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EDUCATION AND SIGNED BY THE  
CHAIRMAN AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

**BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2021**

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](http://www.cobbk12.org)

**WORK SESSION**

The Cobb County Board of Education convened for a regularly scheduled Board Meeting on Thursday, March 18, 2021, at 1:00 p.m., at 514 Glover Street, with the following members present: Messrs. Banks, Chastain, Hutchins, Scamihorn, Wheeler, Mrs. Davis, Dr. Howard, Mr. Ragsdale, Executive Secretary, and Mr. Doyle, Board Attorney.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Scamihorn, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were seven (7) public commenters.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Without objection, the Board approved the minutes from the Thursday, February 11, 2021, Called Board Meeting and the Thursday, February 11, 2021, Board Meeting.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- 3Oe Presentation
  - Mr. Marc Smith, Chief Technology and Operations Officer, introduced 3Oe's Chief Medical and Science Officer Dr. Robert Lubitz who shared a presentation with the Board on the science and technology of the hand rinsing stations being installed in the District's elementary schools.
  - Discussion followed.

**The Board took a five-minute recess at 2:33 p.m. and reconvened at 2:40 p.m.**

- Literacy Presentation
  - Mrs. Jennifer Lawson, Chief Academic Officer, shared an in-depth presentation of the literacy work taking place within the District from birth through grade 12, including an overview of student performance data.

- 2021-22 Virtual Options
  - The Superintendent announced that the 2021-22 Virtual Options are not a district-wide one-size-fits-all solution. He also shared that both face-to-face and virtual learning will take place Monday-Friday for the upcoming school year.
  - Chief Academic Officer Jennifer Lawson shared an overview with the Board of the expanded remote learning options available to students and families for the 2021-22 school year.
- Superintendent's Remarks
  - The Superintendent commented on various items occurring throughout the Cobb County School District.
  - The Superintendent presented the Board Members with a certificate of appreciation for their dedication to the students and families of the Cobb County School District in honor of School Board Member Appreciation Week, March 15-19, 2021.
  - The Superintendent recognized the following:
    - 2021 GHSA Class AAAAAA Traditional Wrestling State Champion (132 lbs.) – David Panone, Lassiter High School
    - 2021 GHSA Class AAAAAA Traditional Wrestling State Champion (160 lbs.) – Robert Weston, Lassiter High School
    - 2021 GHSA Class AAAAAA Traditional Wrestling State Champion (220 lbs.) – Jonathan Chesser, Walton High School
    - 2021 GHSA Class AAAAAA Men's Basketball Champions – Wheeler High School
    - 2021 GHSA Class AAAAAA Dance (Hip Hop and High Kick) State Champions – Allatoona High School
    - National School Social Work Week - March 7-13, 2021
    - Cobb County School District – 2021 School Social Worker of the Year – Mandy Goodwin
    - American School Counselor Association Recognized ASCA Model Program – King Springs Elementary School
    - American School Counselor Association Recognized ASCA Model Program – Lindley 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy
    - American School Counselor Association Recognized ASCA Model Program – Lovinggood Middle School
    - American School Counselor Association Recognized ASCA Model Program – McCleskey Middle School
    - American School Counselor Association Recognized ASCA Model Program – Pope High School

### **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, March 18, 2021, 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, March 18, 2021, Board Meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM #2** – Recommendation for Approval of an Underground Easement with Georgia Power at Pearson Middle School

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, March 18, 2021, Board Meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM #3** – Authorization to Renew RFP P0620, Portable Classrooms, Basic and Other Services

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, March 18, 2021, Board Meeting

**AGENDA ITEM #4** – Recommendation for Approval to Award a Contract for Addison Elementary School HVAC Modifications

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Discussion Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, March 18, 2021, Board Meeting

**AGENDA ITEM #5** – Recommendation for Approval to Award Contracts for Roof Replacements at LaBelle Elementary School and Campbell Middle School

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Discussion Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, March 18, 2021, Board Meeting.

**Mr. Doyle, Board Attorney, left the meeting.**

**AGENDA ITEM #6** – District Legal Services

- The Board Chair announced that the vote on this item would take place during the Voting Session of the March 18, 2021, Board Meeting.
  - Without objection, this item was placed on the **Discussion Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, March 18, 2021, Board Meeting.

**Mr. Doyle, Board Attorney, returned to the meeting.**

### **BOARD BUSINESS**

**Due to time constraints, and without objection, the Board agreed to move the Georgia State Legislature Updates to the first item under Board Business**

- Georgia State Legislature Updates – Dr. Howard
  - Mrs. Gretchen Walton, Legislative Affairs and Compliance Officer, gave an update to the Board on the Cobb 2020-21 Legislative Priorities and bills that crossed over during the current legislative session.

**Without objection, the Board agreed to move the remaining Board Business Items to the Voting Session of the March 18, 2021 Board Meeting.**

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Without objection, the Board approved the agenda as modified.

### **RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Mr. Chastain, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, and unanimously approved by the Board to convene to Executive Session at 5:12 p.m. to discuss legal and personnel matters. Motion carried 7-0.

### **VOTING SESSION**

The Cobb County Board of Education met for a regularly scheduled Board Meeting on Thursday, March 18, 2021, with the following members present: Messrs. Banks, Chastain, Hutchins, Scamihorn, Wheeler, Mrs. Davis, Dr. Howard, Mr. Ragsdale, Executive Secretary, and Mr. Doyle, Board Attorney.

### **RECONVENE**

Without objection, the Board reconvened at 7:16 p.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Scamihorn, Board Chair, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were fifteen (15) 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 – Position Recommendations Principal Level and Higher**

- Bates, Barbara, Appointment to Director, Procurement Services, Operations Division from Assistant Director, Procurement Services, Operations Division effective March 19, 2021.
- Hallmark, Susan, Principal, Addison Elementary School, Retirement effective June 1, 2021.
- Hamblett, Lynn, Principal, Murdock Elementary School, Retirement effective June 1, 2021.
- Montgomery, Laura, Principal, Hightower Trail Middle School, Retirement effective July 1, 2021.
- Pearce, Dr. Michelle, Principal, Still Elementary School, Retirement effective July 1, 2021.
- Seibert, Cathie, Appointment to Principal, Fair Oaks Elementary School from Assistant Principal, Griffin Middle School effective June 1, 2021.

#### **Section II – Position Recommendations Below Principal Level**

##### **Elementary School**

none

##### **Middle School**

- Hesson, Ruth, Assistant Principal, Hightower Trail Middle School, Retirement effective July 1, 2021.
- Lang, Dr. Mark, Assistant Principal, Smitha Middle School, Retirement effective July 1, 2021.
- Williams, Michael J., Appointment to Assistant Principal, McCleskey Middle School from Teacher, McCleskey Middle School effective March 19, 2021.

##### **High School**

None

- A motion was made by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Chastain, to approve the Personnel Action Report as presented in Executive Session.
- Dr. Howard requested that the first position be voted on separately.
- Mr. Doyle, Board Attorney, advised the Board that without objection they could vote as Dr. Howard requested.
- Without objection, the Board agreed to vote on the Director, Procurement Services position first
  - Messrs. Banks, Chastain, Scamihorn, and Wheeler voted “Yea,” and Mrs. Davis, Dr. Howard, and Mr. Hutchins voted “Nay.” Vote carried 4-3.
- The Board voted on the original motion as amended. Amended motion carried unanimously 7-0.

### **BOARD BUSINESS (Cont. from Work Session)**

- COVID Academic Gaps/Recovery Plan – Mr. Hutchins
  - Mr. Ragsdale informed the Board that the latest information regarding the recent CARES Act Funding carries a requirement that 20% of the funding be spent on academic loss recovery.
  - Chief Academic Officer Jennifer Lawson informed the Board the District has been developing a plan to address learning loss due to the pandemic over the summer, next school year, and the following school year, if needed. Following additional guidance on budget, a recommendation from the Superintendent to address learning recovery will be presented to the Board.
- F&T Citizens Oversight Committee Report – Mr. Wheeler
  - Mr. Wheeler shared that the F&T Committee met on February 23, 2021, and elected the following officers:
    - Lmichael Green elected to Chair
    - Don Hill elected to Vice Chair
    - Jay Cunningham elected to Secretary
  - The committee reviewed and affirmed the previous Board approved projects.

### **ACTION AGENDA:**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM #2** – Recommendation for Approval of an Underground Easement with Georgia Power at Pearson Middle School

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM #3** – Authorization to Renew RFP P0620, Portable Classrooms, Basic and Other Services

- Without objection, the Board approved the **Consent Agenda Items** as presented.

### **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM #4** – Recommendation for Approval to Award a Contract for Addison Elementary School HVAC Modifications

- A motion was made by Mr. Chastain, seconded by Mr. Banks, and unanimously approved by the Board to award a contract to Oak Construction Group, Atlanta, GA, in the amount of \$2,389,950.00 for Phase II HAVC modifications at Addison Elementary School. Motion carried 7-0.

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM #5 – Recommendation for Approval to Award Contracts for Roof Replacements at LaBelle Elementary School and Campbell Middle School**

- A motion was made by Dr. Howard, seconded by Mrs. Davis, and unanimously approved by the Board to award the following contracts for Phase II roof replacements:
  - Contract awarded to Roof Technology Partners, Inc., Woodstock, GA, in the amount of \$985,000.00 for LaBelle Elementary School.
  - Contract awarded to Tip Top Roofers, Inc., Atlanta, GA, in the amount of \$2,208,665.00 for Campbell Middle School.
- Motion carried 7-0.

**Mr. Doyle, Board Attorney, left the meeting.**

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM #6 – District Legal Services**

- A motion was made by Mr. Chastain, seconded by Mr. Banks, and approved by the Board to direct the Superintendent to send a notice of termination to Gregory, Doyle, Calhoun & Rogers, and to identify law firms serving Georgia school districts with an enrollment of approximately 70,000 students or more and provide the names of those firms to the Board along with a recommendation for interim legal counsel at a Called Board Meeting on March 20, 2021.
- Discussion followed. Motion carried 4-3. Messrs. Banks, Chastain, Scamihorn, and Wheeler voted “Yea,” and Mrs. Davis, Dr. Howard, and Mr. Hutchins voted “Nay.”

**The Board Chair announced a Virtual Called Board Meeting on Saturday, March 20, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be available to the public on the Cobb County School District website.**

**ADJOURN**

The Board adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

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**CHAIRMAN**

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**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**