

PENDING BOARD APPROVAL

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UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION AND SIGNED BY THE
CHAIRMAN AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

**BOARD WORK SESSION
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2015**

The Cobb County Board of Education met in a Board Work Session at 514 Glover Street on Wednesday, June 10, 2015, 8:30 a.m. with the following members present: Messrs. Banks, Chastain, Morgan, Scamihorn, Sweeney, Wheeler, Mrs. Thayer and Chris Ragsdale, 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: www.cobbk12.org

CALL TO ORDER – Mr. Scamihorn, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m. and asked Mr. Sweeney to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Without objection, the Board approved the addition of “Lassiter Field” as an agenda item for the June 25 Board Meeting. This item will also be added as the first item for discussion under Board Business on the June 10 Work Session agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Nine speakers addressed the Board.

Without objection, Executive Session was moved up on the agenda to immediately follow Public Comment

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, and unanimously approved by the Board to convene to Executive Session at 9:05 a.m. for Personnel and Land issues. Motion carried 7-0.

RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Without objection the Board reconvened from Executive Session at 10:17 a.m.

Without objection, the Action Agenda and Items Requiring Action following Executive Session were moved up on the agenda to before the Approval of Minutes

BOARD ACTION

The following Action Agenda Item was acted on by the Board of Education:

ACTION AGENDA ITEM #1 – Recommendation for Approval of Commitment of Fund Balance for a new Clay/Harmony Leland Elementary School in south Cobb

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan, seconded by Mr. Chastain, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve a commitment of fund balance for a new Clay/Harmony Leland Elementary School in south Cobb. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Sweeney indicated his support for this item, however, he would like to see a commitment that it would be the Board's intent to replace the dollars that would otherwise be spent on this project with some other form of dollars to be determined at a future date as a protection of general fund monies.

ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

PERSONNEL REPORT

Administration recommended approval of the Personnel Report and as amended in the Addendum, and listed in Section I, II as presented in Executive Session including:

- Personnel Matters:
 - i. Section I – Principal Level and Higher Positions –
 - 1. Tiffany M. Honoré, Recommended for Appointment to Principal, Tapp Middle School from Principal, East Cobb Middle School effective June 11, 2015
 - 2. Peter A. Manson, Principal, Russell Elementary School, resignation effective June 12, 2015.
 - ii. Section II – Below Principal Level Positions
 - 1. Albert Lindsey, Assistant Principal, Floyd Middle School, resignation effective June 10, 2015
 - 2. Angela M. Whitehead, Reassignment to Assistant Principal, Pine Mountain Middle School from Assistant Principal, Argyle Elementary School effective July 13, 2015
 - 3. Mark A. Giles, Appointed to Assistant Principal, Sprayberry High School from School Leadership Intern, Sprayberry High School effective July 13, 2015
 - 4. Camille E. Havis, Reassigned to Assistant Principal, Wheeler High School from Assistant Principal, Kell High School effective July 13, 2015
 - 5. Arthur V. O'Neill, Reassigned to Assistant Principal, Harrison High School from Assistant Principal, Lassiter High School effective July 13, 2015
 - 6. Angela F. Ruggiero, Appointed to assistant Principal, Lassiter High School from Teacher, Lassiter High School effective July 13, 2015
 - 7. Amy Lambert, Appointed to Assistant Director, Training and Compliance, Food and Nutrition Services, Operations Division from Senior Buyer, Food and Nutrition Services, Operations Division effective June 11, 2015
 - iii. Section III – Position Evaluation Recommendations – None

A motion was made by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mr. Wheeler and unanimously approved by the Board to accept the Personnel Action Report, Addendum, and Section I, II as presented in Executive Session. Motion carried 7-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – A motion was made by Mr. Chastain, seconded by Mrs. Thayer and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the minutes of the Thursday, May 28, 2015 Board Meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

BOARD BUSINESS

- **Lassiter Field (Mr. Banks)**

- Acceptance of a donation from the Lutzie 43 Foundation for Artificial Turf replacement at the Lassiter High School Frank Fillmann stadium and the naming of the field the “Lutzie Field at Frank Fillmann Stadium” in honor of the Lutzie 43 Foundation.
- Mr. Banks gave a description of the background of the Lutzie 43 Foundation being an Alabama non-profit corporation with 501(c)3 status granted in February 2015 (retroactive to August 2014).
 1. The competitive project bids for this project ranged from \$332,000.00 to \$492,000.00.
 2. All relevant Lassiter varsity and junior athletic programs and band have contributed to this project.
 3. Seven (7) booster clubs at Lassiter High School are financially supporting this project.
 4. In total, there are approximately 1,000 students within these programs combined. All of the programs voted unanimously to support the project in support of the mission of the foundation as framed with the naming of the field an integral part of the project.
 5. There will be no debt or ongoing payments required for the project financing
- Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to add this item to the June 25 Board Meeting agenda, “Acceptance of a donation from the Lutzie 43 Foundation for Artificial Turf replacement at the Lassiter High School Frank Fillmann Stadium and the naming of the field the “Lutzie Field at Frank Fillmann Stadium” in honor of the Lutzie 43 Foundation.

Mr. Scamihorn asked administration to review policy for these procedures. Mr. Chastain asked for clarification if the motion is two parts; the donation of the money, and the naming of the field. Per Mr. Scamihorn, the Chair will do his due diligence and meet with the Foundation and the Superintendent for clarification before the Thursday, June 25 Board Meeting and report his findings to the Board.

Motion carried 7-0.

- **Honoring More Teachers during Board Recognitions (Mr. Morgan)**

- Mr. Morgan would like the Board to be more intentional and deliberate as to how the District recognizes teachers during the Board Recognition portion of the agenda.
- The Board agreed it was a good idea and asked administration to study this suggestion and come back to the Board with pros/cons and ideas on how to implement a teacher program of this nature.

- **Non-renewal Process for Teachers (Mr. Morgan)**

- Mr. Morgan would like the Board to consider creating a process policy-wise that would call for the automatic non-renewal of a teacher who receives an overall unsatisfactory on their annual evaluation.
- Discussion ensued.
- Mrs. Thayer suggested receiving input from principals on this idea.
- Mr. Ragsdale indicated that administration will study this topic and report back to the Board with their findings.
- **Funding for additional teachers/support personnel for school year 2015-2016 (Mr. Banks)**
 - Mr. Banks indicated that he is asking for this funding due to the timing of hiring season and having teachers and support personnel in place before the start of the school year.
 - Mr. Banks stated that due to economic conditions during the past few years, it was necessary for the school district to eliminate teachers and support personnel. Approximately 1,000 – 1,300 teaching positions were eliminated due to budget shortfall resulting in classroom size increases.
 - Mr. Banks stated that last year the District was able to go from a potential \$80 million deficit to a surplus which allowed for the 2% restoration of compensation reduction taken in 2010, the hiring of additional teachers and lowering some classroom sizes. This budget year allowed for a 4% across the board increase in compensation, \$7.5 million for additional teachers, and a full step increase.
 - Mr. Banks proposed to use \$15 million from the general budget fund balance for the purpose of hiring additional teachers/support personnel for the 2015-2016 school year.
 - Discussion ensued.
 - A motion was made by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Sweeney to add an agenda item on the June 25 Board Meeting agenda to use up to \$7.5 million from the general fund balance for the purpose of hiring additional teachers/support personnel for the 2015-2016 school year.
 - Mrs. Thayer made a motion to amend, seconded by Mr. Morgan to designate those funds for growth and cap the amount at \$3 million.
 - Mr. Ragsdale stated for clarification that Mrs. Thayer's amended motion was to authorize the superintendent up to \$3 million (have access to) for additional allotments due to growth. Mrs. Thayer acknowledged this was the intent of her amended motion.
 - The vote on the amended motion carried 6-1. Mr. Banks voted 'NAY'.
 - The vote on the original motion as amended carried 7-0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Instructional Materials; A Comprehensive Content Acquisition Strategy (Mrs. Davis)
 - Mrs. Davis presented an overview of the evaluation of our current textbook adoption process and the future of instructional and learning resources for the district.

BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

The Board discussed the following Agenda Items. These items will be brought forth for a vote at the Thursday, June 25, 2015 Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #1 - Recommendation for Authorization to Dispose of School District Generated Surplus Furnishings and Equipment

Without objection, this item was placed on the Consent Agenda for the Thursday, June 25, 2015 Board meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #2 – Recommendation for Approval of the Local Plan for Vocational and Technical Education and One-Year Funding Application for FY 2016

Without objection, Agenda Item #2 was placed on the Consent Agenda for the Thursday, June 25, 2015 Board meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mr. Wheeler and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 7-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULE MODIFICATIONS – **Previously Submitted to the Board for Review** - Without objection, the Board approved revisions to Administrative Rules: EEA-R Free Food Service; IDB-R Health Education; IDBC-R Physical Education; IFCB-R Field Trips; JBC-R School Admissions/Withdrawals.

BOARD MEMBER REMARKS

Board Members commented on various events happening throughout the district, county, state, and nation. Mr. Banks shared photos of construction at Walton High School. Mr. Ragsdale asked the community and staff for their patience during the construction at Walton during this coming school year.

ADJOURN – Without objection, the Board adjourned the meeting at 12:44 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY