

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Central Administrative Offices
511 Harrington Highway
Eden, NC 27288
October 26, 2020
6:00 p.m.

BOARD WORK SESSION MEETING
Live Stream – Masks are required 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, Ms. Vickie McKinney and Ms. Amanda Bell. 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; Dr. Ken Scott, Interim Director of Human Resources and Athletics; Dr. Cindy Corcoran, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services; Ms. Annie Ellis, Chief Financial Officer; Board Attorney, Mr. Nick Herman and Ms. Renée Everhart, Board Assistant were present. Mr. Huss had internet connection problems and was unable to attend portions of the meeting remotely.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Rakestraw called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

The Board members stated their names. Six members were present at roll call. Mr. Huss was present for a portion of the meeting. He had internet connection problems.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Ms. Rakestraw announced there is no work session scheduled in November.

Ms. Rakestraw announced the December Board Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled at 6:00 p.m. Monday, December 14, 2020 at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC. via live stream. The Swearing-In Ceremony for elected board members will be held during this meeting. Board Member Ms. Amanda Bell will be recognized for her service to the Board of Education and Rockingham County Schools. The Board will conduct their annual reorganization with the election of the Board Chair and Vice Chair for 2021.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Bell moved to approve the agenda. Ms. McMichael seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval – “Safe Return to Learn” Re-Entry Update Discussion – Action on Plan A, B or C:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Stephanie Ellis for an update on the “Safe Return to Learn” Re-Entry Update. Dr. Ellis presented the update on the following information as listed.

- RCS Considerations on 10-12-2020 Board Meeting
- RCS Considerations on Survey for Staff (10-13-2020 through 10-18-2020)
- Social Distancing and Safety in Schools – View RCS Classroom Numbers:
 - Guidance from NCDPI
 - Guidance from NC DHHS
 - Public Health Tool Kit

- Schools are required to create the following 3 plans:
 - Plan A – Minimal Social Distancing
 - Plan B – Moderate Social Distancing
 - Plan C – Remote Learning Only
- Current COVID-19 Data and Reports – Update from Rockingham County Health Department 10-26-2020
- Rockingham County Positive Tests: 7.8% as of 10/23/2020
- Current COVID-19 Data and Reports – COVID 19 infected by age (bar graph)
- Curriculum and Instruction Virtual Learning:
 - Total Virtual Learners as of 10-20-2020: 4506
 - Preschool 18
 - Elementary 1577
 - Middle 1195
 - High School 1716
 - Students in Exceptional Children 684
 - English as Language Learners 186
 - Students returning from Virtual Learning 186
- Review of Survey Data: 943 responses
 - Certified Employees 70.7%
 - Classified Employees 29.3%
- Summary of Results by Staff:
 - Plan C 51.1%
 - Plan B 26.9%
 - Plan A 14.6%
- Elementary Breakdown of Plan A, B and C
- Middle / High School Breakdown of Plan A, B and C
- Additional Staff Surveys Summaries:
 - 96 indicated students should return on Plan A before Christmas 12/18/2020
 - 716 indicated student should return on Plan A after Christmas 12/18/2020
- Additional Information from Staff Survey:
 - What support do you feel you need for Plan A
 - What are top two challenges on Plan B
 - Concerns in general (Plan A or Plan B)
- Understanding Social Emotional Learning to our student voices
 - Social and Emotional Learning
 - Relationship Skills
 - Self-Awareness
 - Self-Management
 - Social Awareness
- Fall 2020 Student Voice Surveys
 - 4000 students
 - 22 schools
 - 9 SEL Topics
- What We Measured:
 - Positive Feelings, Challenging Feelings, Teacher-Student Relationships, Self-Management, Growth Mindset, School Safety, Social Awareness, Emotion Regulation and Sense of Belonging
- Best Practices in Survey Design
- Preparing for a SEL Data Dive
- Summary of Teacher Perception K-2 Social Emotional Screening Data:
 - 2042 responses for Teacher Perception for Grades K-2
- Summary of Student Supports and Environment Grades 3-5 –
 - 1672 responses for grades 3-5
- Summary of Student Supports and Environment Grades 6-12
 - 2547 responses for grades 6-12
- Summary of Student Competency and Well-Being Measures
 - 1672 responses for grades 3-5
- Summary of Student Competency and Well-Being Measures
 - 2547 responses for grades 6-12
- Overall SEL Screening Summary

Dr. Ellis updated the Board as of today, Rockingham County Schools COVID-19 case are at 8% with North Carolina at 6.6%. There were board comments from Ms. Bell, Ms. Rakestraw, Mr. Wyatt, Mr. Isley, Ms. McMichael and Ms. McKinney.

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved the school district stay on Plan B until start of second semester, seconded by Mr. Isley. The vote was 4/2. The motion failed. Opposed to the motion were votes by Ms. Bell, Ms. Rakestraw, Ms. McKinney and Ms. McMichael.

Action: Ms. McMichael moved the school district move to Plan C affective November 9, 2020 in all grades through the first semester, seconded by Ms. Bell. The vote was 4/2. The motion passed with votes by Ms. Bell, Ms. Rakestraw, Ms. McKinney and Ms. McMichael. Mr. Isley and Mr. Wyatt voted opposed to the motion.

The Board will re-evaluate the plan at the December board meeting.

Approval – Interim Budget Resolution:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Ms. Annie Ellis for regarding the Interim Budget Resolution. Ms. Ellis presented the Interim Budget Resolution for November 1 through November 30, 2020 (Attachment 1-A).

Action: Ms. McKinney moved to approve the Interim Budget Resolution for November 1 – 30, 2020 as presented, seconded by Ms. McMichael. The vote was 6/0.

The Board took a ten-minute break at 8:15 p.m.

REPORTS / DISCUSSION ITEMS

College and Career Promise (CCP) Update - Rockingham Community College Courses for 9th and 10th Grade Students:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Charles Perkins for a report on the College and Career Promise. Dr. Perkins presented the summary of specific requirements for 9th and 10th grade students who want to enroll in RCC Community College courses through the Career and College Promise (CCP) Program. Dr. Perkins included the link to the information at [NC Community College Operating Procedures Manual for Career and College Promise](#) (the requirements are on page 17 of the manual). The College Transfer Pathway for freshmen and sophomores summarized (Attachment 2-A).

Strategic Plan Discussion – Update / NC STAR – School Improvement Plan Updates:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Charles Perkins for an update on the NC STAR School Improvement Plan and Strategic Plan discussion. Dr. Perkins presented the options for and timeline for the NC STAR / School Improvement Plan submission. Dr. Perkins recommendation to the board was to stay with Option #1.

- Option #1: Allow the 2019-20 plans to continue through the end of the 2020-21 school year. DPI allows districts to approve plans for 2-year periods. Schools would adjust plan dates and continue with their action steps that were developed in 2019. The Board of Education may want to consider this option based on the fact that there were no EOG or EOC test in spring of 2020.
- Option #2: Submit new goals for the 2020-21 year following the timeline below.
- Timeline:
 - Comprehensive Needs Assessment completed October 9, 2020 (this option has been completed)
 - Plans should be submitted in NC STAR by December 4, 2020
 - Plans would be shared with the Board of Education on December 14, 2020
 - Vote on approval of the Plans by the Board of Education in January or February 2021

Dr. Perkins stated the Board could postpone the Strategic Plan, looking at it next year. Dr. Perkins stated if not, the Board could elect to do it virtually. He stated the new virtual school option will take time to develop. Dr. Shotwell stated the committees will need to be put back in place, suggesting January 2021 for that.

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved to approve Option #1 as presented, seconded by Ms. McKinney. The vote was 6/0.

Old Bethany High School Roof Proposals:

Ms. Rakestraw recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for the old Bethany High School roof proposals. Dr. Parks presented the proposals for the re-roofing the Bethany gymnasium and main building. She stated the scope of work for re-roofing the old Bethany High School gym includes as polyurethane/silicone seamless roof system with a costs of approximately \$120,820.00. Dr. Parks reported the copse of work for re-roofing the main building with a shingle roof ranges from \$111,973 to \$192,900. Mr. Stophel added the roof system comes with a 10-year warranty.

CLOSED SESSION

Action: Mr. Isley moved to go into Closed Session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11 (a) (6) to discuss personnel 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: Ms. McKinney moved to return to open session, seconded by Mr. Isley. The vote was 6/0.

Personnel Report:

Employments

—Administration

—Licensed

—Classified

Nakyza Burton

Effective 10/12/20

Frances Estes

Effective 10/19/20

Lynsey Goodman

Effective 10/21/20

Joseph Griffin

Effective 10/19/20

Susan Roberts

Effective 10/12/20

Brittney Thomas

Effective 10/19/20

Transfers

—Administrative

—Licensed

Kelsie Meador

Effective 10/19/20

Courtney Shelton

Effective 10/15/20

Amy Wyatt

Effective 10/15/20

—Classified

Michelle Chestnut

Effective 10/19/20

Jan Denny

Effective 10/19/20

Elizebeth Jarvis

Effective 10/5/20

Pamela Kilby

Effective 10/5/20

Hava Peters

Effective 10/8/20

A'Keilah Scales

Effective 10/5/20

Retirements:

—Administrative

—Licensed

—Classified

Brenda Huffines

Effective 11/1/20

Resignations:

—Administrative

—Licensed

—Classified

JaWanda Moore

Effective 10/23/20

Brenda Perkins

Effective 10/1/20

Shannon Turner

Effective 10/5/20

Brittney Winchester

Effective 10/2/20

Terminations:

—Administrative

—Licensed

—Classified

Leave Requests:

None

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

Action: Ms. Isley moved the Board accept the offer of \$155,000 for the Johnson Street property as presented, seconded by Ms. McKinney. The vote was 6/0.

Action: Ms. Bell moved to approve the proposed 5% bonus for the three Assistant Superintendents as presented, seconded by Ms. McKinney. The vote was 5/1. Mr. Isley voted opposed.

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

November 9, 2020