

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Central Administrative Offices
511 Harrington Highway
Eden, NC 27288
January 13, 2021
6:00 p.m.

RECESSED BOARD MEETING from 1/11/2021

(Live Streaming for Public View)

Present: Ms. Kimberly McMichael, Board Chair and Ms. Vicky Alston, Vice Chair. Board Members: Ms. Paula Rakestraw, Mr. Brent Huss, Mr. Doug Isley, Ms. Vickie McKinney and Mr. Bob Wyatt. 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, Interim 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. McMichael called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

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

REPORTS / DISCUSSION ITEMS

RCS Cares About Your Safety – Our Safe Return to Learn:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Stephanie Ellis for updates regarding “RCS Cares About Your Safety - Our Safe Return to Learn”. Dr. Ellis updated the Board regarding COVID-19 vaccines. She stated that zonal clinics will be organized to provide the vaccines possibly late February. Phase 2 is projected for February as well. Dr. Ellis stated the COVID-19 testing access points and partnerships have reported that Rockingham County is currently in the red zone. The Board reviewed and discussed the RCS recommendations from the December 14, 2020 meeting regarding the “Safe Return to Learn” plans and going forward with plans based on the best practices and information available from the report Dr. Ellis provided.

Action: Ms. Alston moved that the Board approve to go on Plan B as of January 21, 2021 with the modified A/B schedule with in-person learning, Mr. Wyatt seconded the motion. The vote was 5/2. Ms. Alston, Ms. Rakestraw, Mr. Isley, Mr. Wyatt and Mr. Huss voted for the motion. Ms. McMichael and Ms. McKinney voted opposed.

BOARD COMMENTS

Ms. Rakestraw thanked those that spoke in public comments at the January 11, 2021 board meeting. She thanked the board members also for hearing all those that wanted to speak. She thanked Dr. Shotwell for his dedication and the young student that spoke Monday during public comments. Ms. Rakestraw stated if teachers are saying they are fearful to speak, the Board should be concerned. Ms. Rakestraw stated the board should take comments of speakers into consideration. Ms. Rakestraw spoke to the students stating they are the focus and they all matter.

Ms. Alston thanked those that spoke during public comments at the January 11, 2021 board meeting. She spoke condolences to the Perkins family for their recent loss.

Mr. Isley spoke condolences to the Perkins family for their recent loss.

Ms. McMichael spoke condolences to the Perkins family for their recent loss. Ms. McMichael stated the board has had division and it is time for the Board to focus on the students. Ms. McMichael stated she would like to see the district start plans to celebrate our seniors. Ms. McMichael stated she appreciated Dr. Shotwell and his family.

CONSENT ITEMS

Presented consent items for Board consideration:

1. Approval – Gifts, Grants and Donations – Ms. Annie Ellis (Attachment 1-A)
2. Approval Consent Item - Board of Education Meeting Minutes for approval:
 - December 14, 2020 – Open Session Board Meeting Minutes

Action: Mr. Huss moved that the Board approve the consent items, noting the amendment to the December 14, 2020 minutes to remove attachment 4-A under action item 7.4 as requested by Mr. Isley. Ms. Rakestraw seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval – 2021 North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Facilities Needs Survey:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for comments regarding the 2021 Facility Needs Survey required by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Dr. Parks and Mr. E.C. Stophel presented an overview of the Facilities Needs Survey. Dr. Parks reported every five years local school boards are required to complete their Facility Needs Assessment to the State Board of Education. Dr. Parks stated the assessment database format provided to the school districts collects detailed facility data. Dr. Parks stated required board approval is required and is be presented to the County Commissioners for review with their signature acknowledging the information.

Action: Mr. Isley moved that the Board approve the 2021 North Carolina Department of Public Instruction Facilities Needs Survey for Rockingham County Schools as presented. Ms. Rakestraw seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Approval – Restricted Sales Tax Funds Allocation for Roofs:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for comments regarding the restricted sales tax fund allocation request. Dr. Parks stated the district is requesting the restricted sales tax funds be allocated for roofs to the amount requested of \$1,278,232.00. Dr. Parks stated priority for roofs as listed.

- Central Elementary Gym Roof
- Western Rockingham Middle Sixth Grade Building Roof
- Holmes Middle Main Building Roof
- McMichael High 500-900 Building Roofs

The Board had a discussion regarding the phone system needs. Ms. Kacey Sensenich reported the need to replace the outdated paging systems and phone systems at the schools and all building locations.

The Board had a discussion regarding the old Bethany School building roofs. The Board determined to address the old Bethany School main building and gym roof with remaining funds from restricted sales tax funds.

Action: Mr. Huss moved that the Board approve the allocation for roofs from the restricted sales tax funds noting to set aside remaining funds to address the old Bethany School main building roof and gymnasium roof as presented. Ms. Alston seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Approval – COVID-19 Considerations and Proposal for Exceptional Children and Day Treatment Program:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Pam Watkins and Dr. Stephanie Ellis for comments regarding the proposal for the Exceptional Children and Day Treatment Program students. Dr. Pam Watkins presented and update regarding COVID-19 considerations for the Exceptional Children’s Program and the Day Treatment Program. Dr. Watkins the district is receiving requests for these students to attend four days a week on Plan B. Dr. Watkins proposed for board consideration to approve students in the Exceptional Children’s Program in the Adapted Education Curriculum/Extend 1, Therapeutic Learning Classrooms, and Day Treatment classes to attend four days a week (Monday/Tuesday; Thursday/Friday; Wednesday as Instructional Day and Planning/Cleaning Day) so that free and appropriate public education is provided to this group of students. Dr. Watkins stated parents may choose a virtual option if they prefer that choice.

Action: Ms. Rakestraw moved that the Board approve the request for the Exceptional Children and Day Treatment Program students as presented to attend four days per week on Plan B. Mr. Huss seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

CLOSED SESSION

Action: Mr. Isley moved to go into Closed Session to preserve the attorney client privilege pursuant to according to state law North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a) (3) (a) (6) to discuss personnel and confidential matters. Ms. Rakestraw seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

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

OPEN SESSION

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Employments:

—Administration

—Licensed

Diego Franco

Effective 1/4/21

Alejandra Guzman

Effective 1/4/21

—Classified

Shaikia Dillard

Effective 1/19/21

David Hooper

Effective 1/25/21

Adam Martin

Effective 1/20/21

TRANSFERS:

—Administration

—Licensed

Lindsay Crumpler

Effective 1/19/21

—Classified

Wendy Mitchell

Effective 11/27/20

Helen Ziglar

Effective 1/4/21

Resignations:

—**Administration**

—**Licensed**

Hayley Harville
Effective 12/14/20

Sheri Tologziecki
Effective 1/29/21

Sarah Black
Effective 1/21/21

Elisa Pollard
Effective 1/7/21

Terrie Scales
Effective 1/5/21

Lakeidra Thompson
Effective 1/5/21

Kenneth Turlington
Effective 1/20/21

—**Classified**

Samantha Gammons
Effective 1/8/21

Dan Page
Effective 1/5/21

Ineshia Goods
Effective 12/28/20

Clara Haynes
Effective 1/1/21

Brittany Poindexter
Effective 1/8/21

Rashad Preston
Effective 1/4/21

William Wilson
Effective 1/15/21

Retirements:

—**Administrative**

—**Licensed**

—**Classified**

Hazel Martin
Effective 4/1/21

Carol Wyrick
Effective 3/1/21

Leave Requests:

None

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

Action: Mr. Isley moved to approve the Emergency Response Plans as presented, seconded by Mr. Huss.
The vote was 7/0.

Action: Mr. Huss moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Isley. 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