BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2019

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

WORK SESSION
The Cobb County Board of Education met for a regularly scheduled Board Meeting on Thursday, November 14, 2019, at 12:30 p.m., 514 Glover Street, with the following members present: Messrs. Banks, Chastain, Morgan, Scamihorn, Wheeler, Mrs. Davis, Dr. Howard, Mr. Ragsdale, Executive Secretary, and Mr. Doyle, Board Attorney.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Mr. Chastain, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT
There were five (5) public commenters.

At 12:47 p.m. Mr. Chastain asked Mr. Wheeler, Board Vice Chair, to direct the remainder of the Work Session.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Without objection, the Board approved the minutes of the Thursday, October 24, 2019, Board Meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT
  • Academic Performance Update
    o Chief Strategy and Accountability Officer John Floresta provided an update to the Board on accountability measures released within the past several months. He shared information on Cobb’s climbing graduation rates, how well our students performed on the Milestones and SAT tests, and the increasing College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) scores of our schools.

Mr. Morgan arrived to the meeting at 1:04 p.m.
SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT (cont.)

- Riverside Primary & Elementary Restructure
  - The Superintendent shared the proposed attendance zones for Riverside Primary and Riverside Intermediate School and informed the Board that beginning school year 2020-21 both schools will serve students K-5. Riverside Primary will become Riverside Elementary School, and Riverside Intermediate School will go through the policy process for naming a facility.
- FY2020 First Quarter Board Financial Report

Without objection the Board took a 10-minute break at 2:10 p.m. The Board reconvened at 2:21 p.m.

- Transportation Study
  - Marc Smith, Chief Technology and Operations Officer, presented the results of the transportation study relating to the number of regular and special education buses and the financial impact of adding air-conditioning to the purchase of buses.
  - The Superintendent shared with the Board that moving forward all bus purchases will include air-conditioning utilizing SPLOST funds.

BOARD AGENDA ITEMS
The Board discussed the Agenda Items listed below. These items will be brought forth for a vote during the Voting Session of the Thursday, November 14, 2019, Board Meeting:

AGENDA ITEM #1 – Recommendation for Authorization of School Properties Disposal per District Administrative Rule DO-R

  - Without objection, this item was placed on the Consent Agenda for the Voting Session of the Thursday, November 14, 2019, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #2 – Recommendation for Approval to Allocate Funds for Additional Allotments, if needed, to Accommodate Student Growth in General and Special Education

  - Without objection, this item was placed on the Consent Agenda for the Voting Session of the Thursday, November 14, 2019, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – Recommendation to Approve a Resolution Authorizing an Amendment to Add Waivers to the Investing in Educational Excellence (IE²)/Strategic Waivers School Systems (SWSS) Contract

  - Without objection, this item was placed on the Consent Agenda for the Voting Session of the Thursday, November 14, 2019, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – Authorization to Purchase Nine (9) School Buses

  - Without objection, this item was placed on the Discussion Agenda for the Voting Session of the Thursday, November 14, 2019, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – Recommendation for Approval of Architect Appointment for the Smyrna Area New Middle School (Pearson Middle School)

  - Without objection, this item was placed on the Discussion Agenda for the Voting Session of the Thursday, November 14, 2019, Board Meeting.
ADMINISTRATIVE RULE MODIFICATIONS
Without objection, the Board approved the following Administrative Rule Modification:
GBRJ-R: Arrangement for Substitutes

BOARD BUSINESS
• Facilities and Technology Citizens Oversight Committee Report – Mr. Scamihorn
  o Mr. Scamihorn reported to the Board that the F&T Committee met on Tuesday, October 29, 2019, and discussed the draft 2019 Facilities and Technology Citizens Oversight Committee Annual Report. The Annual Report will be submitted to the Board in January 2020.
  o A motion was made by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Scamihorn, and without objection approved by the Board to revise the F&T Committee meeting minutes to remove the mention of attendance or votes of “non-committee” members.
• Facilities and Technology Citizens Oversight Committee Appointee – Dr. Howard
  o Dr. Howard, Post 2, appointed Mrs. Yashira Willis to the F&T Committee

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Without objection, the Board approved the agenda.

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION
A motion was made by Mr. Scamihorn, seconded by Mrs. Davis, and unanimously approved by the Board to convene to Executive Session at 2:58 p.m. for land, legal, student and personnel matters. Motion carried 7-0.

VOTING SESSION
The Cobb County Board of Education met for a regularly scheduled Board Meeting on Thursday, November 14, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., 514 Glover Street, with the following members present: Messrs. Banks, Chastain, Morgan, Scamihorn, Wheeler, Mrs. Davis, Dr. Howard, Mr. Ragsdale, Executive Secretary, and Mr. Doyle, Board Attorney.

RECONVENE
Without objection, the Board reconvened at 7:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Mr. Chastain, Board Chair, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD RECOGNITIONS
• 2019 Georgia High School Association AAAAAA Fastpitch Softball State Champions – Pope High School
• 2019 Georgia Council of Teachers of Mathematics Gladys M. Thomason Distinguished Service Award – Dr. Nicole Ice, Wheeler High School
• 2019 Georgia Council of Teachers of Mathematics Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching – Ms. Julie Pinto, Hillgrove High School
• Cobb STEM Certification – Kemp Elementary School
• Cobb STEM Certification – Harrison High School
• Cobb STEM Certification – Davis Elementary School
• Cobb STEM Certification – Varner Elementary School
• National School Psychology Awareness Week – November 11-15, 2019
• 2019 Gold Level Golden Radish Award – Cobb County School District, Food & Nutrition Services
• 2019 Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award – Cobb County School District, Procurement Services

PUBLIC COMMENT
There were fourteen (14) public commenters.

ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION
Personnel Report
Administration recommended approval of the identified employment actions of the individuals listed on the Personnel Action Report as discussed in Executive Session.

Section I - Principal Level and Higher Position Recommendations:
There were no principal level or higher position recommendations.

Section II – Position Recommendations Below Principal Level
Middle School
• Wilcher, Dr. Tony, Assistant Principal, Lindley 6th Grade Academy, Retirement effective December 1, 2019.
  ▪ A motion was made by Mr. Scamihorn, seconded by Mr. Banks, and unanimously approved by the Board to accept the Personnel Action Report as presented in Executive Session. Motion carried 7-0.

Land
Marc Smith, Chief Technology and Operations Officer, shared that the Board has been attempting to acquire approximately 15.28 acres of undeveloped and uninhabited land just south of the Walton High School campus over the past five years. The property owner has come forward with a signed purchase and sales agreement at an amount that closely aligns with the Board’s opinion of value and that eminent domain will not have to be considered. The intent of the Board is the purchase of real property and improvements on approximately 15.28 acres of land at 1495 and 1550 Pine Road, Marietta, GA 30062 (Tax Parcel Numbers 16083300030 & 16089600030) for $3,000,000.00 plus ancillary costs including inspection fees, closing costs, etc.
  ▪ A motion was made by Mrs. Davis, seconded by Mr. Banks, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the purchase of land as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Student Matter
A motion was made by Mr. Scamihorn, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, and approved by the Board to uphold the determination of the student disciplinary tribunal as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried 6-1. Dr. Howard voted “Nay.”

SUPERINTENDENT REMARKS
The Superintendent commented on various items occurring throughout the Cobb County School District.

ACTION AGENDA
CONSENT AGENDA:
AGENDA ITEM #1 – Recommendation for Authorization of School Properties Disposal per District Administrative Rule DO-R
AGENDA ITEM #2 – Recommendation for Approval to Allocate Funds for Additional Allotments, if needed, to Accommodate Student Growth in General and Special Education

AGENDA ITEM #3 – Recommendation to Approve a Resolution Authorizing an Amendment to Add Waivers to the Investing in Educational Excellence (IE^2)/Strategic Waivers School Systems (SWSS) Contract
  ▪ Without objection, the Board approved the Consent Agenda as presented.

DISCUSSION AGENDA:
AGENDA ITEM #4 – Authorization to Purchase Nine (9) School Buses
  ▪ A motion was made by Dr. Howard, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the purchase of nine (9) air-conditioned buses from Yancey Bus Sales in the amount of $895,758.00. Motion carried 7-0.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – Recommendation for Approval of Architect Appointment for the Smyrna Area New Middle School (Pearson Middle School)
  ▪ A motion was made by Mrs. Davis, seconded by Dr. Howard, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve naming Stevens and Wilkinson of Atlanta, GA, the architect for the new Smyrna Area Middle School at a cost of $2,020,707.00. Motion carried 7-0.

ADJOURN
Without objection, the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.