

PENDING BOARD APPROVAL

**THESE MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL
UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD AND
SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN AND
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

**BOARD MEETING
COBB COUNTY, GEORGIA
THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2010**

The Cobb County Board of Education met in a board meeting, Thursday, January 28, 2010, 7:00 pm, 514 Glover Street, with the following members present: Messrs. Abraham, Banks, Crooks, Morgan, Mesdames Bartlett, Cash, Crowder-Eagle and Mr. Sanderson, Executive Secretary.

All official meetings of the Cobb County Board of Education conform to state law and are open to the public. The minutes of this meeting are available for public review anytime during the regular office hours or on our website at: www.cobbk12.org

CALL TO ORDER – Mrs. Crowder-Eagle called the meeting to order

OPEN MEETING – Board Members entered the meeting at 7:00 pm for Board Recognitions followed by public comments.

BOARD RECOGNITIONS

Kennesaw Youth Council Recognition -- Created in 2002 to encourage teen involvement in local government and the community, this team of 8 high school students provided the Mayor, City Council and city staff of Kennesaw with a teen perspective on the Police Department, the Parks & Recreation Department and future growth; met twice a month at City Hall to identify and discuss needs of young people in the City; Councilman Bill Thrash was introduced for a presentation.

Governor's Office of Student Achievement Awards -- Georgia Department of Education recognized 36 Cobb County Schools for academic success; 14 more than last year and approximately 11% of the total number of schools recognized statewide; based on student performance on the 2008-09 CRCT, for elementary and middle schools, and the Georgia High School Graduation Tests for high schools, the following schools achieved the Greatest Gains Award:

Platinum level - Wheeler High School; McCleskey Middle School; King Springs Elementary School; McCall Primary School

Gold level: Mableton Elementary School

Silver: Brown Elementary School

The Highest Performance Award was given to schools that have a very high percentage of students meeting test standards.

Platinum: Harrison, Lassiter, Pope and Walton high schools; Mt. Bethel, Murdock and Timber Ridge Elementary schools

Gold: Hillgrove and Wheeler high schools; Dickerson and Dodgen middle schools; East Side, Garrison Mill, Mountain View, Shallowford Falls and Tritt elementary schools.

Silver: Kennesaw Mountain High School; Hightower Trail and Simpson Middle schools; Davis, Ford, Rocky Mount and Sope Creek Elementary schools.

Bronze: Allatoona and Kell High schools; Durham Middle School; Addison, Bullard, Due West, Kemp, and Vaughan Elementary schools.

Grant Award -- District Prevention Intervention Center was awarded \$4000 to establish a School Tube account that would host a Public Service Announcement competition for students and youth groups in Cobb County; youth leadership groups to compete with 30-60 second public service announcement that would address risky behaviors and identify those skills teens could use in order do the right thing; more contest information available soon.

PLC Mentors – Community members who volunteered their time as mentors were recognized; each made a difference in the life of students.

Public Comment – There were 6 speakers.

Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance – Mr. Morgan delivered the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by Mrs. Cash, seconded by Mr. Banks and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, January 13, 2010, Board Meeting. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Agenda – Mr. Sanderson recommended approval of the agenda.

A motion was made by Mrs. Cash, seconded by Mr. Morgan and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

BOARD BUSINESS

Facilities & Technology Review Committee – Current members were confirmed and new appointees were recommended and introduced:

Post 1 – Bill Thrash (2010) and Allison Krache Giddens (2009)

Post 2 – Ann Kirk (2004) and Susan Pearson (2002)

Post 3 – Virginia Gregory (2007) and David Wilkerson (2009)

Post 4 – David Chastain (2009 and one vacancy)

Post 5 – Joel Stone (2010) and Donald Hill (2009)

Post 6 – Angie Delvin-Brown (2009) and Kimberly Euston (2010)

Post 7 – Angie May (2009) and John Williams (2009)

Superintendent – Wallace Coopwood (1997) and Ralph Williams (2008)

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Auditor's Management Letter -- Mike Addison presented the Auditor's Management Report from Ross Lane & Company dated December 9, 2009.

Sales Tax Projection – As requested by the Board, a Sales Tax projection was prepared by Kennesaw State University Coles College of Business Econometric Center; Doug Shepard, Chief SPLOST Officer, began the discussion and introduced Director Don Sabbarese and Research Associate Flavia Burton for a report, which included a power point presentation.

Grand Jury Presentment – Mr. Sanderson said the Grand Jury was represented by Cobb County citizens who had the freedom to question public officials in our community on any topic; often, grand jury members were parents of Cobb County students, and frequently had questions about educational issues; since August 2007, School Board members and or District staff had been called in front of the grand jury seven times; once, the grand jury visited three of our schools unannounced; in the past, when the District received summonses from the grand jury, those directly affected were notified; that practice had not been a concern until recently; there were some who believed that Rule SD-9 should have required the notification of the full Board; however, the grand jury inquiry was not directed at the full Board, but rather the chair and the vice chair; in no way, did it affect the work of the Board as the calendar selection, which was the focus of the inquiry, had already been voted upon and enacted; however from this point forward, any time that the District received a summons from the grand jury, the full board would immediately be notified via email as to the context of the inquiry and whose presence from the Board and/or District office was requested.

Strategic Plan Update -- Dr. Steve Constantino shared the administration's recommendation for updating the Board from this point forward in lieu of the finalized SACS Report:

Step 1: Plan/Validate the Need for Improvement and Clarify Purpose

Step 2: Align Action at all Levels of the Organization

Step 3: Study/Analyze Formative and Summative Results

Step 4: Act—Continuous Improvement

Evaluate the Process/Make Adjustments/Repeat the Cycle

Mr. Sanderson said the SACS recommendations would be reviewed at the Wednesday, February 10 Board Meeting.

Clarkdale Elementary School Update – Mr. Sanderson said it was four months since Clarkdale Elementary School was lost to the 500-year flood; since then, the District had worked closely with FEMA, the state agency GEMA, local congressional officials, county commission and Traveler’s Insurance; Principal Marjorie Bickerstaff and school staff were acknowledged for leadership and tenacity as well as Sandra Elliott, Human Resources Risk Manager; Dr. Gordon Pritz provided an update on the District’s efforts, which included a power point presentation.

Furlough Days Update – Mr. Sanderson presented an update on the plan to address the potential call for three additional furlough days before June 30, 2010; the state Legislature was currently in session and no final decisions had been made regarding the state budget; Governor Perdue had proposed three additional furlough days; because it was likely this proposal or a variation that included at least some number of furlough days would be approved, the school district must act immediately to allow employees as much time as possible to prepare and to take advantage of available days:

190-220 -day employees (non-annual):

Day 1: Monday, February 15, 2010; currently a teacher workday; all District offices closed
Day 2: Friday, January 8, 2010; snow day; local schools were closed
Day 3: Tuesday, September 22, 2009; flood day; local schools were closed

240-day and above employees (annual):

Day 1: Monday, February 15, 2010; currently a teacher workday; all District offices closed
Day 2 & Day 3 to be determined; as a result of the furloughs, all 190-day and above employees would be deducted three days of pay; proposal to the Board of Education that the pay deduction be staggered over three months – one day of pay in April, May and June – instead of taking a one time three-day deduction to allow employees to plan appropriately.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Dr. Dunnigan recommended approval of the personnel matters as presented.

A motion was made by Dr. Abraham, seconded by Mrs. Cash and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the recommendation. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Brock said there were no land, legal, or student matters to be presented for approval.

CONSENT AGENDA – Mr. Sanderson recommended approval of the following items:

1. **Approve Year 2 Performance Contract with CCCommunity Services Board for District Success For All Students Project** – \$446,084 contingent upon grant funding renewal
2. **Renewal of Renegotiated Leases for Seven Cell Towers Operated by Crown Castle Corporation** -- \$2,398,525 in revenue over a 15 year period
3. **Authorization to Dispose of District Generated Surplus Furnishings/Equipment** – revenues to assist in deferring labor costs for management of the disposal process
4. **Correlation of the Strategic Plan Goals to Board Agenda Items** – when applicable, beginning with the Wednesday, February 10, 2010 Board Meeting

A motion was made by Dr. Crooks, seconded by Mrs. Cash and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the recommendations. Motion passed 7-0.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

1. **Authorization to Award RFP 07-10, Telematics Solution** – Dr. Pritz recommended authorization to award RFP 07-10 to Education Logistics with Sprint as the wireless services provider, contingent upon successful contract negotiation, for the E-Rate funding year 7/1/10 through 6/30/11 at a cost of \$953,375.80:
\$424,801.00 -- SPLOST II -- one-time equipment cost including training/installation
\$528,574.80 -- FY11 General Fund

A motion was made by Dr. Abraham and seconded by Mrs. Bartlett to approve the recommendation.

Questions were asked/answered and a discussion ensued.

Dr. Crooks amended the motion, seconded by Mrs. Cash and unanimously approved by the Board for evaluation of FY2011 budget and report to the Board (Wednesday, October 13, 2010 Board Meeting) regarding the financial status of the Telematics project to be adjusted as necessary throughout the school year with return for Board approval of a financial adjustment. Motion passed 7-0

2. **Approval to Award a Construction Contract for East Side Replacement Elementary School** – Mr. Shepard recommended approval to award a construction contract to J&R Construction & Development, Carrollton, GA for the replacement of East Side E.S. with acceptance of alternates 1 closed loop Geothermal Mechanical System (including piping), 2 additional sod/irrigation system at playfield, 3 upgraded to decorative metal fence at east detention pond in lieu of chain link, and authorize the Superintendent to execute the contract at a cost of \$15,575,077.

A motion was made by Dr. Crooks and seconded by Mr. Banks to approve the recommendation.

Questions were asked/answered and a discussion ensued.

The Board approved the recommendation. Motion passed 6-0-1. Mrs. Bartlett abstained.

Mr. Banks requested that Grant opportunities be explored.

3. **Approval of the Modification of Performance Contract SCPERF10023 to Ensure Continuation of Service for Contracted Copier Service Technicians from TEK Systems, RFP 07-09, Information Technology Professional Staffing Services** – Mr. Ragsdale recommended authorization to approve the modification of Performance Contract SCPERF10023 for extension of professional staffing services for continuation of service for contract copier service technicians at an estimated cost of \$190,000 from January through June 2010.

A motion was made by Dr. Crooks, seconded by Mr. Banks and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the recommendation. Motion passed 7-0.

OWNERSHIP LINKAGE—January Board Newsletter -- Mr. Dillon said the January 2010 edition would be revised, updated, and distributed.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS -- Various events happening throughout the District, County, State, and Nation.

ADJOURN – A motion was made by Dr. Crooks, seconded by Mr. Morgan and unanimously approved by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m. Motion passed 7-0.

CHAIRMAN

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY