

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Central Administrative Offices
511 Harrington Highway
Eden, NC 27288
August 9, 2021
6:00 p.m.
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
(Live Streaming for Public View)

Present: Ms. Kimberly McMichael, Board Chair and Ms. Vicki Alston, Vice Chair. Board Members: Ms. Paula Rakestraw, Mr. Brent Huss, Mr. Doug Isley, Ms. Vickie McKinney and Mr. Bob Wyatt. Mr. Huss attended remotely. 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; Dr. Ken Scott, Executive Director of Human Resources; Ms. Annie Ellis, Chief Financial Officer; Mr. Nick Herman, Board Attorney and Ms. Renee Everhart, Board Assistant were present.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. McMichael called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

The Board members stated their names. Seven members were present at roll call.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. McMichael announced the May Work Session is scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 23, 2021 at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC via live stream.

Ms. McMichael announced the next regular Board Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 13, 2021 at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC via live stream.

MOMENT OF PRAYER

Reverend Kevin Dunovant from First Wesleyan Church, Eden, N.C. gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Member Mr. Bob Wyatt led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Alston moved that the Board amend the agenda, moving the August 23rd work session to August 30th as Action Item 7.7, seconded by Mr. Bob Wyatt. The vote was 7/0.

Mr. Wyatt moved that the Board amend the agenda to add Action Item 7.8 to revise board policy regarding board member remote participation to allow board member Mr. Huss to participate remotely for medical reasons for the remainder of the year as needed, seconded by Mr. Isley. The vote was 7/0.

Mr. Isley moved that the Board amend the agenda, adding Action Item 7.9 for a board vote on ESSERS Funds for Selection of Instructional Materials and Resources requested by Dr. Charles Perkins. Ms. Rakestraw seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Ms. Alston moved that the Board approve the final amended agenda. Mr. Isley seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS / BOARD COMMENTS

Public Comments:

1. Connie Cuozzi
2. Jim Fink
3. Dean Rakes
4. Susan Messick
5. Lisa Thomas
6. Amber Haskin
7. Houston Barrow
8. Catherine Rose
9. Jennifer Vyhnanek
10. Dr. Lindsay Bridges
11. Kelly Toney
12. Christy Hart
13. Dr. John Ferguson
14. Rick Goodman
15. Katherine Friddle
16. Hannah Mamun
17. Sari Sunderland
18. Guy Williams
19. Delain Akers
20. Michael Harvey
21. Elisha Harris
22. Dana Young
23. Gabriel Patterson
24. Tara Shearer

The Board proceeded with the regular meeting at this time.

Board Comments:

Mr. Isley thanked those citizens that came to speak for public comments and the public that came to attend the meeting.

Ms. Alston thanked Ms. Angela Martin for her work and dedication in bringing the Spanish Emersion Teachers to Rockingham County Schools.

Ms. Rakestraw thanked the citizens that spoke during public comments and she learned a lot from the speakers.

Ms. McMichael thanked everyone for his or her public comments.

CONSENT ITEMS

Presented consent items for Board consideration:

1. Approval Consent Items – Consent Personnel: 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 – Gifts, Grants and Donations – Ms. Annie Ellis (Attachment 1-A)
3. Approval Consent Item – Adoption of Board Policies – Dr. Cindy Corcoran (Attachment 2-A)
4. Approval Consent Item - Board of Education Meeting Minutes for approval:
 - July 12, 2021 – Open Session Board Meeting Minutes

Action: Ms. Alston moved that the Board approve the consent items, removing Attachment-3A from the July 12th minute (as amended to the agenda to vote on that item separately) as presented. Ms. McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Bus Driver Substitute List:

None

Bus Monitor Substitute List:

None

Child Nutrition Substitute List:

None

SACC/Early Childhood Center Substitute List:

None

Substitute Teacher List:

Patty Bondurant

Frances Wilkins

Substitute Head Start Teacher List:

None

ACTION ITEMS

Approval – Option #1 or Option #2 – Board Consideration of Facemasks for RCS:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Stephanie Ellis for comments regarding the options for consideration regarding facemasks. Dr. Ellis presented the Option #1 or Option #2 for board consideration for the use and regulation of facemasks for the 2021-2022 school year.

Action: Ms. Alston moved that the Board approve Option #1 – facemasks are recommended but not required. Ms. Rakestraw seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Approval – RCS Cares About Your Safety Plan for 2021-2022:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Stephanie Ellis for comments regarding the RCS Safety Plan. Dr. Ellis presented the RCS Cares About Your Safety Plan for 2021-2022, removing option #2, for board consideration.

Action: Ms. McKinney moved that the approve the RCS Cares About Your Safety Plan for 2021-2022 as presented, removing option #2. Mr. Isley seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Approval – Pearson Online for eLearning Academy Remote Instruction for 2021-2022:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Charles Perkins for comments regarding the Pearson Online Learning plan. Dr. Perkins presented Pearson Online eLearning Academy for remote instruction for the 2021-2022 school year. Dr. Perkins stated Pearson is the recommendation for the online academy at a cost per student of \$3,499 for 4 core courses and 2 elective courses per year (Attachment 3-A). Dr. Perkins requested board consideration for approval of Pearson Online for eLearning as the provider as presented.

Action: Mr. Isley moved that the Board approve Pearson Online as presented for remote learning, seconded by Ms. McKinney. The vote was 7/0

Action: Ms. Rakestraw moved that the Board approve the deadline be moved to August 13th for the registration of the online academy, seconded by Ms. McKinney. The vote was 5/2. Ms. Rakestraw, Ms. McKinney, Ms. Alston and Ms. McMichael voted in favor. Mr. Wyatt and Mr. Isley voted opposed.

Approval – Head Start CARES Act Funding:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Cindy Corcoran, Ms. Rhonda Jumper and Ms. Annie Ellis for comments regarding the Head Start CARES Act Funding. Dr. Corcoran presented the 2021-2022 Head Start Program CARES Act Funding and Spending Plan as presented. (Attachment 4-A). Ms. Jumper reviewed the details as presented and requested approval by the Rockingham County Board of Education.

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Rockingham County Board of Education approve the Head Start CARES Act Funding and Spending Plan for 2021-2022 as presented. Ms. Rakestraw seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0 in favor of the motion.

Approval – Head Start Carry-Over for Unobligated Funds from the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year:

Ms. McMichael recognized Ms. Rhonda Jumper for comments regarding the Head Start carry-over for unobligated funds from the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Ms. Jumper presented the program narrative and budget narratives (Attachment – 5A). Ms. Jumper stated these are federal funds allocated to the Head Start Program. Ms. Jumper requested approval by the Rockingham County Board of Education for the Head Start Carry-Over for unobligated funds from the 2020-2021 fiscal year as presented.

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Rockingham County Board of Education approve the Head Start Carry-Over for unobligated funds for the 2021-2022 fiscal year as presented. Ms. Rakestraw seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0 in favor of the motion.

Approval – Crows Nest Roof Addition at Reidsville High School.

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for comments regarding the crows nest at Reidsville High School. Dr. Parks presented for board review and board approval the proposal for labor, material and equipment to install a walk pad and safety rails on the football field house press box for the amount of \$10,800 (Attachment 6-A).

Action: Ms. Alston moved that the Board approve the bid proposal for crows nest roof at the press box of Reidsville High for \$10,800 as presented. Mr. Isley seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Approval – Moving the Work Session from August 23 to August 30, 2021:

Ms. McMichael stated the agenda has been amended to move the work session scheduled August 23, to August 30, 2021 to avoid meeting on the first day of school.

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Board approve to move the August work session to August 30, 2021 as presented. Ms. McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Approval – Revise Policy to Allow for Remote Attendance for Brent Huss due to Medical Reasons:

Ms. McMichael stated the agenda has been amended to revise the current board policy limiting three remote attendance options per year per board member. The request is to remove the limitation of three remote attendance by board members and allow unlimited remote participation for the remainder of the year due to medical reasons for Mr. Brent Huss.

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Board approve to remove the limit of 3 remote participations per board member and allow as needed for the remainder of the, unlimited access to remote participation for board member Mr. Brent Huss to attend remotely the board meetings, due to medical reasons as stated. Mr. Isley seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Approval – Selection of Instructional Materials using ESSER Funds:

Ms. McMichael stated the agenda has been amended to vote separately on the request from Dr. Perkins for the selection of instructional materials using ESSER Funds for the instructional materials and resources approval. The amount of ESSER Funds will be used for instructional materials, software and resources to the amount of \$2,311,867.92 (Attachment -7A).

Action: Mr. Isley moved that the Board approve to use of ESSER Funds to the amount of \$2,311,867.92 for the selection of instructional materials as presented. Ms. Rakestraw seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

REPORTS / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Athletic Ticketing:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Shotwell for a report regarding athletic ticketing. Dr. Shotwell presented the proposal using the Hometown Platform to move away from cash gates at the athletic events to an electronic ticket system. Dr. Shotwell stated the school district will incur no costs due to costs are passed on to the consumer as a convenience fee. Dr. Shotwell stated reasons to consider:

- Safety and security of the funds collected are much better than the traditional bank deposit
- Less school staff are needed to work the gates for selling and collecting tickets
- The need for providing change is no longer an issue
- The program will produce all required reports for the school
- Each school has a hotspot from technology for the athletic department to use with the scanning devices

Dr. Shotwell stated the goal is to implement this with the fall sports beginning August 16, 2021. The cash option will be available for use through October 1, 2021. Dr. Shotwell stated this electronic system is the more efficient means to keep the funds safe and less work.

Board Chair Announcements:

Ms. McMichael thanked everyone that came to the meeting tonight and to those that spoke.

Approval – Public Comments Allowed At This Time for Remaining Public Speakers.

Ms. McMichael recognized Ms. Rakestraw.

Action: Ms. Rakestraw moved that the Board approve to allow the remaining citizens signed up for Public Comments to make their comments at this time. Mr. Isley seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Public Comments Continued:

- Bobby Stanley
- Malcolm Allen
- Rhonda Stanley
- Meredith Macey
- Robert Rettig
- Terri Adkins
- Mary Ryan
- Mark Morphies

The Board took a 10-minute break at 8:47 p.m.

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 maintain confidentiality and discuss matters related to specific employee considerations according to state law. Mr. Wyatt seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Action: Mr. Isley moved to return to open session, seconded by Ms. Rakestraw. The vote was 7/0.

OPEN SESSION

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Employments:

—Administration

—Licensed

Jenny Aschenbrand

Effective 8/13/21

Victoria Blalock
Effective 8/13/21
Buford Fox
Effective 8/13/21
Sabrina Hairston
Effective 8/13/21
Kellie Jones
Effective 8/13/21
Stacy Justice
Effective 8/13/21
Mary Knight
Effective 8/1/21
Manuel Nocua
Effective 8/13/21
James Prozenski
Effective 8/13/21
Robert Rettig
Effective 8/13/21
Amanda Rowland
Effective 8/13/21
Megan Sowards
Effective 8/13/21
Hannah Vernon
Effective 8/13/21
Barbara Atkins
Effective 8/13/21
Jessica Belcher
Effective 8/13/21
Rhett Fox
Effective 8/13/21
Joshua Hardin
Effective 8/13/21
Alicia Hightower
Effective 8/13/21
Mona Kelly
Effective 8/13/21
Meredith Rodrigues
Effective 8/23/21
—**Classified**
Callie Chilton
Effective 8/13/21
Tara Edwards
Effective 8/16/21
Jenifer Lee
Effective 8/13/21
Jo Murphy
Effective 8/13/21
Talmadge Priddy
Effective 8/23/21
Jamie Soodek
Effective 8/13/21
Treva Tatum
Effective 8/23/21
Franklin West
Effective 8/2/21
Ronald Anderson
Effective 8/23/21
Beverly Campbell
Effective 8/13/21
Amber Davis

Effective 8/13/21

TERMINATIONS:

—**Licensed**

—**Classified**

TRANSFERS:

—**Administration**

—**Licensed**

Stacia Anderson

Effective 8/13/21

Taylor Carter

Effective 8/13/21

Richard Crowder

Effective 8/2/21

Rebecca Day

Effective 8/13/21

Johana Gonzalez

Effective 8/13/21

Richard Hicks

Effective 8/13/21

Michele Knight

Effective 8/13/21

Debra Price

Effective 8/13/21

Annie Snavely

Effective 8/2/21

Lakin Wingfield

Effective 8/2/21

Stacy Justice

Effective 8/13/21

Kelsey Kennon

Effective 8/13/21

—**Classified**

Debra Benjamin-Barnes

Effective 8/23/21

Andrea Collins

Effective 7/19/21

Valerie Ellis

Effective 8/13/21

Phyllis Gray

Effective 8/16/21

Elizabeth Johnson

Effective 8/13/21

Nelson Milner

Effective 7/19/21

Tamara Mills

Effective 8/13/21

Kayla Ortiz

Effective 8/13/21

William Phillips

Effective 8/23/21

Senetra Reynolds

Effective 8/23/21

Reggie Smith

Effective 7/19/21

Connie Strader

Effective 8/13/21

Clyde Vernon

Effective 7/19/21

Mariana Vargas-Turrubiantes

Effective 8/16/21

Nancy Vialllobos
Effective 8/13/21
Dallas Williams
Effective 8/23/21
Janet Yeager
Effective 8/13/21
Jameca Adams
Effective 8/13/21
Jennifer Bauguess
Effective 8/16/21
Salim Childress
Effective 8/23/21
Tara Edwards
Effective 8/16/21
Tammy Goolsby
Effective 8/16/21
Heather Powell
Effective 8/16/21
Sandra Worley
Effective 8/16/21

Resignations:

—**Administration**

—**Licensed**

Terri Burcham
Effective 8/13/21
Bambie Evans
Effective 8/15/21
Tanita King
Effective 7/14/21
Carol Kubic
Effective 8/9/21
Amanda Marches
Effective 8/19/21
Jonathon Powell
Effective 7/27/21
Timmy Snow
Effective 8/12/21
Elbert Thomas
Effective 7/16/21
Holly Warner
Effective 8/12/21
Natalie Craven
Effective 8/27/21
Elizabeth Leach
Effective 9/6/21
Aaron Soodek
Effective 9/1/21

—**Classified**

Patty Pondurant
Effective 7/28/21
Tabitha Boswell
Effective 7/28/21
Ashely Brim
Effective 8/3/21
Kenneth Brown
Effective 7/22/21
Cassidy Claybrook
Effective 7/20/21
Gale Craig
Effective 7/27/21

Corie Gordon
Effective 7/28/21
Melissa Kellye
Effective 7/12/21
Myeshia McBride
Effective 7/21/21
Erica McNeil
Effective 7/30/21
Taylor Scott
Effective 7/14/21
Jerry Strader
Effective 5/13/21
Fredrick Thornton
Effective 7/19/21
Odette Webster
Effective 7/19/21
Alejandra Zeller
Effective 7/28/21
Joseph Griffin
Effective 9/6/21
Linda Moyer
Effective 8/3/21
Deshia Waterson
Effective 8/13/21

Retirements:

—**Administrative**

—**Licensed**

Jeffrey Hamilton
Effective 8/1/21

—**Classified**

Patricia Brown
Effective 8/1/21

Malissa Hairston
Effective 7/1/21

Leave Requests:

None

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved to amend the employment contracts of Dr. Cindy Corcoran, Dr. Charles Perkins, and Dr. Sonja Parks to extend their employment terms to June 30, 2023 and that these amendments be effective August 9, 2021, seconded by Ms. McKinney. The vote was 7/0.

Action: Ms. Rakestraw moved to accept the personnel report as presented, seconded by Mr. Isley.
The vote was 7/0.

Action: Ms. Rakestraw moved to accept the 2021-2022 Probationary Teacher List as presented, seconded by Mr. Isley.
The vote was 7/0. (Attachment)

Action: Mr. Isley moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. McKinney. The vote was 7/0.

Minutes read and approved:

Ms. Kimberly McMichael, Board Chair
Rockingham County Board of Education

Dr. Rodney Shotwell
Superintendent of Schools

September 13, 2021