

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY  
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 9, 2021

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 9, 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. Dwight Smith, Vice Chair  
Dr. Patricia Hanks  
Mr. Barry Moulton  
Mrs. Sandra Shealey  
Mr. Jason Crane  
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 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 February 23, 2021 was presented for approval; Mr. Silas MOVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on February 23, 2021; SECONDED by Dr. Hanks; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No Requests This Meeting

OFFICE OF THE BOARD CHAIRMAN

- Accountability Report due to the Ethics Commission by March 30, 2021.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A-1 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE BELVEDERE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ADDITION: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- A-2 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE MILLBROOK ADDITIONS & RENOVATIONS PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- A-3 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE RIDGE SPRING-MONETTA ELEMENTARY PHASE 3 ADDITION PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- A-4 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE HAMMOND HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ADDITION: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented

CONSENT ITEMS:

- B-1 OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSFER REQUESTS 2021-2022: Superintendent Laurence recommended that the students be released from Aiken County to attend the out-of-district schools.

- B-2 OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSFER REQUESTS 2021-2022: Superintendent Laurence recommended that the students be allowed to enroll in Aiken County Schools for the 2021-2022 school year and that the parent/guardian would be responsible for paying the \$750.00 tuition fee (\$1,000 family cap).

Mrs., Shealey MOVED to approve items B-1 and B-2 as presented; SECONDED by Mr. Moulton; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

- C-1 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Mrs. Shealey MOVED to approve list of certified personnel for school year 2021-22; classified personnel for school year 2020-21; and Non-Employee Supplemental Personnel for School Year 2021-22; SECONDED by Mr. Smith; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-2 CONSIDERATION OF ESSER II FUNDING USED – HEPA FILTERS: Mr. Nuessle MOVED to approve \$750,000 to install HEPA filtration systems and for inventorying replacement HEPA filters; SECONDED by Mr. Crane; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS

No Items This Meeting

#### OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT

- Superintendent Laurence congratulated the District's Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Tray Traxler for being named Outstanding SC School Business Official of the Year by the South Carolina Association of School Business Officials.
- COVID19 Update: Superintendent Laurence gave update on the return to the five-day a week instruction model, and announced a continued decrease in the amount of weekly COVID-19 infections among students and staff.

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: Update on Property Matter – Area 3. Discussion of Property Matter – Area 4; Employment Matters: Administrative Appointment; Appeals: Student Appeal Area 2; Legal Briefing: Legal Advice Concerning Potential JUUL Litigation.

Mr. Smith MOVED to enter into Executive Session for the purposes as stated; SECONDED BY Mr. Crane; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The regular session recessed at 6:21 p.m.

Executive session convened at 6:30 p.m.

Regular session resumed at 7:40 p.m.

Chairman Bradley announced while in executive session the Board considered, or received information concerning the following matters; Contractual Matters: Update on Property Matter – Area 3. Discussion of Property Matter – Area 4; Employment Matters: Administrative Appointment; Appeals: Student Appeal Area 2; Legal Briefing: Legal Advice Concerning Potential JUUL Litigation.

## CONTRACTUAL MATTERS

### UPDATE ON PROPERTY MATTER – AREA 3

Mr. Silas MOVED that the Board authorize the Chair and Superintendent to sign the discussed “Bridge Contract extension, with an acceptance date no later than March 15, and a performance date by close of business, March 29. I further move that the proposed terms as outlined and discussed this evening more specifically than in the prior arrangements be approved and made part of the performance details. Should the Bridge Contract Extension not be accepted by close of business on March 15, the Board’s legal representatives is then authorized to give notice to the defaulting party’s representative that the original contract, as amended and extended through March 1, 2021 shall be considered in default and the escrow payments shall be forfeited to the School District; SECONDED by Mr. Smith; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### DISCUSSION OF PROPERTY MATTER – AREA 4

Mrs. Shealey MOVED that the Administration be authorized to proceed with plans to dispose of the property as discussed, subject to the need to obtain State Board approval in the event state funds were used to construct the improvements, which the administration should first determine and pursue, in accordance with Board policy and state law; SECONDED by Mr. Smith; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

##### ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and appoint the top candidate as Assistant Principal at Midland Valley High School; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### APPEALS

##### STUDENT APPEAL – AREA TWO

- Student did not show up for meeting

#### LEGAL BRIEFING

##### LEGAL ADVICE CONCERNING POTENTIAL JUUL LITIGATION

- No Action Taken

Mr. Smith MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY: Kim Chriswell

APPROVED: