6,7,9,10,11
TBA	8th Grades & Seniors
TBA	Make-up 8th grad & Seniors

Special Dates with early release	
Sept 20th	GCHS Homecoming Parade/Early Release
Nov 6th	Veterans Parade Early Release
Jan 17th	Unity Parade Early Release

January 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

March 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

May 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Instructional Days Per Month

Aug - 17	Jan - 18
Sept - 20	Feb - 19
Oct - 21	Mar - 16
Nov - 15	Apr - 21
Dec - 15	May - 16
Student Days 1st Semester	88
Student Days 2nd Semester	90
Teacher Inservice Days	9

	School Closed
	Teacher Inservice (no school for studen
	Teacher Inservice (no school for studen
	Report Cards
	First/Last Day for Students

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Mrs. Rita Smith

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

5. Personnel Actions

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the following personnel actions be approved.

Resignation

Dana Woods – Walnut Park Elementary School Custodian

Effective Date

02/02/2024

Declining Position

Justin Little – ESMS Social Studies Teacher #2324.139

01/31/2024

Leave of Absence

Montana Taylor – Donehoo Elementary School Intervention Teacher

02/02/24-04/26/2024

Transfers:

Diana Rivas *from* Adams Elementary Bilingual Aide

02/19/2024

to Adams Elementary Secretary/Bookkeeper #2324.143

Sharon Maness *from* Central Office Director of SPE

02/07/2024

to Central Office Assistant Superintendent #2324.146

Constance Veasy *from* Central Office Secretary/Receptionist

02/02/2024

to Central Office Clerical Data Manager #2324.148

New Employees:

Zach Aaron Hart – ESMS Social Studies Teacher #2324.147

TBD

Ashlyn Whitlow – Systemwide SPE Aide Adams Elementary #2324.129

02/08/2024

Zach Contris – Gadsden Middle SPE Aide #2324.117 ESSER

1/29/2024

remainder of 23-24 school year only

Terrie Brookins – Systemwide SPE Aide Thompson Elementary #2324.145 ESSER

01/31/2024

remainder of 23-24 school year only

Caren Diaz – Systemwide Bilingual Instructional Aide Floyd Elementary #2324.038 ESSER

01/29/2024

remainder of 23-24 school year only

Colmenares Ginet – Systemwide Bilingual Instructional Aide GCHS #2324.038 ESSER

02/05/2024

remainder of 23-24 school year only

Substitutes

Non-Certified

Sana Anita McCarther

Nurse

Jenna Meeks

After School Subs

Brelon Malone

Ke'Sean Williams

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith – Yes

6. Monthly Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation

CSFO Cory presented the monthly financial and bank reconciliation for the month of November 2023 for approval.

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Ms. Adrienne Reed

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

7. Executive Session to discuss Security and Safety

Superintendent Blackwell ask to the board to convene to executive session to discuss Security and Safety in regard to Gadsden City Schools.

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith - Yes

F. Information Items

1. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

2. New Business

Superintendent Blackwell reported about a new Sports Donation program developed by Kileigh Blackwell. The program is designed to allow donations of gently used sports equipment for area youth who may not have the means to purchase the equipment. Area locations will be deemed drop off locations. The equipment will be distributed on a "as needed" basis.

March 1st is Read Across America Day. Area dignitaries, school leaders, and athletes will be reading the elementary schools.

3. Next Regular Board Meeting March 5, 2024

G. Adjournment

Motion made by: Hon. Allen Millican

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith – Yes

Secretary/Superintendent

Date