

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2024

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at the District Office, 1000 Brookhaven Drive, Aiken, SC at 6:00 p.m. In accordance with S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, amended Section 30-4-80, the print and broadcast news media were notified of the time, date, place, and web location of this meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Cameron Nuessle, Chairman
Dr. John Bradley, Vice-Chair
Mr. Jim Broome
Mr. Colen Lindell
Mrs. Liz Morris
Mr. Barry Moulton
Ms. Patrice Rhinehart-Jackson
Mr. Brian Silas
Mrs. Deborah Tyler

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Corey Murphy, Superintendent
Mrs. Kim Chriswell, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and the Board of Education

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

Chairman Nuessle led Moment of Silence and Pledge.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2024 were presented for approval; Dr. Bradley MOVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2024; SECONDED by Mr. Lindell; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No Requests This Meeting

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Ms. Leslie Johnson, Career Specialist at Leavelle McCampbell Middle & Paul Knox Middle Schools was recognized as the 2024 South Carolina CTE Career Specialist of the Year.

OFFICE OF BOARD CHAIRMAN

No Items This Meeting

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

- A-1 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Lindell MOVED to approve lists of certified personnel for school year 2024-25, classified personnel for school year 2024-2025, classified retiree rehire personnel for 2024-25, certified supplemental personnel for school year 2024-25, and non-employee Supplemental Personnel for school year 2024-25 SECONDED by Mrs. Morris; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- A-2 RESULTS FROM ANNUAL FINANCIAL AUDIT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024: Mr. Lindell MOVED to accept the audit results for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024; SECONDED by Mr. Moulton: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- A-3 ADDITIONAL ALLOCATIONS FOR MULTI-LINGUAL LEARNERS TEACHERS; Dr. Bradley MOVED to approve .5 MLL Teacher Allocations for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year; SECONDED by Mrs. Morris; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSENT ITEMS

- B-1 SCHEMATIC PLANS FOR THE BELVEDERE ELEMENTARY FOOD SERVICE AND MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM PROJECT: Superintendent Murphy recommended approving the schematic design narrative, schematic plans, and preliminary cost estimate for the Belvedere Elementary Food Service and Multi-Purpose Room Project as presented by Cheatham Fletcher Scott Architecture.
- B-2 RATIFICATION OF EXPULSIONS: Superintendent Murphy recommended ratifying the expulsion of students not appealing this action as submitted by the Hearing Officer.
- B-3 OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSFER REQUESTS – TRANSFERS OUT 2024-2025: Superintendent Murphy recommended that the students be released for out-of-district transfer.
- B-4 REQUEST TO ADMIT FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT: Superintendent Murphy recommended to approve the foreign exchange students listed on the attached sheet for admission to the School District of Aiken County in January of 2025 for the second semester of the 2024-2025 school year.
- B-5 FIDELITY CHARITABLE DONOR-ADVISED FUND GRANT AWARD TO NORTH AUGUSTA HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR: Superintendent Murphy recommended approving the \$3,000.0 Fidelity Charitable Donor-Advised Fund Grant Award to North Augusta High School Choir and adjustments to the FY25 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the donation and expenditures.

- B-6 BOOSTER ENTERPRISES, INC. DONATION TO NEW ELLENTON MIDDLE STEAM MAGNET SCHOOL– FY25: Superintendent Murphy recommended approving the \$1,440.00 Booster Enterprises, Inc. donation to New Ellenton Middle STEAM Magnet School and adjustments to the FY25 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the donation and expenditures.
- B-7 CENTRAL CAROLINA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT DONATION FOR THE MIDLAND VALLEY AREA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARIES: Superintendent Murphy recommended approving the \$6,000.00 Central Carolina Community Foundation Grant donation to Midland Valley Area Elementary School Libraries and adjustments to the FY25 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the donation and expenditures.
- B-8 GMP #1 AIKEN HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL BLEACHERS AND PRESS BOX: Superintendent Murphy recommended authorizing the administration to negotiate a contract with H.G. Reynolds Company in the amount of \$2,653,781.00 for installation of new Aiken High Football Bleachers and Press Box, utilizing the CM at Risk delivery system.
- B-9 AIKEN HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL STADIUM VISITOR'S RESTROOMS: Superintendent Murphy recommended authorizing the administration to accept the low base bid totaling \$1,253,840.00 and enter into a contract with J.E. Stewart Builders, Inc. for the Aiken High School Football Stadium Visitor's Restrooms with the funding coming from the original 1% sales tax account.
- B-10 2025 PAINTING OF SCHOFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL AND EXTERIOR OF GLOVERVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: Superintendent Murphy recommended authorizing the administration to accept the low base bids and enter into a contract with MAR Construction Company, Inc. for the total amount of \$237,740.00 and Carpet Creations for the total amount of the \$58,386.00. Funding coming from the 2025-2026 Five-Year Facility Improvement Plan Painting Budget.

B-11 PORTABLE BLEACHERS AT WAGENER-SALLEY HIGH SCHOOL: Superintendent Murphy recommended authorizing the administration to accept the low bid and enter into a contract with Master Craft Renovations Systems, LLC. In the amount of \$45,250.00 with the funds coming from the FFE athletic account at Wagener-Salley High School.

Mr. Silas MOVED to approve item B-1 through B-11 as presented; SECONDED by Dr. Bradley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

C-1 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE NORTH AUGUSTA HIGH ATHLETIC FIELDS PHASE 4 PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS

AGENDA ITEMS SUBMITTED BY INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS

No Items This Meeting

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO BOARD MEMBERS

No Items This Meeting

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT

- Superintendent's Update
Superintendent Murphy discussed the school closure day on January 10 due to winter weather conditions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Nuessle 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. Student Matters – a.) Student Appeal – Area One, b.) Student Appeal – Area One, c.) Student Appeal – Area One, d.) Student Appeal – Area Two, e.) Student Appeal – Area Three and Employment Matters – Employee Matter – Breach of Contract.

Dr. Bradley MOVED to enter Executive Session for the purpose as stated; SECONDED by Mr. Lindell; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Regular Session recessed at 6:42 p.m.

Executive Session convened at 6:52 p.m.

Regular Session resumed at 7:22 p.m.

Mr. Moulton MOVED to Return to Regular Session; SECONDED by Mr. Lindell; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairman Nuessle announced while in Executive Session the board considered or received information concerning the following matter for the purpose of considering the following matters in such order as the Board deems appropriate Student Matters – a.) Student Appeal – Area One, b.) Student Appeal – Area One, c.) Student Appeal – Area One, d.) Student Appeal – Area Two, e.) Student Appeal – Area Three and Employment Matters – Employee Matter – Breach of Contract.

STUDENT MATTERS

a.) STUDENT APPEAL – AREA ONE: The Board heard an appeal of an Area One High School Student. Mrs. Tyler MOVED to uphold the recommendation of the District Hearing Officer and expel the student for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b.) STUDENT APPEAL – AREA ONE: The Board heard an appeal of an Area One High School Student; Mrs. Tyler MOVED to uphold the recommendation of the District Hearing Officer of a 45-day placement in the District’s Alternative Program; SECONDED by Mr. Moulton; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY,
- c.) STUDENT APPEAL – AREA ONE: The Board heard an appeal from a parent of an Area One High School Student; Mrs. Tyler MOVED to uphold the recommendation of the District Hearing Officer of a 45-day placement in the District’s Alternative Program; SECONDED by Dr. Bradley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- d.) STUDENT APPEAL – AREA TWO: The Board heard an appeal from a parent of an Area Two High School Student. Mrs. Tyler MOVED to uphold the recommendation of the District Hearing Officer of a 45-day placement in the District’s Alternative Program; SECONDED by Mr. Lindell; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY,
- e.) STUDENT APPEAL – AREA THREE: The Board heard an appeal from a parent of an Area Three Middle School Student. Mrs. Tyler; MOVED to uphold the recommendation of the District Hearing Officer of a 45-day placement in the District’s Alternative Program; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY,

EMPLOYEE MATTERS

- EMPLOYEE MATTER – BREACH OF CONTRACT: Mr. Silas MOVED to direct the administration to make a formal complaint to the State Board of Education regarding Employee A, B, and C’s breach of contract; SECONDED by Dr. Bradley; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-0-1(Mr. Moulton abstained).

CONTRACTUAL MATTERS

No Items This Meeting

LEGAL MATTERS

No Items This Meeting

Dr. Bradley MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Mrs. Morris; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED: