

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 23, 2021

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 23, 2021, 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:

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Dwight Smith, Vice Chair
Mr. Barry Moulton

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

Chairman Bradley 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 Bradley.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Regular Meeting on March 9, 2021, were presented for approval; Mr. Silas MOVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on March 9, 2021; SECONDED by Ms., Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Mr. Keith Liner spoke in regards to budget considerations for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Ms. Elesha Ellison, Guidance Counselor at Silver Bluff High School, was recognized as the Palmetto State School Counselor Association – School Counselor of the Year.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD CHAIRMAN

Chairman Bradley distributed copies of board policies to be discussed during Executive Session – Legal Advice, at the April 20, 2021 meeting.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A-1 ASSESSMENT INFORMATION AND ESSER II PROPOSAL PRESENTATION: Ms. Kate Olin, presented update on District Assessments, and Mrs. Jeanie Glover gave overview of ESSER II Funding Proposals.
- A-2 FINANCIAL REPORT, AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2020: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- A-3 FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2020: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- A-4 FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

CONSENT ITEMS

- B-1 RATIFICATION OF EXPULSIONS: Superintendent Laurence recommended the board ratify the expulsion of student not appealing this action as submitted by the Hearing Officer.
- B-2 OUT-OF- DISTRICT TRANSFER REQUESTS: Superintendent Laurence recommended that the students be released from Aiken County to attend the out-of-district schools.
- B-3 OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSFER REQUESTS: Superintendent Laurence recommended that the student be allowed to enroll in Aiken County Schools. The parent/legal guardian would be responsible for paying the \$750.00 tuition fee (\$1,000 family cap).
- B-4 CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 1 FOR THE 2020 SCRUBBING, SANDING, STRIPING & COATING OF GYMNASIUM FLOORS DISTRICT WIDE FOR AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS: Superintendent Laurence recommended the board authorize the administration proceed with the acceptance of Change Order Number 1 for a credit amount of <\$23,784.13> from The Flooring Connection, LLC.
- B-5 AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START PROGRAM COST OF LIVING SUPPLEMENT – FY21: Superintendent Laurence recommended that the board approve administration's recommendation to notify the Office of Head Start of its intent not to apply for these monies.

Mrs. Shealey MOVED to approved items B-1 through B-5 as presented; SECONDED by Mr. Crane; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

- C-1 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Mrs. Shealey MOVED to approve lists of certified personnel for school year 2021-22 and classified personnel for school year 2020-21; SECONDED by Dr. Hanks; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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- C-2 REVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES GCC-R(2) (PROFESSIONAL STAFF) AND GDC-R (2) SUPPORT STAFF), COVID-19 RELATED LEAVE: Mr. Silas MOVED to approve the revision of the temporary addition of Administrative Rules GCC-R(2) (Professional Staff) and GDC-R(2) (Support Staff), COVID-19 Related Leave; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-3 CLOSURE OF LLOYD-KENNEDY CHARTER SCHOOL AND AIKEN PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL: Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve the school closure of Lloyd-Kennedy Charter School and Aiken Performing Arts Academy Charter School; SECONDED by Mr. Crane; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-4 ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE FIVE-YEAR FACILITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN: Mrs. Shealey MOVED to approve the proposed Five-Year Facility Improvement Plan as presented in the attachment. SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-5 BOARD ROOM AUDIO-VISUAL UPGRADE THROUGH THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF LIVE-STREAMING EQUIPMENT AND A TECHNICAL SUPPORT CONTRACT THROUGH SWAGIT: Mr. Crane MOVED to accept the Board Communications Committee's recommendation that the District contract with Swagit to provide the needed equipment, technical support, and annual services; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-6 PROPOSED UTILIZATION OF ESSER II FUNDS: Mr. Nuessle MOVED to approve the ESSER II Spending Plan excluding the request for an additional Technology Curriculum Specialist Position, and CAI software be brought back for further discussion before purchasing at a upcoming meeting; SECONDED by Mr. Crane; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C-7 CONSIDERATION OF MID-YEAR 2020-2021 STEP INCREASE: Mr. Crane MOVED to APPROVE the administration's recommendation of the required step increase for eligible teachers, JROTC instructors, OTs, PTs, school psychologists, nurses, payments will be lump sum (This is a formality the district has no discretion over paying a step to these eligible employees); Increasing the teacher and JROTC instructor scales from a 0-24 step scale to a 0-25 step scale; Paying a 1% one-time lump sum bonus to teachers who are in the pay band at steps 0-2 if eligible for a step; Paying a step increase to all other eligible employees retroactive to the start of the school year. If approved, employees would receive a lump sum "catch up" payment to bring their pay current. The remainder of the step increase will be spread equally over remaining paychecks for the year; SECONDED by Mrs. Shealey; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS

No Items This Meeting

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT

- A video presentation was shown thanking employees who worked during last year's school closure due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Chairman Bradley 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: Discussion of Contractual Matter, Discussion of Property Matter;

Employment Matters: Administrative Appointment (a.), Administrative Appointment (b.).

Mr. Silas MOVED to enter into Executive Session for the purpose as stated; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The regular session recessed at 8:54 p.m.

Executive session convened at 9:00 p.m.

Regular session resumed at 9:24 p.m.

Chairman Bradley announced while in executive session the Board considered, or received information concerning the following matters: Contractual Matters: Discussion of Contractual Matter, Discussion of Property Matter; Employment Matters: Administrative Appointment (a.), Administrative Appointment (b.).

CONTRACTUAL MATTERS

DISCUSSION OF CONTRACTUAL MATTER

- No Action Taken

DISCUSSION OF PROPERTY MATTER

- No Action Taken

EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

- ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT (a.)

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and appoint the top candidate as Assistant Principal at North Aiken Elementary; SECONDED BY Mrs. Shealey; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT (b.)

Mr. Silas MOVED to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and appoint the top candidate as Principal of Clearwater Elementary School; SECONDED by Mr. Crane; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Crane MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

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SUBMITTED BY: Kim Chriswell

APPROVED: