GULF COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
Tuesday, July 29, 2025

The Gulf County School Board met in regular session Tuesday, July 29, 2025, at 5:00 (Agenda-Review Workshop) and 5:15 (Public Hearing on 2025-2026 Tentative Budget / School Board Meeting) at their Administrative Office in Port St. Joe. The following School Board Members were present: Chairman Brooke Wooten, Equillar Gainer, and Matt Terry. Superintendent Norton, Attorney Costin, and Board Member Knox were out of town and unable to attend the meeting. Assistant Superintendent Melissa Hancock represented Mr. Norton at the meeting. (District 1 seat TBA.)

AGENDA WORKSHOP:

Chairman Wooten called the workshop to order at 5:00.

The board reviewed the July 29 agenda packet, focusing mainly on the 2025-2026 Tentative Budget. Chairman Wooten inquired as to the financial footing of the district and the current fund balance. CFO Evan Clark advised the Board that the district was well within their 5% fund balance goal.

Chairman Wooten closed the workshop at 5:14.

BOARD MEETING:

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Wooten called the Public Hearing on the 2025-2026 Tentative Millage Rates and Budget board meeting to order at 5:15.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA: On motion by Mr. Terry and seconded by Mrs. Gainer the board unanimously approved the amended agenda to include the addition of pages 3C-3C.B, 4-4B, and 4.01-5.05.

III. PUBLIC HEARING on 2025-2026 TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATES & BUDGET

HEAR FROM THE PUBLIC:
The following members from the public addressed the board regarding the 2025-2026 Millage Rates & Budget:
Mr. Kevin Holden, and Ms. Casey Plouffe.

On separate motions as noted below, the Gulf County School Board unanimously approved the following 2025-2026 millage rates: **(SM: 25/26 – 028)**

Required Local Effort	2.785	Gainer / Terry
Prior Period Funding Adjustment	0.005	Terry / Gainer
Basic Discretionary	0.748	Terry / Gainer
Capital outlay	0.784	Gainer / Terry
Voted	1.000	Terry / Gainer
Total of	5.322	

On motion by Mrs. Gainer and seconded by Mr. Terry the board unanimously approved the 2025-2026 Tentative Budget.

IV. HEAR FROM THE PUBLIC: No one addressed the board except during the public hearing as noted above.

V. CONSENT MATTERS: On motion by Mrs. Gainer and seconded by Mr. Terry the board voted unanimously to take the following action:
-Approved the July 16 and July 21 Minutes, and **(SM: 25/26 – 029)**
(SM: 25/26 –030)
-Approved Budget Matters & Payment of Bills including awarding the TAN Loan to Centennial Bank and approving the Dome Maintenance Agreement with *Clean Up Group, International, Inc.,* who remains the sole source for **(SM: 25/26 –031)** Citra-Shield Biocide, and
PERSONNEL: **(SM: 25/26 –032)**
-Approved Dianne Hicks' retirement letter effective June 30, 2026, and
-Approved Angel Parker's retirement letter effective August 8, 2025, and
-Approved Katelyn Foster's resignation letter noting her intention not to return for SY 2025-2026, and
-Approved Staci Daniel for a PSJE teaching position effective August 1, 2025, and
-Approved PSJE Principal Jessica Brock's recommendation to transition her current PE teaching position to a paraprofessional position for SY 2025-2026, and
-Approved the temporary reduction in work hours for the current Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) position at PSJHS from a 190-day to a 118-day assignment. This recommendation is to accommodate Mrs. Humphrey while she pursues graduate studies, and
-Approved transitioning the current Staffing Specialist for the Port St. Joe schools from a 10-month to a 12-month appointment, which is necessary due to the growing number of students with disabilities within our district, and
-Approved the list of substitute teacher appl[[icants.

VI. PROGRAM MATTERS: On motion by Mr. Terry and seconded by Mrs. Gainer the board unanimously approved the 2025-2026 Voluntary Pre-K (VPK) Contract. **(SM: 25/26 –033)**

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: The board went into EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss upcoming union negotiations scheduled for August 4. **(SM: 25/26 –034)**

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

IX. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

X. ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Wooten adjourned the meeting at 5:56.

Melissa Hancock
Melissa Hancock, Assistant Superintendent

Brooke Wooten
Brooke Wooten Chairman