

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
AIKEN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 13, 2021

The Aiken County Board of Education met for the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, July 13, 2021, at the District Office, 1000 Brookhaven Drive, Aiken, at 6:00 p.m. Print and broadcast news media were notified of the time, date, place, and web location of this meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. John Bradley, Chairman
Mr. Dwight Smith, Vice-Chairman
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.

Moment of Silence and Pledge were led by Chairman Bradley

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Regular Meeting on June 8, 2021 was presented for approval; Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on June 8, 2021; SECONDED by Mr. Moulton; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the Special Called Meeting – Board Work Study on June 15, 2021 was presented for approval; Mr. Smith MOVED to approve the minutes of the Special Called Meeting-Board Work Study on June 15, 2021; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Ms. Pat Kirk spoke against the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Aiken County Public Schools
- Mr. Eugene White spoke in favor of the approval of courses there were tabled at the May 25, 2021 school board meeting.
- Dr. Marsha Harris spoke in favor of African American History being taught in district schools.

OFFICE OF BOARD CHAIRMAN

- Chairman Bradley introduced new Elementary Education Executive Director, Mr. Eric Jeffcoat.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A-1 FINANCIAL REPORT, AS OF APRIL 30, 2021: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

- A-2 FINANCIAL REPORT, AS OF MAY 31, 2021: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.
- A-3 FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY CHANGE ORDER NOTIFICATION: The Board reviewed and accepted the information as presented.

CONSENT ITEMS

- B-1 SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION DUES: Superintendent Laurence recommended to authorize continuation of membership in the South Carolina School Boards Association.
- B-2 OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSFER REQUESTS: 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-3 OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSFER REQUESTS: Superintendent Laurence recommended that the students be released from Aiken County to attend the out-of-district schools.
- 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 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-6 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-7 K-2 EARLY READING INTERVENTION PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the administration's recommendation of the purchase of Voyager Passport as the intervention for K-2 reading interventionists beginning with the 2021-2022 school year.

B-8 LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD COURSES FOR 2021-2022: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the two additional Local School Board Courses for 2021-2022: African American Studies at Schofield Middle School and Modern Culture at North Augusta Middle.

Mr. Smith MOVED to vote on courses listed in item B-8 individually; MOTION failed for lack of a Second. Mrs. Shealey MOVED to freeze the use of Local School Board Elective Courses for the 2021-2022 school year; SECONDED by Dr. Bradley; MOTION failed on a vote of 2-7 (Mr. Nuessle, Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson, Mr. Moulton, Mr. Smith, Dr. Hanks, Mr. Silas, and Mr. Crane Opposed)

B-9 AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT (ACPSD) HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START PROGRAM CARRYOVER REQUEST: 07/01/2020-10/31/2020 SUPPLEMENT – COVID-19 ONE-TIME: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the submission of the Carryover Balance request in the amount of \$137,936.80 to complete one-time actions and activities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 as outlined in the previously approved funding application.

B-10 AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT (ACPSD) HEAD START/ EARLY HEAD START PROGRAM CONTINUATION FUNDING APPLICATION FOR FY22 (11/01/2021 – 10/31/2022): Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the submission of the Office of Head Start Continuation Funding application and the receipt of funds to operate Head Start/Early Head Start, if awarded.

- B-11 AIKEN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START PROGRAM DISABILITIES WAIVER REQUEST – FY21: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve the submission of the Disabilities Waiver Request for the 2020-2021 program for Head Start/Early Head Start.
- B-12 CHANGE ORDER #2 FOR THE NORTH AUGUSTA HIGH PHASE 3 ADDITIONS-GMP #1 PHASE 3: Superintendent Laurence recommended to approve Change Order #2 from H.G. Reynolds Company, Inc. credit in the amount of <\$1,029,559.61>.
- B-13 CONSTRUCTION BIDS FOR AREA 1 DETENTION POND CLEARIN PROJECT: Superintendent Laurence recommended to allow the administration to accept the low base bid for a total contract amount of \$105,000.00 and enter into a contract with Sitec, LLC.

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve items B-1 through B-13 as presented; SECONDED by Mrs. Crane; MOTION carried on a vote of 6-2-1 (Mrs. Shealey, Mr. Smith opposed, Mr. Moulton abstained).

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

- C-1 PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Silas MOVED to approve lists of certified personnel for school year 2021-2022, certified retiree rehire personnel for school year 2021-22, certified personnel for school year 2020-21, classified personnel for school year 2021-2022, classified retiree rehire personnel 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. Smith; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-2 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT #1 2021-2022 FOR FUNDS 1, 3, AND 9 AND FINALIZATION OF THE 2021-2022 SALARY SCHEDULE: Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED to approve Budget Adjustment #1 and the Final Version of the 2021-2022 Salary Schedule; SECONDED by Mr. Smith; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C-3 CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED ESSER II FUNDING REVISIONS: Mr. Crane MOVED to approve utilization of ESSER II funds for the building acquisition and preparation, to fund two PM mechanic positions, and to cover the cost of hotspots. Upon approval, the revised plan will be submitted to the SCDE for considerations; SECONDED by Dr. Hanks; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-4 REVISION OF THE POLICY GBEB STAFF CONDUCT, FIRST READING; Mr. Moulton MOVED to approve Policy GBEB Staff Conduct, First Reading with revision to wording; SECONDED by Dr. Hanks; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-5 REVISION TO POLICY GCC PROFESSIONAL STAFF LEAVES AND ABSENCES, FIRST READING AND POLICY GDC SUPPORT STAFF LEAVES AND ABSENCES, FIRST READING; Mr. Smith MOVED to approve Policy GCC Professional Staff Leaves and Absences, First Reading and Policy GDC Support Staff Leaves and Absences, First Reading; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-6 REVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULE GCCAAB-R SHARED LEAVE: Mr. Crane MOVED to approve Administrative Rule GCCAAB-R Shared Leave; SECONDED by Mr. Smith; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
- C-7 POLICY BCB BOARD MEMBER CONFLICT OF INTEREST, FINAL READING: Mr. Smith MOVED to Adopt Policy BCB Board Member Conflict of Interest on Final Reading; SECONDED by Ms. Silas; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS

AGENDA ITEMS SUBMITTED BY INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Silas distributed and discussed report in regards to the drug testing of student athletes and Band Members. An additional discussion in regards to the possibility of testing student athletes and band members within the school district will take place at a future meeting.

Several Board Members requested that a presentation in regards to Local Board Approved Courses be presented at a future school board meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO BOARD MEMBERS

No Items This Meeting

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent Laurence presented update on 2020-2021 Goals.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Bradley announced the Board would need a motion to go into Executive Session for the purposes of considering the following matters in such order as the Board deems appropriate: Employment Matters – Administrative Appointment and Discussion of Employment Matter; Contractual Matters – Discussion of Property Matter; Legal Matters – Legal Advice on Policy BID.

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

Regular Session recessed at 7:59 p.m.

Executive Session convened at 8:10 p.m.

Regular Session resumed at 9:10 p.m.

Chairman Bradley announced while in Executive Session the board considered or received information on the following matters: Employment Matters – Administrative Appointment and Discussion of Employment Matter; Contractual Matters – Discussion of Property Matter; Legal Matters – Legal Advice on Policy BID.

EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT

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.

DISCUSSION OF EMPLOYMENT MATTER

Mr. Smith MOVED to approve the recommended contractual matter as follows: Retitle the Executive Manager for Transportation position to Director of Transportation, accompanied by a shift in pay scales while remaining in the same step; Approve the change retroactive to July 1, 2021; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONTRACTUAL MATTERS

DISCUSSION OF PROPERTY MATTER

Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson MOVED that the Board authorize the Chair and Superintendent to execute the contract document described to the Board this evening associated with purchasing a small tract of improved property; SECONDED by Mr. Crane; MOTION carried on a vote of 8-1 (Mr. Crane opposed).

LEGAL BRIEFING

LEGAL ADVICE ON POLICY BID

No Action Taken

Mr. Smith MOVED to adjourn the meeting; SECONDED by Ms. Rhinehart-Jackson; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

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SUBMITTED BY: Kim Chriswell

APPROVED: