



Gadsden City Board of Education
January Regular Meeting
01/14/2025 05:00 PM
@ W.E. Striplin Elementary School
600 Cleveland Ave, Gadsden, AL

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees

Voting Members

Hon. Allen Millican, Board Chairman–District 7
Mr. Mark Dayton, Vice Chairman – District 5
Ms. Adrienne Reed, Board Member – District 1
Mike Haney, Board Member – District 4

Absent Voting Member

Mrs. Nancy Stewart, Board Member – District 6
Mrs. Rita Smith, Board Member – District 2
Rev. Z. Andre’ Huff, Board Member – District 3

Non-Voting Members

Mr. Keith Blackwell, Superintendent
Mr. Ed Howard, Attorney
Mrs. Cory Skelton, Chief School Financial Officer
Mrs. Kelly Swafford, Superintendent Administrative Assistant

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

1. Chairman Millican called the meeting to order at 05:01 p.m. Mr. Mike Haney led with prayer, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chairman Millican declared a quorum was present.

B. Recognition of Visitors/Guests

Superintendent Blackwell acknowledged the board members, faculty, and staff of W.E. Striplin Elementary School. He expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the contributions of the board members to our schools and community and congratulated the W.E. Striplin Elementary faculty and staff on the school’s State Report Card grade. Chairman Allen Millican then introduced Mr. Anthony Ash, the principal of W.E. Striplin Elementary, and thanked him for hosting the board meeting.

1. Principal Ash welcomed everyone to W.E. Striplin Elementary School and introduced Ms. Aleesa Parnell, the strings teacher. The strings students performed for the first time for the audience and board members. Afterward, Mr. Ash introduced Mr. Hunter Bussey and Ms. Lauren Holt, the sponsors of the drama club. The drama club students then presented a song for the board members and guests.

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by: Mr. Mike Haney

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican – Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

D. Reports

1. No reports

E. Board Action

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the following meeting were presented to the board for approval.

a. Regular Board Meeting on December 03, 2024.

Motion made by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mike Haney

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican – Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed – Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

2. Surplus Property

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve listed property from Eura Brown Elementary School as surplus items.

Motion made by: Ms. Adrienne Reed

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican – Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton – Yes
Ms. Adrienne Reed – Yes
Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

3. **Approval of 2025 Summer Camps for Federal Programs**

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve the 2025 summer camp dates funded by federal programs.

Emma Sansom Middle School Reading and Math Boot Camp

6th – 8th Grades, June 2 – June 12, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (8 days), 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Homeless Children and Youth - Parent Teacher Resource Center:

Preschool – 12th Grade, May 27 – July 25, 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 27 – July 25, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Schedule to be determined)

Title III District EL Summer School (Non-English Speakers) – Gadsden City High School:

9th – 12th Grade, May 29 – June 12 & May 29 – June 26, Monday, Tuesday < Wednesday, Thursday (9 & 15 Days), 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Title III District EL Newcomer Camp (Non-English Speakers) – Adams Elementary

School: K – 5th Grade, May 29 – June 26, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (15 Days), 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Tutoring/Textbooks – GCHS Annex: Preschool – 12th Grade, June 7 – July 20, 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (Schedule to be determined)

Summer Nursing Care – Parent Teacher Resource Center: May 27 – July 25, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Schedule to be determined)

Motion made by: Mr. Mike Haney

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican – Yes
Mr. Mark Dayton – Yes
Ms. Adrienne Reed – Yes
Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

4. **Approval of Drainage Easement Agreement with the City of Gadsden for Agricola Drainage Project**

Superintendent Blackwell recommended that the board approve the sale agreement between the City of Gadsden and the Gadsden City Board of

Education. The City of Gadsden is to purchase the permanent drainage easement (.003 acres) and the use of a temporary construction easement (.007 acres) owned by the Gadsden City Board of Education to complete a Tuscaloosa Avenue Phase 2 Drainage Project.

Motion made by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mike Haney

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican – Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton – Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed – Yes

Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

5. **Approval of Job Description for New Position**

a. **Mental Health Worker**

Superintendent Blackwell recommended that the board approve the job description for Mental Health Worker.

Motion made by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mike Haney

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican – Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton – Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney – Yes

6. **Approval of salary schedule for Facilities Manager**

Superintendent Blackwell recommended that the board approve the salary schedule for Facilities Manager that was approved at the December board meeting.

Motion made by: Mr. Mike Haney

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican – Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton – Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed – Yes

Mr. Mike Haney – Yes

7. **Personnel Action Recommendations**

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the following personnel actions be approved:

RESIGNATION

Resignation:		Effective Date:
Samuel Green (b/m)	Striplin Elementary School 5 th Grade Teacher	Corrected Date: 12/10/2024 Updated from 12/3/24 Board Meeting
Scott Hill (w/m)	Donehoo Elementary School Physical Education Teacher	12/20/2024
Andrea Collins (w/f)	Emma Sansom Middle School 7 th Grade Math Teacher	12/20/2024
Cristin Elliott (w/f)	Floyd Elementary School Classroom Teacher	12/20/2024
Angela Reaves (w/f)	Floyd Elementary School Special Education Aide	12/18/2024
Hope Bolling (w/f)	Floyd Elementary School Secretary/Bookkeeper	Corrected Date: 12/11/2024 Updated from 12/3/24 Board Meeting
Hannah Weaver (w/f)	Floyd Elementary School Title I Instructional Aide	12/20/2024
Alphonso Jordan (b/m)	Donehoo Elementary School Custodian	01/31/2025
Zondtayvius Harbour (b/m)	Thompson Elementary School Custodian	12/20/2024

(PART A) TRANSFERS

Transfers:	From:	To:	Effective Date:
(A-1) Deborah Alford (w/f)	Systemwide-Gadsden City HS Special Education Teacher	Systemwide-Floyd Elem Special Education Teacher 2425.162	01/06/2025 Pending Board Approval
(A-2) Jessica Nunnally (w/f)	Emma Sansom Middle Math Teacher	Emma Sansom Middle TEAMS Math Teacher	01/15/2025
(A-3) Alan Jones (w/m)	Maintenance Department Systemwide Energy Manager/Maint.	Facilities Maintenance Manager 2425.172	01/06/2024 Pending Board Approval

(PART B) NEW PERSONNEL

New Employee:		Effective Date:
(B-1) Joshua Richard (b/m)	Adams Elementary School Title I Elementary Intervention Teacher 2425.168	01/06/2025 Pending Board Approval
(B-2) Julia Hooper (w/f)	Floyd Elementary School Elementary Classroom Teacher 2425.163	01/06/2025 Pending Board Approval
(B-3) Jackson Godwin (w/m)	Systemwide Special Education Teacher 2425.050 Home School-Floyd Elementary School	01/06/2025 Pending Board Approval
(B-4) Karli Strickland (w/f)	Floyd Elementary School Classroom Teacher Elem. 2425.177	01/07/2025 Pending Board Approval
(B-5) Rethal Kittle (w/f)	Emma Sansom Middle School 7 th Grade Math Teacher TEMAS 2425.180	01/16/2025

(B-6) Rachel Cole (w/f)	Floyd Elementary School Secretary/Bookkeeper 2425.164	12/16/2024 Pending Board Approval
(B-7) Jennifer Brewer (w/f)	Systemwide Special Education Aide Home School Floyd Elementary School 2425.173	01/06/2025 Pending Board Approval
(B-8) Micah Swain (b/f)	Floyd Elementary School 2425.176 Title I Instructional Aide 24-25 Academic Year Only	01/06/2025 Remainder of 24-25 school year only

Substitutes:

New Non-Certified Teacher Substitutes:

Dana Deale
Taniesha Thompson

Afterschool Substitute:

Margaret Haygood b/f

Motion made by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mike Haney

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes
Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes
Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes
Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

8. Monthly Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation

CSFO Cory Skelton presented the monthly financial report to the board for review and approval. The financial data and cash balances presented are based on the reconciled bank statement and the general ledger as of November 30, 2024.

Motion made by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Motion seconded by: Ms. Adrienne Reed

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican - Yes
Mr. Mark Dayton - Yes
Ms. Adrienne Reed - Yes
Mr. Mike Haney - Yes

F. Information Items

1. Old Business
2. New Business
 - a. The Unity Parade on Friday, January 17, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. on Broad Street. The parade will begin by the YMCA side of Broad Street and end on 7th Street. Schools will dismiss at 11:30 a.m.

- b. The Red Carpet Premiere, presented by 21st Century programs, will be held on Thursday, January 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the GCHS Auditorium.
- c. Mr. Blackwell announced the systemwide spelling bee winners that were held on Tuesday, January 14, at 9:00 a.m. First place: Journye Timmons, 4th grader at Donehoo Elementary School; Second place: Ava Woods, 4th grader at Adams Elementary School; Third place: Gabriel Hill, 5th grader at Striplin Elementary School.

- 3. **Next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 04, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at Litchfield Middle School.**

G. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m. on motion by Mr. Mark Dayton

Secretary/Superintendent

Date