

**Gaston County Board of Education
Operations Committee Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2019, 4:00PM
GCS Board Room**

- 1. Call to Order (Chairman Dedmon)** – Meeting was called to order at 4:00pm. Present: Lee Dedmon, Kevin Collier, Jeff Ramsey, Steve Hall, Brent Moore. GCS Staff present: Gary Hoskins, Morgen Houchard, Joey Clinton, Cindee Matson, Curtis Poplin, Chip Irby, Bill Farnsworth, and Sierra Wray.

- 2. Update on Stanley Middle School Construction (Bill Farnsworth)** – The Principal is very happy with how the building is operating. Phase 1: (the main building) the punch lists are almost complete. In February we will have our one year walk-through with the architect, engineer, general contractor/subs and owner to identify any remaining outstanding items. Phase 2: (the athletic fields) the concession and maintenance buildings are complete and they are currently working on building the retaining walls and installing storm drains. Phase 2 is projected to be completed in May 2019.

- 3. Update on Belmont Middle School Construction (Bill Farnsworth)** – The grading and clearing is well underway. The general contractor has started pouring footings in Area B. We continue to work with City of Belmont to ensure we stay in compliance with local building ordinances.

- 4. Discuss Current/Proposed Capital Projects (Morgen Houchard, Chip Irby)** – Projects funded by new bond money include roof replacements at two schools and life safety upgrades at six schools. We are working on getting this information on our website.

- 5. Facilities Department Update/Review (Chip Irby)** – Staffing levels in the Facilities department were discussed. It was noted that several staff members throughout the department have received certifications and/or licenses in their respective. Facilities has gone paperless; all technicians have a laptop or iPad. It was reported that Gaston County Schools ranks in the top 20% of School Dudes 7,000 K-12 customers with regard to processing and closing work orders.

6. **Present Surplus Report (Chip Irby)** – Information was provided to show the disposition of surplus items from July 2018 through December 2018.
7. **Review Operations Contracts/Expenditures > \$100,000**
 - a) **Renew Audit Contract with Anderson Smith & Wike, PLLC - \$39,500/Year for Three Years – 2019 to 2021 (Gary Hoskins)** – We have used this firm for the last six years with no increase in the fee. This proposal has a \$1,000 annual increase which is considered reasonable. Chairman Dedmon made a motion to recommend approval of the contract to the entire Board. Kevin Collier seconded.
 - b) **Renew Microsoft Licenses – Approximately \$200,000 (Curtis Poplin)** – This is the annual renewal for Microsoft products that are used by staff, teachers and students. Jeff Ramsey made a motion to recommend approval of the renewal contract to the entire Board. Steve Hall seconded.
8. **Review/Discuss Change Orders (Gary Hoskins)** – There are currently no change orders. As Belmont Middle progresses we will begin seeing more. Per state law that anything over \$100,000 must be approved by the Board.
9. **Other Business and Discussion (Chairman Dedmon)** – There was a call to a Board Member stating that there was no heat in the auditorium at South Point High School. The Facilities department was aware of the situation - there was a ruptured steam-line underground. The quote to repair this will be in later this week and it will take approximately two to three days to fix.
10. **Set Next Meeting Dates for Remainder of Fiscal 2019 (Chairman Dedmon)**

March 4 th	April 1 st	May 6 th	June 3 rd
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11. **Adjourn (Chairman Dedmon)** – Meeting was adjourned at 5:08pm by Chairman Dedmon.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Sierra H. Wray