

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 12, 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. Jim Broome
Dr. John Bradley
Dr. Patricia Hanks
Mr. Barry Moulton
Ms. Patrice Rhinehart-Jackson
Mr. Brian Silas
Mrs. Deborah Tyler

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Dwight Smith, Vice-Chair

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 stated if there were no objections the agenda would stand as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 22, 2023, were presented for approval; Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 22, 2023: SECONDED by Mr. Moulton; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Mrs. Deana Burch spoke in regards to safety concerns in District Schools.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

- SCSBA – 2022-2023 Boardmanship Institute Recognition
Board Members Dr. Patricia Hanks, Mr. Barry Moulton, Mr. Cameron Nuessle, Ms. Patrice Rhinehart-Jackson, and Mr. Brian Silas were recognized for achieving Level 3 in the Boardmanship Institute Training Program.

VIDEO RECOGNITIONS

- The events, groups or individuals below were highlighted in slide show presentation during executive session intermission:
Grandparents Day Celebrations

OFFICE OF BOARD CHAIRMAN

- Chairman Nuessle reminded Board Members about the Upcoming SCSBA Legislative Advocacy and Delegate Assembly scheduled for December 2-3, 2023 in Charleston.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

A-1 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve lists of certified personnel for school year 2023-2024, classified personnel for school year 2023-24, certified supplemental personnel for school year 2023-24, and non-employee supplemental personnel for school year 2023-24; SECONDED by Dr. Hanks; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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.
- B-2 OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSFER REQUESTS-TRANSFERS OUT: Superintendent Laurence recommended that the students be released from Aiken County to attend the out-of-district schools.
- B-3 BATTELLE SAVANNAH RIVER ALLIANCE, LLC DONATION TO GREENDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-FY24: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the \$7,500.00 Battelle Savannah River Alliance, LLC donation to Greendale Elementary and adjustments to the FY24 Special Revenue Funds to reflect the amount of the donation and expenditures.
- B-4 DOLLAR GENERAL LITERACY FOUNDATION YOUTH LITERACY GRANT AWARD TO REDCLIFFE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL -FY24: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the \$3,950.00 the Dollar General Literacy Foundation Youth Literacy Grant Award to Redcliffe Elementary and adjustments to the FY24 Special Revenue Funds to reflect the amount of the award and expenditures.

- B-5 TOWN OF JACKSON DONATION TO REDCLIFFE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL -FY24:
Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the \$2,000.00 Town of Jackson Donation to Redcliffe Elementary and adjustments to the FY24 Special Revenue Funds to reflect the amount of the award and expenditures.

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve item B-1 through B-5 as presented; SECONDED by Mrs. Tyler; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- C-1 EXPLORE AND DISCOVER: A TRANSITIONAL MODEL AIKEN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL: Dr. Amy Edwards and Ms. Denise McCray presented an update on the Aiken Intermediate (6th grade) school.
- C-2 MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Dr. Tim Yarborough presented an update on the District's Maintenance Department and Work Order System.
- C-3 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORT FOR THE AIKEN HIGH AUDITORIUM SCHOOL PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- C-4 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORT FOR THE HAMMOND HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ADDITIONS AND RENOVATIONS PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- C-5 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORT FOR THE HIGHLAND SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- C-6 CONSTRUCTION STATUS REPORT FOR THE WAGENER-SALLEY HIGH SCHOOL NEW CONSTRUCTION PROJECT: 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 – Superintendent Laurence gave an update on the FIRE In-Service held on September 4th.

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 One, Student Appeal – Area One, Student Appeal – Area Four and Student Appeal – Area One; Employment Matters – Employee Contractual Matter, Superintendent, and Discussion in Regards to In House Counsel; Legal Matters- Legal Advice on Policy JB.

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

Regular Session recessed at 7:34 p.m.

Executive Session convened at 7:44 p.m.

Regular Session resumed at 10:09 p.m.

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to Return to Regular Session; SECONDED by Mrs. Tyler;
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 One, Student Appeal – Area One, Student Appeal – Area Four and Student Appeal – Area One; Employment Matters – Employee Contractual Matter, Superintendent, and Discussion in Regards to In House Counsel; Legal Matters- Legal Advice on Policy JB.

STUDENT MATTERS

a) STUDENT APPEAL - AREA ONE

The Board heard the appeal of an Area One High School Student. Dr. Bradley MOVED to uphold the recommendation of the hearing officer and expel the student for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION carried on a vote of 6-2(Dr. Hanks and Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson opposed).

b) STUDENT APPEAL – AREA ONE

The Board heard the appeal of an Area One High School Student. Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to overturn the recommendation of the hearing officer of expulsion and place the student in the alternative program for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year; MOTION died for lack of SECOND. Dr. Bradley MOVED to uphold the recommendation of the hearing officer and expel the student for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION carried on a vote of 5-3(Dr. Hanks, Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson, and Mrs. Tyler opposed).

c) STUDENT APPEAL – AREA FOUR

The Board heard the appeal of a parent of an Area Four High School Student. Dr. Bradley MOVED to uphold the recommendation of the hearing officer of a 45-day placement in the district's alternative school program.; SECONDED by Mr. Silas; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

d) STUDENT APPEAL – AREA ONE

The Board heard the appeal of a parent of an Area One Middle School Student. Dr. Bradley MOVED to uphold the recommendation of the hearing officer and expel the student for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year; SECONDED by Mrs. Tyler; MOTION carried on a vote of 7-1 (Dr. Hanks opposed).

EMPLOYEE MATTERS

a) EMPLOYEE CONTRACTUAL MATTER

Dr. Bradley MOVED to authorize the Superintendent or his designee to make a formal complaint to the State Board of Education regarding Employees A, B, and C's breach of contract; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

b) SUPERINTENDENT – No Action Taken

c) DISCUSSION IN REGARDS TO IN HOUSE COUNSEL – No Action Taken

CONTRACTUAL MATTERS

No Items This Meeting

LEGAL MATTERS

LEGAL ADVICE – POLICY JB – No Action Taken

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
UNOFFICIAL MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 REGULAR MEETING
Page 8 of 8

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Mrs. Tyler; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 10:17 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY: Kim Chriswell

APPROVED: