

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 14, 2023

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 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, 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. Dwight Smith, Vice-Chair
Dr. John Bradley
Mr. Jim Broome
Dr. Patricia Hanks
Mr. Barry Moulton
Ms. Patrice Rhinehart-Jackson
Mr. Brian Silas

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

Chairman Nuessle 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 Nuessle.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Chairman Nuessle MOVED to remove line #2 on item B-3 because Paul Knox Middle School is currently not accepting student hardship transfers; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of the Special Called Meeting of February 25, 2023, the Special Called Meeting on February 27, 2023 and the Regular Meeting February 28, 2023 were presented for approval; Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve the minutes of the Special Called Meeting of February 25, 2023, the Special Called Meeting on February 27, 2023 and the Regular Meeting on February 28, 2023; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Mr. Oscar Rushton spoke in favor of the 4x4 block scheduling proposal and the educational opportunities it will provide for students in the district.
- Mr. Michael Crim spoke in favor of the 4x4 block scheduling proposal.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

AIKEN STANDARD COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD PRESENTATION: Mr. R.J. Benner, Publisher of the Aiken Standard, presented a donation of \$9,058.00 to Aiken County Public Schools

OFFICE OF BOARD CHAIRMAN

No Items This Meeting

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

- A-1 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve lists of certified personnel for school year 2023-2024, certified personnel for school year 2022-23, classified personnel for school year 2022-23, and classified supplemental personnel for school year 2022-23; SECONDED by Mr. Smith; MOTION UNANIMOUSLY.
- A-2 REVISION OF THE FOLLOWING POLICY AND ADMINISTRATIVE RULE: POLICY ADA SCHOOL DISTRICT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, FIRST READING, ADMINISTRATIVE RULE – ADA-R SCHOOL DISTRICT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve the following policy and administrative rule: Policy ADA School District Goals and Objectives, First Reading and Administrative Rule ADA-R School District Goals and Objectives; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- A-3 CHANGES TO POLICY GCC PROFESSIONAL STAFF LEAVES AND ABSENCES AND POLICY GDC SUPPORT STAFF LEAVES AND ABSENCES, FIRST READING: Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve changes to Policy GCC Professional Staff Leaves and Absences and Policy GDC Support Staff Leaves and Absences, First Reading; SECONDED by Mr. Smith; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- A-4 ADOPTION OF THE FOLLOWING POLICY: POLICY GCLE UNENCUMBERED TIME, FIRST READING: Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to adopt Policy GCLE Unencumbered Time, First Reading; SECONDED by Mr. Smith; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- A-5 4X4 BLOCK SCHEDULE: REVISION OF THE FOLLOWING ADMINISTRATIVE RULE: ADMINISTRATIVE RULE ID-R SCHOOL DAY: Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve the following administrative rule: Administrative Rule ID-R School Day; SECONDED by Mr. Smith; MOTION carried on a vote of 6-2 (Dr. Bradley and Mr. Moulton opposed).

- A-6 PAY FOR SUMMER 2023 ESSER PROGRAMS: Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve the pay rates listed above for the ESSER-funded summer program; SECONDED by Mr. Moulton; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSENT ITEMS

- B-1 RATIFICATION OF EXPULSIONS: Superintendent Laurence recommended to ratify the expulsion of students not appealing the action as submitted by the Hearing Officer.
- B-2 OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSFER REQUESTS -TRANSFERS OUT 2023-2024: 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 – TRANSFERS IN 2023-2024: Superintendent Laurence recommended that the students 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 STUDENTS: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the foreign exchange student listed on the attached sheet for admission to the School District of Aiken County in July of 2023 for the 2023-2024 school year.
- B-5 AILEEN S. ANDREW FOUNDATION DONATION TO NORTH AIKEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – FY23: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the \$5,000.00 Aileen S. Andrew Foundation Donation to North Aiken Elementary School and adjustment to the FY23 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the donation and expenditures.

- B-6 PUBLIC EDUCATION PARTNERS (PEP) OF AIKEN COUNTY GRANT AWARDS TO THE AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT – FY23: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the \$3,843.72 Public Education Partners (PEP) of Aiken County Grant Award to Aiken County Public School District and adjustments to the FY23 Special Revenue Fund to reflect the amount of the donation and expenditures.
- B-7 SUBMISSION OF THE GENCYBER GRANT APPLICATION BY AIKEN COUNTY CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER – FY24: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve Aiken County Career & Technology Center's submission of the GenCyber Grant application and the receipt of funds if awarded.
- B-8 CHANGE ORDER#1 FOR HIGHLAND SPRINGS MIDDLE PROJECT – GMP #2: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve Change Order #1 from H.G. Reynolds Construction Company, Inc in the amount of \$389,878.00 for the Highland Springs Middle Project.

Mr. Smith MOVED to approve items B-1 through B-8 as presented; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

No Items This Meeting

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 Laurence thanked Dr. Amy Edwards and Mr. Bert Postell for their hard work on the 4x4 Block Schedule presentation and the approval of the schedule for next school year. He also congratulated the Wagener-Salley High School Welding Class on their recent win in a state competition.

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 Two Student Appeal; Employment Matters – Employee Contractual Matter; Contractual Matters-Food Service Management Company; Legal Matters – Legal Advice on Policy JICDA Code of Conduct.

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

Regular Session recessed at 7:22 p.m.

Executive Session convened at 7:35 p.m.

Regular Session resumed at 8:59 p.m.

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to Return to Regular Session; SECONDED by Dr. Bradley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairman Nuessle announced while in Executive Session the board considered or received information concerning the following matters. for the purpose of considering the following matters in such order as the Board deems appropriate. Student Matters – Student Appeal – Area Two Student Appeal; Employment Matters – Employee Contractual Matter; Contractual Matters-Food Service Management Company; Legal Matters – Legal Advice on Policy JICDA Code of Conduct.

STUDENT MATTERS

Student Appeal – Area Two

The Board heard an appeal from the parent of an Area Two Middle School Student. Dr. Bradley MOVED uphold the recommendation of the Hearing Officer of a 45-day placement of the student at the Center for Innovative Learning at Pinecrest; SECONDED by Mr. Smith; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

EMPLOYEE MATTERS

Employee Contractual Matter

Mr. Silas MOVED to direct the administration to make a formal complaint to the State Board of Education regarding Employees A's breach of contract. SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONTRACTUAL MATTERS

Food Service Management Company

Mr. Smith MOVED to approve awarding a FSMC contract to Chartwells with an effective date of June 1, 2023; SECONDED by Dr. Bradley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

LEGAL MATTERS

Legal Advice on Policy JICDA Code of Conduct – No Action Taken

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Dr. Bradley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY: Kim Chriswell

APPROVED: