

**GULF SHORES CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
JANUARY 10, 2019  
MEETING MINUTES**

---

**1. Call To Order**

President Kevin S. Corcoran called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. at City Hall.

**2. Reflection**

President Kevin S. Corcoran paused for a minute of reflection.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Roll Call**

On roll call the following answered present:

President **Kevin S. Corcoran**

Vice President **Dr. Nichole Gotschall**

Board Member **Kelly Walker**

Board Member **Dr. Ralph Gold**

Board Member **Dale Jernigan**

**Also in attendance:**

Dr. Matt Akin, School Board Superintendent

Nash Campbell, Board Attorney

Tobi Waters, Interim School Board Clerk was present and took minutes

**5. Adoption of the Agenda**

President Kevin S. Corcoran presented the agenda for discussion. Board Member Dr. Ralph Gold made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Board Member Dale Jernigan seconded the motion; and the vote of those members present was unanimously in favor of the motion.

**6. Opening Announcements**

Board President Kevin S. Corcoran thanked all who were in attendance, stating it was one year ago that negotiations were started regarding the separation agreement. He encouraged all that had comments to please comment, the Board loves to hear input from the community.

**7. Approval of Minutes**

**a. December 13, 2018 - Special Meeting**

Board President Kevin S. Corcoran presented the minutes from the December 13, 2018 Special Meeting. Board Member Dale Jernigan made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Board Member Dr. Ralph Gold seconded the motion; and the vote of those members present was unanimously in favor of the motion.

**b. December 13, 2018 – Work Session / Regular Board Meeting**

Board President Kevin S. Corcoran presented the minutes from the December 13, 2018 Work Session / Regular Board Meeting. Board Member Kelly Walker made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Board Member Dr. Ralph Gold seconded the motion; and the vote of those members present was unanimously in favor of the motion.

**c. January 3, 2019 – Special Meeting**

Board President Kevin S. Corcoran presented the minutes from the January 3, 2019 Special Meeting. Board Vice President Dr. Nichole Gotschall made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Board Dale Jernigan seconded the motion; and the vote of those members present was unanimously in favor of the motion.

**d. January 3, 2019 – Work Session Meeting**

Board President Kevin S. Corcoran presented the minutes from the January 3, 2019 Work Session Meeting. Board Vice President Dr. Nichole Gotschall made a motion to approve the

minutes as presented. Board Member Dale Jernigan seconded the motion; and the vote of those members present was unanimously in favor of the motion.

## **8. Discussion Items**

### **a. Branding / Website / Logo Discussion**

Superintendent Dr. Matt Akin reported Red Square Agency has been working on developing a logo, style guide and brand while the company Finalsite was hired to develop the schools website, it's planned to launch both together next month.

### **b. Policy Manual Development**

#### **Section VI – Students**

##### **Out of District Policy**

Superintendent Dr. Matt Akin presented this section of policy he had written, whereupon it was discussed among the Board. Dr. Matt Akin expressed to meeting attendees if they had any suggestions or ideas to please contact him or a board member. Board Attorney Nash Campbell stated they would hold a public hearing for everyone to review the draft policy before it was adopted. Superintendent Dr. Matt Akin along with Board President Kevin S. Corcoran gave an update on the development of the Out of District Policy. They just recently received data and once this was quantified it would aid in the development of the policy, also once the separation agreement was finalized they would have all the information needed to fully develop the policy.

### **c. Personnel Posting Update**

#### **CSFO**

##### **Principals**

Superintendent Dr. Matt Akin reported 18 application had been received so far for the CSFO position, the job posting would last through January 18<sup>th</sup>. A committee had been formed to vet the applications; Jean McCutchen the Board Financial Consultant would guide the committee through the interview and hiring process. The school's principal positions had been posted as well and 20 applications had been received so far.

## **9. Action Items**

### **a. Legal Fees**

Superintendent Dr. Matt Akin gave a brief summary of the Legal Fees. Board Member Dr. Ralph Gold made a motion approving the Legal Fees as presented. Board Vice President Dr. Nichole Gotschall seconded the motion; and the vote of those members present was unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **b. Financial Consultant Fees (RNC Educational Consultants)**

Superintendent Dr. Matt Akin gave a brief summary of the Legal Fees. Board Member Dale Jernigan made a motion approving the Legal Fees as presented. Board Member Kelly Walker seconded the motion; and the vote of those members present was unanimously in favor of the motion.

## **10. Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Dr. Matt Akin encouraged all to look at the City's website for the Board of Education tab to view information regarding the schools. He hoped to very soon have a FAQ section to help with common questions. Dr. Matt Akin gave information regarding the pre-k programs at the elementary schools. Currently there are 3 classes, 2 of which are funded by State School Readiness Grants which the city school would have to re-apply for. If anyone had questions regarding this please e-mail him and he will do his best to answer what he can.

At this time, Superintendent Dr. Matt Akin announced it was School Board Appreciation month and presented each Board Member a certificate of Appreciation for all their hard work they do, thanking City officials for choosing the right people for the Board. Board President

Kevin S. Corcoran gave his accolades to the Board, stating they are a hard working group of people and are always prepared in advanced for all the meetings and was thrilled to be a part of the group.

**11. Public Comment**

Jason Stephenson gave a brief update of the Dolphin Foundation for Education and Arts, stating it's still in formation and they are putting the frame work together. They hoped to be the leading edge in fundraising for the schools, that they already had great response from the community. Further announcing the Ex-Officio Board Members as Johnny Armstrong representing the Gulf Shores Alumni Group, Chamber President Greg Alexander and Jason Dyken representing the City of Gulf Shores.

Jennifer Knight voiced her concerns regarding the Out of District Policy and how it would affect teacher units. Board President Kevin S. Corcoran addressed her concerns.

Board President Kevin S. Corcoran announced the Dolphin Athletic Club Draw Down will be help on January 19<sup>th</sup> and encouraged all to attend. Tickets are available to purchase online and this is the largest fundraiser for the athletic programs at the middle and high school.

**12. Attorney – Client Privilege**

Board Vice President Dr. Nichole Gotschall motioned the Board recess into Executive Session to:

- a) Discuss contract negotiations with our attorney/full update on separation agreement.

Board Attorney Nash Campbell approved the reasons stated for going into Executive Session and stated they are acceptable reasons to enter executive session under the Alabama Open Meetings Act as amended.

Board Member Dale Jernigan seconded the motion; and a roll call vote of those members present was taken with all unanimously in favor of the motion whereupon the Board recessed into Executive session at approximately 6:03 p.m. for approximately one (1) hour. The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:27 p.m. and resumed the board meeting.

**12. Future Meeting Dates**

- A. February 7, 2019 – Work Session Meeting
- B. February 14, 2019 – Regular Board Meeting (potential change)

**13. Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Board, Board Member Kelly Walker made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Board Member Dale Jernigan; and the vote of those members present was unanimously in favor of the motion.

President Kevin S. Corcoran declared the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Kevin S. Corcoran, School Board President**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Dr. Nichole Gotschall, School Board Vice President**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Kelly Walker, School Board Secretary**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Dr. Ralph Gold, School Board Member**

*Dale Jernigan*  
**Dale Jernigan, School Board Member**

**DATE APPROVED:** February 14, 2019