

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Central Administrative Offices
511 Harrington Highway
Eden, NC 27288
February 8, 2021
6:00 p.m.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
(Live Streaming for Public View)

Present: Ms. Kimberly McMichael, Board Chair and Ms. Vicky Alston, Vice Chair. Board Members: Ms. Paula Rakestraw, Mr. Brent Huss (via zoom), Mr. Doug Isley, Ms. Vickie McKinney and Mr. Bob Wyatt. 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. McMichael called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. McMichael announced the work session is scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 22, 2021 at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC via live stream.

Ms. McMichael announced the next regular Board Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 8, 2021 at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC via live stream.

Ms. McMichael announced the Public Hearing for the Proposed Draft Budget for 2021-2022 will be held during public comments at the regular Board Meeting scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 8, 2021 at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC via live stream. A sign-up sheet will be provided for Public Comments for the Public Hearing prior to the 6:00 p.m. start of the meeting.

MOMENT OF PRAYER

Reverend Ervin S. Best from Beulah Baptist Church gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Isley moved that the Board amend the agenda, moving item 6.4 Consent – Policy 2127 on first reading to Action item 7.4 with discussion. Mr. Wyatt seconded the motion and the vote was 7/0.

Ms. Rakestraw moved that the Board amend the agenda, adding Action item 7.5 – Resolution Supporting Vaccination of School Workers for approval. Ms. McKinney seconded the motion and the vote was 7/0.

Ms. Rakestraw moved that the Board approve the amended agenda. Ms. Alston seconded the motion and the vote was 7/0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS / BOARD COMMENTS

Public Comments:

1. Mary Ryan
2. Kelly Toney (via zoom)
3. Ron Price
4. Christopher Wood (via zoom – read letter written by Chrissy Griffin)
5. Mihoshoty Yamaguchi (via zoom)
6. Roxanne Griffin (via zoom)
7. Becky Carter
8. Rochelle Tucker
9. Ann Brady (via zoom)
10. Amanda Bell (via zoom)
11. Lissa Harris (via zoom)
12. Bill James
13. Bernie Parnell

Board Comments:

Ms. Rakestraw expressed sympathy to the family and friends of Jaedon Cain, student that passed last week. She thanked those that sponsored “Eggs to Issues”. She recognized teachers, Ms. Wade and Ms. Tuttle, at Leaksville-Spray Elementary for incorporating their virtual zoom classes to include the student face-to-face classes. She recognized Ms. Mesick at Leaksville-Spray Elementary for the impact she made on the technology at the school. Ms. Rakestraw addressed a comment made in public comments this evening stating it is far less than 20% of students attending RCC required to take remedial classes. Ms. Rakestraw stated she has placed a public records request with Rockingham Community College to verify the information and will share with board members.

Mr. Isley stated the Board of Education does respect teachers and the work they do for our students. Mr. Isley stated he believes teachers do require priority for the Covid vaccination and disagrees with the recent decision by Governor Cooper to move educators to phase 3-vaccination schedule.

Ms. Alston thanked Dr. Parks and Principal Smothers for the work done at South End Elementary School. She stated the walkway coverings are beautiful and the students and teachers love them.

Mr. Wyatt agreed with Ms. Rakestraw’s comments that providing instruction so virtual students can participate with the face-to-face student instruction, making for an excellent learning experience for all students.

Ms. McMichael congratulated the swim teams that recently competed in the Regionals. She thanked the coaches for a great job with the students. She congratulated the McMichael Volleyball Team for state runner-up. She stated football practice started today. She thanked the public that spoke during public comments this evening. She stated she is unable to make a comment to those speaking publically as it is not appropriate for one person to respond or speak on behalf of the Board during public comments.

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 – Gifts, Grants and Donations – Ms. Annie Ellis (Attachment 1-A)
3. Approval – Auditor Contract Renewal – Ms. Annie Ellis
4. Approval Consent Item – Adoption of Board Policies, ~~Policies on First Reading~~ and Policies on Second Reading – Dr. Cindy Corcoran (Attachment 2-A) (Policy 2127 was removed from Consent agenda and placed for Action Item 7.4.
5. Approval Consent Item – Traditional Calendar and Dillard Academy Year Round Calendar for 2021-2022 on Second Reading – Dr. Charles Perkins (Attachment 3-A)
6. Approval Consent Item - Board of Education Meeting Minutes for approval:

- January 11, 2021 – Open Session Board Meeting Minutes
- January 13, 2021 – Open Session Recessed Meeting Minutes
- January 25, 2021– Open Session Work Session Meeting Minutes

Action: Ms. Alston 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:

Karen Hall

Substitute Teacher List:

Joshua Hardin

Substitute Head Start Teacher List:

None

ACTION ITEMS

Approval – eLearning Academy:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Charles Perkins for comments regarding the eLearning Academy for 2021-2022. Dr. Perkins presented the eLearning Academy Proposal for board approval for the 2021-2022 school year. Dr. Perkins presented an overview of the 2021-2022 eLearning Academy as listed.

- Virtual student count through 1/13/21
- eLearning Academy Mission and Vision
- General information
- Instructional Practices
- Application and Admissions
- Virtual Option for Grades 9-12
- Timeline of next steps pending board approval

Action: Ms. Rakestraw moved that the Board approve the 2021-2022 eLearning Academy as presented. Ms. McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Approval – ACT Test Dates for March 9, 2021 and March 23, 2021 as Required Remote Learning Days for High Schools:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Charles Perkins for comments regarding the ACT Test dates and needs for remote learning days. Dr. Perkins stated the ACT Test dates are set for Tuesday, March 9 and Tuesday, March 23, 2021, with no option for adjusting the dates set by the College Board. Dr. Perkins requested board approval to identify March 9 and March 23 as Remote Instruction Days for the high schools, allowing the 11th grade students the test sessions as needed.

Action: Ms. Alston moved that the Board approve March 9 and March 23, 2021 as remote learning days for the high schools as presented. Mr. Wyatt seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Approval – Budget Amendments:

Ms. McMichael recognized Ms. Annie Ellis for comments regarding the budget amendments. Ms. Ellis presented the budget amendments as listed for board approval (Attachment 4-A).

- Budget Amendment #10 – State Public School Fund
- Budget Amendment #11 – Local Current Expense Fund
- Budget Amendment #12 – Federal Grant Fund
- Budget Amendment #13 – Capital Outlay Fund
- Budget Amendment #14 – Other Restricted Fund

Action: Mr. Isley moved that the Board approve the budget amendments as presented. Mr. Wyatt seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0

Approval – Policy 2127 – Board Member Technology on First Reading:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Cindy Corcoran for comments regarding the Policy 2127 – Board Member Technology on first reading. Dr. Corcoran presented Policy 2127 – Board Member Technology on first reading. (This policy was moved off consent agenda to action agenda per board member action this evening (Attachment 4-A).

Action: Mr. Rakestraw moved that the Board approve Policy 2127 – Board Member Technology on first reading as presented. Ms. McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was 5/2. Mr. Isley and Mr. Huss voted opposed.

Approval – Resolution Supporting Vaccination of School Workers:

Ms. McMichael recognized Board Member Ms. Rakestraw for comments regarding the resolution. Ms. Rakestraw read the Resolution Supporting Vaccination of School Workers (Attachment 5-A). Ms. Rakestraw stated all school employees be restored to a priority status to receive the Covid vaccination.

Action: Ms. Rakestraw moved that the Board approve the Resolution Supporting Vaccination of School Workers to be presented to the Office of the Governor of North Carolina (Mr. Roy Cooper) as presented. Mr. Wyatt seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0

REPORTS / DISCUSSION ITEMS

RCS Cares About Your Safety:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Stephanie Ellis for an update regarding COVID-19 data and guidelines. Dr. Ellis provided an update on COVID-19 data and vaccinations for the county.

Operations and Logistics Report:

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Sonja Parks for the Operations and Logistics Report. Dr. Parks provided a powerpoint presentation on the projects as listed.

- Morehead Gym Roof
- Future Replacement Roofs: Central Elementary Gym roof, Western Rockingham Middle, McMichael High School Lobby, Holmes Middle School Main Building, Old Bethany Gym Roof, and Old Bethany Main Building
- Draper Elementary Roof – Dr. Parks stated the roof issue is not with the portion of the building currently housing the Head Start Program.
- South End Canopy
- Morehead High Band Area Update
- Morehead High Gym Floor Update
- Monroeton Gym Floor
- Western Tennis Court Update
- Land Use Study (Moseley Architects Probable Costs)

- RCS Maintenance Vehicles
- Gammon Family Foundation Donation of Masks
- RCS Maintenance Apprenticeship – A video was viewed including the Maintenance Department and the RCS Maintenance Apprenticeship student

Board Chair Announcements:

There were no board chair announcements.

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 subsections to discuss personnel matters according to state law. Ms. Rakestraw 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**

Ashley Halbrook

Effective 2/1/21

Mark Stanzione

Effective 2/8/21

Erica Roland

Effective 2/8/21

—**Classified**

Carolina Leach

Effective 2/8/21

TERMINATIONS:

—**Licensed**

—**Classified**

TRANSFERS:

—**Administration**

Dr. Kenneth Scott

Effective 2/9/21

—**Licensed**

Christian Hairston

Effective 2/8/21

Brooke Garrett

Effective 2/4/21

—**Classified**

Stephanie Houghton

Effective 2/8/21

Pennialisha Lawson

Effective 2/11/21

Resignations:

—**Administration**

—**Licensed**

Maria Holm

Effective 2/26/21

—**Classified**

Retirements:

—**Administrative**
—**Licensed**
Jill Dix
Effective 4/1/21
—**Classified**
Leave Requests:
None

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

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

Minutes read and approved:

Ms. Kimberly McMichael, Board Chair
Rockingham County Board of Education

Dr. Rodney Shotwell
Superintendent of Schools

March 8, 2021