

**Rockingham Board of Education
Central Administrative Offices
511 Harrington Highway
Eden, NC 27288
May 08, 2023
Board Meeting
6:00 p.m.**

Open Session Minutes

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: Dr. Shawn Stover, Superintendent; Dr. Charles Perkins, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction; Dr. Cindy Corcoran, Assistant Superintendent of Support Services; Ms. Erselle Young, Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Logistics; 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. McMichael announced the next Work Session is scheduled at 12:00 noon for Monday, May 22, 2023 at Rockingham County High School Media Center located at 180 High School Road, Reidsville, NC.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Central Administrative Offices at 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC.

The 2023 Graduation Ceremony for RCS Early College is scheduled for Thursday, May 18th 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in Keys Gymnasium/RCC Campus.

The RCS 2023 Employee Retirement Banquet is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at the Wright Memorial Event Center located at 184 Slaydon Road, Eden. The banquet begins at 6:00 p.m.

MOMENT OF PRAYER

Pastor Kevin Dunovant from First Wesleyan Church in Eden, N.C. gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

William Attaway from Rockingham County High School led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Alston moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Butler. The vote was 7/0 Unanimously Approved.

RECOGNITION FOR CTE

Ms. McMichael recognized Ms. Walls for CTE recognitions. Ms. Walls and Dr. Perkins recognized the McMichael STEM students. They attended the annual North Carolina Technology Student Association (NC TSA) state conference March 26-28th 2023. At the NC TSA State Conference students competed in a variety of events including video production, CAD design, prepared presentations and many more.

The McMichael chapter was announced as the 2023 Chapter of the year, which is the highest honor that can be achieved and is won through service to school and community along with awards won by students. Many students are now preparing to take their projects to the national level this June in Louisville, Kentucky at the TSA National Conference.

Architectural Design

1st - Kylie Belter

Board Game Design

1st - Alex Bryant, Paxson Stephens, Mason Zhang, Jose Carrera, Dillan Knight

CAD Architecture

1st- Shelby Parker

2nd - Kylie Belter

Dragster Design

1st - Brian Mungaray

2nd - Enrique Gonzalez

System Control

2nd - TreVon Stewart, Jose Carrera, Mason Zhang

3rd - Treasure Aikens, Kylie Belter Roman Goins

VEX VRC

1st place (Tournament Champion) - Todd Dorbuck, Brian Mungaray, Roman Goins.

2nd place (Tournament Finalist) - TreVon Stewart, Jose Carrera

- High School Small Chapter of the Year- John Butler, Emily Tredway and Shannon Terrell
- 2023 RockATop Teacher Apprentices
Kylie West- Rockingham County High School
Lydia Rorrer- Morehead High School

RECOGNITION FOR THE ALL-COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT'S ART AWARDS

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Perkins for the Superintendent's Art Award Winners for Middle and High Schools. Dr. Stover and Dr. Perkins recognized the following students:

Middle School:

Kenley Kallam - Participant - Western Rockingham Middle 8th Grade, entered Wildflowers

Summer Manus - Honorable Mention - Reidsville Middle 8th Grade, entered Watercolor of Stone Bridge

Sarah Pinnix - Honorable Mention - Rockingham County High 8th Grade, entered Beauty and Peace

Erica Keohane - Winner - Holmes Middle 7th Grade, entered Op Art - Optical Illusion

High School:

Avery Dunn - Participant - Morehead High 12th Grade, entered Portrait of Singer, Billie Eilish

Jayda Burns - Participant - RECHS 12th Grade, entered "Eren's Dream" - Taking a Step Into the Future

Canaan Moore - Honorable Mention - Reidsville High 12th Grade, entered Digital Art - Lonely Girl in Autumn Forest

Vanessa Vega Martinez - Honorable Mention - McMichael High 11th Grade, entered Colored Pencil & Ink - Quinceanera

Meredith Pegram - Winner - Rockingham County High 11th Grade, entered Acrylic Painting - "Alluring Mauve"

RECOGNITION OF GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL PARTICIPANT

Ms. McMichael recognized William Attaway, who has been selected to attend the North Carolina Governor's School this summer. The program runs from June 18, 2023 until

July 15, 2023 on two university campuses. William Attaway is a junior at Rockingham County High School in Wentworth and will attend Governor's School West at Winston Salem State University to study Math. He is the son of Daniel and Misty Attaway of Ruffin, NC. The North Carolina Governor's School is a multi-week summer residential program for gifted and talented high school students, integrating academic disciplines, the arts, and unique courses on each of the two campuses. Learning focuses on the exploration of the most recent ideas and concepts in each discipline, and it does not involve credit, tests, or grades. Students are selected to attend through a competitive process after being nominated by their public school unit or non-public school. The Governor's School is the oldest state-wide summer residential program for academically or intellectually gifted high school students in the nation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS / BOARD COMMENTS

Public Comments:

1. Ron Price
2. Sheriff Sam Page

Board Comments:

Mr. Huss thanked Sheriff Page for being with us tonight. He also encouraged everyone to watch a video called Dead on Arrival. Mr. Huss thanked Mr. Price for all the many years he served on the Board and for his words tonight.

Mr. Butler thanked everyone for being here tonight. He congratulated all who received awards. Mr. Butler shared comments regarding the fentanyl dangers; he alluded to the fact that if you are not getting your medication from a pharmacy, there is a six out of ten percent chance that it could be laced. He stated that he does not want to see this happen to our kids in Rockingham County. He is ready to work with Sheriff Page and Mr. Gladieux on the fight against fentanyl. Mr. Butler introduced Mr. Gladieux, our new Director of Safety and Public Information Officer.

Ms. Alston thanked all the people who came out tonight. She stated that we are so proud of all the students who were honored tonight for going the extra mile. This week is Teacher Appreciation Week, and we need to thank the teachers in Rockingham County for all they do on a daily basis for our students.

Ms. Rakestraw offered her congratulations to everyone who was honored tonight. She specifically acknowledged the parents and grandparents who were present in the crowd and who were clearly excited. Family support is so important. She told the teenagers, "You will get it one day; just hang in there and let mom and dad be proud of you."

Mr. Wyatt commented that an individual was captured in his neighborhood with enough fentanyl to kill about 70,000 people. It's a real problem. He stated that he was here tonight to celebrate success. We saw a lot of that today with the awards that were given out. Success does not happen overnight or without effort. We are fortunate to have students that are willing to put in effort, but at the same time, we are also fortunate to have teachers that will put in effort. We have over 100 years of teaching experience on this Board, and I appreciate what I and the others were able to do to make a difference. Things to celebrate: Teacher Appreciation Week, graduation, retirements, McMichael High School's precision shooting team, McMichael High School's softball team (19/0), and Dr. Stover. We have so many things to celebrate this time of year. Thank you.

Ms. McMichael thanked all of our teachers and staff for all they do for our students. She thanked Sheriff Page for being here tonight and for being willing to partner with us on getting the message out about fentanyl. She stated that she had the privilege to attend the plays at Reidsville High and Rockingham County High Schools. They were both great, and I hope you got to see them and enjoy them as much as I did. Ms. McMichael welcomed Mr. Gladieux and stated that she looks forward to working with him. She congratulated the CTE and art students that were here tonight and received awards. Congratulations to Will for being able to attend Governor's School; that is a huge honor. Thank you, Mr. Butler, and to our principals who came out tonight to support our students.

Mr. Butler stated that Morehead High School's play Seussical starts Thursday night, I believe, and the Special Olympics are Friday.

CONSENT AGENDA

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 - Renewal of Video Agreement for 2023-2024 with Roy Sawyers (D.B.A. RCENO)
5. Approval Consent Item - Adoption of Board Policy 2020 - Dr. Cindy Corcoran
6. Approval Consent Item - Adoption of Board Policy 6415 (First Reading) - Dr. Cindy Corcoran
7. Approval Consent Item - Partnerships/Contracts with Rockingham County Exceptional Children's Department - Dr. Pam Watkins

Action: Ms. McKinney moved that the Board approve the consent items as presented.
Ms. Alston seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0. Unanimously Approved.

REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Stover stated that he wants to join the Board members in congratulating our students who were honored tonight. He also agreed with Mr. Wyatt's assessment of Mr. Butler. We have had a lot of success with the program he's created. He has established a program with amazing success, and it is still in the works. Success does not appear after a year or two. This requires countless hours of hard labor and attention. It makes a huge impact for our children. Our children are given chances that they would not otherwise have. We were able to send our robotics team to the finals in Dallas. At our next Board meeting, I look forward to celebrating the congressional art award. I was lucky enough to go to the reception last Wednesday for Representative Manning, and for the first time in our three-year history, we had a winner and an honorable mention from Rockingham County. I just want to go ahead and recognize Jenna Coggen from McMichael High School for her growth through deterioration, which won third place and will be displayed for a year in Congresswoman Manning's district office. Morgan Balu from Rockingham County High School received honorable mentions for her submission of yellow, which was amazing as well. Dr. Stover read from a statement he sent out in honor

of Teacher Appreciation Week. He stated that he is humbled by the example you set every day. We rise or fall on the power of our teachers and staff. I'm very lucky to have a staff that really puts students' needs first. Testing is great for understanding how we as a district are doing, but it becomes less and less useful when we're talking about individual children. Children are not just the results of a test. As we approach the testing season, I would ask parents and staff to reinforce this point. We have taught you, you are who you are, relax and do the best you can. The test scores are a result. They're not the things that we chase. We chase great academic experiences. We chase the ability to honor all of our students; that is what makes the school district great. Now I'm judged on test scores because it shows that we are teaching the standards that we should teach, but we should never teach the test ever. We should teach the students in front of us and teach what we are required to teach by the state of North Carolina, and we should do this in a loving, engaging manner. If we do that, our test scores will come, I promise you. Finally, I just want to recognize Sheriff Paige for his support of our school system and the safety of our students. He's a great partner to work with and a great friend as well. Thank you.

Board Chair Announcements

Ms. McMichael stated that it was a privilege to be able to participate in the May Day celebration at Bethany School. She loves that they continue that tradition, and anyone who has not attended should definitely go. The Early College will graduate at 6:00 p.m. on May 18th. Graduation day for Rockingham County High School and Reidsville High School is June 8 at 7:30 p.m. On June 9 at 7:30 p.m., Morehead High School and McMichael High School will graduate. We also have fifth grade, eighth grade, and lots of senior activities going on in our schools. I'm sure the schools would love to have help with some of those activities from parents who are wanting to become engaged. We are talking about all of the celebrations and looking forward to the school year ending, but there are some kids in our district who probably are not necessarily looking forward to school ending because they don't necessarily have the best home situation or they are not guaranteed three meals a day. I just want to say that if you know a child that could use a little assistance over the summer, I encourage you to have another kid in your house, take him to the movies, ask him over for dinner, or just have him over to play and spoil him a little bit. Additionally, I just want to mention that this summer, our child nutrition centers will be available at Leaksville Spray Elementary, Reidsville Middle, and McMichael High School. Finally, parents, kindly remember that kindergarten registration is now taking place.

Planning For Future Facility Needs And Growth

Dr. Stover stated that this is a follow-up from our March 27th meeting after there were some questions about doing a comprehensive needs assessment and also looking at our lines to make sure we are maximizing our space and addressing overcrowding issues and potential overcrowding issues. We have been in contact with two organizations: ORED, with whom we have worked with previously, and Cropper GIS Consulting, LLC. Mr. Dudley, with ORED, has stated that they are very busy, and he is currently hiring new people, but he has to wait and see if they can take on the workload before committing to any new work. We had a good conversation with Mr. Cropper. They said they could meet our timeline, and we have another meeting scheduled with them on the 17th of May. We will probably have some information for you at our next work session on a proposal if we feel like it is acceptable. Board members asked questions and commented on the information presented.

The Board took a ten-minute break

CLOSED SESSION

Action: Mr. Butler moved for the Rockingham County Board of Education to enter Closed Session, to discuss confidential personnel information, pursuant to N.C. General Statute §143-318.11(a)(1), and (a)(6), and to consult with the Board's attorney in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege, pursuant to N.C. General Statute §143.318.11(a)(3). Ms. Rakestraw seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 7/0. The Board moved into closed session at 6:58 pm.

Mr. Huss left the meeting at 8:02 pm.

Action: Mr. Butler moved to return to open session, seconded by Ms. McKinney. The motion carried on a vote of 6/0.

OPEN SESSION

Employments:

—Classified

Steven P. Cashion

Effective 5/01/23

Amy C. Corbin

Effective 5/01/23

Erin R. Fitch

Effective 4/17/23

Lori A. Hariston

Effective 5/08/23

Nan E. Joycem

Effective 5/01/23

—Substitutes

Ashley Brim

Effective 4/25/23

Judith Mills

Effective 4/25/23

Torrie Pegram

Effective 4/19/23

Meritausar Sams

Effective 4/24/23

Katelyn Talbott
Effective 4/24/23

Darren Wright
Effective 4/26/23

Transfers:

—**Licensed**

Laura M. Dixon
Effective 4/17/23

Jerry W. Harris
Effective 4/17/23

Jennifer Kelly
Effective 7/01/23

Tori L. Peele
Effective 4/10/23

Angela D. Martin
Effective 7/01/23

Vicky A. Ray
Effective 7/01/23

Stephane Walker
Effective 4/17/23

Daphne J. Roach
Effective 3/27/23

Resignation:

—**Licensed**

Garrett B. Bass
Effective 6/15/23

Andrea R. Bunch
Effective 5/12/23

Sharon M. Fikes
Effective 5/25/23

Heather In-low Lockhart
Effective 6/30/23

Kaitlyn K. Strader
Effective 6/13/23

—**Classified**

Aimee K. Wright
Effective 6/13/23

Brad L. Shockley
Effective 5/01/23

Retirements:

—**Licensed**

Susan A. Fullerton

Effective 6/30/23

Glenn C. Jordan

Effective 6/30/23

Employments Addendum:

—Licensed

Courtney R. Wiley

Effective 8/17/23

—Classified

Kimberly D. Smith

Effective 5/01/23

—Substitutes

Sabrina Hemingway

Transfers Addendum

—Licensed

Brooke T. Willis

Effective 8/01/23

Christy B. Albertson

Effective 8/01/23

Resignations Addendum

—Licensed

Ebony R. Davis

Effective 5/19/23

Annie K. Snavely

Effective 5/08/23

Matthew H. Smothers

Effective 6/29/23

—Classified

Sydney Jr. Moore

Effective 5/01/23

Jerry J. Settle

Effective 4/17/23

Retirements Addendum

—Licensed

Buford B. Fox

Effective 6/30/23

Joanna L. Hazelwood

Effective 6/30/23

—Classified

Kimberly D. Ellington

Effective 6/30/23

Mary L. Johnson

Effective 7/31/23

Sydney Jr. Moore

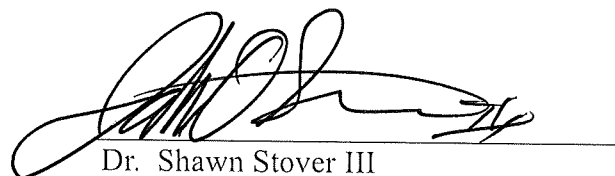
Effective 5/01/23

Action: Mr. Butler moved to accept items 9.1, 9.2, and 9.3 as amended in closed session, seconded by Mr. Watt. The vote was 6/0. Unanimously Approved.

Action: Upon motion by Mr. Butler and second by Ms. McKinnery, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:45 p.m.

Minutes read and approved:


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


Dr. Shawn Stover III
Superintendent of Schools

June 12, 2023

