

**Rockingham Board of Education
Central Administrative Offices
511 Harrington Highway
Eden, NC 27288
March 11, 2024
Regular Board Meeting
6:00 p.m.**

Open Session Minutes

Present: Ms. Vicky Alston, Board Chair and Ms. Vickie McKinney, Vice Chair. Board Members: Mr. Philip Butler, Mr. Brent Huss, Ms. Kimberly McMichael, 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; Ms. Annie Ellis, Chief Financial Officer; Mr. Dean Richardson, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Brandon McPherson, Board Attorney and Ms. Renee Brown, Board Assistant were present.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Alston called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is a work session scheduled for Monday, March 25, 2024, beginning at 12:00 noon at Western Rock Middle School Media Center, 915 NW Ayersville Road, Madison, NC.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 08, 2024. The meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. at Central Administrative Offices located at 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC.

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MOMENT OF PRAYER

Dr. Bert Jones - State Minister, North Carolina Capitol Commission gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. McMichael led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. McMichael moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. Rakestraw. The vote was 7/0 Unanimously Approved.

RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Stover recognized the following athletes for their accomplishments in wrestling this season.

NCHSAA 2A Individual Wrestling State Champions

- 4th Place - Michael Vazquez of McMichael High School - 285-Pound Weight Class (Not Present)
- 2nd Place - Elijah Horton of Morehead High School - 116-Pound Weight Class
- 1st Place - Cole Prichard of Morehead High School - 157-Pound Weight Class
- 1st Place - Rayshun James of Reidsville High School - 132-Pound Weight Class (three-time champ)

PUBLIC COMMENTS / BOARD COMMENTS

Board attorney Mr. McPherson read board policy 2310: Public Participation at Board Meetings.

Public Comments:

1. Mr. Doug Isley

Board Members Made Comments

CONSENT AGENDA

Presented consent items for Board consideration:

1. Approval Consent - Gifts, Grants and Donations - Ms. Annie Ellis
2. Approval Consent - Head Start Program Monthly Budget Update - Ms. Annie Ellis
3. Approval Consent - Budget Amendments - Ms. Annie Ellis - None
4. Approval Consent - Board Policies for Adoption - Dr. Cindy Corcoran
5. Approval Consent - ERate Cat2 Wireless Upgrades at Moss Street Elementary School - Mr. Tim Canady
6. Approval Consent - Open Session Board Minutes:
February 12, 2024 - Regular Board Meeting
February 26, 2024 - Work Session

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

ACTION ITEMS

Approval - Kids Companion Before/After Childcare Program Rate Increase - Dr. Cindy Corcoran, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Support Services and Leah Ward, Coordinator of RCS Child Care Services

Dr. Corcoran and Ms. Ward presented the School Age Child Care budget presentation (**Attachment 1-A**). They requested the Board to approve an increase in rates for the RCS Kids Companion Before and After School Child Care Program, beginning with the summer camps of 2024 and continuing into the fall for the 2024-2025 school year. During the presentation, they discussed a breakdown of the program and their plans for accommodating the rising costs of employee benefits and wages as they move forward. Board members asked questions and requested additional information prior to reaching a decision.

Action: Mr. Huss moved to table until the work session on Monday, March 25, 2024.

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

Approval - 2024-2025 Proposed Budget - Ms. Annie Ellis

Ms. Alston recognized Ms. Ellis for comments regarding the 2024-2025 Proposed Budget. Ms. Ellis presented the 2024-2025 Proposed Budget for board approval. She plans to submit the approved proposed budget to the County Commissioners on March 12, 2024. For our local county appropriation, we are requesting a total of \$27,125,969 from our County Commissioners. This is a 71% increase from the appropriation amount of \$15,834,840 which we have received each year since the 2009-2010 school year. For our capital county appropriation, we are requesting a total of \$882,525 from our County Commissioners. This is the same amount of capital appropriation we received last year. Board members asked questions and commented on the information presented.

Action: Ms. Rakestraw moved that the Board approve the 2024-2025 Proposed Budget as presented. Ms. McMichael seconded the motion. The vote was 6/1. Mr. Wyatt voted opposed. The Proposed Budget was Approved.

Approval - SPARK Labs at MHS and RHS approximate total of \$88,000 through the UNCG PTRP Grant Funds - Dr. Charles Perkins and Ms. Nina Walls

Ms. Alston recognized Dr. Perkins and Ms. Walls for their action item. Ms. Walls stated that she is requesting Board approval for the purchase of Spark Labs for Morehead High School and Reidsville High School. The funding source is the Piedmont Teacher Residency Partnership (PTRP) Grant with UNC-Greensboro. The labs will mirror the current Spark Lab at the SCORE Center. The total cost for both labs will be \$93,163.84. Board members asked questions and commented on the information presented.

Action: Mr. Butler moved that the Board approve the purchase of Spark Labs for Morehead High School and Reidsville High School as presented. Mr. Huss seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0. Unanimously Approved.

Approval - Funding for Weapons Detection Systems - Mr. Sean Gladieux

Ms. Alston recognized Mr. Gladieux for request. Mr. Gladieux requested that the Board approve the purchase of the weapons detection systems for the following schools: McMichael High, Morehead High, Rockingham County High and Reidsville High. The total funding required amounts to \$290,045.44, which will be sourced from the awarded funds from the Center for Safer Schools Grant.

Action: Ms. McMichael moved that the Board approve the purchase of weapons detection systems as presented. Mr. Butler seconded the motion. The vote was 7/0. Unanimously Approved.

REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Superintendent's Report:

Ms. Alston recognized Dr. Stover to deliver the Superintendent's Report. Dr. Stover presented a PowerPoint presentation providing an overview of the 2023 teacher survey results and the feedback sessions aimed at improving teacher morale. Dr. Stover highlighted the following:

Areas where we performed well:

1. Leadership Trust and Values, particularly in understanding how daily work contributes to the school district's vision.
2. Personal Safety and Belonging, specifically feeling treated fairly by colleagues and feeling safe at school.

Two focus areas for our leadership team in the upcoming months:

1. Recognition and Value - Ensuring teachers receive recognition for their job performance and acknowledging excellent work by district leaders.
2. Professional Growth - Providing a clear path for professional advancement within the district.

Dr. Stover acknowledged that these focus areas may not address all teacher concerns. The goal is to address a few concerns at a time to ensure they receive proper attention. The plan is to consistently involve teachers in this process and adapt and expand focus areas as needed in the future. To facilitate further discussion, a series of district meetings will be held in each of the four zones, starting at 4:30 p.m. These meetings aim to gather input from staff on the identified issues, explore potential solutions, and gather additional feedback to improve the overall staff experience in the district. It's important to recognize that this is a journey rather than a quick fix, and the district is committed to continued investment in enhancing the teacher experience. Board members asked questions and commented on the information presented.

The Board took a ten-minute break at 7:31 p.m.

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. McMichael seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 7/0. The Board moved into closed session at 7:41 pm.

Action: Mr. Butler moved to return to open session, seconded by Ms. Rakestraw. The motion carried on a vote of 7/0.

OPEN SESSION

Recommendations:

—Licensed

Johana Gonzalez

Effective 3/11/24

Classified

Heather Tuggle

Effective 3/11/24

Substitutes:

Andrea Hodges

Effective 2/28/24

Nakia Jones

Effective 3/01/24

Essence Oliver

Effective 3/01/24

Assignment Changes:

—**Classified**

Elizabeth Moraux

Effective 2/26/24

Wanda Shelton

Effective 2/29/24

Julian Slaydon

Effective 3/14/24

Carolyn Thomas

Effective 9/25/23

Separations: No Board Action Required

—**Classified**

Amanda Lewis

Effective 2/27/24

Chelsea Lopez

Effective 2/27/24

James Parrish

Effective 2/19/24

Tameya Smalls

Effective 2/29/24

David Williams

Effective 2/18/24

Employments Addendum:

Recommendations:

—**Classified**

Brian Terwilliger

Effective 3/11/24

Substitutes:

Addison Butler

Effective 3/04/24

Llai Courts

Effective 3/04/24

Chelsea Lopez
Effective 3/04/24

Assignment Changes:

Classified

Tosha Jumper
Effective 3/01/24

Francesca Somorang
Effective 3/01/24

Sandra Worley
Effective 3/05/24

Separations: No Board Action Required

—Classified

John Edwards
Effective 3/20/24

Retirements:

Robert Seltzer
Effective 5/24/24

Action: Ms. Rakestraw moved to accept the personnel report as presented. Seconded by Mr. Wyatt, motion carried on a vote of 6/0. Mr. Butler recused himself from the vote.

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

Minutes read and approved:



Ms. Vicky Alston, Board Chair
Rockingham County Board of Education



Dr. Shawn Stover III
Superintendent of Schools

April 08, 2024