

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Central Administrative Offices

511 Harrington Highway

Eden, NC 27288

March 22, 2021

6:00 p.m.

Board Work Session

(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. Terry Worrell, Interim Superintendent; Dr. Charles Perkins, Assistant Superintendent Curriculum and Instruction; 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 – RECESSED MEETING FROM 3/22/2021 – 5:00 p.m.

Ms. McMichael called the meeting to order from the recessed meeting.

ROLL CALL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. McMichael announced the next regular Board Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 19, 2021 at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC via live stream.

Ms. McMichael announced there is no Work Session in April.

Ms. McMichael announced the May Board Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 10, 2021 at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC via live stream.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Rakestraw moved that the Board approve the agenda. Ms. McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

REPORTS / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion of 2021-2022 Draft Revised Proposed Budget:

Ms. McMichael recognized Ms. Annie Ellis for comments on the draft proposed 2021-2022 budget. Ms. Ellis presented the revised draft of the proposed budget for board discussion. Ms. Ellis updated the Board on the revisions/changes made to the draft proposed budget since the March 8, 2021 board meeting (Attachment 1-A). Ms. Ellis reviewed the State Public School Fund and Local Current Expense Fund changes. Ms. Ellis stated she would return with the final proposed budget for board approval at the April 19, 2021 board meeting.

Strategic Plan Update:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Charles Perkins and Dr. Cindy Corcoran for an update on the Strategic Plan. Dr. Corcoran began with an overview of how the current Strategic Plan was developed. Dr. Perkins reviewed the implementation process for the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan, and gathering of feedback for that plan through the advisory groups as listed below.

- Gathering Feedback
 - Organize Advisory Boards to provide feedback and direction
 - Parent Advisory Board

- Student Advisory Board
- Teacher Advisory Board
- Student Health Advisory Council
- Business Community Advisory Council

Dr. Perkins reviewed the NC STAR model stating that aligns with the current School Improvement Plans for the district. He stated the NC STAR model would provide a streamlined process for building the Strategic Plan for the school district. After board discussion, Dr. Perkins stated he would schedule a meeting with the sub-committee members (Ms. McKinney and Ms. Rakestraw) to evaluate the NC STAR model. Dr. Perkins reviewed other considerations for the Strategic Plan as listed.

- Defining a RCS Graduate
- Decision Points to Be Made
- Timeline

RCS Protection of Network Devices for Students:

Ms. McMichael recognized Ms. Kacey Sensenich for a report on district protection of student network devices. Ms. Sensenich updated the Board on the disarming of the Emotet Malware. She reported the FBI has now disarmed the destructive malicious software, or malware, known as Emotet. Ms. Sensenich stated this was the malware attack our school district fell victim to in 2017.

Ms. Sensenich provided a report regarding the protection plans in place for our students using RCS devices. Ms. Sensenich stated she would provide a confidential report in closed session this evening to the board regarding protection measures for our network and devices.

- Why are we here to protect the students on their devices
- RCS social media posts – students cannot access Facebook or other social media accounts via their school-issued laptops
- Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA) – ensures that the school district has an internet safety policy that includes technology protection measures
- Website traffic – 1/1/2021 – 1/31/2021 had 91.1 million URLs blocked
- Website traffic – 2/1/2021 – 2/24/2021 had 9.4 million URLs blocked
- February URLs = 508.5 million transactions with 9.4 million blocked
- Students are smart, creative and determined

AIG Services Report:

Ms. McMichael recognized Ms. Nancy Towler for a report on the AIG Services for the school district. Ms. Towler presented the report of AIG services provided to students for 2020-2021 as listed.

- Elementary School Services
 - Instructional Coaches
 - Provide direct support through co-teaching, small groups and pull-out as part of rotation for identified 4th and 5th graders through Google Classroom and Zoom each week
 - Enrichment Includes
 - Battle of the Books – virtual format
 - Science Fair – virtual format
 - Virtual field trips
 - IC and Classroom teacher offerings
- Middle School Services
 - Identified AIG students in advanced pathways and/or cluster groups for English/Language Arts and Math
 - Advanced Math 6 in place
 - Enrichment
 - Virtual Chess Club
 - Wednesday Challenge
 - Science Fair

- Battle of the Books option
 - Middle School ICs mailed AIG Rockstar postcards to various AIG students
 - Middle School ICs met with 8th graders virtually to complete differentiated education plan conferences
 - Instructional Coach support through CASA and content meetings, planning differentiated lessons and personalize pathways
- High School Services
 - Students self-selected courses, Honors, Advanced Placement, Advanced Studies Academy, International Baccalaureate, RCS Virtual Academy, CCRG (College Career Ready Graduate), NC Virtual Public School, NC School of Mathematics and Science
 - Expanded dual enrollment for 9th and 10th graders
 - Enrichment
 - Governor’s School
 - Virtual Science Fair
 - Academic Challenge Competition
 - High School ICs have mailed AIG Rockstar postcards to various AIG students
 - High School ICs have held DEP Meetings, individual conference held virtually
 - Instructional Coach support through CASA and grade level meetings, planning differentiated lessons and personalized pathways
- Additional Information:
 - Monthly virtual meetings with Elementary and Secondary Instructional Coaches
 - NC Association of Gifted Teachers – The new Instructional Coaches attended and another teacher from their school
 - Team presented at NCAGT
 - GEEK Squad – 24 completed in 2020 face-to-face, 19 completed in 2021 through Virtual Option
 - ASPIRE – summer enrichment program for rising 5 – 9 the graders identified gifted students and currently planning for 2021 in person option that will be hosted at Rockingham County High School

RCS Cares About Your Safety – Safe Return to Learn:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Stephanie Ellis for an update on the Safe Return to Learn, “Plan A” Update. Dr. Ellis presented the report as listed.

- Plan A Update (Approved at the 3/8/2021 Board of Education Meeting)
 - RCS Grades Pre K – 5 will attend in-person learning five days a week beginning March 22, 2021
 - RCS Grades 6-12 will attend in-person learning five days a week beginning March 30, 2021
 - Remote learning options are still available for student in Grades Pre K – 12 if parent chooses
 - A remote learning day will also occur on March 29th to allow for staff to receive their second dose vaccine scheduled for 3/28/2021 and to plan for potential side effects that may occur
- Improvement COVID-19 Metrics
 - North Carolina positives test = 5.8%
 - Rockingham County percent positive tests = 3.2%
- COVID-19 Resources and Guidance Documents – these are updated regularly
- PPE in RCs Directions and Guidance:
 - Frequent Cleaning
 - Social Distancing
 - Wellness Check
 - Wear Masks
 - Wash Hands
- Staff Roles Flow Chart – Following process from point where child arrives at school
- Symptom Screening Flow Chart –Screen for COVID-19
- Monitoring for Symptoms: Screening

- Have you had close contact within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes in the last 14 days with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, or has any health department or health care provided asked you to quarantine?
- Since you were last at school, have you had any of these symptoms:
 - Fever
 - Chills
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - New Cough
 - New loss of taste or smell
- Since you were last at school, have you been diagnosed with COVID-19?
- Any student or staff member experiencing these symptoms should stay home and follow up with their medical care provider
- Update Quarantine Guidance: 14 days from last close contact (for school and sports)
- RCS Prevention, Response, and Considerations for School Closure for COVID-19 (Approved 09-14-2020)

CLOSED SESSION

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

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

OPEN SESSION

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Employments:

—Administration

—Licensed

Chelsea Ziglar
Effective 3/8/21

—Classified

Jason Broadnax
Effective 3/8/21-6/30/21
Abigail Epling
Effective 3/15/21-6/8/21

TERMINATIONS:

—Licensed

—Classified

TRANSFERS:

—Administration

—Licensed

Ammi Fleming
Effective 2/1/21
Stephanie Moore
Effective 1/19/21

Janet Winn
Effective 1/19/21

—Classified

Burrell Craig
Effective 1/1/21
Taylor Scott
Effective 2/1/21

Kelsie Bowser
Effective 1/19/21
Shaikia Dillard
Effective 1/19/21
Antwon Fogle
Effective 1/19/21
Shannon Hazelwood
Effective 1/19/21
Paula Horne
Effective 1/19/21
Aimee Jenkins
Effective 1/19/21
Dewey Smith
Effective 1/15/21
Julian Slaydon
Effective 1/19/21
Brittany Thomas
Effective 1/19/21
Shannon Totman
Effective 1/19/21

Resignations:

—**Administration**

—**Licensed**

Lora Luetjen
Effective 4/9/21
Jessica Potter
Effective 5/28/21
Jeremy Totten
Effective 4/16/21

—**Classified**

Stephanie Bean
Effective 2/25/21
John Lemons
Effective 2/11/21
Susan Roberts
Effective 3/12/21
Walter Smart
Effective 2/19/21

Retirements:

—**Administrative**

James Hensley
Effective 7/1/21

—**Licensed**

—**Classified**

Tracie Jones
Effective 5/1/21

Leave Requests:

None

Resignations from Coaching Positions Only:

Adrian Doss
Effective 2/25/21

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

Action: Ms. Alston 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

April 19, 2021