

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Reidsville High School – Media Center
1901 South Park Drive
Reidsville, NC 27320
March 9, 2020
6:00 p.m.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Present: Ms. Paula Rakestraw, Chairperson and Mr. Bob Wyatt, Vice Chair. Board Members: Ms. Kimberly McMichael, Mr. Brent Huss (via call in), Mr. Doug Isley and Ms. Amanda Bell. Board Member Mr. Wayne Kirkman was absent. Administrative staff: Dr. Rodney Shotwell, Superintendent; Dr. Sonja Parks, Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Logistics; Dr. Charles Perkins, Assistant Superintendent of K-12 Curriculum and Instruction; Ms. Annie Ellis, Chief Finance Officer; Mr. Jonathan Craig, Executive Director of Human Resources and Athletics; Dr. Cindy Corcoran, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services; Board Attorney, Mr. Nick Herman and Ms. Renée Everhart, Board Clerk were present.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Rakestraw called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

The Board members stated their names. Six board members were present at roll call. Board Member Mr. Wayne Kirkman was absent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Rakestraw announced there is a Special Budget/Work Session scheduled Monday, March 23, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC.

Ms. Rakestraw announced the next regular board meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled at 6:00 p.m. Monday, April 20, 2020 at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC.

Ms. Rakestraw announced there is no Work Session scheduled in April. The Rockingham County Schools' spring break is April 6-10, 2020.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Board had a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. McMichael moved to amend the agenda to add Action Item 7.10 – Approval to amend the of 2020-2021 School Calendar (with revisions). Mr. Isley seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

SPECIAL STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

1. Reidsville High School International Baccalaureate Program Field Trip Reports
2. Dillard Academy Student Presentations for Black History Month – Principal, Ms. Christy Barham

Ms. Rakestraw recognized the Public Officials attending the meeting: Sheriff Sam Page, County Commissioner Mr. Charlie Hall, County Commissioner Mr. Kevin Berger, City Councilman Mr. Donald Gorham, and Mayor Mr. Jay Donecker.

SPECIAL STATEMENT READ BY BOARD CHAIR, MS. PAULA RAKESTRAW

Ms. Rakestraw read a statement from the Board stating the Board is concerned and recognizes that families from Western Rockingham and Rockingham County are concerned about the event involving students last week. The Board stated they are supporting those families.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS / PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Rakestraw stated the Board will hear comments from the public at this time.

1. Ms. Violet James – Ms. James addressed the Board regarding having a prayer at the Board Meetings in place of the moment of silence.
2. Mr. Ned Stevens – Mr. Stevens addressed the Board and gave a prayer.
3. Mr. Ron Price – Mr. Price addressed the Board proposing the Board end the agreement with UNC-G for the Moss Street Partnership School.
4. Ms. Rochelle Tucker – Ms. Tucker addressed the Board regarding the Moss Street Partnership School stating the community is pleased with the program.
5. Mr. Don Powell - Mr. Powell addressed the Board stating he is in support of the Moss Street Partnership School.

BOARD COMMENTS

1. Ms. Bell thanked those that spoke during public comments in support of Moss Street Partnership School. She also congratulated the McMichael Robotics Team for winning the State Level Robotics Championship.
2. Mr. Wyatt stated RCS has recently had several students notified as recipients of academic and military scholarships. He stated we have successful students in RCS. Mr. Wyatt stated he met with McMichael Principal Mr. Williams recently to congratulate him on the success of the Robotics Team at McMichael. Mr. Wyatt stated they not only won the State Championship the team won, Tournament Award, Excellence Award and Robotics Skills Award at the competition.
3. Ms. McMichael congratulated Coach Ross for receiving Coach of the Year Award. She congratulated Mr. Butler and McMichael Robotics Team and wished them good luck at the World Championship Robotics Competition. Ms. McMichael stated head lice are still in the schools and for parents to continue to check their children. Ms. McMichael thanked those that had contributed to the Backpack Program.
4. Mr. Isley stated we have great staff and great educators. He thanked Dr. Corcoran, Dr. Stephanie Ellis and their team for all they do for the school district.
5. Ms. Rakestraw thanked the Dillard Academy and Reidsville High IB students for sharing their experiences and what they are learning with the Board this evening.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Rakestraw presented the consent agenda items for approval:

1. Consent Approval - Additions to the child nutrition, bus drivers, bus monitors, teacher substitutes and SACC early childhood substitutes and Head Start substitutes for 2019-2020.
2. Consent Approval – Board of Education meeting minutes for approval:
 - February 10, 2020 – Open Session Regular Board Meeting Minutes
 - February 24, 2020 – Open Session Work Session Minutes
3. Consent Approval – 2020-2021 RECHS (Early College) School Calendar on Second Reading – Dr. Charles Perkins (Attachment 1-A)
4. Consent Approval – Board Policies for Adoption – Dr. Cindy Corcoran
 - Policy 4700 Student Records
 - Policy 5015 School Volunteers
 - Policy 5070/7350 Public Records / Retention, Release, and Disposition
 - Policy 5130 Relationship with Other Educational Institutions
 - Policy 7100 Recruitment and Selection of Personnel
5. Consent Approval – Board Policy 4334/5035/7345 Use of Unmanned Aircraft (Drones) on First Reading – Dr. Cindy Corcoran
6. Consent Approval – RCENO Video Production Agreement with Roy Sawyers for 2020-2021 – Dr. Shotwell (Attachment 2-A)
7. Consent Approval – Gifts, Grants and Donations – Dr. Shotwell (Attachment 3-A)
8. Consent Approval – Roof Consulting Services for WRMS Gym Roof – Dr. Sonja Parks (Attachment 4-A and Attachment 5-A)

Action: Mr. Isley moved that the Board approve the consent items as presented. Ms. Bell seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

Bus Driver Substitute List:

None

Child Nutrition Substitute List:

None

SACC/Early Childhood Center Substitute List:

None

Bus Monitor Substitute:

None

Substitute Teacher List:

Melissa Adams
Calvin McMichael
Heather Ramirez Medina
Callie Chilton
Steve Perkins
Joseph Langel
Dwight Prillaman

Substitute Head Start Teacher List:

None

ACTION ITEMS

Approval – Annual Budget Resolution for Fiscal Year July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Ms. Annie Ellis for comments regarding adoption of the 2019-2020 budget resolution. Ms. Ellis presented the 2019-2020 Annual Budget Resolution for adoption.

Action: Ms. Bell moved that the Board approve the Annual Budget Resolution for 2019-2020 as presented. Ms. McMichael seconded the motion. The vote was 3/3. The motion failed. Mr. Isley, Mr. Huss and Mr. Wyatt voted opposed.

Approval – Energy Performance Contract Financial Request for Proposal:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for comments regarding the lender for the Energy Performance Contract. Dr. Parks stated at the February 10, 2020 Board Meeting the Board determined to move forward with the release of the Financial RFP for the Energy Performance Contract. Dr. Parks stated the district received 6 bids with Bank of American bidding the low rate of 2.269% which will save the school district financing costs. Dr. Parks requested board approval to move forward with negotiations with Bank of America as the lender for the Tax-Exempt Lease Purchase (TLP) to fund the Guaranteed Energy Performance Contract to be installed by Johnson Controls.

Action: Ms. Bell moved that the Board approve to move forward in negotiations with Bank of America as the lender for the Tax-Exempt Lease Purchase (TELP) to fund the Guaranteed Energy Performance Contract to be installed by Johnson Controls as presented. Mr. Isley seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

Approval – Head Start Program 2020-2021 Budget:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Cindy Corcoran for comments regarding the 2020-2021 Head Start budget. Dr. Corcoran and Ms. Annie Ellis were present and reviewed the 2020-2021 Head Start Budget. Dr. Corcoran requested board approval of the budget as presented (Attachment 6-A - Head Start Budget)

Action: Ms. Bell moved that the Board approve the 2020-2021 Head Start Budget as presented. Ms. McMichael seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

Approval – Extending the Request for Proposals for Legal Services to the Board for Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Shotwell for comments regarding the legal services contract for the Board. Dr. Shotwell stated the current legal services contract with the Board Attorney is ending June 30, 2020. Dr. Shotwell stated the Board has the option to extend the contract for legal services by board action for the next fiscal year. The Board determined to extend the current contract with Board Attorney Nick Herman for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Action: Ms. Bell moved that the Board approve to extend the contract with the Board Attorney for legal services to the district for the 2020-2021 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020. Mr. Wyatt seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

Approval – Change Board Meeting Date from April 13, 2020 to April 20, 2020:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Shotwell for comments regarding changing the date of the April 13th Board Meeting. Dr. Shotwell stated it has been presented to change the April 13th Board Meeting to April 20, 2020.

Action: Mr. Isley moved that the Board approve to change the April 13, 2020 meeting to April 20, 2020. Ms. McMichael seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

Approval – 2020 Summer School Remediation and Retesting Plan:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Charles Perkins for comments regarding a summer school retesting plan. Dr. Perkins presented the local plan for summer school remediation and retesting. Dr. Perkins requested board approval.

Action: Ms. Bell moved that the Board approve the 2020 summer school remediation and retesting plan as presented. Mr. Wyatt seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

Approval – Request for Modular Units at South End Elementary School in Reidsville:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for comments regarding approval for the district to release RFP for Modular Units at South End Elementary School. Dr. Parks stated the overcrowding situation at South End School was presented to the Board at the February 24, 2020 Work Session. Dr. Parks presented to the Board the request to move forward with the bid process for modular unit on March 17, 2020 (Attachment 7-A). After discussion, the item was tabled.

Approval – County Resolution Regarding Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for comments regarding changing the resolution for Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract. Dr. Parks presented the resolution required by the North Carolina Local Government Commission's Application for approval of the Guaranteed Energy Performance Contract. Dr. Parks stated the stated resolution must be approved by the Rockingham Board of County Commissioners as a commitment to not reduce appropriations to the School Board (Attachment 8-A). Dr. Parks request board approval to take the resolution to the Commissioners for approval at the next meeting scheduled Monday, Mach 16, 2020.

Action: Ms. McMichael moved that the Board approve the resolution regarding the Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract to be presented for County Commissioner approval as presented. Ms. Bell seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

Approval – Fund Request from Restricted Sales Tax:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for comments regarding the request for funds from the restricted sales tax. Dr. Parks stated the Operations Department has prioritized the most pressing capital needs, requesting \$973,200 from the Restricted Sales Tax Fund (Attachment 9-A). Dr. Parks presented a chart with the prioritized capital needs of the school district for use of the Restricted Sales Tax funds (Attachment 10-A).

Action: Ms. McMichael moved that the Board approve the request for \$973,200 from the Restricted Sales Tax Fund for capital projects as requested. Ms. Bell seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

Approval – 2020-2021 School Calendar Revision:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Shotwell for recommendation on the 2020-2021 school calendar. Dr. Shotwell stated revisions are needed to the 2020-2021 calendar to move the spring break and other mandatory work days as requested according to the feedback we have received. This was the amended item presented by the Board for approval and action.

Action: Ms. McMichael moved that the Board approve the request to revised the 2020-2021 calendar with needed changes as presented. Ms. Bell seconded motion. The vote was 6/0.

REPORTS / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Proposed 2020-2021 RCS Budget:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Ms. Annie Ellis for comments regarding the request budget for 2020-2021. Ms. Ellis presented proposed budget for 2020-2021 following with question session for board members. Ms. Ellis stated as discussed by the Board the following budget calendar schedule.

1. April 20, 2020 – Public Hearing on the proposed budget and final draft for board review/discussion
2. May 11, 2020 – Request budget for Action/Approval by the Board of Education
3. May 15, 2020 – Request budget to the County Commissioners for approval

Ms. Ellis stated the request draft budget for 2020- 2021 is posted on the RCS website at link for future reference.

Operations and Logistics Report:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for the Operations and Logistics Report.

Dr. Parks reported on the following:

- Reidsville Machining Lab – machines arrived on February 28, 2020 and are being wired by electricians
- Stoneville Roof Replacement – The final inspection was conducted February 4, 2020 on the completed roof on Building 100
- Reidsville School Roof – February 14, 2020, Mr. Stophel and Guaranteed Systems met on site to perform a final inspection of the completed roof replacement of the one story classroom building north end
- Western Rockingham Gym Storm Damage – February 6-7, 2020, high winds caused damage to the northeast corner of the WRMS gym roof exposing the tectum deck, brick, wood nailer and gutter. February 27, 2020 NCDPI agreed to replace the EPDM roof and ISO board underlayment.
- Western Rockingham Middle School Bleacher Project – February 12th, removal of the bleachers, February 27th the floors were sanded, March 9th Maintenance painted the gym and March 13-16th the bleachers installation was tentative scheduled date
- Morehead High School Security Vestibule – February 25, 2020 was the final review with A3 Communication completing the security installations
- McMichael High Baseball Backstop – Construction of a 30 inch and 170-foot-long non-load bearing brick wall with a footer will be in place and completely funded by the McMichael Phoenix Baseball Boosters
- Rockingham County High Track – Phase I included removal of the rubber, removal of existing long jump and pole vault, grading new high jump, long jump and pole vaults, form and pour concrete for pole vault and long jump, compaction and paving high jump, install new drainage system – Phase 2 included milling, grading and compaction, paving of the track, asphalt has to cure for 14 days, patching low areas, apply rubber and then stripe the track
- Western Tennis Courts – topographic survey has been completed, working with USTA on a final schedule

Superintendent's Report:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Shotwell for the Superintendent's Report.

Dr. Shotwell congratulated Douglass Elementary and Williamsburg Elementary for being named the Signature Schools for 2019-2020.

Dr. Shotwell announced Rockingham County Schools Battle of the Books Competition scheduled for:
March 10th – High Schools – 9:30 – 1:30 at Central Office
March 11th – Elementary Schools - 9:30 – 1:30 at Central Office
March 12 – Middle Schools - 9:30 – 1:30 at Central Office

Dr. Shotwell stated "Catch the Reading Bug" Reading Festival is scheduled for March 21st from 9:00 – 2:00 at Rockingham County Middle School.

Dr. Shotwell announced the Kindergarten registration has 2 more sessions scheduled for March 10 and March 12

Dr. Shotwell announced the Bikes for Kids Foundation is working to get underprivileged kids a bike. There is an essay contest with the following dates for participants:

March 24 – Morehead High 9:00
March 25 – McMichael High 9:00
March 26 – Rock County High 9:00
March 27 – Reidsville High 9:00

Dr. Shotwell announced Kindergarten Registration is ongoing from April 14 – May 1st and at Dillard Academy March 16 – April 3rd.

Dr. Shotwell stated SPLASH will be available to students at Bethany, Stoneville and South End for the 2020-2021 school year.

Dr. Shotwell stated a Teacher Job Fair is scheduled Saturday, April 18th at 10:00-12:30 at McMichael High School. Contact is Valerie Thompson at Central Office.

Dr. Shotwell stated 2020 RCS Summer Reading Camp will be held:
Dillard Academy June 9-25 and June 26 Teacher Workday
Traditional Calendar Sites are: Bethany, Central, Leaksville-Spray, Huntsville, Lincoln, Monroeton, Stoneville, Wentworth and Williamsburg for July 7-28 and July 29 and June 6 are Teacher Workdays

Board Chair Comments:

Ms. Rakestraw stated she did not have any comments at this time.

CLOSED SESSION

Action: Mr. Isley moved to go into Closed Session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11 (1) (6) to discuss personnel matters and property matters according to state law to preserve the attorney client privilege. Ms. McMichael seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

OPEN SESSION

Action: Ms. McMichael moved to return to open session, seconded by Ms. Bell. The vote was 6/0.

Personnel Report:

Employments

—Administration

—Licensed

—Classified

Nancy Dickerson

Effective 2/24/20-6/12/20

Anna Mitchell

Effective 3/9/20-6/3/20

A'Keilah Scales

Effective 3/9/20-6/12/20

Denise Watlington

Effective 3/9/20 – 6/3/20

Transfers

—Administrative

—Licensed

—Classified

Makayla Allen

Effective 2/25/20-6/3/20

Stephanie Belvin

Effective 3/2/20

Debra Fulp

Effective 3/2/20

Regina Galloway

Effective 2/3/20

Jason Haney

Effective 3/2/20

Susan Hanks

Effective 3/2/20

Kristy Lewis

Effective 3/2/20

Timothy Peters

Effective 11/4/19

Heather Southern

Effective 3/2/20

Elizabeth Walker

Effective 3/24/20-6/12/20

Leah Ward

Effective 3/2/20

Michelle Wesley

Effective 3/2/20

Retirements:

—Administrative

—Licensed

—Classified

Resignations:

—Administrative

—Licensed

Pamela Manley

Effective 2/25/20

—Classified

Jerry Carter

Effective 2/26/20

Thomas Long

Effective 1/16/20

Timothy Peters

Effective 2/28/20

Terminations:

—Administrative

—Licensed

—Classified

Donna Searcy

Effective 2/24/20

Leave Requests:

None

Action: Ms. Bell moved to accept the **amended personnel report and personnel addendum** as presented, seconded by Ms. McMichael. The vote was 6/0.

Action: Ms. Bell moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. McMichael. The vote was 6/0.

Minutes read and approved:

Ms. Paula H. Rakestraw, Board Chair
Rockingham County Board of Education

Dr. Rodney Shotwell
Superintendent of Schools

April 20, 2020