

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 8, 2020

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday December 8, 2020, at the District Office, 1000 Brookhaven Drive, Aiken, SC at 6:00 p.m. Print and broadcast news media were notified of the time, date, and web location of this meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Dwight Smith, Chairman
Mr. Jason Crane
Dr. Patricia Hanks
Mr. Barry Moulton
Mrs. Sandra Shealey
Dr. John Bradley
Mr. Cameron Nuessle
Ms. Patrice Rhinehart-Jackson
Mr. Brian Silas

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. King Laurence, Superintendent
Mrs. Kim Chriswell, Administrative Assistant
to Superintendent/Board of Education

Chairman Smith called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

Moment of Silence and Pledge were led by Chairman Smith.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Chairman Smith stated if there were no objections the agenda would stand as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 17, 2020 were presented for approval; Dr. Bradley MOVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 17, 2020; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Mr. Landon Ball spoke in regards to the return to full time face to face instruction.
- Miss Melanie Ball spoke in regards to the return to full time face to face instruction.
- Ms. Jessica Gusto spoke in regards to the return to full time face to face instruction.
- Ms. Melinda Ball spoke in regards to the return to full time face to face instruction
- Mr. Scott Ayers spoke in regards to the return to full time face to face instruction and teacher concerns.
- Ms. Jana Jackson spoke in regards to the return to full time face to face instruction
- Ms. Adrienne Patterson spoke in regards to the return to full time face to face instruction.
- Mr. John Pettigrew spoke in regards to the return to full time face to face instruction.

CSRA ALLIANCE FOR FORT GORDON

Mr. Tom Clark presented the Center of Excellence of the Year 2019-2020 to The Fort Gordon Cyber District and the Aiken County Public Schools for its support of AFA's CyberPatriot program.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Brycen & Landon Williamson were recognized as PBC High School Anglers of the Year.

ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

Mrs. Mahoney reviewed the procedures for the election of Board Officers and distributed ballots for electing a chairman. Mrs. Mahoney counted the votes and announced the appointment of Dr. John Bradley as Chairman of the Board. Ballots were distributed for the election of the Vice-Chairman. Mrs. Mahoney counted the votes and announced the appointment of Mr. Dwight Smith as Vice-Chairman of the Board.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD CHAIRMAN

- No Items This Meeting

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A-1 RESULTS OF FINANCIAL AUDIT, FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020: Mr. Tim Grow with Elliott Davis presented a power point presentation regarding Results of Financial Audit, Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020.
- A-2 COVID-19 UPDATE: Mr. Berkley Postell presented update from the Back to School Advisory Committee; Mr. Smith MOVED that the District remain in its current hybrid schedule through January 15, 2021, and to review the data and recommendations from the advisory committee at the January 12, 2021 meeting; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-2 (Mr. Nuessle and Mr. Moulton opposed)
- A-3 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE BELVEDERE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ADDITION: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- A-4 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE MIDLAND VALLEY HIGH ADDITION PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

- A-5 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE MILLBROOK ADDITIONS & RENOVATIONS PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- A-6 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE NORTH AUGUSTA HIGH SCHOOL PHASE III ADDITION PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- A-7 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE RIDGE SPRING-MONETTA ELEMENTARY PHASE 3 ADDITION PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

CONSENT ITEMS:

- B-1 AIKEN COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR SPECIAL CITIZENS GRANT DONATION TO NORTH AUGUSTA HIGH SCHOOL – FY21; Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the \$1,800.00 Aiken County Association for Special Citizens Grant Donation to North Augusta High School and adjustments to the FY21 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the donation and expenditures.
- B-2 CHANDLER LAW FIRM/EVERETT CHANDLER DONATION TO A.L. CORBETT MIDDLE SCHOOL – FY21: Superintendent Laurence recommended the Board approve the \$2,000.00 Chandler Law Firm Donation to A.L. Corbett Middle School and adjustments to the FY21 Special Revenue fund to reflect the amount of the donation and expenditures.
- B-3 SUBMISSION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR AIKEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – FY22: Superintendent Laurence recommended the Board approve the South Carolina Department of Education's National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant application for Aiken Elementary School, and receipt of funds, if awarded.

- B-4 SUBMISSION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR AIKEN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL – FY22: Superintendent Laurence recommended the board approve the South Carolina Department of Education's National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant application for Aiken Intermediate School, and receipt of funds, if awarded.
- B-5 SUBMISSION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR A.L. CORBETT MIDDLE SCHOOL – FY22: Superintendent Laurence recommended the board approve the South Carolina Department of Education's National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant application for A.L. Corbett Middle School and receipt of funds, if awarded.
- B-6 SUBMISSION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR BYRD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – FY22: Superintendent Laurence recommended the board approve the South Carolina Department of Education's National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant application for Byrd Elementary School, and receipt of funds, if awarded.
- B-7 SUBMISSION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT APPLICATION FOR JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, AND RECEIPT OF FUNDS, IF AWARDED: Superintendent Laurence recommended the board approve the South Carolina Department of Education's National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant application for Jefferson Elementary School, and receipt of funds, if awarded.

- B-8 SUBMISSION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR NEW ELLENTON STEAM MIDDLE SCHOOL – FY22: Superintendent Laurence recommended the board approve the South Carolina Department of Education's National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant application for New Ellenton STEAM Middle School, and receipt of funds, if awarded.
- B-9 SUBMISSION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR NORTH AUGUSTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – FY22: Superintendent Laurence recommended the board approve the South Carolina Department of Education's National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant application for North Augusta Elementary School, and receipt of funds, if awarded.
- B-10 SUBMISSION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR REDCLIFFE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – FY22: Superintendent Laurence recommended the board approve the South Carolina Department of Education's National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant application for Redcliffe Elementary School, and receipt of funds, if awarded.
- B-11 SUBMISSION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR WARRENVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – FY22: Superintendent Laurence recommended the board approve the South Carolina Department of Education's National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant application for Warrenville Elementary School, and receipt of funds, if awarded.

- B-12 LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD COURSES FOR 2020-21: Superintendent Laurence recommended the board approve the additional Local School Board Courses for 2020-21.
- B-13 MEMBERSHIP OF THE AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC DISTRICT/EARLY HEAD START POLICY COUNCIL: Superintendent Laurence recommended the board approve the policy council membership and direct the chair to appoint a board member to serve as an ex-officio member on the policy council and appoint an alternate board member to serve in the absence of the first appointed board member.
- B-14 CONCEPTUAL AUTHORIZATION FOR EASEMENT NEGOTIATION AT GRANITEVILLE ELMEMENTARY: Superintendent Laurence recommended the board authorize on a conceptual basis the Administration to work with the requesting party in planning, coordinating and implementing the granting of the proposed easements and installations, subject to the Board's subsequent final approval and authorization at a later date.
- B-15 BOARD ROOM AUDIO-VISUAL UPGRADE THROUGH THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF LIVE-STREAMING EQUIPMENT AND A TECHINCAL SUPPORT CONTRACT: Superintendent Laurence recommended the board approve the issuance of a Request For Proposals (RFP) to upgrade the board room's audio-visual capabilities, install live-streaming equipment, and provide technical support for future board meetings.

Dr. Bradley MOVED to approve items B-1 through B-15 as presented; SECONDED by Mr. Nuessle; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS:

- C-1 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Dr. Bradley MOVED to approve the lists of certified personnel for school year 2020-21, certified retirees rehires for school year 2020-21, classified personnel for school year 2020-2021; SECONDED by Mr. Crane; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C-2 CHANGES TO POLICY GCC PROFESSIONAL STAFF LEAVES AND ABSENCES AND POLICY GDC SUPPORT STAFF LEAVES AND ABSENCES, FIRST READING: Dr. Bradley MOVED to approve changes to Policy GCC Professional Staff Leaves and Absences and Policy GDC Support Staff Leaves and Absences on first reading; SECONDED by Mr. Crane; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-3 CRITERIA FOR CHANGING INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL DURING PANDEMIC: Dr. Bradley MOVED to Authorize the Superintendent to change the instructional model of individual schools if positive COVID cases among students exceed 3 percent or if the aggregate of instructional staff in isolation or quarantine exceeds 25 percent; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-4 PARTICIPATION IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC COMPETITION DURING PANDEMIC: Mr. Silas MOVED to continue to follow the guidelines for interscholastic athletic competition issued by the South Carolina High School League; SECONDED by Dr. Bradley; MOTION carried on a vote of 8-0-1 (Mr. Moulton abstained).

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS:

- No Items This Meeting

REPORTS FROM BOARD LIASION TO VARIOUS COMMITTEES:

- No Items This Meeting

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

- Superintendent will provide updates at the January 12, 2021 meeting

Chairman Smith announced the Board would need a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of considering the following matters in such order as the Board deems appropriate: Contractual Matters: Contractual Matter in Regards to Property; Appeals: Student Appeal (Area Two); Legal Briefing: Legal Advice Concerning COVID Testing, Legal Advice Concerning a Construction Matter.

Dr. Bradley MOVED to enter Executive Session for the purpose as stated; SECONDED by Mr. Crane; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The regular session recessed at 8:41 p.m.

Executive session convened at 8:50 p.m.

Regular session resumed at 10:15 p.m.

Chairman Smith announced while in executive session the Board considered, or received information concerning the following matters: Contractual Matters: Contractual Matter in Regards to Property; Appeals: Student Appeal (Area Two); Legal Briefing: Legal Advice Concerning COVID Testing, Legal Advice Concerning a Construction Matter.

CONTRACTUAL MATTERS:

- Dr. Bradley MOVED to approve the request of Sage Mill Residential, Ltd., and authorize the Chair and District Superintendent to execute the proposed Limited Warranty Deed as requested; SECONDED by Mr. Moulton; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPEALS:

- Student Appeal – Area 2: The Board heard an appeal from a high school parent in Area Two; Mr. Silas MOVED to have student placed in an alternative setting for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION carried on a vote of 6-3 (Mr. Smith, Mr. Crane and Mr. Nuessle opposed)

LEGAL BRIEFING:

- Legal Advice Concerning COVID Testing – No Action Taken
- Legal Advice Concerning a Construction Matter – No Action Taken

Mr. Crane MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Submitted by: Kim Chriswell

APPROVED: