

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 2020

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday November 17, 2020, at the District Office, 1000 Brookhaven Drive, Aiken, SC at 6:03 p.m. Print and broadcast news media were notified of the time, date, and web location of this meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Dwight Smith, Chairman
Dr. Patricia Hanks
Mr. Barry Moulton
Mrs. Sandra Shealey
Dr. John Bradley
Mr. Cameron Nuessle
Ms. Patrice Rhinehart-Jackson
Mr. Brian Silas

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Jason Crane

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

Chairman Smith called the regular meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

Moment of Silence and Pledge were led by Chairman Smith.

SWEARING IN OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS: Superintendent Laurence swore in Dr. John Bradley, Dr. Patricia Hanks, Mr. Cameron Nuessle, and Mrs. Sandra Shealey as newly elected Board Members.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Regular Meeting on October 27, 2020 were presented for approval; Dr. Bradley MOVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on October 27, 2020; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-0-1 (Dr. Hanks abstained).

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Mr. Samuel Leverette spoke in regards to COVID-19 and full time face to face instruction.
- Mr. Scott Ayers spoke in regards to COVID-19, Aiken Innovate, and teacher concerns
- Mr. Seve Adigun spoke in in regards to COVID-19 and Transportation concerns.
- Dr. John Tiffany spoke in regards to the Back To School Advisory Committee and COVID-19
- Ms. Jana Jackson spoke in regards to full time face to face instruction.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD CHAIRMAN

- No Items This Meeting

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 MIDLAND VALLEY HIGH ADDITION PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

- A-3 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE MILLBROOK ADDITIONS & RENOVATIONS PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

- A-4 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE NORTH AUGUSTA HIGH SCHOOL PHASE III ADDITION PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

- A-5 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORTS FOR THE RIDGE SPRING-MONETTA ELEMENTARY PHASE 3 ADDITION PROJECT: 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 students not appealing this action as submitted by the Hearing Officer.

- B-2 AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START POLICY COUNCIL BYLAWS: Superintendent Laurence recommended the Board approve the ACPSD Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Council Bylaws.

- B-3 CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT (CARES) GRANT FUNDING – ROUND 2: Superintendent Laurence recommended the Board approve the administration to move forward with applying for CARES Act funding – round 2 for the use of technology to expand the 1:1 digital learning initiative for students in grades 5K-5th.

Mrs. Silas MOVED to approve items B-1 through B-3 as presented; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS:

C-1 COVID-19 UPDATE – ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT: Mr. Postell gave update from the Back to School Advisory Committee; Dr. Bradley MOVED to propose work study session with the Back to School Advisory Committee; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson with an amended motion to have meeting as soon as possible either November 19th or 20th; MOTION WAS WITHDRAWN. Dr. Bradley MOVED to have Special Called Meeting on November 18, 2020 to discuss long range planning in regards to COVID-19; MOTION DECLARED OUT OF ORDER. Dr. Bradley MOVED to propose Special Called Meeting on Thursday, November 19, 2020 to discuss long range planning in regards to schools and COVID-19, motion excludes two items that are on tonight's agenda; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-1 (Mr. Nuessle opposed)

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to cancel Special Called Meeting on November 19, 2020 and hold discussion with the Back To School Advisory Committee at tonight's meeting; SECONDED by Mr. Smith; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Dr. Bradley MOVED to table further discussion in regards to the Back to School Advisory Committee's update and recommendation until all other items on tonight's agenda have been discussed; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C-2 REMOTE LEARNING NOVEMBER 23-25, 2020: Mr. Silas MOVED to approve the administration's recommendation that Monday, November 23, 2020 through Wednesday, November 25, 2020 be designated as remote learning days for all students; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C-3 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Dr. Bradley MOVED to approve the lists of certified personnel for school year 2020-21, certified retirees rehires for school year 2020-21, classified personnel for school year 2020-2021 and non-employee supplemental personnel for school year 2020-21; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C-4 OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSFER REQUESTS: Dr. Bradley MOVED to approve the Superintendent's recommendation 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); SECONDED by Dr. Hanks; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-5 REQUEST FOR APPROVAL FOR HOME INSTRUCTION: Dr. Bradley MOVED to ratify the approval by the Chief Officer of Operations and Student Services for the program of home instruction for the students indicated on the attached list; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-6 CHANGES TO POLICY BDG BOARD ATTORNEY/LEGAL SERVICE, FINAL READING: Dr. Bradley MOVED to approve changes to BDG Board Attorney/Legal Service on final reading; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-7 CHANGES TO ADMINISTRATIVE RULE GCK-R PROFESSIONAL STAFF ASSIGNMENTS AND TRANSFERS: Mr. Smith MOVED to approve changes to Administrative Rule GCK-R Professional Staff Assignments and Transfers; SECONDED by Mrs. Shealey; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-8 REVISED FILE IHBG-E ANNUAL APPLICATION FOR AT HOME INSTRUCTION: Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve File-IHBG-E Annual Application for at Home Instruction; SECONDED by Dr. Bradley; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS:

- Mr. Moulton discussed concerns in regards to Elementary Planning Periods.
- Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson discussed concerns in regards to COVID-19.

REPORTS FROM BOARD LIASION TO VARIOUS COMMITTEES:

- No Items This Meeting

OFFICE OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

- Mr. Laurence welcomed Dr. Patricia Hanks, to the School Board.

ITEM C-1 – COVID-19 UPDATE – ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Bradley MOVED to reconsider Item C-1 COVID-19 Update – Advisory Committee Report and recommendations that were tabled earlier in the meeting; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED that when students return from the Thanksgiving Holidays elementary students attend school four days a week and Middle and High School students return to the A, B, hybrid schedule until the start of the Christmas Holidays; all athletic activities cease, and that the district establish a tiered threshold system based on data provided by the CDC, SCDHEC, Aiken County Schools, and the Back To School Advisory Committee to determine which model will be used virtual, hybrid or full time face to face learning; MOTION failed for lack of a SECOND.

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED that when students return from the Thanksgiving Holidays elementary students attend school four days a week, and Middle and High School students return to the A, B, hybrid schedule until the start of the Christmas Holidays; and that a Meeting be held at a later date to discuss the district establishing a tiered threshold system based on data provided by the CDC, SCDHEC, Aiken County Schools, and the Back To School Advisory Committee to determine which model will be used virtual, hybrid or full time face to face learning and if athletics should be postponed; SECONDED by Mr. Nuessle. Mr. Nuessle MOVED to amend motion for elementary school students to attend school five days a week upon returning from the Thanksgiving Holidays; AMENDED MOTION failed for lack of a SECOND. MOTION carried on a vote of 6-2 (Dr. Bradley and Mr. Nuessle opposed)

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Mr. Silas MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

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Submitted by: Kim Chriswell

APPROVED: