

**Rockingham Board of Education  
Central Administrative Offices  
511 Harrington Highway  
Eden, NC 27288  
January 09, 2023  
Board Meeting  
6:00 p.m.**

Present: Ms. Kimberly McMichael, Board Chair and Ms. Vicky Alston, Vice Chair. Board Members: Mr. Philip Butler, Mr. Brent Huss, Ms. Vickie McKinney, Ms. Paula Rakestraw and Mr. Bob Wyatt. Administrative staff: Mr. Shawn Stover, Superintendent; Dr. Charles Perkins, Assistant Superintendent Curriculum and Instruction; Dr. Cindy Corcoran, Assistant Superintendent of Support Services; Mr. Dean Richardson, Director of Human Resources; Ms. Annie Ellis, Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Katie Cornetto, Board Attorney and Ms. Renee Brown, 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 there is a work session scheduled for Monday, January 23, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. at Holmes Middle School located at 211 North Pierce Street, Eden, NC. The next Board meeting is scheduled at 6:00 p.m., Monday, February 13, 2023. The meeting will be held at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC.

**MOMENT OF PRAYER**

Pastor Kevin Dunovant - First Wesleyan Church, Eden, NC gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board Member Mr. Wyatt led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. Alston moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. McKinney seconded the motion and the vote was 7/0.

**RECOGNITIONS**

Mr. Stover recognized 18 schools for achieving academic growth under North Carolina's accountability system. The awards were as follows:

**Academic Growth Award**

Bethany Elementary  
Douglass Elementary  
Huntsville Elementary  
J.E. Holmes Middle  
John W. Dillard Academy  
Lincoln Elementary  
Monroeton Elementary  
Rockingham County High

South End Elementary

**Exceeded Academic Growth Award**

Central Elementary  
Leaksville-Spray Elementary  
Reidsville Middle School  
Rockingham Early College High School  
Rockingham County Middle  
Stoneville Elementary  
Wentworth Elementary  
Western Rockingham Middle  
Williamsburg Elementary

**Achieving An Outstanding Graduation Rate of 100%**

Rockingham Early College High School

**PUBLIC COMMENTS / BOARD COMMENTS**

Public Comments:

1. Diane Parnell
2. Malcolm Allen
3. Rachelle Tucker

Board Comments:

Ms. Rakestraw thanked everyone for coming out tonight. I'm really proud of our schools. We had 18 recognized for meeting or exceeding academic growth. She stated that she is thankful to our administrative staff for reaching out to every middle and high school in our district to get feedback on our school dress code. We had over 300 students participate and I am sure they are excited about having their voices heard.

Mr. Butler stated that Wentworth School is hosting an Anti-Bullying Program for parents tomorrow January 10th from 6:00-7:00 pm. I think this is a wonderful opportunity for the parents of Rockingham County to come together and help identify kids that bully or are being bullied. I encourage everyone to go out to Wentworth School tomorrow night.

Ms. Alston congratulated the 18 schools on their academic growth. We have 8 teachers that completed their National Board Certification. That is really going beyond the call of duty. I want to give them a big shout out: Melissa Bailey (Score Center), Leslie Baker (RCHS), Whitney Hannam (Wentworth Elementary), Joshua Hardin (RCHS), William Joyner (Rockingham Early College High School), Kelly McCorkle (Holmes Middle), Jodi Troxler (RCHS) and Tina Whitten (Dillard Academy).

Ms. McMichael thanked everyone for being here and for the public comments. Thank you for sharing the little elephant with us. Thank you Ms. Tucker and Mr. Allen for your comments. She stated that she would like to clarify that, as you know most of us were not on this Board when the 2013 decision was made, nor were we on the Board when the partnership was formed. Our district has one seat, as I understand it, on that Board and it was a partnership in deciding to come together and it was a partnership in deciding on how we separated. I really can't say more than that but I do want to let you know that was not a matter of this Board.

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

### Presented consent items for Board consideration:

1. Approval Consent Item - Gifts, Grants and Donations – Ms. Annie Ellis
2. Approval Consent Item – Head Start Program Monthly Budget Update – Ms. Annie Ellis
3. Approval Consent Item - Budget Amendments – Ms. Annie Ellis
4. Approval Consent Item - Board Policies - Dr. Cindy Corcoran
5. Approval Consent Item - Bus Grant Funds For Edulog (Bus Monitoring System) - Mr. Cris Cox

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

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### Approval - Head Start Program Criteria

Dr. Corcoran, Ms. Jumper and Ms. Wesley presented the Rockingham County Schools Early Learning Head Start Proposed Eligibility Criteria and then requested the Board approve the 2023-2024 Head Start Program Eligibility Priority Criteria. (Attachment 1-A)

Action: Ms. Rakestraw moved that the Board approve the proposed criteria as presented. Mr. Wyatt seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

### First Reading (2023-2024 RCS Calendars)

Dr. Perkins presented the RCS Traditional, Dillard and Early College 2023-2024 school calendars for first reading.

Action: No Vote - First Reading

### Approval - ESSER funds to replace Central Elementary School's HVAC system

Mr. Stover requested the use of ESSER funds up to \$1,000,000 to pay for the installation of a new HVAC unit that will service the K-2 building at Central Elementary School. The design bid for the project costs \$84,907 with projected installation and materials costs of \$835,000. (Attachment 2-A)

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Board approve the use of ESSER funds as presented. Ms. Alston seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Approval - Restricted sales tax request to replace Morehead High School's cooling tower

Mr. Stover requested permission to ask the County Commissioners to approve the use of restricted sales tax funds to pay for the installation of a new cooling tower that will service the following critical areas in the main building: nursing classrooms, home economics, art, math, history, gymnasium, locker rooms and ROTC. The design bid for this project cost \$47,211 with projected installation and materials costs of \$392,000. If approved we will present the Commissioners with a total request for \$447,211 at their approved meeting. (Attachment 3-A)

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

Approval - Roofing Costs Overages Funding Requests

Mr. Stover requested the Board approve the use of \$276,747.73 from Fund Balance to cover the three new roofs that went over budget. (Attachment 4-A)

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Board approve the request as presented. Ms. Alston seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

Approval - GEO Surfaces to replace Reidsville High School's Track and Field

Mr. Stover reviewed the bid tabulation sheet for the Reidsville High School Sports Complex including the Track and Field installation. Timmons Group Engineers created the RFP for this project at no cost. The district held an onsite pre bid meeting on August 23, 2022 at 2:00 pm for interested bidders. Four proposals were received from general contractors. We are recommending the lowest, competitive bid for approval. (Attachment 5-A)

Action: Ms. Alston moved that the Board approve the bid from GEO Surfaces as presented. Ms. Rakestraw seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

**REPORTS / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

PTA Organization Report - Mr. Stover

Mr. Stover provided the Board a list of all active parent organizations and booster clubs in our schools.

Moss Street Update – Mr. Stover

Mr. Stover presented an update to inform the Board of the transition of Moss Street Partnership School back to Rockingham County Schools. Since the last update in December we have taken the following steps:

- Met with South End Staff to answer questions about the transition

- Met with MSP staff to answer questions about the transition
- Met with MSP Parents to answer questions about the transition
- Set up a FAQ and feedback google form for staff and parents at both schools
- Worked with MSP staff to submit a state safety grant to help cover some of the costs of cameras, intercom, and door entry.
- Asked each school to create a transition team made up of administrator, K-2 teacher, 3-5 teacher, enrichment teacher, SPED teacher, classified staff, parent rep, and community rep

We are working on the following:

- Develop a tracking tool called a RACI to ensure we are taking care of and tracking all outstanding issues to ensure everyone who needs to know information will be kept in the loop. R = Responsible, A = Accountable, C = Consulted, I = Informed.
- Scheduling the meetings with the committees
- Scheduling further parent information nights at both schools
- Working on a hiring process for new principal
- Working on hiring process for MSP staff
- Walkthroughs to assess needs
- Presentation for next work session

#### Superintendent's Report – Mr. Stover

Mr. Stover stated that he would like to echo some of the statements made during Board comments. He congratulated the 18 schools on their academic growth. He plans to recognize the 8 teachers that received their National Board Certification at a later date. I would also like to reinforce that as part of our Unapologetically Kind Anti-Bullying Campaign this year, Wentworth Elementary will be hosting an anti-bullying program for parents tomorrow night. I invite everyone to come out. This is National School Board Appreciation month. I want to thank these public servants in front of me for all their hours of dedication to students, staff and the community. They work hard to ensure our children get the best education in a safe environment. You have a powerful impact on our district. I value your partnership and salute you. It is a pleasure for me to work and collaborate with you. Thank you for all you do.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

Action: Mr. Butler moved to go into closed session to prevent the disclosure of privileged or confidential information that is protected under the North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11 (a) (1) (3) (6).

Ms. Rakestraw seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0.

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

#### **Employments:**

##### **—Licensed**

Matthew W. Fowler

Effective 1/09/23

##### **—Classified**

Catherine Gates  
Effective 1/2/23

Tori L. Peele  
Effective 1/17/23

Brandi M. Poteat  
**Substitutes:**

Payten Bayne  
Effective 1/10/23

Hagan Benfield  
Effective 1/10/23

Kelsie Benoti  
Effective 1/10/23

Christy Benton  
Effective 1/10/23

Jessica Carter  
Effective 1/10/23

Kristen Chrismon  
Effective 1/10/23

Darla Dunagan  
Effective 1/10/23

Katelyn Dyson  
Effective 1/10/23

Cathy Fisher  
Effective 1/10/23

Melissa Jacobs  
Effective 1/10/23

Francheska Johnson  
Effective 1/10/23

James Martin  
Effective 1/10/23

Avery Moore  
Effective 1/10/23

Brenda Nuckles  
Effective 1/10/23

Amanda Poindexter  
Effective 1/10/23

Chelsea Roberts  
Effective 1/10/23

Whitney Steadman  
Effective 1/10/23

Wanda Vernon  
Effective 1/10/23

Olawndra Whitted  
Effective 1/10/23

Robin Williamson  
Effective 1/10/23

**Transfers:**

—**Licensed**

Koury Gibson  
Effective 1/23/23

Joanna Hazelwood  
Effective 1/2/23

—Classified

Janet M. Baughn  
Effective 1/2/23  
Cheryl M. Brame  
Effective 10/03/22  
Cheryl T. Dove  
Effective 1/17/23  
Rachael A. Ponce  
Effective 1/17/23  
Carol Pryor  
Effective 1/17/23  
Angela L. Wood  
Effective 1/2/23

**Resignation:**

—Licensed

Timothy L. Buck  
Effective 1/19/23  
Shaikia Dillard  
Effective 12/30/22  
Elena Pedersen  
Effective 2/5/23  
Krista E. Stewart  
Effective 1/20/23

—Classified

Jameca M. Adams  
Effective 12/19/22  
Selina Collins  
Effective 12/16/22  
Amy Corbin  
Effective 12/16/22  
Addyson E. Fain  
Effective 1/1/23  
Kasey M. Rierson  
Effective 12/22/22

**Retirements:**

—Classified

Donna J. Howell  
Effective 3/1/23  
Patricia V. Pearson  
Effective 3/1/23


**Leave Request:**


None

Action: Ms. Alston moved to accept the personnel report and addendum, seconded by Mr. Butler. The vote was 7/0.

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

Minutes read and approved:

  
Ms. Kimberly McMichael, Board Chair  
County Board of Education

  
Mr. Shawn Stover III Rockingham  
Superintendent of Schools

February 13, 2023