

**Rockingham Board of Education
Douglass Elementary School
Media Center
408 Price Street
Eden, NC 27288
September 25, 2023**

**Work Session
Open Session Minutes**

12:00 Noon

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.

ROLL CALL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. McMichael announced the next regular Board meeting is scheduled at 6:00 p.m., Monday, October 09, 2023. The meeting will be held at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC.

The next work session is scheduled for Monday, October 23, beginning at 12:00 noon at Lincoln Elementary School Media Center, located at 2660 Oregon Hill Road, Ruffin, NC.

Ms. McMichael requested that all elected or appointed officials stand and be recognized.

1. City Manager Jon Mendenhall (Attended the school tour)
2. Council Member Greg Light (Attended the school tour)
3. Mayor Neville Hall (Attended meeting after announcements)

Ms. McMichael thanked everyone for coming to today's meeting. She thanked Principal Duncan and her students for the warm welcome and tour of the school. Ms. McMichael also thanked Eden City elected officials for attending, as well as the school nutrition team for the delicious lunch that was served.

Ms. McMichael thanked Reidsville High School for their compassion at this morning's ceremony for Bryce Cabe, who had his wish granted by the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Please keep Bryce and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Alston moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Butler seconded the motion and the vote was 7/0. Unanimously Approved.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval - Revised 2023 Board of Education Meeting Schedule

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Stover for comments regarding the revised schedule. Dr. Stover stated to allow Board members the opportunity to attend the NCSBA Delegate Assembly Annual Meeting on Monday, November 13, 2023, I am asking the Board to approve the revised meeting schedule.

Action: Mr. Butler moved that the Board approve the revised schedule, which moved the November Board meeting to November 20, 2023. Ms. McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0. Unanimously Approved.

Approval - Cooperative Innovative High School Application

Dr. Perkins stated that we are coming to the Board to ask for permission to submit the Cooperative Innovative High School Application. Dr. Perkins and Ms. Walls shared a powerpoint presentation. Rockingham County Schools and Rockingham Community College will partner to create a Career Innovation Center. This center will provide a pipeline of skilled workers for employment in the three pathways: advanced manufacturing, health sciences, and construction. Students will graduate high school with a recognized workforce credential or certificate and will be eligible for entry-level employment. The application deadline to help fund this project is October 04, 2023. **(Attachment 1-A)**

Action: Ms. McKinney moved that the Board approve the Career Innovation Center application as presented. Ms. Alston seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0. Unanimously Approved.

Approval - Draper Head Start Reconstruction Grant

Dr. Corcoran stated that she and Ms. Jumper came to the Board to request approval to submit the Rockingham County Schools Early Learning Head Start facility renovation request to the Office of Head Start. A PowerPoint presentation was shared with the Board **(Attachment 2-A)**. Emphasizing the following areas:

- Introduction and Background
- Significant Impact
- Facility Plans and Specifications
- Renovation Proposal Budget
- Renovation Timeline

This funding is needed to ensure the safety and well-being of all children in our care. Board members asked questions and commented on the information presented.

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

REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

School Capacity Study - Ms. Leigh Cockram

Ms. McMichael recognized Ms. Cockram for information regarding the school capacity study. Ms. Cockram provided the Board with GIS mapping and statistics. She stated that both last year and this year, Central Elementary School faced capacity concerns. Some Central Elementary students do not live in the school's attendance zone. Ms. Cockram remarked that it appears to be a policy issue rather than a capacity issue at some of the schools. She noted that the population of Dillard Academy has been progressively declining, indicating that year-round school may not be the best option right now. Ms. McMichael and Dr. Stover thanked Ms. Cockram for the collaboration.

Operations Report – Ms. Young

Ms. Young presented the presentation on operations. Highlighting the following projects:

- Bethany/Monroeton/Wentworth - Gyms Painted
- Central Elementary - New Classroom With New Desks/Chairs
- Leaksville Spray Elementary - Walking Track
- Moss Street Elementary- Cafeteria Serving Line & Walk-In Freezer/Cooler
- Stoneville Elementary - Auditorium
- South End Elementary - Gym Floor
- CTE Renovations - Paxton and Patterson Labs, Learning Lab & SPARK
- Western Rockingham Middle - HVAC Project
- McMichael High - New Flooring
- Morehead High - New Elevator, Tennis Court, & Cooling Tower
- Reidsville High- New Cafeteria Line & Furniture
- Maintenance and Transportation - Service Vehicles and Equipment
- Other Projects
- Operations - By the Numbers

Board members asked questions and commented on the information presented.

Envision Career Expo Report - Ms. Nina Walls

Ms. Walls presented the Envision Career Expo information to the Board. She stated that in the 23/24 school year, all seventh and ninth grade students will develop and update their academic and career plans. In developing their plan, students must research the 16 career clusters to determine which areas are of most interest to them. The Academic and Career Plans outline both academic and technical courses students can take to further explore their interests and ensure they are college and career-ready. RCS, in partnership with RCC and Rockingham County Economic Development, is giving seventh and tenth grade students an opportunity to participate in an exciting career expo, ENVISION. Business and industry representatives will lead students in hands-on activities that will help them understand a range of jobs and careers that are available in our region. Ms. Walls went over the 2-day schedule. Board members asked questions and commented on the information presented. The Board thanked Ms. Walls for all her hard work.

RCS Accountability and Testing Update - Mr. Jason Hyler

Ms. McMichael recognized Mr. Hyler for comments regarding the Testing Update. Mr. Hyler presented the RCS Accountability and Testing presentation. He reviewed and discussed the following topics:

- 2020-2023 Rockingham County Schools Data Results
- RCS Cohort Graduation Rates

- RCS School Performance Grades
- Focused Areas of Improvement for the 2023-2024 School Year

Items to focus on during the 2023-2024 school year:

- Early Literacy: LETRS Training
- Secondary Literacy: Reading Research to Practice, Literacy Instructional Standards across Curriculum
- High School Instructional Coach School Visit Rotation
- Implementation of iXL Reading and Math Diagnostic at High Schools for 9th and 10 graders to identify students who are below grade level and need extra support
- Implement Career College Ready Courses to promote Career and College Readiness for Middle and High School students

Continued Implementation of:

- Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Process at all schools
- Small Group Instruction and Professional Development with both Elementary and Secondary Schools
- School Based Intervention and Enrichment time to target student needs
- Common Planning devoted to Collaboration Around Student Achievement (CASA) in core subject areas

District Student Demographic Percentages for 2022-2023 School Year

- White: 56.2%
- African American: 20.1%
- Hispanic: 16.0%
- Multi-Racial: 6.9%
- Other (Asian, PACI): 0.7%

District Attendance Rates for 2022-2023 School Year

- Elementary School: Daily Attendance (91.6%)
- Middle School: Daily Attendance (90.5%)
- High School: Daily Attendance (87.4)

Mr. Hyler also shared the district proficiency rates.

Takeaways from the presentation:

- Despite facing adversity, the district continued to make progress in student achievement.
 - Absenteeism, Teacher Vacancies, Larger Class Sizes
- Results seen throughout the presentation continue to inspire hope that our goals are attainable.
- Acknowledgement that RCS must continue to reflect and adjust instructional strategies/offerings to meet the needs of our always changing student population.

Board members asked questions and commented on the information presented. The Board thanked Mr. Hyler for his detailed presentation.

Committee Reports

Each committee presented the following information: Committee Members, Goal of the Committee and Summary of Actions

- Finance Committee - Presented by Ms. Rakestraw
- Board Policy Committee - Presented by Mr. Butler
- Facilities Committee - Presented by Ms. McMichael
- Safety Committee - Presented in closed session by Ms. Alston

The Board took a 10-minute break at 1:41 pm.

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. Alston seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 7/0. The Board moved into closed session at 1:54 pm.

Action: Mr. Butler moved to return to open session, seconded by Ms. Alston. The vote was 7/0. Unanimously Approved.

Personnel Report

Recommendations:

—Licensed

Erika Bass

Effective 10/09/23

Jennifer Martin

Effective 9/25/23

Carolyn Rhoney

Effective 10/12/23

—Classified

Ralph Barker

Effective 9/25/23

Corbett Clark

Effective 9/25/23

Shamia Hairston

Effective 9/25/23

Deann Johnson

Effective 9/11/23

Rebecca Madrigal

Effective 9/25/23

Cesia Tzun Cifuentes

Effective 9/25/23

—Substitutes

Laura Fitzgerald

Effective 9/11/23

Audrey Holland

Effective 9/13/23

Rhonda Paschal

Effective 9/19/23

Assignment Changes

—Classified

Cheryl Brame

Effective 9/28/23

Megan Branch

Effective 9/25/23

Earlicia Cobb

Effective 9/25/23

Ulonda Harris

Effective 9/19/23

Separations: No Board Action Required

—Classified

Amy Corbin

Effective 9/08/23

Angela Gauldin

Effective 9/22/23

JaKayla Harris

Effective 9/22/23

Jamaal Johnson

Effective No Show

Personnel Report - Addendum

Recommendations

—Licensed

Katrina McGuire

Effective 8/17/23

Kammara Scott

Effective 10/13/23

—Classified

Carla Booth

Effective 9/25/23

Marianne Collins

Effective 9/25/23

Alexis Martinez

Effective 9/25/23

Earl Richardson

Effective 9/26/23

Meritausar Sams

Effective 9/25/23

Allison Smith

Effective 10/02/23

Elizabeth Walker

Effective 9/25/23

Administrator Recommendations

Janelle Ball-Brooks

Effective TBD

Assignment Changes

—Classified

Anthony Cook

Effective 8/17/23

Carolyn Thomas

Effective 9/25/23

Heather Powell

Effective 9/25/23

Sharon Southard

Effective 9/11/23

Separations: No Board Action Required

—Licensed

Kathy Aldridge

Effective 9/30/23

Emily Allen

Effective 10/06/23

Jazmin Green

Effective 9/29/23

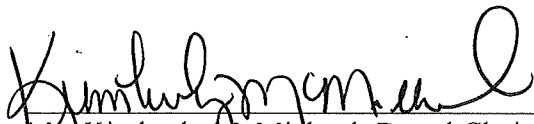
Rechelle Stringer

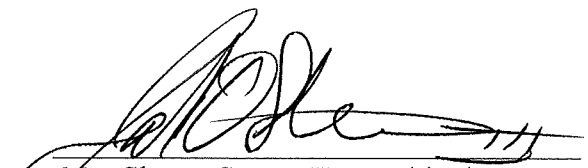
Effective 9/20/23

Action: Ms. Rakestraw moved to accept the personnel report as presented, seconded by Ms. McKinney. The vote passed 7/0.

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

Minutes read and approved:


Ms. Kimberly McMichael, Board Chair
County Board of Education


Mr. Shawn Stover III Rockingham
Superintendent of Schools

October 09, 2023

