



Gadsden City Board of Education  
February Regular Meeting  
02/04/2025 05:00 PM  
@ Litchfield Middle School  
1109 Hoke St, Gadsden, AL

## MEETING MINUTES

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### Attendees

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#### Voting Members

Hon. Allen Millican, Board Chairman-District 7  
Mr. Mark Dayton, Vice Chairman – District 5  
Ms. Adrienne Reed, Board Member – District 1  
Mrs. Rita Smith, Board Member – District 2  
Rev. Z. Andre’ Huff, Board Member – District 3  
Mike Haney, Board Member – District 4  
Mrs. Nancy Stewart, Board Member – District 6

#### Non-Voting Members

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

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

1. Chairman Millican called the meeting to order at 05:00 p.m. Mrs. Rita Smith led with prayer, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Chairman Millican declared a quorum was present.

#### B. Recognition of Visitors/Guests

Chairman Allen Millican then introduced Mr. Charlie Parker, the principal of Litchfield Middle, and thanked him for hosting the board meeting.

1. Principal Parker welcomed everyone to Litchfield School and introduced Assistant Principal Mrs. Tarmelinda Gross, the staff of Litchfield Middle, and Mr. Jarius Johnson, the band instructor. The drumline students played a song for the board members and guests.

- a. Superintendent Blackwell recognized the 8<sup>th</sup>-grade boys' basketball team and Coach Sam Smith and his assistant coaches. The middle school team went undefeated for the season (17-0). Coach Smith introduced the players. He thanked them and the parents for their dedication and support throughout the season.
- b. Superintendent Blackwell recognized the Etowah County Spelling Bee Winner, William Jones, from Gadsden Middle School. The County-wide spelling bee was held at Southside High School. The principal of Gadsden Middle, Chance Goodwin, introduced William Jones and congratulated him on winning. William will compete at the state level next.

### **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

Mrs Rita Smith – Yes

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff – Yes

Mr. Mike Haney – Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - 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 January 14, 2025.**

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

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff – Yes

Mr. Mike Haney – Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

2. **Out-of-State Field Trips**

- a. Superintendent Blackwell recommended that the board approve an out-of-state, overnight field trip for the Gadsden Middle School Scholars Bowl team to travel to New Orleans, LA, from May 23 to May 27, 2025, for the National Academic Challenge Regional Championship.

Motion made by: Mrs. Rita Smith

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican – Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton – Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed – Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith – Yes

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff – Yes

Mr. Mike Haney – Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart – Yes

- b. Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve an out-of-state, overnight field trip for the Gadsden City High School Scholars' Bowl team to travel to New Orleans, LA, from May 23 to May 27, 2025, for the National Academic Challenge Regional Championship.

Motion made by: Mrs. Rita Smith

Motion seconded by: Mr. Mark Dayton

Voting:

Hon. Allen Millican – Yes

Mr. Mark Dayton – Yes

Ms. Adrienne Reed – Yes

Mrs. Rita Smith – Yes

Rev. Z. Andre' Huff - Yes

Mr. Mike Haney – Yes

Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

3. **Approval of 2025 CTE Titan Up Career Summer Camps for Career Tech**

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the board approve the 2025 CTE Titan Up summer camp for Career Technology.

*Location: Gadsden City High School*

*Limited to the 1<sup>st</sup> 100 current 8<sup>th</sup> grade students*

*Dates: May 27 – May 30, 2025*

*Cost: Free to all participants with lunch and snacks included*

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
- Mrs. Rita Smith – Yes
- Rev. Z. Andre’ Huff - Yes
- Mr. Mike Haney – Yes
- Mrs. Nancy Stewart – Yes

4. **Personnel Action Recommendations**

Superintendent Blackwell recommended the following personnel actions be approved:

**RETIREMENT**

<u>Retirement:</u>		<u>Effective Date:</u>
Vera Schofield (w/f)	Litchfield Middle School TEAMS Math Teacher	06/01/2025

**RESIGNATION**

<u>Resignation:</u>		<u>Effective Date:</u>
Shasta Helms (w/f)	Floyd Elementary School Principal	02/07/2025

**(PART A) TRANSFERS**

<u>Transfers:</u>	<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Effective Date:</u>
(A-1) Stephanie Bowley (w/f)	Systemwide Instructional Special Education Aide Homeschool: Adams	Districtwide Mental Health Worker <b>2425.181</b> Homeschool: GCHS	01/27/2025 Pending Board Approval
(A-2) Roy Bliss (m/f)	Gadsden City High Promotion Coach	GCHS & Floyd Elementary Promotion Coach & Interim Principal	02/10/2025- 06/30/2025

**(PART B) NEW PERSONNEL**

<u>New Employee:</u>		<u>Effective Date:</u>
(B-1) Terrie Brookins (b/f)	Thompson Elementary School Classroom Teacher <b>2425.171</b>	02/03/2025 Pending Board Approval
(B-2) James Parrish (w/m)	Systemwide Special Education Aide Striplin Elementary School <b>2425.174</b>	01/21/2025
(B-3) Abby Millican (w/f)	Thompson Elementary School Custodian <b>2425.178</b>	01/27/2025 Pending Board Approval
(B-4) Saniesha Deloney (b/f)	Systemwide Special Education Aide Homeschool: Adams Elementary <b>2425.170</b>	02/03/2025 Pending Board Approval

Substitutes:

**New Non-Certified for 2024-2025:**

Halexix Wyatt

**Non-Certified Reapplying for 2024-2025:**  
Pauline Hilliard

**THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE ARE THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR  
2025 FEDERAL SUMMER SCHOOL/PROGRAMS POSITIONS**

**TITLE I/III/ESL DISTRICT SUMMER EL/STATE EL PROGRAMS  
\*PARENT TEACHER RESOURCES CENTER/ADAMS ELEMENTARY/GADSDEN CITY HIGH  
SCHOOL  
PRESCHOOL – 12<sup>TH</sup>  
JUNE 2 – JUNE 26, 7:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.  
MAY 27 – JULY 24, 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.  
MAY 29 – JUNE 26, 7:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.  
(SCHEDULE TO BE DETERMINED)**

<b><u>NAME:</u></b>			<b><u>EFFECTIVE DATE:</u></b>
Diana Hilton	-h-	EL Teacher	05/27/25-07/24/25
Amanda Fordham	-w-	EL Teacher	06/02/25-06/26/25
Katie Goodwin	-w-	EL Teacher	06/02/25-06/26/25
Brandy Newton	-w-	EL Teacher	06/02/25-06/26/25
Andrew Laughlin	-w-	EL Teacher	06/02/25-06/26/25
Kaye Tinker	-b-	EL Teacher	06/02/25-06/26/25
Angela Jones	-h-	Camp Coordinator	05/29/25-06/26/25
Joessa Bothwell	-b-	Science Teacher	05/29/25-06/26/25
Brooke Burns	-w-	History Teacher	05/29/25-06/26/25
Lisa McKenzie	-w-	English Teacher	05/29/25-06/26/25
TBN	- -	Math Teacher	05/29/25-06/26/25

**2025 SUMMER TITLE I INVENTORY/TEXTBOOK PROGRAM  
\*GHS ANNEX, FED. PROG.  
JUNE 4 – JULY 22, 7:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. SCHEDULE WILL BE DETERMINED**

<b><u>NAME:</u></b>			<b><u>EFFECTIVE DATE:</u></b>
Jamie Whitaker	-w-	Teacher	06/04/25-07/22/25

**2025 SUMMER FEDERAL PROGRAMS, CUSTODIAN  
\*PARENT TEACHER RESOURCE CENTER  
MAY 27 – JULY 24, 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M., (2-3 DAYS PER WEEK)**

<b><u>NAME:</u></b>			<b><u>EFFECTIVE DATE:</u></b>
Kim Walker	-w-	Custodian	05/27/25-07/24/25

**2025 TITLE I HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH  
PARENT TEACHER RESOURCE CENTER – MAY 27 – JULY 24  
SCHEDULE TO BE DETERMINED**

<b><u>NAME:</u></b>			<b><u>EFFECTIVE DATE:</u></b>
Lynne Whisenant	-w-	Homeless Liaison	05/27/25-07/24/25

**PARENT TEACHER RESOURCE CENTER  
SUMMER NURSING CARE  
MAY 27 – JULY 24, 8:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. (SCHEDULE TO BE DETERMINED)**

<b><u>NAME:</u></b>			<b><u>EFFECTIVE DATE:</u></b>
Kristi Matlock	-w-	Nurse	05/27/25-07/24/25
TBN	- -	Nurse	05/27/25-07/24/25

**2025 SUMMER FEDERAL PROGRAMS, INTERPRETER  
\*PARENT TEACHER RESOURCE CENTER  
JUNE 2 – JUNE 26, 7:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.  
MAY 27 – JULY 24, 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.**

<b><u>NAME:</u></b>			<b><u>EFFECTIVE DATE:</u></b>
Kelly Herrera	-h-	Bilingual Aide	06/02/25-06/26/25
Estrella Chavez	-h-	Bilingual Aide	06/02/25-06/26/25
Flor Juarez	-h-	Bilingual Aide	06/02/25-06/26/25
Ana Vargas	-h-	Bilingual Aide	06/02/25-06/26/25
Glnet Colmenares	-h-	Bilingual Aide	06/02/25-06/26/25
Maria Infante	-h-	Bilingual Aide	06/02/25-06/26/25
Paula Martinez	-h-	Bilingual Aide	06/02/25-06/26/25

**Substitutes:**

Katie Watford	-w-	Elementary
Augustin Martinez	-h-	Secondary
Rachel Westcott	-w-	Elementary
Lauren Wood	-w-	Elementary and Secondary
Heather Mabe	-w-	Elementary and Secondary

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
- Rev. Z. Andre’ Huff – Yes
- Mr. Mike Haney – Yes
- Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

**5. 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 December 30, 2024.

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
- Mrs. Rita Smith – Yes
- Rev. Z. Andre’ Huff - Yes
- Mr. Mike Haney – Yes
- Mrs. Nancy Stewart - Yes

**F. Information Items**

1. Old Business
2. New Business
  - a. Superintendent Blackwell stated the varsity boys' basketball team plays at 6:00 p.m. this night, February 4, at Gadsden City High School for the 6A Area 14 Championship game against Fort Payne. The girls' basketball team won the 6A Area 14 Championship game against Fort Payne.
  - b. Black History Programs and Activities are included in the board members' packet
  - c. Superintendent Blackwell let the board know the 2025-2026 School Calendar is included for their review and to vote on at the next board meeting.
  - d. The spring sports athletic schedules for middle and high schools are included in the board members' packets.
3. **Next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 04, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at Oscar Adams Elementary School.**

**G. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m. on motion by Rev. Z. Andre' Huff

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary/Superintendent

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Date