

**ROCKINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Central Administrative Offices**

**511 Harrington Highway**

**Eden, NC 27288**

**November 14, 2022**

**6:00 p.m.**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Present: Ms. Kimberly McMichael, Board Chair and Ms. Vicky Alston, Vice Chair. Board Members: Ms. Paula Rakestraw, Mr. Doug Isley, Ms. Vickie McKinney and Mr. Bob Wyatt. Administrative staff: Mr. Shawn Stover, Superintendent; Dr. Charles Perkins, Assistant Superintendent Curriculum and Instruction; Ms. Erselle Young, Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Logistics; Dr. Cindy Corcoran, Assistant Superintendent of Support Services; Mr. Dean Richardson, Director of Human Resources; Ms. Annie Ellis, Chief Financial Officer; Mr. Brandon McPherson, 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. Six members were present at roll call. Board Member Mr. Huss was absent.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. McMichael announced the next board meeting is scheduled at 6:00 p.m., Monday, December 12, 2022. The meeting will be held at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC.

**MOMENT OF PRAYER**

Pastor Jarett McBryde, from New Lebanon Church, Reidsville, North Carolina gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board Member Mr. Doug Isley led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Isley moved that the Board approve the agenda as presented. Ms. McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

**RECOGNITIONS**

1. Mr. Stover recognized Williamsburg Elementary School as a 2022 Awardee as one of America's Healthiest Schools. The certificate was presented to Dr. Leslie Coleman-Cassell, Principal; Mr. Jason Davis, Physical Education Teacher and Ms. Meeks.
2. Mr. Kelley, Ms. Young and Mr. Rorrer recognized the Rockingham County Schools' Energy Team Members (Morehead High, Holmes Middle, Lincoln Elementary, Wentworth Elementary, Leaksville Spray Elementary and Old Douglass PRC).

3. Major Mercer recognized Brianna Lemons and Kennedy Wilson from Dalton McMichael High School for receiving their pilot's license. The students stated their experiences and how much they loved the program. Mr. Wyatt commented that he is proud of the ROTC program and appreciates all that Major Mercer does for our students. He stated that we will always need the military.

4. Dr. Perkins recognized the following staff for their dedicated service to North Carolina Career and Technical Education (CTE) students in support of their Career Development and the observance of Career Development Month during November 2022 and Career Development Coordinator Day on November 16, 2022: Christy Hensley, Rhonda Holland, Yolanda Stubblefield, Jim Carroll, Nina Walls and Sharon Galloway - Mr. Carroll was absent due to medical leave.

5. Mr. Stover recognized the McMichael Women's Volleyball Team, who made their way to Raleigh and won the NCHSAA 2A state championship. He also shared a video of the winning shot and celebration. Ms. McMichael thanked everyone for coming out for the celebration.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS / BOARD COMMENTS**

### Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

### Board Comments:

Ms. McKinney wished Ms. Alston a Happy Birthday.

Ms. Alston commented that she was so proud of all the awardees that were honored tonight. RCS has so much to celebrate. She thanked Reidsville High School for hosting the Play Festival the other weekend. We had high schools from all over the state represented. Veterans Day was last weekend and we had several schools celebrating the occasion (Bethany Elementary, Western Rockingham Middle, and Rockingham Middle). On a sad note, Reidsville lost Jim Hardy last week. He was a retired superintendent of Reidsville City Schools and the founding member of the Reidsville Rescue Squad. He will be deeply missed.

Ms. Rakestraw congratulated all the recipients that were honored tonight. She stated it's so refreshing to see everyone back in school and participating. It was also so nice to see the patriotism and the respect for the flag that was shown at our Veterans Day celebrations that were held throughout our school system. It's great that our students and teachers celebrate the differences that we have in our classrooms, but it's also exciting when we can come together where we have a similar goal in mind. She stated that we need to be united and she prays that everyone in our school system feels a connection to someone else.

Ms. McMichael wished Ms. Alston a Happy Birthday and thanked her for all that she does. She congratulated the McMichael Women's Volleyball team for winning at the conference. She thanked Western Rockingham Middle, Bethany Elementary and Rockingham Middle for their Veterans Day celebrations. She was only able to attend the celebration at Western Rockingham Middle School. She stated that Morehead High School band performed on November 5th at the annual Veterans Day Parade in Greensboro. They will perform again on the 23rd for the Thanksgiving parade in Charlotte. She congratulated them for doing a great job. Ms. McMichael stated that she was thankful to announce McMichael High School received a college advisor. She thanked Dr. Corcoran for all her help in making that happen. Our district has received a large sum of money for SROs and for other safety equipment. Ms. McMichael wants the public to continue to hear us reiterate that safety is our top priority. Dr. Ellis leads the state in her safety program, and we are always working alongside our police department, county commissioners and with all of our other partners to

keep our schools safe. Lastly, she stated that she receives a lot of calls about the impact that Covid has made on our students. Covid has especially caused a decline in what children think is appropriate for our schools. She encouraged families to talk to their children about being respectful to others. She wished everybody a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Isley thanked Ms. Sensenich for helping out with the Cops grant and Ms. McMichael thanked her as well.

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

Presented consent items for Board consideration:

1. Approval Consent Items - Consent Personnel: Bus Drivers, Bus Monitors, SACC, Child Nutrition, Teacher Substitute Lists and Head Start Substitute Lists for 2022-2023
2. Approval Consent Item – Gifts, Grants and Donations – Ms. Annie Ellis
3. Approval Consent Item – Head Start Program Monthly Budget Update – Ms. Annie Ellis
4. Approval Consent Item - Budget Amendments – Ms. Annie Ellis
5. Approval Consent Item - Board Policies For Approval – Dr. Cindy Corcoran (Attachment 1-A)
6. Approval Consent Item - Cops Grant – Ms. Kacey Sensenich
7. Approval Consent Item - Board of Education Meeting Minutes for approval:
  - October 10, 2022 – Open Session Regular Board Meeting Minutes
  - October 24, 2022 – Open Session – Work Session Minutes

Action: Ms. Alston moved that the Board approve the consent items as presented. Mr. Isley seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

### **Bus Driver Substitute List:**

None

### **Bus Monitor Substitute List:**

None

### **Child Nutrition Substitute List:**

None

### **SACC/Early Childhood Center Substitute List:**

None

### **Substitute Teacher List:**

Pollard Cannon  
Jessica Edwards  
Karae Foddrell  
Adam Hampton  
Rachel Hogan  
Linda Peele  
Sharon Vincent  
Tammy Walker

**Substitute Head Start Teacher List:**

None

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Approval - New Vision Generator Bid Tabulation**

Ms. Young presented and then requested the board approves the proposal from M-W Electrical Construction for the installation of a new generator at New Vision for \$143,892.

Action: Mr. Isley moved that the Board approve the proposal from M-W Electrical Construction as presented. Mr. Wyatt seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

**Approval - Cops Grant Update & Match**

Ms. Sensenich presented a report summarizing the COPS SVVP Grant. Ms. Sensenich gave a quick overview of the **New COPS SVVP Grant (#3)**. RCS was awarded this new grant on October 14, 2022. The amount of the grant is \$495,843. Ms. Sensenich requested a 25% match of \$125,000 from local funds.

Action: Mr. Isley moved that the Board approve the proposal as presented. Ms. Alston seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

**Approval – Implementation of the SRO & School Safety Equipment Grant**

Dr. Ellis announced that the district is the recipient of two school safety grants from the North Carolina Center for Safety Schools at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction totaling nearly \$1.2 million (\$1,187,878.00). Dr. Ellis stated that the RCS is receiving a \$599,900 grant for new School Resource Officers, and will also receive \$587,978 for school safety equipment. Dr. Ellis requested the implementation of this grant and our required match for this grant for the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school year. Mr. Isley thanked Ms. Sensenich, Dr. Ellis and our law enforcement officers for their support in keeping our schools safe.

Action: Ms. Alston moved that the Board approve the proposal as presented. Ms. Rakestraw seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

## REPORTS / DISCUSSION ITEMS

### Mobile Dental Unit Presentation - Mr. Trey Wright:

Mr. Wright, Director of Rockingham County Health Department, presented an overview of the Dental Hygiene Mobile Unit that will be utilized in Rockingham County Schools in the second semester for selected schools. Dr. Ellis thanked Mr. Wright for applying for this great opportunity for our district. Ms. Rakestraw stated that she was excited to see this come to our schools. Mr. Wyatt commended Mr. Wright for his work. Ms. McMichael thanked Mr. Wright for supporting the students for Rockingham County Schools.

### Volkswagen Bus Grant Update – Ms. Erselle Young and Mr. Cris Cox

Mr. Cox stated that two (2) seventy two passenger activity buses arrived on November 13, 2022. One is a regular activity bus and the other one includes a lift gate. Rockingham County Schools is the recipient of the VW Grant for \$106,000 for another activity bus. Mr. Cox stated that NCDPI will complete replacements in 2023 for buses with 250K miles or 20 years. The biggest change since writing the grant is the significant price increases in the cost of replacement school activity buses in the amount of 26%. Mr. Cox presented a powerpoint on Transportation updates.

- School Bus Safety Pilot Program

#### Potential Award

\$573,438 For Improved Communications and Information

\$171,711 Internet Connectivity

Mr. Isley thanked the Transportation department for the job they do.

### RCSELHS PC Training Presentation – Dr. Cindy Corcoran

Dr. Corcoran stated that Ms. Jumper was unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances. Dr. Corcoran presented the Head Start Performance Standards Training. This is an annual requirement for our board as the governing body for the Head Start Program. Ms. McMichael stated that it is great that we have so many students enrolled in our program. Dr. Corcoran stated that they will be writing and submitting the 5 year grant and presenting it to the Board as they work through that process.

### CTE Work Plan Update – Dr. Charles Perkins

Dr. Perkins presented a powerpoint update on the Career & Technical Education Program as listed.

- CTE Work Plan
- Exploring Pathways
- Grant Applications
- Expanding Opportunities For RCS Students
- Director of CTE/Innovation

Mr. Stover thanked Dr. Perkins for his leadership and hard work. Mr. Isley stated that he appreciates the work that Dr. Perkins has done. This program has so much potential for our students in Rockingham County. Mr. Wyatt stated that he was impressed with the RockATOP program as well.

### ESSER Update – Dr. Charles Perkins

Dr. Perkins provided an update on ESSER funds (PRC 181). He stated that on November 2, 2022, a collaborative meeting was held with Finance to review encumbered and proposed spending for the remaining ESSER funds. During this meeting, it was noted that \$1,000,000 of discretionary funds would be preserved to be used based on Board of Education direction. RCS conducted an Advisory Council meeting this fall to gather input and feedback on potential expenditures. The Advisory Councils were advised of previous expenditures as well as the fact that rising costs and inflation have impacted the supply chains. Dr. Perkins reminded the Board that PRC 181 requires that 20% of the total allotment (\$5.6 million) be dedicated to specific learning loss that occurred due to the COVID pandemic. The district is primarily using these funds to support our summer learning programs and purchased/contracted instructional materials. As of November 7, 2022, approximately \$7.6 million remains unencumbered in ESSER PRC 181. All ESSER funds from PRC 181 must be encumbered by September 30, 2024 and paid by December 1, 2024.

Mr. Wyatt stated that it was good to see the HVAC system going in at WRMS that was purchased with ESSER funds.

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

Mr. Stover congratulated all of our local and state leaders who were elected last Tuesday. He stated that he looks forward to working with them. He commented it seems we honor more and more people for obtaining levels of excellence. He proceeded to do an overview of the recognitions from tonight's meeting. He went on to say our classified staff are working as hard as ever; our teacher assistants are there supporting our teachers; bus drivers are running multiple routes. Our teachers are doing some amazing things, as you know, we are still dealing with some staffing shortages. We have teachers covering for their peers when they are out; we have some high school teachers teaching all four periods to cover our key areas of math. Our Central Office staff wake up everyday thinking what can we do to support our kids and schools. Everyone is working really well together in difficult times. He stated that he feels blessed to be a leader of a group of educators with a single minded purpose of ensuring that our students are empowered to be lifelong learners. We are achieving excellent results and I'm so happy to be working with RCS staff. Finally, over the past month I have been able to meet with parents, teachers, classified staff, students and some of our partners to hear about what their hopes and dreams are for our county. It's been very informative as I have been working on my entry into Rockingham County Schools. He stated that his next steps are to meet with smaller groups and learn even more. He continues to say that he looks forward to using the information for our next Strategic Plan.

The Board took a 10-minute break.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Action: Mr. Isley 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) (8).

Ms. McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0.

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

## OPEN SESSION

### PERSONNEL ACTIONS

#### Employments:

##### —Administrative

##### —Licensed

Shane Rice

Effective 10/31/22

Kathryn M. Cole

Effective 12/05/22

##### —Classified

Jeffrey W. Nealy

Effective 11/14/22

Georganna H. O'Dell

Effective 10/27/22

Dana Reynolds

Effective 11/7/22

Crystal M. Wilson

Effective 11/7/22

Eugene C. Kelley

Effective 12/01/22

#### Transfers:

##### —Administrative

##### —Licensed

Kathy E. Aldridge

Effective 10/17/22

Rhonda S. Brown

Effective 8/17/22

Elizabeth G. Nelson

Effective 10/31/22

Kelsey W. Carter

Effective 1/1/23

##### —Classified

Teresa H. Bray

Effective 11/15/22

Tamina B. Crook

Effective 8/17/22

Teresa J. Modlin

Effective 8/17/22

Gayle H. Shelton

Effective 10/31/22

Shannon G. French

Effective 12/01/22

Tina M. Hall

Effective 10/01/22

Steven O. Mayhan

Effective 11/15/22

Heather S. Powell

Effective 11/15/22

Karen L. Reichenbach

Effective 10/01/22

Sandra V. Worley  
Effective 11/11/22

**Resignation:**

—**Administrative**

—**Licensed**

Katie A. Gunn

Effective 11/23/22

Laura Marie Weatherly

Effective 12/31/22

James T. Fain

Effective 11/15/22

—**Classified**

Katherine J. Armas

Effective 9/19/22

Jennifer L. Culley

Effective 11/14/22

Teresa J. Modlin

Effective 10/24/22

**Retirements:**

—**Administrative**

—**Classified**

Donna S. Holder

Effective 2/01/23

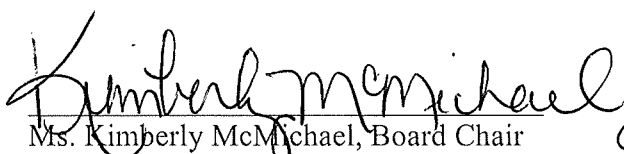
**Leave Request:**

None

Action: Mr. Isley moved to accept the personnel report and addendum, seconded by Ms. McKinney. The vote was 6/0.

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

Minutes read and approved:



Ms. Kimberly McMichael, Board Chair  
County Board of Education



Mr. Shawn Stover III Rockingham  
Superintendent of Schools

December 12, 2022



# Rockingham County Schools

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Administrative Offices  
511 Harrington Highway  
Eden, North Carolina 27288  
(336) 627-2688 / FAX (336) 627-6619

Cindy A. Corcoran, Ed.D.  
Assistant Superintendent of Instructional  
Support Services/Human Resources  
ccorcoran@rock.k12.nc.us

November 3, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. John Stover, Superintendent  
RC Board of Education Members

FROM: Cindy Corcoran, Ed.D. *CAC*  
Assistant Superintendent of  
Instructional Support Services/Human Resources

RE: Board Policies for Approval – November 14, 2022 (Second Reading)  
Indicator B5: The BOE and the Superintendent present a unified vision for district/school improvement.

The Board of Education reviewed and approved the first Reading of the following policy on October 10, 2022. I am requesting the Board to approve the second reading on the recommended policy listed below at the November 14, 2022 meeting:

- Policy 3552: Animals in Schools and Classrooms (New)

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board adopt the policy listed above as presented.

MOTION \_\_\_\_\_ SECOND \_\_\_\_\_ FOR \_\_\_\_\_ AGAINST \_\_\_\_\_

It is the policy of the Board of Education to have guidelines regarding the presence of animals in school buildings and classrooms to protect individuals from harm and to promote a healthy environment.

The following guidelines shall apply:

- A. With the permission of the principal, small animals may be kept in classrooms as part of classroom instruction.
  - 1. The principal must review and approve teachers' requests to determine if the animal's presence is appropriately linked to the curriculum.
  - 2. If the request is approved, the staff member must ensure that the animal is treated in a humane manner and that the animal is controlled within the classroom.
  - 3. The principal will determine how long the animal may be kept in the classroom.
  - 4. The principal will ensure that teachers communicate to parents that a pet is to be kept in the classroom to ensure that student allergies are a consideration in classroom assignment.
  - 5. This provision is not intended to allow pets, such as dogs or cats, to be present in schools and classrooms during or outside of school time.
- B. Animals also may be present in the school or classroom as a part of a specific curriculum-based presentation or assembly (such as a dog sled team or hawk watch demonstration) if the presentation or assembly is pre-approved by the principal.
- C. Service animals used to assist individuals with disabilities (such as seeing-eye dogs) may be in the schools but only in accordance with the stipulations of policy 4205/5029/7272, Service Animals in Schools. The use of a service animal requires the completion of the Service Animal School Integration Form and the procedures set forth in 4205/5029/7272-R, Service Animal School Integration Procedure.
- D. Trained search dogs may be brought into schools and classrooms by law enforcement officers with prior approval of the principal.
- E. No other animals are allowed in school buildings except for brief controlled circumstances to be approved by the principal.

- F. In all cases, if an animal does harm to a student or another individual, the person bringing the animal to school or on school grounds will be held responsible for the action of the animal.

Legal References: 115C-36

Cross References: Service Animals in Schools (policy 4205/5029/7272), Service Animal School Integration Form (regulation 5205/5029/7272-R)

Adopted:

