

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY  
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 22, 2024

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 22, 2024, 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  
Mr. Jim Broome  
Dr Patricia Hanks  
Ms. Patrice Rhinehart-Jackson  
Mr. Brian Silas

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dr. John Bradley, Vice-Chair  
Mr. Barry Moulton  
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 September 24, 2024, and the Regular Meeting of October 8, 2024, were presented for approval; Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 10, 2024, and the Regular Meeting of October 8, 2024; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Matthew Quattlebaum spoke regarding the dress code for elementary school students.

#### SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

- Ridge Spring-Monetta Middle/High Student Jade Mendez Perez was recognized as the State 2024 Carolina Canvas Award Winner – Multilingual Learner Program.
- Ridge Spring-Monetta Middle/High & Aiken Scholars Academy Student Caleb Rojas Bohn was recognized as FFA Middle School Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE) Record Book Winner – Home and Community Development Leadership State Winner.

#### OFFICE OF BOARD CHAIRMAN

- Chairman Nuessle thanked fellow board members Dr. Patricia Hanks and Mr. Dwight Smith for their service on the Board of Education. Mr. Smith resigned in August for personal reasons and Dr. Hanks chose not to run for re-election.

#### INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

- A-1 DELEGATE SELECTION – Chairman Nuessle MOVED to certify himself as official voting delegate for the upcoming SCSBA Legislative Advocacy and Delegate Assembly scheduled for December 7-8, 2024, in Charleston; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- A-2 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve lists of certified personnel for school year 2024-25, classified personnel for school year 2024-2025, certified supplemental personnel for school year 2024-2025, and classified supplemental personnel for school year 2024-25; SECONDED by Dr. Hanks; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- A-3 POLICY GCLE UNENCUMBERED TIME, SECOND READING: Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to Approve Policy GCLE Unencumbered Time, Second Reading; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- A-4 PROPOSED 2025-2026 BUDGET CALENDAR: Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve the proposed 2025-2026 budget calendar as shown in the attachment; SECONDED by Dr. Hanks; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### CONSENT ITEMS

- B-1 RATIFICATION OF EXPULSIONS: Superintendent Murphy recommended ratifying the expulsion of students not appealing this action as submitted by the Hearing Officer.
- B-2 TEXTBOOK ADOPTIONS FOR FALL 2024-2025: Superintendent Murphy recommended to adopt textbook recommendations of the teacher committees.
- B-3 BRIDGESTONE AMERICAS TIRE OPERATIONS, LLC DONATION TO MIDLAND VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL – FY25: Superintendent Murphy recommended approving the \$2,500.00 Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC donation to Midland Valley High School and adjustments to the FY25 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the donation and expenditures.

- B-4 AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY – HACH HIGH SCHOOL CHEMISTRY CLASSROOM GRANT AWARD TO MIDLAND VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL -FY25: Superintendent Murphy recommended approving the \$1,040.00 American Chemical Society-Hach High School Chemistry Classroom Grant Award to Midland Valley High School and adjustments to the FY25 Special Revenue Funds to reflect the amount of the grant award and expenditures.
- B-5 SAVANNAH RIVER NATIONAL LABORATORY (SRNL) K-12 CATALYST GRANT FOR STEM EDUCATION AWARDS TO AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT– FY25: Superintendent Murphy recommended approving the \$25,000.00 in SRNL K-12 Catalyst Grant for STEM Education grant awards to Aiken County Public School District and adjustments to the FY25 Special Revenue Funds to reflect the amount of the award and expenditures.
- B-6 GMP #1 FOR MOSSY CREEK ELEMENTARY EXTERIOR WALL REPAIRS: Superintendent Murphy recommended authorizing the administration to negotiate a contract with H.G. Reynolds Company in the amount of the \$2,088,644.00 for waterproofing and repairing of the exterior walls at Mossy Creek Elementary, utilizing the CM at Risk delivery system RFP 121223.
- B-7 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR HVAC SERVICES OR PLUMBING SERVICES FOR AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS: Superintendent Murphy recommended allowing the administration to enter a contract with Bradley Plumbing & Heating, Inc., Palmetto Air & Chiller Service, Inc, and Hoffman Mechanical Solutions per RFP# 100324 on a time and material basis.
- Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve item B-1 through B-7 as presented;  
SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY...

#### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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

C-2 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORT FOR THE WAGENER-SALLEY HIGH SCHOOL NEW CONSTRUCTION PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

C-3 FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION QUARTERLY CHANGE ORDER NOTIFICATION: 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

Dr. Murphy thanked outgoing board members Mr. Dwight Smith and Dr. Patricia Hanks for their service to our district. He discussed the board candidate information session facilitated by Mr. Bill Burkhalter who presented an overview of board duties to the candidates in attendance. Dr. Murphy also announced that the final One Cent Sales Tax Renewal Community Meeting will be held at Midland Valley High School on October 28 and a live-streamed session from the district office for the community at large will be held on October 29.

## 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 – Student Appeal Area Four. Employment Matters – a.) Administrative Appointment-Paul Knox Middle School and b.) Employee Grievance.

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to enter Executive Session for the purpose as stated; SECONDED by Dr. Hanks; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Regular Session recessed at 6:32 p.m.  
Executive Session convened at 6:45 p.m.  
Regular Session resumed at 7:37 p.m.

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to Return to Regular Session; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; 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 – Student Appeal Area Four. Employment Matters – a.) Administrative Appointment-Paul Knox Middle School and b.) Employee Grievance.

## STUDENT MATTERS

- STUDENT APPEAL – AREA FOUR; Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to overturn the recommendation of the District Hearing Officer of a 45-day placement in the district's alternative program and return to student to school; SECONDED by Dr. Hanks; MOTION FAILED on a vote of 2-3 (Mr. Broome, Mr. Nuessle and Mr. Silas opposed). Mr. Silas MOVED to uphold the recommendation of the district hearing officer of a 45-day placement in the district's alternative program; SECONDED by Mr. Nuessle; MOTION CARRIED on a vote of 3-2 (Dr. Hanks and Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson opposed)

EMPLOYEE MATTERS

- ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT – PAUL KNOX MIDDLE SCHOOL; Dr. Hanks MOVED to approve the recommendation of the administration for the principal of Paul Knox Middle School; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCE – Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED that based upon consideration of the entirety of the Record, including follow-up summaries, that the board finds this does not meet the criteria of a grievance therefore no further board action will be taken, SECONDED by Dr. Hanks; MOTION carried on a vote of 4-0-1 (Mr. Silas abstained).

CONTRACTUAL MATTERS

No Items This Meeting

LEGAL MATTERS

No Items This Meeting

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Dr. Hanks; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY: Kim Chriswell

APPROVED: