BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2023
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

BOARD MEETING
The Cobb County Board of Education convened for a regularly scheduled Board Meeting on Thursday, August 17, 2023, at 3:00 p.m., at 514 Glover Street, with the following members present: Messrs. Banks, Chastain, Hutchins, Scamihorn, Wheeler, Ms. Davis, Ms. Sayler, Mr. Ragsdale, Executive Secretary, and Ms. Wilcox, Interim Board Attorney.

CALL TO ORDER
Mr. Wheeler, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT
There were fifteen (15) public commenters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Without objection, the Board approved the following meeting minutes:
- Thursday, July 20, 2023, Board Meeting
- Thursday, July 20, 2023, Third Tax Digest Hearing

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT
- First Day of School Video
  - Mr. Ragsdale shared a video highlighting the first day of school across the district.
- Monthly Board Financial Status Update
  - Chief Financial Officer Bradley Reuben Johnson presented the monthly school district financial status update to the Board. A copy of the monthly report was given to all Board Members.

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, August 17, 2023, 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, August 17, 2023, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #2 – Recommendation for Approval of the Local Plan for Vocational Education and One-Year Funding Application for FY2024
- Without objection, this item was placed on the Consent Agenda for the Voting Session of the Thursday, August 17, 2023, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – Recommendation for the Approval of Georgia Department of Education Capital Outlay Project Closeout for Various Schools
- Without objection, this item was placed on the Consent Agenda for the Voting Session of the Thursday, August 17, 2023, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – Recommendation for Approval to Award a Contract for Milford Elementary School HVAC Upgrade
- Without objection, this item was placed on the Discussion Agenda for the Voting Session of the Thursday, August 17, 2023, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – Recommendation for Approval to Award a Contract for Nicholson Elementary School HVAC Upgrade
- Without objection, this item was placed on the Discussion Agenda for the Voting Session of the Thursday, August 17, 2023, Board Meeting.

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

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION
A motion was made by Mr. Hutchins, seconded by Mrs. Sayler, and approved by the Board at 3:50 p.m. to convene to Executive Session following a 10-minute break to discuss 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, August 17, 2023, with the following members present: Messrs. Banks, Chastain, Hutchins, Scamihorn, Wheeler, Ms. Davis, Ms. Sayler, Mr. Ragsdale, Executive Secretary, and Ms. Wilcox, Interim Board Attorney.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Mr. Wheeler, Board Chair, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
BOARD RECOGNITIONS
- High School Level Teacher of the Year – Suzette Spinelli, Lassiter High School
- Middle School Level Teacher of the Year – Annelisa Bellack, Awtrey Middle School
- Elementary School Level and District Teacher of the Year – Dr. Elizabeth Goff, Bells Ferry Elementary School

PUBLIC COMMENT
- There were fifteen (15) public commenters.

ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION PERSONNEL
Without objection, this item was moved to the last item on the agenda.

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

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 the Local Plan for Vocational Education and One-Year Funding Application for FY2024

ACTION AGENDA ITEM #3 – Recommendation for the Approval of Georgia Department of Education Capital Outlay Project Closeout for Various Schools
  - Without objection, the Board approved the Consent Agenda Items as presented.

ACTION AGENDA:
DISCUSSION AGENDA:
ACTION AGENDA ITEM #4 – Recommendation for Approval to Award a Contract for Milford Elementary School HVAC Upgrade
  - A motion was made by Mrs. Sayler, seconded by Mr. Hutchins, to award a contract for HVAC upgrades for Milford Elementary School to Swofford Construction, Kennesaw, Georgia, in the amount of $4,615,000.00. Motion passed 7-0.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – Recommendation for Approval to Award a Contract for Nicholson Elementary School HVAC Upgrade
  - A motion was made by Mr. Chastain, seconded by Mr. Banks, to award a contract for HVAC upgrades for Nicholson Elementary School to Lefko Construction, Roswell, Georgia, in the amount of $5,431,545.01. Motion passed 7-0.

ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION PERSONNEL
Administration recommended approval of the identified employment actions of the individuals listed on the Personnel Action Report as discussed in Executive Session.
Section II – Position Recommendations Below Principal
Middle School

- Hannibal, Derika, Appointment to Assistant Principal, Dodgen Middle School from Academic Coach, Pearson Middle School effective August 18, 2023
  
  A motion was made by Mr. Scamihorn, seconded by Mr. Hutchins, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the Personnel Action Report as read and presented in Executive Session. Motion carried 7-0.

**LAND**

A motion was made by Mr. Scamihorn, seconded by Mr. Hutchins, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the following real estate contract:

- Agreement to purchase certain real property and improvements on approximately 0.21 acres on Glover Street, Marietta, Cobb County, Georgia, and being identified as Tax Parcel #17035900190, for $118,000.00 plus ancillary costs including inspection fees and closing costs.
  
  Motion carried 7-0.

**STUDENT MATTER**

A motion was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mrs. Sayler, and unanimously approved by the Board to modify the Hearing Officer’s decision as discussed during Executive Session. Motion carried 7-0.

**FAIR DISMISSAL ACT HEARING – Katherine Rinderle**

- A motion was made by Mr. Chastain, seconded by Mr. Banks, to adopt fully the findings of fact of the Tribunal in the Katherine Rinderle personnel matter, reject the recommendation of the Tribunal regarding the appropriate discipline and, effective immediately, support the Superintendent’s recommendation and terminate Ms. Rinderle’s employment contract with the Cobb County School District.

- A motion was made by Mrs. Sayler, seconded by Mr. Hutchins, to substitute the original motion and table the matter to be considered in the timeline permitted by law allowing for further discussion.
  
  Messrs. Banks, Chastain, Scamihorn, and Wheeler voted “Nay,” and Ms. Davis, Mr. Hutchins, and Mrs. Sayler voted “Yea.” Motion failed 3-4.

  The original motion carried 4-3 with Messrs. Banks, Chastain, Scamihorn, and Wheeler voting “Yea,” and Ms. Davis, Mr. Hutchins, and Mrs. Sayler voting “Nay.”

**ADJOURN**

Without objection, the Board adjourned at 7:53 p.m.