

PENDING BOARD APPROVAL

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

BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2025

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, February 13, 2025, at 2:00 p.m., at 514 Glover Street, with the following members present: Messrs. Chastain, Cristadoro, Hutchins, Scamihorn, Wheeler, Ms. Davis, Mr. Ragsdale, Executive Secretary, and Ms. Wilcox and Ms. Ams, Board Attorneys. Ms. Sayler was not present for the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Chastain, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were two (2) public commenters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Without objection, the Board approved the following meeting minutes:

- Thursday, January 16, 2025, Board Meeting
- Thursday, February 6, 2025, First and Second HB581 Hearings

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Monthly and Quarterly Board Financial Status Updates
 - Chief Financial Officer Mr. Bradley Reuben Johnson presented both the monthly and the quarterly school district financial status updates to the Board. Copies of both reports were given to all Board Members.
- Cobb Innovation & Technology Academies (CITA) Update
 - Chief Academic Officer Dr. Catherine Mallanda presented an in-depth overview of course offerings and career pathways currently available to Cobb students attending CITA at Osborne. She also shared the current work and proposed career pathways that will be available to Cobb students with the opening of CITA at Allatoona in August 2026.
- Superintendent's Remarks
 - In keeping with his top priority of student and staff safety, the Superintendent informed the Board of a new partnership with K9 Global Protection Group. Keith Turner with Global K9 shared information on Vapor Wake Dogs and Kinetic Threat Detection, including the unique training and threat detection abilities of the K-9s.

Without objection, the Board recessed for a 15-minute break at 4:03 p.m. and reconvened at 4:25 p.m.

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, February 13, 2025, 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, February 13, 2025, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #2 – 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, February 13, 2025, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – Recommendation to Phase-Out Existing Buildings 2023, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2010, and 2011 at Bells Ferry Elementary School

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, February 13, 2025, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – Recommendation for Approval of Guaranteed Maximum Price #1 (GMP#1) for the Bell Ferry Elementary School Addition & Renovations

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, February 13, 2025, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – Authorization to Renew a Contract for the Portable Classroom Relocation, Lease, Purchase, and Related Services to Ready Portable Classrooms for Students

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, February 13, 2025, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #6 – Statewide Homestead Exemption Opt-Out Resolution

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Discussion Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, February 13, 2025, Board Meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Without objection, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mr. Cristadoro, and unanimously approved by the Board at 4:34 p.m. to convene to Executive Session to discuss land, legal, student and personnel matters. Motion carried 6-0. Ms. Sayler was not present for the vote.

VOTING SESSION

The Cobb County Board of Education met for a regularly scheduled Board Meeting on Thursday, February 13, 2025, with the following members present: Messrs. Chastain, Cristadoro, Hutchins, Scamihorn, Wheeler, Ms. Davis, Mr. Ragsdale, Executive Secretary, and Ms. Wilcox and Ms. Ams, Board Attorneys. Ms. Sayler was not present for the meeting.

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

- 2024 – 2025 GHSA 6A One Act Play Best Actress State Champion – Camryn Cade, Hillgrove High School
- 2024 – 2025 Georgia Highway Contractors Association, Heavy Equipment Operator State Dozer Champion – Steven Bernal, Cobb Innovation & Technology Academy
- 2024 – 2025 Cobb County School District Counselor of Impact
 - Elementary School Level – Breana O’Shea, Hendricks Elementary School
 - Middle School Level – Ryan Tolbert-Jackson, Cooper Middle School
 - High School Level – Laura Potts, Campbell High School
- Cobb County School District Counseling Comprehensive Model Certification
 - Kemp Elementary School
 - Big Shanty Intermediate School
 - Hightower Trail Middle School
 - Smitha Middle School
 - Harrison High School
 - Walton High School

PUBLIC COMMENT

- There were five (5) public commenters.

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 Level

Elementary School:

- Bucy, Tracie, Assistant Principal, Sedalia Park Elementary School, retirement effective July 1, 2025.
- Holt, Lorna, Assistant Principal, Clarkdale Elementary School retirement effective July 1, 2025.

High School:

- Glendenning, Jennifer, Assistant Principal, Osborne High School, retirement effective July 1, 2025.

- A motion was made by Ms. Davis, 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 6-0. Mrs. Sayler was not present for the vote.

Student Matters

- SY25-Appeal #12
 - A motion was made by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mr. Hutchins, and unanimously approved by the Board to uphold the determination of the student disciplinary tribunal as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried 6-0. Ms. Sayler was not present for the vote.
- SY25-Appeal #13
 - A motion was made by Mr. Scamihorn, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, and unanimously approved by the Board to uphold the determination of the student disciplinary tribunal as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried 6-0. Ms. Sayler was not present for the vote.

SUPERINTENDENT’S EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

- A motion was made by Mr. Cristadoro, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, and unanimously approved by the Board to extend the Superintendent’s Employment Contract for one-year through February 12, 2028. Motion carried 6-0. Mrs. Sayler was not present for the vote.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REMARKS

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

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 the Approval of Georgia Department of Education Capital Outlay Project Closeout for Various Schools

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ACTION AGENDA ITEM #4 – Recommendation for Approval of Guaranteed Maximum Price #1 (GMP#1) for the Bell Ferry Elementary School Addition & Renovations

ACTION AGENDA ITEM #5 – Authorization to Renew a Contract for the Portable Classroom Relocation, Lease, Purchase, and Related Services to Ready Portable Classrooms for Students

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

DISCUSSION AGENDA

ACTION AGENDA ITEM #6 – Statewide Homestead Exemption Opt-Out Resolution

- A motion was made by Mr. Scamihorn, seconded by Mr. Hutchins, and unanimously approved by the Board to authorize a resolution to opt-out of the statewide adjusted base year ad valorem homestead exemption as outlined in O.C.G.A. § 48-5-44.2. Motion carried 6-0. Ms. Saylor was not present for the vote.

ADJOURN

Without objection, the Board adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY