

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 25, 2021

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, May 25, 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
Mr. Jason Crane
Dr. Patricia Hanks
Mr. Barry Moulton
Mr. Cameron Nuessle
Ms. Patrice Rhinehart-Jackson
Mrs. Sandra Shealey
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.

Chairman Bradley led a Moment of Silence for the husband of District employee Valarie Jenkins, Firefighter Ralph Jenkins, who drowned while trying to save a woman's life.

Pledge was led by Chairman Bradley.

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

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- No Requests This Meeting

VIDEO RECOGNITION

- J. Strom Thurmond of Aiken High and Benjamin Porcha-Konjikusic of South Aiken High were recognized as Students of the Year, for their “Team Cancer to the Curb” fundraiser for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.
- Trent Peterson of Midland Valley High School, was recognized for Twelve Years of Perfect Attendance.
- Leavelle McCampbell Middle was recognized as a 21st Century Grant Award recipient.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD CHAIRMAN

- Chairman Bradley announced that the Board had recently completed a review of “B” Policies and that a Special Called Meeting will be held on June 15th to review Instructional Policies and policies related to Advisory Councils.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- No Items This Meeting

CONSENT ITEMS:

- B-1 RATIFICATION OF EXPULSIONS: Superintendent Laurence recommended to ratify the expulsion of students not appealing this action as submitted by the Hearing Officer.

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- 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 REQUEST TO ADMIT FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the foreign exchange student listed on the attached sheet for admission to the School District of Aiken County in August of 2021 for the 2021-2022 school year.
- B-5 AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START PROGRAM AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) GRANT APPLICATION SUBMISSION – FY21: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the submission of the Office of Head Start ARP Funding Grant application and the receipt of funds, if awarded.
- B-6 LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD COURSES FOR 2021-2022: Mrs. Shealey MOVED to remove item B-6 for further consideration; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-2 (Dr. Hanks and Mr. Nuessle opposed)
- B-7 LEAVELLE MCCAMPBELL SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION – DONATION TO LEAVELLE MCCAMPBELL MIDDLE SCHHOL: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the \$1237.50 Leavelle McCampbell Middle School Alumni Association Donation to Leavelle McCampbell Middle School and adjustments to the FY21 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the donation and expenditures.
- B-8 ASPHALT TRACK-RESURFACING PROJECT AT PAUL KNOX MIDDLE SCHOOL: Superintendent Laurence recommended to authorize the administration to proceed with this project and enter into a contract with Beam's Contracting, Inc. for the 2021-2022 Track for Paul Knox Middle School for \$132,500.00 and the funds will come from the Athletic Facility Account.

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- B-9 CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 1 FOR THE 2020 PAINTING OF JACKSON MIDDLE, LBC MIDDLE, AND NORTH AUGUSTA MIDDLE: Superintendent Laurence recommended to authorize the administration to proceed with the acceptance of Change Order Number 1 for a credit amount of <\$62,409.00> from G&S Adventures, Inc.
- B-10 CONSTRUCTION BIDS FOR THE 2021 SCRUBBING AND COATING OF GYMNASIUM FLOORS AT 21 DISTRICT SCHOOLS: Superintendent Laurence recommended to the authorize the administration to accept the bid and enter into a contract with The Flooring Connections, LLC for Base Bid A: (\$27,312.50) and Base Bid B: (\$16,550.00) for the 2021 Scrubbing and Coating of gymnasium floors. Funding coming from the 2021-2022 Five-Year Facility Improvement Plan Gym Floors Budget.
- B-11 2021 INSTALLATION OF FLOORING AT BYRD ELEMENTARY AND MOSSY CREEK ELEMENTARY: Superintendent Laurence recommended to authorize the administration to accept the low base bid and enter into a contract with Carpet Creations of Aiken, SC in the total amount of \$64,466.00 for the 2021 Flooring at Byrd Elementary. Authorize the administration to accept the low base bid and enter into a contract with Gleaton Flooring, Inc., of Sumter, SC in the total amount of \$290,462.00 for the 2021 Flooring at Mossy Creek Elementary. Funding coming from the 2021-2022 Five-Year Facility Improvement Plan Flooring Budget.
- B-12 PURCHASE OF C-CANS FOR AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS: Superintendent Laurence recommended the administration to enter into a contract with Carolina Mobile Storage, LLC in the amount of \$34,959.60. The funding will come for the Athletics Facilities account.
- B-13 2021 REPLACEMENT OF EXTERIOR SIGNS AT CHUKKER CREEK ELEMENTARY, A.L. CORBETT MIDDLE, AND NORTH AUGUSTA MIDDLE: Superintendent Laurence recommended to accept the low bid of 495,055.00 and enter into a contract with Signs Unlimited of South Carolina to replace exteriors signs to LED at Chukker Creek Elementary, A.L. Corbett Middle, and North Augusta Middle.

B-14 DISTRICT-WIDE FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT ADOPTION: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the adoption of NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) as the district-wide formative assessment.

Mr. Smith MOVED to approve items B-1 and B-5, and B7-B14 as presented; SECONDED by Mr. Moulton; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B-6 LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD COURSES FOR 2021-2022: Mr. Moulton MOVED to table for further review three items from the list of Local School Board course requests for the 2021-2022 school year, the following items are as follows; All High Schools – Multicultural Studies, North Augusta Middle School - Modern Culture and Schofield Middle School – African American Studies; SECONDED by Ms. Shealey; MOTION carried on a vote of 5-4 (Dr. Bradley, Dr. Hanks, Mr. Nuessle, and Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson opposed). Dr. Bradley MOVED to approve the remaining items on the list of Local School Board course requests for the 2021-2022 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Crane; MOTION carried on a vote of 8-1 (Dr. Hanks opposed)

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

C-1 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Smith MOVED to approve lists of certified personnel for school year 2021-22; certified retiree rehires for school year 2021-22' classified personnel for school year 2020-21, certified supplemental personnel for school year 2021-22 and classified supplemental personnel for school year 2021-22; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C-2 CHANGE TO THE FOLLOWING POLICIES, SECOND READING: POLICY BB SCHOOL BOARD LEGAL STATUS, POLICY BBA BOARD POWERS AND DUTIES, POLICY BBAA BOARD MEMBER AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES, POLICY BC BOARD MEMBER CONDUCT, POLICY BCA BOARD MEMBER CODE OF ETHICS, POLICY BDE BOARD COMMITTEES, POLICY BHC BOARD STAFF COMMUNICATIONS: Mr. Smith MOVED to approve the changes to the following policies, Second Reading: Policy BB School Board Legal Status, Policy BBA Board Powers and Duties, Policy BBAA Board Member Authority and Responsibilities, Policy BC Board Member Conduct, Policy BCA Board Member Code of Ethics, Policy BDE Board Committees, Policy BHC Board Staff Communications; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-3 REVISIONS TO THE CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT – SECOND READING: Mr. Crane MOVED to approve on second reading the proposed Code of Student Conduct for each level as presented by the administration; SECONDED by Mrs. Shealey; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-4 EXPANSION OF COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION: Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve the expansion of CEP participation at Jackson Middle and Aiken Intermediate; SECONDED by Mr. Crane; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-5 2021-2022 BUDGET – SECOND READING: Mr. Crane MOVED to approve the second reading of the 2021-2022 budget with any changes resulting from board discussions; SECONDED by Dr. Hanks; MOTION carried on a vote of 8-1 (Mr. Smith opposed).

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS

No Items This Meeting

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendents Laurence thanked faculty and staff for their hard work during the COVID-19 Pandemic. He reminded the audience that although we are at hopefully at the end of the pandemic that CDC and DHEC recommendations must still be followed in regards to limited attendance and social distancing at end of the year school activities and ceremonies.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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: Appeals – Student Appeal-Area 2; Employment Matters-Administrative Appointment-a., Administrative Appointment-b., Administrative Appointment-c., and Consideration of Contractual Matter-d.

Mr. Smith MOVED to enter into Executive Session for the purposes as stated; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The regular session recessed at 7:11 p.m.

Executive Session convened at 7:25 p.m.

Regular resumed at 8:18 p.m.

Chairman Bradley announced while in executive session the Board considered, or received information concerning the following matters; Appeals – Student Appeal-Area 2; Employment Matters-Administrative Appointment-a., Administrative Appointment-b., Administrative Appointment-c., and Consideration of Contractual Matter-d.

STUDENT APPEAL-AREA 2

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED that the student be suspended for ten days and will finish the remainder of the 20-21 school year virtually, and that the student be placed in the Alternative Program at CIL/Pinecrest for the 1st semester of the 2021-2022 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Nuessle; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-1-1 (Mr. Silas opposed and Mr. Crane abstained).

EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT-a.

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the top candidate as Assistant Principal at Schofield Middle School; SECONDED by Mr. Crane; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT-b.

Mr. Smith MOVED to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the top candidate as Principal of Gloverville Elementary; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT-c.

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the top candidate as Executive Director for Elementary Schools; SECONDED by Dr. Hanks; MOTION carried on a vote of 8-1 (Mr. Moulton opposed).

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT-d.

Mr. Crane MOVED to authorize the Superintendent or his designee to make a formal complaint to the State Board of Education regarding Employees A's breach of contract; SECONDED by Mrs. Shealey; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONTRACTUAL MATTERS

No Items This Meeting

LEGAL BRIEFING

No Items This Meeting

Mr. Crane MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Mrs. Shealey; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.