

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Central Administrative Offices
511 Harrington Highway
Eden, NC 27288
April 20, 2020
4:00 p.m.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom due to COVID-19

The public viewed the meeting via Live Stream on the links below:

<https://www.twitch.tv/rockinghamupdatemobile>

or

<https://www.rceno.com/RCENO/rockingham-county-board-of-education-meeting-live-stream/>

Present: Ms. Paula Rakestraw, Chairperson and Mr. Bob Wyatt, Vice Chair. Board Members: Ms. Kimberly McMichael, Mr. Brent Huss, Mr. Doug Isley and Ms. Amanda Bell. Board Member Mr. Wayne Kirkman was absent. Administrative staff: Dr. Rodney Shotwell, Superintendent; Dr. Sonja Parks, Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Logistics; Dr. Charles Perkins, Assistant Superintendent of K-12 Curriculum and Instruction; Mr. Jonathan Craig, Executive Director of Human Resources and Athletics; Dr. Cindy Corcoran, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services; Board Attorney, Mr. Nick Herman and Ms. Renée Everhart, Board Clerk were present.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Rakestraw called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

The Board members stated their names. Four board members were present at roll call on Zoom. Ms. Bell and Mr. Isley joined the call shortly. Board Member Mr. Wayne Kirkman was absent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Rakestraw announced the Board of Education will hold a Public Hearing on the Request Budget for the 2020-2021 school year this evening, Monday April 20, 2020. Ms. Ellis will present the request budget and the public is welcome to comment.

Ms. Rakestraw announced the next regular board meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled at 6:00 p.m. Monday, May 11, 2020 at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC.

Ms. Rakestraw announced the RCS Employee Retirement Banquet is scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at Rockingham County Middle School Cafeteria, located at 182 High School Road, Reidsville, NC.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Board had a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. McMichael moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Wyatt seconded the motion. The vote was 4/0.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS ON THE REQUEST BUDGET/ PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Rakestraw stated there was no one signed up for comments on the request budget hearing or for public comment.

BOARD COMMENTS

1. Mr. Isley commended the staff and teachers to meet the challenges brought by COVID-19 and the virtual instruction. He thanked Dr. Stephanie Ellis on the updates she had provided to the Board.

2. Ms. McMichael thanked Dr. Stephanie Ellis for the updates on COVID-19 and the stay at home order, etc. Ms. McMichael thanked the teachers that quickly met the challenges to teach. She stated she wanted to let all the seniors know the Board Members are thinking of them.
3. Ms. Rakestraw stated she wanted to also thank all the staff that were working to get things done. She thanked the parents and students to make the learning work at home for students.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Rakestraw presented the consent agenda items for approval:

- Consent Approval – Board of Education meeting minutes for approval:
 - March 9, 2020 – Open Session Regular Board Meeting Minutes
 - March 23, 2020 – Open Session Work Session Minutes
 - March 15, 2020 – Open Session Emergency Meeting Minutes
 - April 3, 2020 – Open Session Special Called Meeting
- Consent Approval – Roof Consulting Services for Morehead High School Gym – Dr. Sonja Parks
- Consent Approval – Bid Proposal for Reidsville Middle School Cooling Tower – Dr. Sonja Parks
- Consent Approval – Bid Proposal for Rockingham County High Press Box – Dr. Sonja Parks
- Consent Approval – RFP for Grounds Maintenance Services – Dr. Sonja Parks
- Consent Approval – Adoption of Board Policies – Dr. Cindy Corcoran
 - Policy 7130 – Licensure
 - Policy 7240 – Drug-Free and Alcohol-Free Workplace
 - Policy 7410 – Teacher Contracts
- Consent Approval – Adoption of Policy -4335 Use of Unmanned Aircraft (Drones) on Second Reading – Dr. Cindy Corcoran
- Consent Approval – COVID-19 Emergency Relief Funds for Kids Companion Program Staff Salaries – Dr. Cindy Corcoran (Attachment 1-A).

Action: Ms. McMichael moved that the Board approve the consent items as presented. Mr. Isley seconded the motion. The vote was 5/0. (Ms. Bell was not on Zoom call at this time.)

ACTION ITEMS

Approval – Annual Budget Resolution for Fiscal Year July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Shotwell for comments regarding adoption of the 2019-2020 budget resolution. Dr. Shotwell presented the 2019-2020 Annual Budget Resolution for adoption.

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Board approve the Annual Budget Resolution for 2019-2020 as presented. Ms. McMichael seconded the motion. The vote was 5/0.

Approval – Out-of-County Students’ Reimbursement due to COVID-19:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for comments regarding reimbursement of tuition for out-of-county students. Dr. Parks stated she had received request from parents requesting reimbursement of tuition for the out-of-county students due to COVID-19. After board discussion, there was no action taken.

REPORTS / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Proposed 2020-2021 RCS Budget:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Shotwell (Ms. Ellis was absent due to family) for comments regarding the request budget for 2020-2021. Dr. Shotwell presented proposed budget for 2020-2021 following with question session for board members.

CAFR Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Shotwell (Ms. Ellis was absent due to family) for comments regarding the CAFR Report. Dr. Shotwell presented the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for fiscal year ended June 30, 2019.

Operations and Logistics Report:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for the Operations and Logistics Report.

Dr. Parks reported on the following:

- Dr. Parks thanked Board Member Mr. Doug Isley for providing 10,000 plastic bags to carry food for delivery to students
- RCS Feeding Sites - Ms. Young has partnered with the YMCAs to serve breakfast and lunch in addition to the 3 school sites, Mr. Pete Crouch of Eden Drug has volunteered and Ruger has donated \$1000 for feeding students
- Over 50,000 meals have been served by Ms. Young's team during the pandemic
- April Pre-Bid Meetings on RCHS Press Box, Reidsville Middle School Cooling Tower, and South End Modular Units
- Western Rockingham Middle School Bleacher Project – beautiful pictures were provided in the powerpoint of the finished bleachers
- Reidsville High School Machining Lab was pictured with the Mill Machines and Lathe Machines in place
- Rockingham County High Track – Update pictures of drainage and concrete that had been poured

Dr. Shotwell stated Ms. Bell was now on the Zoom meeting.

South End Elementary School Overcrowding Solutions:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for the report on South End overcrowding and solutions.

Dr. Parks stated three options are recommended to address the overcrowding issues:

- Option 1 – Move the 4th and 5th grade students to Reidsville Middle School.
- Option 2 – Redistrict South End attendance area.
- Option 3 – Purchase an 8-classroom modular building

After board discussion, it was determined to survey the parents and community for K-5 students for input as to their ideas and choices of the three options presented. The Board wants community input prior to making a decision.

Superintendent's Report / COVID 19 – Emergency Preparation and Response Plan:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Shotwell and Dr. Stephanie Ellis for a report on the COVID-19 Emergency Preparation and Response Plan. A powerpoint presentation was presented to cover areas listed below (Attachment 2-A).

- RCS COVID-19 Plan Phases
- Understanding the Crisis: COVID 19
- RCS COVID-19 Crisis Resources and Updates
- Building Access and Employee Work Hours: Working During a Time of Crisis and State of Emergency
- RCS Feeding Sites
- Curriculum and Instruction Updates
- Social and Emotional Supports for Students
- Behavioral Health / Mental Health Services: What social emotional supports are available for my child?
- RCS Behavioral Health, COVID 19 and Social Emotional Resource Google Site for families and staff is at: <https://bit.ly/RCSBehaviorialHealth>
- Next Steps Planning for COVID-19
- Emergency Preparation and Response In Action

CLOSED SESSION

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

OPEN SESSION

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved to return to open session, seconded by Mr. Isley. The vote was 6/0.

Personnel Report:

Employments

—Administration

—Licensed

—Classified

Jessica McMichael

Effective 4/13/20-6/3/20

Transfers

—Administrative

—Licensed

—Classified

Charletta Hockett

Effective 3/7/20

Cheryl Moore

Effective 3/30/20

Roger Roach

Effective 3/10/20

Eric Roberts

Effective 3/26/20

Walter Smart

Effective 3/24/20

Alejandra Zeller

Effective 3/24/20-6/3/20

Retirements:

—Administrative

—Licensed

Amy Allen

Effective 7/1/20

Matthew Hill

Effective 7/1/20

Deena Lovings

Effective 7/1/20

Amy Small

Effective 7/1/20

Mary Smith

Effective 7/1/20

Laura Springs

Effective 7/1/20

—Classified

Kay Hazelwood

Effective 7/1/20

Melanie Knight

Effective 7/1/20

Rhonda Peoples

Effective 7/1/20

Resignations:

—Administrative

—Licensed

Elsy Baena

Effective 6/20/20

Maria Valencia

Effective 6/12/20

—Classified

Michael Gray

Effective 3/30/20

Elizabeth Shoemaker

Effective 3/27/20

Terminations:

—Administrative

—Licensed
—Classified
Donna Searcy
Effective 2/24/20
Leave Requests:
None

Action: Ms. Bell moved to accept the **amended personnel report** as presented, seconded by Ms. McMichael. The vote was 6/0.

Action: Mr. Huss moved to remove the Johnson Street property listing off the market until the rezoning with the City of Reidsville is completed and to list the Old Williamsburg School property with Knowles Teams, Ms. Teresa Knowles for sale for the amount of \$64,900 as presented, seconded by Ms. McMichael. The vote was 6/0.

Action: Ms. McMichael moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Bell. The vote was 6/0.

Minutes read and approved:

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

Dr. Rodney Shotwell
Superintendent of Schools

May 11, 2020