

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Central Administrative Offices
511 Harrington Highway
Eden, NC 27288
October 12, 2020
6:00 p.m.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

(Via Zoom for Board Members and Live Streaming for Public View)

Present: Ms. Paula Rakestraw, Board Chair and Mr. Bob Wyatt, Vice Chair. Board Members: Ms. Kimberly McMichael, Mr. Brent Huss, Mr. Doug Isley, Ms. Vickie McKinney and Ms. Amanda Bell. Administrative staff: Dr. Rodney Shotwell, Superintendent; Dr. Charles Perkins, Assistant Superintendent Curriculum and Instruction; Dr. Sonja Parks, Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Logistics; Dr. Cindy Corcoran, Assistant Superintendent of Support Services; Dr. Ken Scott, Interim Director of Human Resources; Ms. Annie Ellis, Chief Financial Officer; Board Attorney, Mr. Nick Herman and Ms. Renée Everhart, Board Assistant were present.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Rakestraw called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

The Board members stated their names. Seven members were present at roll call.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Rakestraw announced the work session is scheduled at 6:00 p.m., Monday, October 26, 2020 at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC. via live stream.

Ms. Rakestraw announced the next regular Board Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 9, 2020 at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC. via live stream.

MOMENT OF PRAYER

Rev. Randy Hester from Community Baptist Church provided the moment of prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Member Ms. Vickie McKinney led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Isley moved that the Board approve the amended agenda as presented. Ms. McMichael seconded the motion and the vote was 7/0. (Consent Item 6.4 was moved to Action Item 7.4.)

PUBLIC COMMENTS / BOARD COMMENTS

Public Comments:

1. Mr. Ron Price – Board Chair Ms. Paula Rakestraw read the statement written by Mr. Ron Price, addressing his opposition regarding the Healthy Use Act and sex education classes in public schools.
2. Mr. Jim Fink – Board Chair Ms. Paula Rakestraw read the statement written by Mr. Jim Fink, addressing the Board regarding his opinion is that students need to return to school as soon as possible under Plan A.
3. Ms. Kelly Toney – Ms. Toney, a teacher at Bethany Elementary School, addressed the Board stating that teachers have not been heard from and their input has not been considered regarding how teachers feel about the return to school. Ms. Toney asked the Board if they were willing to hear from the teachers.

4. Ms. Amanda Mackenzie – Ms. Mackenzie, a teacher at Western Rockingham Middle School, stated the teachers would like to be heard regarding the return to work. She stated the teachers feel they were disrespected.

Board Comments:

Ms. Rakestraw stated she appreciated the phone calls and emails and the Board has taken into consideration of the impact of the virus on our students, staff and community. Ms. Rakestraw stated the Board did not intentionally leave anyone out when making the decision to return to school. She stated the Board appreciates the work everyone has been doing to stay focused of how to best educate students.

CONSENT ITEMS

Presented consent items for Board consideration:

1. Approval Consent Item - Additions to the Substitutes List for: child nutrition, bus driver, bus monitors, teacher substitutes, Head Start Program substitutes and SACC early childhood substitutes list for 2020-2021.
2. Approval Consent Item – Adoption of Board Policies – Dr. Cindy Corcoran
3. Approval Consent Item – Required Update of Beginning Teacher Support Plan – Ms. Angela Martin (Attachment 1-A)
4. ~~Approval Consent Item – 2020-2021 School Calendar Revisions – Dr. Charles Perkins (Moved to Action)~~
5. Approval Consent Item - Board of Education Meeting Minutes for approval:
 - September 14, 2020 – Open Session Regular Board Meeting Minutes
 - September 28, 2020 – Open Session Work Session Meeting Minutes

Action: Ms. McMichael moved that the Board approve the consent items as presented. Ms. McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Bus Driver Substitute List:

None

Bus Monitor Substitute List:

None

Child Nutrition Substitute List:

None

SACC/Early Childhood Center Substitute List:

Amanda Hanks
Brandi Poteat
Stacy Robertson

Substitute Teacher List:

None

Substitute Head Start Teacher List:

None

ACTION ITEMS

Approval – 2020-2021 RCS Budget:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Ms. Annie Ellis for comments regarding the 2020-2021 Budget Resolution. Ms. Ellis presented the 2020-2021 budget as listed.

- State Public School Fund
- Local Current Expense Fund
- Federal Grant Fund
- Capital Outlay Fund

Ms. Ellis stated funds five through eight remained the same as the proposed budget.

After discussion, the Board determined to table any action, with further review of the supplements and bonuses. Ms. Ellis stated she would provide an Interim Budget Resolution at the upcoming work session. There was no board action taken to approve the budget.

Approval – Criminal Justice Technology Program:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Ken Scott, Ms. Sheila Regan, Chief Robert Hassell and Ms. Leigh Anne Bassinger for comments regarding the Criminal Justice Technology Program. Ms. Regan, Vice President of Academic Affairs with Rockingham Community College requested Rockingham County Board of Education approval to offer Rockingham Community College's 12 credit hour certificate, Criminal Justice Technology Generalist, on the campus of Rockingham County High School effective fall 2021. Vice President Regan presented the Rationale stating the partnership between the City of Reidsville, Rockingham County Schools and Rockingham Community College have discussed the Criminal Justice Technology Certificate Program to generate interest in law enforcement careers (Attachment 2-A). Ms. Regan reviewed the Criminal Justice Technology Generalist Pathway Certificate as listed below. (Attachment 3-A).

- Course Description – CJC 111 Intro to Criminal Justice
- Course Description – CJC 112 Criminology
- Course Description – CJC 113 Juvenile Justice
- Course Description – CJC 131 Criminal Law

Vice President Regan presented the Law Enforcement Career Plan of Study involving the pathway of courses at Rockingham County High School and Rockingham Community College (Attachment 4-A).

Chief Robert Hassell, Reidsville Police Department and Ms. Leigh Anne Bassinger, Director of Human Resources – City of Reidsville presented the overview of revisions to the Public Safety Academy in a PowerPoint as listed.

- Goal of the Law Enforcement Academy
 - Provide a small learning community for students interested in pursuing a career in the Criminal Justice field
 - Offer applicable course work beginning in the 9th grade
 - Include college level course work beginning in the 11th grade
 - Help students prepare for post-secondary education at RCC
 - Result in preparedness for a career in Public Safety and
 - Produce competitive employees for the 21st Century job market
- Need for Qualified Applicants
 - Current employment statistics
 - Rockingham County; including County Jail – 150 sworn positions
 - Reidsville – 50 sworn positions
 - Eden – 46 sworn positions
 - Madison – 18 sworn positions
 - Mayodan – 15 sworn positions
 - Stoneville – 5 sworn positions
 - Does not include State Highway Patrol or private duty security positions
 - Will grow with the completion of the Youth Development Center in 2022
- Bridge the Gap Between High School Graduation and Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET)

- BLET students must have reached the age of 20 years for municipal service and 21 years for county employment
- Allows high school graduates of ages 17 and 18 to complete Associates Degree while awaiting admission age
- May result in an education incentive if hired into local law enforcement
- Program Extends Beyond Police Career
 - Park Ranger
 - Fish and Wildlife Agent
 - Crime Scene Investigator
 - Forensic Accountant
 - Forensic Technician
 - Courtroom Bailiff
 - Paralegal
 - Corrections and Detention Officer
 - Pardons and Parole
 - Homeland Security
 - Telecommunicator
 - Border Patrol Agent
 - Juvenile Court Counselor
- Vision
 - Some classes would be taught at Rockingham County High School
 - Other classes would be taught on the campus of Rockingham Community College
 - Could have some label experience at local Police Department training facilities
 - Encourage guest speaker from current law enforcement officers from a variety of agencies
 - Develop internship programs with local police departments for students after high school graduation
 - State funding to offset or eliminate student loan debt
 - NC Fellow Program
 - Youth Apprenticeship
 - College and Career Promise
 - Program Design
 - 9th Grade
 - Public Safety I and II
 - 10th Grade
 - Law and Justice I and II
 - 11th Grade
 - Emergency Responder
 - RCC Coursework
 - Intro to Criminal Justice
 - Juvenile Justice
 - Criminology
 - Criminal Law
 - 12th Grade
 - Internship
 - RCC Coursework
 - Court Procedures
 - Corrections
 - Law Enforcement Operations
 - Investigative Procedures
- First Steps
 - Approval and support from RCS and RCC
 - Creation of Exploratory / Advisory Committee
 - Support and participation of additional agencies throughout Rockingham County
- Next Steps
 - Work with Guidance and Career staff to generate interest and increase enrollment
 - Encourage student participation in programs
- Future Steps

- Review and explore enhancements to Fire portion of the Public Safety Academy
- Expand design to other non-PSA program
- Wastewater and Water Treatment

The Board members expressed great appreciation for the development of the program and commended RCC and Chief Hassel for the opportunities they are providing Rockingham County students.

Action: Ms. McMichael moved that the Board approve the 12 credit hour certificate in Criminal Justice Technology Generalist on the campus of Rockingham County High School through Rockingham Community College, effective the fall of 2021 as presented. Ms. Bell seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Approval - Re-Entry Update Report / Action for Plan A:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Stephanie Ellis for comments regarding the Re-Entry Plan for the 2020-2021 school year. Dr. Ellis presented the Re-Entry Plan, which included covering the following areas as listed.

- Considerations for Rockingham County Schools:
 - Option 1
 - Transition to Plan A on November 2 (All schools and Dillard Academy) for grades PreK-3rd grade)
 - Wednesdays remain as Instructional Planning and Cleaning Day for all schools
 - Grades 6-12 remain on Plan B In-Person Learning and Virtual Learning (AA/BB)
 - Option 2
 - Transition to Plan A on November 16th (All schools and Dillard Academy) for grades PreK-3 grade
 - Wednesdays remain as Instructional Planning and Cleaning Day for all schools
 - Grades 6-12 remain on Plan B In-Person Learning and Virtual Learning (AA/BB)
 - Option 3
 - Continue on Plan B at least through January 15, 2021
 - All PreK-12 students would remain on Plan B In person Learning and Virtual Learning)Plan B AA/BB Wednesday remains instruction/panning cleaning day for all school)
- What would Plan A Look Like?
 - Cleaning
 - Increase capacity coming in AA/Bb for PreK- 5th grade
 - Wear face coverings
 - Follow our RCS Our Safe Return to Learn Guidebook
 - Wednesday remain instructional planning/cleaning day for all grades
 - Transportation Safety practices social distancing and would occur as if we are on Plan B on the bus
 - Transportation arrival and dismissal will impact all school schedules K-12
- Rockingham County COVID-19 Update
- Current COVID-19 Data and Reports from the Rockingham County Health Department as of October 12, 2020
- Social Distancing and Safety in Schools –View RCS Classroom Numbers
 - Guidance from NCDPI – Both Plan B and Plan A require public units that provide in-person instruction to comply with specific social distancing practice
 - Guidance from NC DHHS through the Public Health Tool Kit
- Transportation Consideration
 - Regular Ed buses more the 1000 changes since September 1st
 - Each change take 12 – 14 minutes
 - Regula Ed buses – 4 databases

- AA BB routes database
- BB day rout database
- K-5 database
- Full Routes database
- Reidsville zone and Eden zone entire buses / concerns about social distancing and double routes for elementary and the effect on middle and high bell times
- Moss Street utilized man EC buses to pick up students since Moss Street does not have an attendance zone
- South End School buses now travel outside of their attendance zone now due to the number of student that opt not to attend Moss Street
- South End, Williamsburg, Moss Street have the potential of having 3 routes on some buses if student K-5 come back to Plan a
- Friday October 12th is the deadline for requesting transportation if we return to Plan A
- We have had several challenges when driver sand monitors have to be quarantined, Many school do not have available sub drivers if schools are shut down due to exposures. Transportation had to park several buses over the past two weeks and reassigned students to other buses because of driver shortages.
- RCS Curriculum Updates
 - RCS Virtual Learning Update – 4358 students as of 10/12/2020
 - Kindergarten Physicals due by October 30
 - Grading period endos on October 15 for additional schools
 - Report Cards issued on October 27 for traditional schools
 - Report Card issued on October 20 (Dillard Academy)
 - Dillard returns from intersession on October 13
 - DPI check-ins this month for traditional grade 4-8
 - Digital Teaching and Learning Newsletter
- RCS Social Emotional Supports
 - Over 1600 social emotional contacts this school year since August
 - Over 50 counseling referral this year to specialize instructional support staff
 - Over 1000 sessions with student for social/emotional individual mental health counseling
 - Behavioral Health District Integrated Response Teams
 - Social Emotional Screening September 25-October 9th to help understand student social and emotion needs and connect them with support s
 - RCS BETA Team in place to support students in crisis
- Child Nutrition
 - Plan A
 - Students returning to school will continue to receive meals at no cost until December 2020 or until funding is depleted
 - Student will continue to receive breakfast and lunch for the one remote learning day they are not in school
 - Virtual learners may still pick up meals for 5 days on Wednesday from 11:30-1:00
 - We encourage parents to call ahead to avoid any delay during pickup
 - Plan B
 - We will continue current in school meal service
 - Students will continue to receive breakfast and lunch for the three days they are not in school
 - Virtual learners may still pick up meals for 5 days on Wednesday from 11:30 – 1:00
 - We encourage parents to call ahead to avoid any delay during pickup
 - All meals will remain individually packed to maintain safety

After board discussion, Board Chair Ms. Rakestraw directed Dr. Shotwell to prepare a survey for teachers and all staff regarding their input. The survey would question how teachers, staff, etc. feel about Plan A, B, or C and their concerns. The survey results will be presented at the next work session. No Board action was taken on a decision for Re-Entry Plan.

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Board do not have check-ins for testing purposes. Mr. Isley seconded the motion. The vote was 3/4 (3 for and 4 opposed – the motion did not pass). Mr. Wyatt, Mr. Huss and Mr. Isley voted for the motion. Ms. Bell, Ms. Rakestraw, Ms. McKinney and Ms. McMichael voted opposed to the motion. The motion did not pass.

Approval – 2020-2021 School Calendar Revisions:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Charles Perkins for comments regarding the Remote Learning Plan. Dr. Perkins presented the Remote Learning Plan which included 15 questions that were required by legislation for each district to answer, in addition the State Board of Education added 2 other items (Attachment 5-A).

Action: Ms. McMichael moved that the Board approve the 2020-2021 school calendar revises as presented. Ms. Bell seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

REPORTS / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Operations and Logistics Update:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for a report on the Operations and Logistics. Dr. Sonja Parks stated a report on the Energy Savings Performance Contract has been prepared by Mr. Daniel Broyles and Ms. Kim Smith. They presented information on the following:

- Energy Performance Contract Project Scope of Work
- Project Schedule Milestones
- Project Timeline
- Project Pick

Dr. Parks presented information on the following:

- Morehead High School Gym Roof Replacement
- Rockingham County High School Press Box Roof
- Rockingham County High School Track
- Reidsville High School Press Box Roof
- Paging Systems
- New Vision Generator (using funding from Old Williamsburg)
- Western Rockingham Middle School Gym Roof Completed
- Western Tennis Courts Application to USTA has been submitted
- Land use Study Interviews
- South End School Modular Units Update

Dr. Sonja Parks stated the South End School Modular final inspections are scheduled this week. She stated there is a need for the aluminum canopy for the modular units at an approximate cost of \$23,185.

Action: Mr. Isley moved that the Board approve the amended amount of funding up to \$26,000 for the covered walkways at South End Elementary School modular units, seconded by Ms. Bell. The vote was 7/0.

Board of Education Meeting Schedule for 2021:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Rodney Shotwell for comments regarding the Board of Education 2021 meeting schedule. Dr. Shotwell presented the 2021 Board Meeting Schedule for consideration, stating it follows the standard meeting schedule according to the Board's Bylaws of meeting on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month (Attachment 6-A). Dr. Shotwell will present for board adoption at the November Board Meeting.

The Board took a ten-minute break at 9:30.

CLOSED SESSION

Action: Mr. Isley moved to go into Closed Session to preserve the attorney client privilege pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11 (1) (6) to discuss personnel matters and property discussion according to state law to preserve the attorney client privilege. Ms. McMichael seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Action: Mr. Isley moved to return to open session, seconded by Ms. McKinney. The vote was 7/0.

OPEN SESSION

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Employments:

—Administration

—Licensed

Lauren Bottoms
Effective 10/13/20

Angela Tuttle
Effective 10/5/20

Katie Winfrey
Effective 11/2/20

—Classified

Tabitha Boswell
Effective 10/21/20

Jan Denny
Effective 10/19/20

Aliyah Joyce
Effective 10/5/20

Joinea Leake
Effective 10/5/20

Elizabeth Morris
Effective 10/5/20

Talmadge Priddy
Effective 9/21/20

Timothy Vernon
Effective 10/5/20

TERMINATIONS:

—Licensed

—Classified

Katherine Schoolfield
Effective 8/17/20

TRANSFERS:

—Administration

—Licensed

—Classified

Jaime Allen
Effective 10/1/20

Rebekah Daniels
Effective 10/19/20

Melissa Stokes
Effective 9/21/20

Resignations:

—Administration

—Licensed

Cody Hadas
Effective 10/26/20

—Classified

Hayley Harville
Effective 9/28/20

Deana Thomas
Effective 10/9/20

Retirements:

—Administrative

—**Licensed**
Rhonda Kallam
Effective 10/1/20
—**Classified**
Polly Rogers
Effective 10/1/20
Leave Requests:
None

Action: Ms. Bell moved to accept the **amended personnel report** as presented, seconded by Mr. Isley.
The vote was 7/0.

Action: Mr. Isley moved that the Board approve to accept the offer on the Johnson Street property for \$142,000 as presented, seconded by Ms. Bell. The vote was 7/0.

Action: Mr. Isley moved to accept the additional classified salary increases retroactive to July 1, 2020 as presented, seconded by Ms. Bell. The vote was 7/0.

Action: Mr. Isley moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. McKinney. The vote was 7/0.

Minutes read and approved:

Ms. Paula Rakestraw, Board Chair
Rockingham County Board of Education

Dr. Rodney Shotwell
Superintendent of Schools

November 9, 2020