

**Rockingham Board of Education
Central Administrative Offices
511 Harrington Highway
Eden, NC 27288
March 13, 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, Ms. Vickie McKinney, Ms. Paula Rakestraw and Mr. Bob Wyatt. Administrative staff: Mr. 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. (Board Member Mr. Huss was absent.)

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. Mr. Huss was absent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. McMichael announced there is a work session scheduled for Monday, March 27, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. at Rockingham County High School located at 180 High School Road, Reidsville, NC.

The next Board meeting is scheduled at 6:00 p.m., Monday, April 17, 2023. The meeting will be held at the Central Administrative Offices, 511 Harrington Highway, Eden, NC.

Ms. McMichael announced the Public Hearing for the Proposed Draft Budget for 2023-2024 would be held this evening during the board meeting public comments. A sign-up sheet was provided for Public Comments for the Public Hearing prior to the 6:00 p.m. start of the meeting.

Ms. McMichael recognized elected officials, Commissioner Barrow, Commissioner Richardson and Ms. Wright, Board of Elections.

MOMENT OF PRAYER

Pastor Jimmy Davis - Covington Wesleyan Church, Reidsville, NC gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Alston moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. McKinney. The vote was 6/0 Unanimously Approved.

RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Perkins recognized the following athletes for their accomplishments in wrestling this season. They were all awarded as state champions in their weight class.

Morehead High School

Elijah Horton(9th) - 106 weight class

Jared Thomas(11th) - 120 weight class

Reidsville High School

Rayshun James(11th) - 126 weight class - he is also a 2nd time winner - he won last year as well in his weight class

Mr. Stover recognized Coach Teague as he ended his coaching career as an eight-time state champion football coach at Reidsville High School. Coach Teague has amassed a record of 339-58 in his career at Reidsville High School making him one of the winningest coaches in state history. In 2023, Coach Teague will be inducted into the North Carolina High Schools Association Hall of Fame. A football trophy was given to Coach Teague as a token of appreciation for all his achievements.

Mr. Stover and the Board recognized Dr. Ellis for her hard work and dedication to the students and staff of Rockingham County Schools. Dr. Ellis has received praise from NCDPI for her exemplary K-12 mental health services program. A lighthouse was given to Dr. Ellis as a token of appreciation. Dr. Ellis has been a beacon of hope, and she will be greatly missed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS / BOARD COMMENTS

Public Comments for Hearing of 2023-2024 Request Budget: No one signed up for public comments for the 2023-2024 Request Budget Hearing.

Ms. McMichael opened the public comment period. Sixteen people addressed the Board. No action was taken.

Public Comments:

1. Beverly Lowe
2. Sara Andrews
3. Wendy Carter
4. Stephanie Knight
5. Kaysy Joyce
6. Jennifer Shelton
7. Stephanie Snyder
8. Casey Tuttle
9. Marc Tuttle
10. Ann Hughes Braja
11. Donna White
12. Graciela Martinez
13. Pastor James Tharrington
14. Gregory Lee
15. Kayla Fogg
16. Penny Caple

Board Comments:

Ms. Rakestraw congratulated Coach Teague on his retirement. She thanked Dr. Ellis for all she has done for our students, staff and Board. Ms. Rakestraw stated that she and Dr. Ellis had an immediate connection through their shared interests and background in early childhood development. Dr. Ellis will certainly be missed. Ms. Rakestraw commented that Dr. Ellis will always be welcome in Rockingham County Schools. On February 21st, Ms. Rakestraw attended the Black History Living Wax Museum at Parkview in Reidsville. There were students in attendance from Moss Street and Monroeton, who reported and portrayed famous, black historians. She appreciates the relationship that our school system has developed with Parkview and the many ways that they work to support our students and our schools. Ms. Rakestraw stated that she had a lot of fun going into our classrooms and reading with our children during Dr. Seuss's week. Lastly, she stated that March is athletic trainer appreciation month. She thanked our athletic trainers for helping to keep our student athletes safe.

Ms. Alston thanked all the speakers that came out tonight. We definitely listen to what you have to say and value your feedback. She recognized Coach Teague's contributions to Reidsville High School. He has been an inspiration to the team, students, facility and community. On Thursday, March 9th Central Elementary and Western Rockingham Middle Schools were recognized as Signature Schools at the Piedmont Triad Education Consortium. Ms. Alston congratulated the boy's basketball team from Reidsville High School for a successful season. She stated that she is proud of all the wonderful things occurring in Reidsville right now. On Tuesday, we had the ground breaking of the new Jimmy Teague football field.

Ms. McMichael congratulated Coach Teague and wished him well. She thanked Dr. Ellis for all she has done for the district and community. Ms. McMichael thanked the South End community for coming out and advocating for the school. She stated she has great memories of South End and the school is near and dear to her heart. The school needed replacing when her children attended. The decision is not only up to our Board; but is through our continued collaboration with our county. The Reidsville basketball team was congratulated by Ms. McMichael.

CONSENT ITEMS

Presented consent items for Board consideration:

1. Approval Consent Item - Gifts, Grants and Donations – Ms. Ellis
2. Approval Consent Item – Head Start Program Monthly Budget Update – Ms. Ellis

3. Approval Consent Item - Board of Education Meeting Minutes for approval:
- February 02, 2023 - Open Session Special Called Board Meeting Minutes
 - February 13, 2023 - Open Session Board Meeting Minutes

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

ACTION ITEMS

Approval - NC Electric School Bus Program - Easement, Checklist and Purchase Document Request

Ms. McMichael recognized Mr. Cox for comments regarding the NC Electric School Bus Program. Mr. Cox presented the Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC Easement Document, Checklist and Purchase Document for Board approval (Attachment 1-A).

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Board approve the presentation as presented.
Ms. McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0. Unanimously
Approved.

Approval - Head Start 5 Year Grant

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Corcoran and Ms. Jumper for comments regarding the Head Start 5 Year Grant. Dr. Corcoran and Ms. Jumper presented the Rockingham County Schools Early Head Start Learning Program's 2023-2024 Continuation Application for Board approval (Attachment 2-A).

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Board approve the Head Start Continuation Application as presented. Ms. Rakestraw seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0. Unanimously Approved.

Approval - Head Start Budget Justification & Narrative

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Corcoran and Ms. Jumper for comments regarding the 2023-2024 Head Start Budget Justification & Narrative. Dr. Corcoran and Ms. Jumper presented the 2023-2024 Head Start Budget Justification & Narrative for Board approval (Attachment 3-A). Board members asked questions and commented on the information presented.

Action: Ms. Rakestraw moved that the Board approve the Head Start Budget Justification & Narrative as presented. Ms. McKinney seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0. Unanimously Approved.

Approval - Head Start Readiness and Program Goals

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Corcoran and Ms. Jumper for comments regarding the 2023-2024 Head Start Readiness and Program Goals. Dr. Corcoran and Ms. Jumper presented the Early Learning Head Start Program Goals and Readiness Plan for 2023-2024 for Board approval (Attachment 4-A). Board members asked questions and commented on the information presented.

RCS Early Learning Head Start Program Goals:

- Goal One: Prepare children/families for successful transition to kindergarten.
- Goal Two: Provide all staff with continuous training and professional development opportunities.
- Goal Three: Increase knowledge of Fiscal Policies and Procedures.

Action: Ms. Rakestraw moved that the Board approve the Head Start Readiness and Goals Program as presented. Mr. Butler seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0. Unanimously Approved.

Approval - 2023 Summer School & Retesting Plan

Ms. McMichael recognized Dr. Perkins for comments regarding the 2023 Summer School & Retesting Plan. Dr. Perkins presented the proposed Summer School Retesting Plan for Board approval (Attachment 5-A).

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Board approve the plan as presented. Ms. Alston seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0. Unanimously Approved.

Approval - Financial and HR software conversion to LINQ

Ms. McMichael recognized Ms. Ellis and Mr. Richardson for comments regarding the software conversion. Ms. Ellis and Mr. Richardson presented the quote from LINQ for Financial and HR software conversion. (Attachment 6-A). Board members asked questions and commented on the information presented.

Action: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Board approve the software conversion as presented. Ms. Alston seconded the motion. The vote was 6/0. Unanimously Approved.

Superintendent's Report

Ms. McMichael recognized Mr. Stover for the Superintendent's Report. Mr. Stover shared the signature school video for Western Rockingham Middle School. He thanked Kacey and her team for putting the two signature school videos together. Mr. Stover stated the information events for public kindergarten registration are scheduled for March 14th at 8:00 AM at Lawsonville Parent Resource Center, March 20th at Dillard Academy at 6:00 PM, March 21st at Douglass Elementary at 6:00 PM, and April 4th at 1:00 PM at Draper Head Start. He encouraged parents to register their children early. Our social workers were honored by Mr. Stover for their dedication. Mr. Stover had the pleasure of attending the Rockingham County Middle School's RCS Catch the Reading Bug Festival for the first time on Saturday. On Friday, the RCS All-County Chorus gave a great performance. Mr. Stover congratulated the robotics teams from McMichael and Morehead High Schools. Teams from both of these schools participated in the State Championship. The elimination round was accessible to all

Morehead teams. They came in second overall, but they took home the design prize, advancing them to the national championships, which will be held in Dallas from April 25th to 27th. Mr. Stover thanked Mr. Dooley for his dedication. He congratulated the Rams on a great basketball season. Additionally, he complimented the young men on how well they handled themselves after their difficult defeat. Finally, he expressed his gratitude to Coach Biggs and Coach James for their outstanding leadership of the wrestling teams.

Board Chair Announcements

There were no announcements.

REPORTS

Proposed 2023-2024 Draft Request Budget Discussion

Ms. Ellis presented the 23-24 proposed draft request budget. She discussed each fund in detail. Board members asked questions and commented on the information presented. No action was taken.

Kindergarten Registration

Ms. Nealy presented a powerpoint presentation. Ms. Nealy stated that kindergarten registration will begin at all elementary schools on April 17th 2023. Kindergarten 101 sessions will be held during March and April for rising kindergarten families at various locations in the district. Information will be available digitally as well for families to access on the RCS website, school websites, and through social media. Board members asked questions and commented on the information presented. No action was taken.

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. McKinney seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 6/0. The Board moved into closed session at 8:25 pm.

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

OPEN SESSION

Employments:

—Licensed

Kija E. Gordon
Effective 3/13/23

—Classified

Mary F. Andrade
Effective 3/20/23

LaTore W. Foster
Effective 3/06/23

Brenna L. Funez
Effective 3/20/23

Andrea L. Hazelwood
Effective 3/13/23

Nakia R. Jones
Effective 3/06/23

Chelsie K. Moyer
Effective 3/06/23

Robert G. Riddle
Effective 3/06/23

Stephanie Walker
Effective 2/20/23

—Substitutes

Ashley Hopper

Tristan Karst

Jenni Kennedy

Ashley York

Transfer:

—Classified

Laura M. Dixon
Effective 3/01/23

Amber D. Tuttle
Effective 3/20/23

Resignation:

—Licensed

Chelsea Daniels-McGirt
Effective 3/17/23

Andrea C. Hesman
Effective 3/31/23

Kristopher A. Powell
Effective 4/06/23

—Classified

Julius M. Galloway

Effective 3/01/23

Donna Garner

Effective 2/27/23

Shirlene E. Wells

Effective 3/16/23

Retirements:

—**Classified**

Cathy N. Reynolds

Effective 6/30/23

Employments Addendum:

—**Licensed**

Elizabeth A. Clark

Effective 3/20/23

Dana M. Thomas

Effective TBD

—**Classified**

Tamika Curley

Effective 3/20/23

Nathaniel A. Flynt

Effective 3/20/23

Christy M. Massey

Effective 4/17/23

Rebecca H. Miller

Effective 3/20/23

Andrea N. Petty

Effective 3/20/23

Paula Rubio

Effective 3/20/23

—**Substitutes**

Madeline Hardy

Transfers Addendum

—**Classified**

Kelsey P. Houchins

Effective 3/13/23

Amy Wilson

Effective 3/06/23

Resignations Addendum

—**Licensed**

Maurice L. Torain

Effective 3/31/23

—Classified

Amy C. Corbin

Effective 3/06/23

James Kelly

Effective 3/06/23

Taquia M. Lisenby

Effective 3/02/23

Retirements Addendum

—Licensed

Darlene F. Moore

Effective 6/30/23

—Classified

Vanessa L. Conner

Effective 6/30/23

John B. Parker

Effective 4/30/23

Rhonda C. Paschal

Effective 2/25/23

Wendy T. Wingate

Effective 6/30/23

Teresa P. Wray

Effective 6/30/23

Ms. Alston moved to change the order of the agenda items, moving Assumption Plan to item 10.4 and adding Moss Street/South End Discussion to item 10.3. Mr. Butler seconded the motion. The motion carried 4/2.

Action: Mr. Butler moved to accept the personnel report and addendum, seconded by Ms. Rakestraw. The vote was 6/0. Unanimously Approved.

Action: Mr. Butler moved to accept the Contract with Dr. Terry Worrell, seconded by Mr. Wyatt. The vote was 6/0. Unanimously Approved.


Moss Street/South End School Discussion


After hearing from the community, the Board revisited the options for how the two schools should be configured for the upcoming academic year. Dr. Perkins and Mr. Stover were available to help answer questions during the discussion. No action was taken.

Action: Ms. Alston moved to accept the assumption plan as presented, seconded by Ms. Rakestraw. The vote was 6/0. Unanimously Approved.

Action: Ms. McKinney moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Rakestraw. The motion carried on a vote of 6/0.

Minutes read and approved:


Ms. Kimberly McMichael, Board Chair
County Board of Education


Mr. Shawn Stover III Rockingham
Superintendent of Schools

April 17, 2023