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EDUCATION AND SIGNED BY THE  
CHAIRMAN AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

**BOARD MEETING**

**THURSDAY APRIL 24, 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](http://www.cobbk12.org)

**BOARD MEETING**

The Cobb County Board of Education convened for a regularly scheduled Board Meeting on Thursday, April 24, 2025, at 1:30 p.m., at 514 Glover Street, with the following members present: Messrs. Chastain, Cristadoro, Hutchins, Scamihorn, Wheeler, Ms. Davis, Ms. Sayler, Mr. Ragsdale, Executive Secretary, and Ms. Wilcox and Ms. Ams, Board Attorneys.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Chastain, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was one (1) public commenter.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Without objection, the Board approved the following meeting minutes:

- Thursday, March 20, 2025, Board Meeting

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- Monthly Board Financial Status Update
  - Chief Financial Officer Mr. Bradley Reuben Johnson presented the monthly school district financial status update to the Board. Copies of the report were given to all Board Members.
- Superintendent's Remarks
  - Mr. Ragsdale gave an update regarding the ongoing book review process.

**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, April 24, 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, April 24, 2025, Board Meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM #2** – Recommendation for Approval of a Utility Easement with the Cobb Electric Membership Corporation (Cobb EMC) for Power to Portable Classrooms at Bells Ferry Elementary School

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, April 24, 2025, Board Meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM #3** – Recommendation for Approval to Award a Contract for Playground Equipment and Surfacing Replacement at Addison Elementary School, Birney Elementary School, Compton Elementary School, Davis Elementary School, Due West Elementary School, Green Acres Elementary School, McCall Primary School, Pitner Elementary School, Timber Ridge Elementary School, Russell Elementary School, and Vaughan Elementary School

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, April 24, 2025, Board Meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM #4** – Authorization to Purchase Six (6) Chevrolet Silverado Trucks for Cobb County School District Police

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, April 24, 2025, Board Meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM #5** – Authorization to Purchase Ten (10) School Buses

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, April 24, 2025, Board Meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM #6** – Recommendation for Approval to Award a Contract for Tapp Middle School Renovations

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, April 24, 2025, Board Meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM #7** – Recommendation for Approval of Architect Appointment for the Palmer Middle School Roof Replacement

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, April 24, 2025, Board Meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM #8** – Recommendation for Approval of the Walton High School Replacement Video Scoreboard

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, April 24, 2025, Board Meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM #9** – Recommendation for Approval of the Purchase of Vapor Wake K-9 Officers, Related Training, Accessories, and Equipment

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Discussion Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, April 24, 2025, Board Meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM #10** – Recommendation for Approval of Guaranteed Maximum Price #1 (GMP#1) for the Career Academy #2

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, April 24, 2025, Board Meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM #11** – Recommendation for Approval of Loan for Band Uniforms for Pebblebrook High School

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, April 24, 2025, Board Meeting.

**At 2:41 p.m., without objection, the Board agreed to recess until 2:55 p.m.**

**The Board reconvened at 2:55 p.m.**

## **AGENDA ITEM #12 – Recommendation for Tentative Approval of the FY2026 Budget**

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Discussion Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, April 24, 2025, Board Meeting.

## **BOARD BUSINESS**

- Georgia School Boards Association Delegate for 2025 – Mr. Chastain
  - Mr. Chastain announced that he would represent the Board at the 2025 GSBA Delegate Assembly in June and that Ms. Davis would be the alternate delegate.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Without objection, the Board approved the agenda as presented.

## **RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Mr. Scamihorn, seconded by Ms. Sayler, and unanimously approved by the Board at 4:28 p.m. to convene to Executive Session to discuss land, legal, student, and personnel matters. Motion carried 7-0.

## **BUDGET PUBLIC FORUM**

### **RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Without objection, the Board reconvened from Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. for the Budget Public Forum Meeting. All Board Members were present for the meeting.

### **BUDGET PRESENTATION**

Mr. Bradley Reuben Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, presented an overview of the FY2026 Budget. Mr. Johnson stated the purpose of the budget public forum was to invite citizens to give input to the Board and comment on the FY26 Budget.

### **BUDGET PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were four (4) public commenters.

### **RECESS**

Without objection, the Budget Public Forum meeting recessed at 6:41 p.m.

## **VOTING SESSION**

The Cobb County Board of Education met for a regularly scheduled Board Meeting on Thursday, April 24, 2025, with the following members present: Messrs. Chastain, Cristadoro, Hutchins, Scamihorn, Wheeler, Ms. Davis, Ms. Sayler, Mr. Ragsdale, Executive Secretary, and Ms. Wilcox and Ms. Ams, Board Attorneys.

### **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 Boys Class 6A State Basketball Champions – Wheeler High School
- 2025 Math Counts Georgia State Competition Winner – Max Lin, Dodgen Middle School

- 2024 – 2025 Health Occupations Students of America – Future Health Professionals State Leadership Conference – First Place Competition Clinical Laboratory Science – Estephanie Valenzuela, Cobb Innovation & Technology Academy
- 2025 Georgia Forensic Coaches Association Varsity State Speech and Debate Sweepstakes Championship, Lassiter High School
- 2025 Georgia Forensic Coaches Association Speech Coach of the Year – Jonathan Waters, Lassiter High School
- 2025 SkillsUSA State Gold Award Winners for Career Pathway Showcase Business Management, Technology – Daliza Jimenez, Misa McFarlin, Asiah Coon, Wheeler High School
- 2025 SkillsUSA State Gold Award Winners for Career Pathway Showcase Health Science – Brooke Deng, David Mora, Avi Jaiswal, Wheeler High School
- 2025 SkillsUSA State Gold Award Winner Photography Category Gold Medal Winner – Julian Vergara, McEachern High School
- 2025 SkillsUSA State Gold Award Winner for Career Pathway Showcase Occupational Health and Safety – Emma Foxwell, Andrew Reida, Sean Brickmeier, Pope High School
- 2025 SkillsUSA State Gold Award Winner for Career Pathway Showcase Promotional Bulletin Board – Caitlyn Suarez, Samantha Romano, and Gabrielle Lance, Pope High School
- 2025 SkillsUSA Gold Level Chapter Excellence – Pope High School Chapter
- 2025 SkillsUSA GA Advisor of the Year – Paige Welch, Pope High School
- 2024 – 2025 CCSD Elementary School Level Music Specialist of the Year – Tiphonie McClenton, Bryant Elementary School
- 2024 – 2025 CCSD Middle School Level Chorus Director of the Year – Marla Baldwin, Palmer Middle School
- 2024 – 2025 CCSD High School Level Chorus Director of the Year – Megan Schuitema, Harrison High School
- 2024 – 2025 CCSD Elementary School Level Visual Arts Specialist of the Year – Krista Lewis, Shallowford Falls Elementary School
- 2024 – 2025 CCSD Middle School Level Visual Arts Specialist of the Year – Kaitlin Jezequel, Dickerson Middle School
- 2024 – 2025 CCSD High School Level Visual Arts Specialist of the Year – Dr. Lisa Casey, Wheeler High School
- 2024 – 2025 CCSD Library Media Specialist of the Year – Susan Sharrow, Pope High School
- 2025 Georgia Athletic Directors Association 6A Athletic Director of the Year – Matt Williams, Athletic Director, North Cobb High School
- National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association State Award of Merit – Don Baker, District Director of Athletics

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- There were six (6) public commenters.

## **ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **Personnel Matters**

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**

- Anthony-Young, Dr. Jennifer appointment to Principal, Griffin Middle School from Assistant Principal, Mabry Middle School effective June 1, 2025
- Baker, David appointment to Chief Financial Officer from Director, Financial Services effective April 25, 2025

- Cain, Dr. Pamela reassignment to Principal, Dowell Elementary School from Principal, Mableton Elementary School effective July 1, 2025
- Cappucci, Michael appointment to Principal, Mableton Elementary School from Assistant Principal, Brumby Elementary School effective July 1, 2025
- Johnson, Bradley R., Chief Financial Officer, retirement effective June 1, 2025
- Lair, Elizabeth reassignment to Principal, Kennesaw Elementary School from Principal, Compton Elementary School effective July 1, 2025
- Moody, Matthew appointment to Assistant Superintendent, School Leadership Division from Principal, North Cobb High School effective July 1, 2025
- Nelson, Dr. Bertha appointment to Assistant Superintendent, School Leadership Division from Principal, Acworth Elementary School effective July 1, 2025
- Ward, James Brett, Principal, Kennesaw Elementary School, retirement effective July 1, 2025
- Wattle, Krystal appointment to Principal, McEachern High School from Assistant Principal, McEachern High School effective July 1, 2025

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

### **High School**

- Schlanger, Randall, Assistant Principal, Pebblebrook High School, retirement effective November 1, 2025

## **Section III – Superintendent’s Cabinet**

The Superintendent recommended the extension of the employment contracts for his cabinet effective July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, as follows:

- Keeli Bowen, Chief Human Resources Officer
  - John Floresta, Chief Strategy and Accountability Officer
  - Sherri Hill, Chief of Staff
  - Dr. Jasmine Kullar, Chief School Leadership Officer
  - Dr. Catherine Mallanda, Chief Academic Officer
  - Marc Smith, Chief Technology and Operations Officer
  - Dr. Kevin Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent, School Leadership Division
  - Brenda Carter, Assistant Superintendent, Academic Division
  - Dr. Bruce Fraser, Assistant Superintendent, School Leadership Division
  - Adam Hill, Assistant Superintendent, School Leadership Division
  - Dr. Ehsan Kattoula, Assistant Superintendent, Accountability Division
  - Dr. Liss Maynard, Assistant Superintendent, School Leadership Division
  - Kelly Metcalfe, Assistant Superintendent, Academic Division
  - Josh Morreale, Assistant Superintendent, Operations Division
  - Ed Wagner, Assistant Superintendent, School Leadership Division
  - Gretchen Walton, Assistant Superintendent, Chief of Staff Division
- A motion was made by Mr. Scamihorn, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, to approve the Personnel Action Report as read and presented in Executive Session.
  - A motion was made by Ms. Sayler, seconded by Ms. Davis, to amend the original motion to vote separately on Section III. Motion failed 2-5, with Ms. Davis and Ms. Sayler voting “Yea,” and Messrs. Chastain, Cristadoro, Hutchins, Scamihorn, and Wheeler voting “Nay.”
  - The original motion to approve the Personnel Action Report as read and presented in Executive Session carried 7-0.

## **Student Matter**

- SY25-Appeal #15
  - A motion was made by Mr. Scamihorn, seconded by Ms. Sayler, and unanimously approved by the Board to uphold the determination of the student disciplinary tribunal as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried 7-0.
- SY25-Appeal #16
  - A motion was made by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mr. Scamihorn, and unanimously approved by the Board to uphold the determination of the student disciplinary tribunal as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried 7-0.

## **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 Approval of a Utility Easement with the Cobb Electric Membership Corporation (Cobb EMC) for Power to Portable Classrooms at Bells Ferry Elementary School

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM #3** – Recommendation for Approval to Award a Contract to Playworld Preferred (Huntersville, NC) in the amount of \$3,226,760.37 for Playground Equipment and Surfacing Replacement at Addison Elementary School, Birney Elementary School, Compton Elementary School, Davis Elementary School, Due West Elementary School, Green Acres Elementary School, McCall Primary School, Pitner Elementary School, Timber Ridge Elementary School, Russell Elementary School, and Vaughan Elementary School

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM #4** – Authorization to Purchase Six (6) Chevrolet Silverado Trucks for Cobb County School District Police from Hardy Chevrolet, Inc. in the amount of \$288,915.20

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM #5** – Authorization to Purchase Ten (10) 48-passenger School Buses from Yancy Bus Sales and Service in the amount of \$1,712,790.00

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM #6** – Recommendation for Approval to Award a Contract to MAPP LLC (Atlanta, GA) in the amount of \$19,097,426.00 for Tapp Middle School Renovations

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM #7** – Recommendation for Approval of the Architect Appointment of BPL Enclosure (Atlanta, GA) for the Palmer Middle School Roof Replacement

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM #8** – Recommendation for Approval of the Walton High School Replacement Video Scoreboard from Digital Scoreboards, LLC in the amount of \$439,497.00

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM #10** – Recommendation for Approval of Guaranteed Maximum Price #1 (GMP#1) for the Career Academy #2 to Evergreen Construction (Atlanta, GA) in the amount of \$15,973,352.00

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM #11** – Recommendation for Approval of a Loan for Band Uniforms to Pebblebrook High School in the amount of \$50,000.00

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

## **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM #9** – Recommendation for Approval of the Purchase of Vapor Wake K-9 Officers, Related Training, Accessories and Equipment

- A motion was made by Mr. Scamihorn, seconded by Mr. Wheeler, and approved by the Board to Purchase Vapor Wake K-9 Officers, Related Training, Accessories and Equipment from Global K-9 Solutions in the amount of \$450,000.00. Messrs. Chastain, Cristadoro, Hutchins, Scamihorn, and Wheeler voted “Yea,” Ms. Sayler voted “Nay,” and Ms. Davis abstained from the vote. Motion carried 5-1-1.

**ACTION AGENDA ITEM #12** – Recommendation for Tentative Approval of the FY2026 Budget

- A motion was made by Mr. Scamihorn, seconded by Mr. Hutchins, and unanimously approved by the Board to tentatively approve the FY2026 Budget as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

## **ADJOURN**

Without objection, the Board adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

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**CHAIRMAN**

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**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**