

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Central Administrative Offices
511 Harrington Highway
Eden, NC 27288
July 13, 2020
10:30 a.m.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

(Via Zoom for Board Members and Live Streaming for Public View)

Present: Ms. Paula Rakestraw, Board Chair and Mr. Bob Wyatt, Vice Chair. Board Members: Ms. Kimberly McMichael, Mr. Brent Huss, Mr. Doug Isley, Ms. Vickie McKinney and Ms. Amanda Bell. Administrative staff: Dr. Rodney Shotwell, Superintendent; Dr. Charles Perkins, Assistant Superintendent Curriculum and Instruction; Dr. Sonja Parks, Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Logistics; Dr. Cindy Corcoran, Assistant Superintendent of Support Services; Mr. Jonathan Craig, Executive Director of Human Resources; Ms. Annie Ellis, Chief Financial Officer; Board Attorney, Mr. Nick Herman and Ms. Renée Everhart, Board Assistant were present.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Rakestraw called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

The Board members stated their names. Six members were present at roll call. Mr. Huss joined the meeting later.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Rakestraw announced the next regular Board Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 10, 2020 at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC.

Ms. Rakestraw announced the work session is scheduled at 6:00 p.m., Monday, August 24, 2020 at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Board had a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Member Ms. Vickie McKinney led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Bell moved that the Board approve the agenda as presented. Ms. McMichael seconded the motion and the vote was 6/0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS / BOARD COMMENTS

Public Comments:

1. Savion Thompson – Superintendent Dr. Shotwell read the statement written by Savion Thompson, addressing the Board regarding his concerns. Mr. Thompson addressed the board regarding teaching methods to help people with disabilities, support and protection for everyone to cut down on bullying for students and teachers, the lack of history being taught, hiring teachers of color and equal opportunities to Hispanic students.

Board Comments:

Ms. Bell stated equity training will help teachers learn how to respond and teach students from different cultures.

Mr. Isley stated he had received emails regarding football and school starting back. He stated he had referred them to the Governor's Office as we wait for an announcement or decision from Governor Cooper.

Ms. McKinney stated she had referred her calls also to the Governor's Office as we are waiting on a decision from him.

Ms. McMichael thanked those that reached out to the School Board and had encouraged them to tell the Governor we want to return to school.

Ms. Rakestraw stated she appreciated the student, Savion Thompson that spoke during public comments voicing his concerns. Ms. Rakestraw stated the three back-to-school scenarios have been announced and the Board is waiting to hear the decision from Governor Cooper. She wants to let everyone know the staff and administration has worked very hard to serve the students and community with planning and good communication. She stated the Board understands the importance of good communication.

CONSENT ITEMS

Presented consent items for Board consideration:

1. Approval Consent Item - Additions to the Substitutes List for: child nutrition, bus driver, bus monitors, teacher substitutes, Head Start Program substitutes and SACC early childhood substitutes list for 2020-2021.
2. Approval Consent Item - Board of Education Meeting Minutes for approval:
 - June 8, 2020 – Open Session Board Meeting Minutes
 - June 29, 2020 – Open Session Special Called Meeting Minutes
3. Approval Consent Item – Adoption of Board Policies and First Reading of Policies – Dr. Cindy Corcoran
4. Approval Consent Item – Out-of-County Tuition Rate for 2020-2021 – Ms. Annie Ellis
5. Approval Consent Item – Annual Program Contracts – Dr. Charles Perkins
6. Approval Consent Item – Beginning Teacher Support Program Plan for 2020-2021 – Ms. Angela Martin

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

Bus Driver Substitute List:

None

Bus Monitor Substitute List:

None

Child Nutrition Substitute List:

None

SACC/Early Childhood Center Substitute List:

Jemiah Donnell
Kristy Lewis
Donna Johnson
Dominique Smith

Substitute Teacher List:

None

Substitute Head Start Teacher List:

None

ACTION ITEMS

Approval - Re-Entry Plan for 2020-2021 School Year:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Stephanie Ellis for comments regarding the Re-Entry Plan for the 2020-2021 school year. Dr. Ellis presented the Re-Entry Plan which included covering the following areas as listed.

- The North Carolina Plan for re-opening schools per the Governor
- RCS Virtual Learning Opportunity – Application process was covered
- CDC Guidance Changes
- Student Voice – Student that participated in providing feedback
- RCS Student Survey May 26-29, 2020
- Staff Voice – Survey Results
- Parent Voice – Collaborating with Parent Group
- Safety Protocol for Re-Entry of Work Groups
- RCS Safe Return to School Guide at <https://bit.ly/RCS-Safe-Return>
- Learning and Academic Strategies Work Group
- Remote / Virtual Learning Considerations
- Exceptional Children’s Department
- Section 504 Services and Accommodations
- MTSS Considerations
- Career and Technical Education
- Social and Emotional Supports for Students and Staff
- Child Care Options and Resources Return Protocol
- Child Nutrition School Operations Return Protocol
- Maintenance School Operations Return Protocol
- Technology School Operations Return Protocol
- Transportation School Operations Return Protocol
- Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Return Protocol
- Employee Considerations
- Next Steps

Dr. Ellis stated the student voice was heard as well from staff, community and parents. Dr. Ellis stated the guidebook “Our Safe Return to Learn Guidebook” will be provided to our parents and posted on the RCS website.

Board Member Mr. Wyatt left the meeting at 12:25 p.m. to attend a funeral.

The Board took a 10-minute break.

Board Member Mr. Huss joined the meeting via zoom.

Action: Ms. McMichael moved that the Board approve the Re-Entry Plan as proposed with approval of voluntary fall workouts beginning Tuesday, July 14, 2020. Ms. Bell seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

Approval – Remote Learning Plan:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Charles Perkins for comments regarding the Remote Learning Plan. Dr. Perkins presented the Remote Learning Plan which included 15 questions that were required by legislation for each district to answer, in addition the State Board of Education added 2 other items (Attachment 1-A).

Action: Mr. Isley moved that the Board approve the Remote Learning Plan as presented. Ms. McMichael seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

Approval – Classified Salary Step Increase:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Ms. Annie Ellis for comments regarding the classified salary step increase. Ms. Ellis presented classified salary step increase for those classified employees that are scheduled to move up a step on July 1, 2020 if they have completed the number of years to be placed on the next step. Ms. Ellis stated the increase will affect 165 classified employees.

Action: Ms. McKinney moved that the Board approve classified salary step increase as presented. Mr. Isley seconded the motion. The vote was 5/1. Ms. Bell voted opposed.

Approval – Western Rockingham Gym Roof Bid Proposal:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for comments regarding the Western Rockingham Gym Roof Bid Proposal. Dr. Parks presented the lowest bid received for the Western Rockingham Gym Roof Bid Proposal from Professional Roofing for the roof replacement for the amount of \$152,840.00.

Action: Ms. McMichael moved that the Board approve the lowest bid from Professional Roofing for the gym roof replacement at Western Rockingham Middle Schools for \$152,840.00 as presented. Ms. Bell seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

REPORTS / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Operations and Logistics Update:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for a report on the Operations and Logistics. Dr. Parks presented information on the following:

- Flashback to 2019 – projects from that time
- Rockingham County High School Press Box
- Rockingham County High School Track
- Western Rockingham Middle School Gym Roof Project
- Morehead High School Gym and Locker Room Roof
- Reidsville Middle School Cooing Tower
- Western Tennis Courts
- South End Elementary School Modular Units Update – Moving 3 modular units from Yadkin County and have requested a fourth unit from Yadkin and Montgomery County Schools
- Energy Performance Contract
- Old Williamsburg School Property Listing
- Chromebook Purchase, Verizon Hotspots and Zoom Purchase
- Wi-Fi Rangers for Remote Learning
- Bus Driving Class for July
- Free Summer Meals provided by Child Nutrition

Summer Remote Learning / Professional Development and Training for Teachers:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Charles Perkins for a report regarding the summer remote learning preparation and development for teachers. Dr. Perkins presented the three plans for re-opening schools, Plan A, Plan B and Plan C, stating RCS is offering 100% virtual/online/distance learning this year for all parents would like this (Attachment 2-A). Dr. Perkins provided the application link stating parents will need to apply for their child to participate in virtual learning.

Superintendent’s Report:

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

Dr. Shotwell gave a congratulation to the high schools for their overall graduation rates:

- DMHS 86.5%
- RHS 90%
- Morehead High School 92.4%
- Rockingham County High 87.9%
- Early College 98.6%

Dr. Shotwell highlighted the Student Re-Entry Meeting via Zoom and the Tweet for the meeting.

Dr. Shotwell highlighted the Scholarships and Awards for the 2019-2020 RCS Graduates:

- McMichael High \$4,510,193 for 215 Graduates
- Morehead High \$1,462,490 for 199 Graduates
- Reidsville High \$3,498,968 for 165 Graduates
- Rockingham County High \$5,818,572 for 276 Graduates
- Early College \$2,515,069 for 95 Graduations
- Total Scholarships offered \$17,805,292 for 950 Graduates

Dr. Shotwell highlighted the Rock Star Partnerships to Rockingham County Schools:

- Reidsville Area Foundation for PPE Grant
- Rockingham County Emergency Services
- Rockingham County Health Department

Board Chair Announcements:

Ms. Rakestraw announced the Policy Committee Meeting is scheduled for August 10th at 5:00 via zoom.

Ms. Rakestraw announced “Happy Birthday” to Mr. Roy Sawyers for his birthday yesterday, July 12th.

CLOSED SESSION

Action: Mr. Isley moved to go into Closed Session to preserve the attorney client privilege pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11 (1) (6) to discuss personnel matters and property discussion according to state law to preserve the attorney client privilege. Ms. Bell seconded the motion. The vote was 5/0. (Mr. Huss temporarily unavailable to zoom call. Mr. Wyatt had left the meeting.)

Action: Ms. McMichael moved to return to open session, seconded by Ms. Bell. The vote was 5/1. Mr. Isley voted opposed. Mr. Wyatt had left the meeting.

OPEN SESSION

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Employments:

—Administration

—Licensed

- Beatrice Barber
Effective 8/10/20
- Andrea Brune
Effective 8/10/20
- Lindsay Crumpler
Effective 8/10/20
- Sean Damrel
Effective 8/10/20
- Emily Flynt
Effective 8/10/20
- Nathan Foster
Effective 8/10/20
- JoAnna Gwynn
Effective 8/10/20
- Hannah Hall
Effective 8/3/20
- Whitney Hannam
Effective 8/10/20
- Kimberly Hodges
Effective 8/10/20
- Rebecca Isley
Effective 8/10/20

Karen James
Effective 8/10/20
Emily Lackey
Effective 8/10/20
Melissa Miller
Effective 8/10/20
Janet O'Bryant
Effective 8/10/20
Brooke Sinicropi
Effective 8/10/20
Annie Snavely
Effective 8/3/20
Carly Stevens
Effective 8/10/20
Lakeidra Thompson
Effective 8/10/20
Jessica Trent
Effective 8/10/20
Kristin Widerman
Effective 8/10/20
—**Classified**
Chad Bailey
Effective 6/22/20
Courtney Benton
Effective 8/10/20
Jonathan Burton
Effective 7/20/20
Tanya Gatewood
Effective 7/6/20
Corie Gordon
Effective 8/10/20
Christina Knight
Effective 8/10/20
Kimberly Perkins
Effective 8/10/20
Jamie Soodek
Effective 8/10/20
Kelsey Soyars
Effective 8/10/20
Shannon Turner
Effective 8/10/20
Lakin Wingfield
Effective 8/10/20-6/10/20
Brooke Garrett
Effective 8/10/20
Tina Hall
Effective 8/10/20
Ashley Hamlett
Effective 8/10/20
TERMINATIONS:
—**Licensed**
—**Classified**
TRANSFERS:
—**Administration**
—**Licensed**
Jill Barker
Effective 8/10/20
Derra Black
Effective 8/10/20
Shannon Boyd

Effective 8/10/20
Brooke Burns
Effective 8/10/20
Bridget Burton
Effective 8/10/20
DeeDee Dishmon
Effective 8/10/20
Lisa Fulton
Effective 8/10/20
Tonya Geringer
Effective 8/10/20
Katie Gunn
Effective 8/10/20
Jennie Hall
Effective 8/10/20
John Harder
Effective 8/10/20
Kimberly Jones
Effective 8/10/20
Kaitlyn Knight
Effective 8/10/20
Stephanie Knight
Effective 8/10/20
Amy Lemons
Effective 8/10/20
Tania Martin
Effective 8/10/20
Deborah Paylor
Effective 8/10/20
Taylor Peach
Effective 8/10/20
Martha Shropshire
Effective 8/10/20
Janice Stokes
Effective 8/10/20
Kaite Tillotson
Effective 8/10/20
Heather Tuggle
Effective 8/10/20
Melinda Ward
Effective 8/10/20
Claudia White
Effective 8/10/20
Amy Wiley
Effective 8/10/20
Rebekah Williams
Effective 8/10/20
—**Classified**
Lori Bailey
Effective 7/20/20
Stephanie Bean
Effective 7/1/20
Natasha Blankenship
Effective 7/1/20
Ashley Brim
Effective 8/10/20
Mercedes Cox
Effective 8/10/20
Jemiah Donnell
Effective 8/10/20

Christine Duncan
Effective 8/10/20
Virginia Elmore
Effective 6/8/20
Johana Gonzalez
Effective 8/10/20
Angela Haskins
Effective 8/10/20
Amanda Hoag
Effective 8/10/20
Aimee Jenkins
Effective 8/10/20
Shana Lemons
Effective 8/10/20
Andrew Martin
Effective 8/10/20
Kelsie Meador
Effective 8/10/20
Grace Moon
Effective 8/10/20
Kristy Moore
Effective 8/10/20
Vanessa Pass
Effective 6/4/20
Sheryl Pate
Effective 8/10/20
Jill Pearman
Effective 8/10/20
Jane Valentine
Effective 8/24/20
Elizabeth Walker
Effective 8/10/20
Sara Wright
Effective 8/17/20
Nicole Zielen
Effective 8/10/20
Melissa Greene
Effective 8/10/20
Richard Pittman
Effective 8/17/20
Resignations:
—**Administration**
—**Licensed**
Justin Braswell
Effective 6/16/20
Brandon Ellis
Effective 6/24/20
Tammy Greenawalt
Effective 6/18/20
Stacey Loye
Effective 6/30/20
Marcella Piotrowski
Effective 7/2/20
Clara Haig
Effective 7/8/20
Kirsten Watson
Effective 7/6/20
—**Classified**
Barbara Estes
Effective 6/12/20

Lori Hancock
Effective 7/17/20
Victoria Ore
Effective 5/8/20
Bria Pass
Effective 6/12/20

Retirements:
—**Administrative**
—**Licensed**
Sharon Jones
Effective 8/1/20
—**Classified**
Verna Lisenby
Effective 7/1/20
Leave Requests:
None

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

Action: Mr. Isley moved that the Board approve to accept the bid offer on the old Williamsburg property for \$50,000 as presented, seconded by Ms. McMichael. The vote was 5/0/1. Ms. Bell abstained from the vote.

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

Minutes read and approved:

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

Dr. Rodney Shotwell
Superintendent of Schools

August 10, 2020