

PENDING BOARD APPROVAL

**THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL
UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION AND SIGNED BY THE
CHAIRMAN AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2026

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, January 22, 2026, at 3:00 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. Scamihorn, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

RECESS

Without objection, at 3:01 p.m. the Board agreed to recess to allow the Superintendent to take part in an emergency weather call.

RECONVENE

Without objection, the Board reconvened at 3:19 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were three (3) public commenters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Without objection, the Board approved the following meeting minutes:

- Thursday, December 11, 2025, Board Meeting
- Tuesday, January 6, 2026, Special Called Board Meeting

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Superintendent Weather Update
 - Following the earlier Emergency Weather Call, the Superintendent announced that the Cobb County School District was canceling and/or rescheduling all extra-curricular events scheduled for Saturday and Sunday. Any impacts on Monday's schedule will be announced by midday on Sunday.
- Monthly Board Financial Status Update
 - Chief Financial Officer Mr. David Baker presented the monthly school district financial status update to the Board. Each Board Member received a copy of the report.

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- Annual Independent Audit
 - Chief Financial Officer Mr. David Baker and Mr. Christopher McKellar of Mauldin & Jenkins, Certified Public Accountants & Advisors, presented highlights to the Board of the Annual Independent Financial Audit Report and the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report as of June 30, 2025. Mr. McKellar shared the district received a clean, unmodified audit with no compliance or financial findings.

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, January 22, 2026, 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, January 22, 2026, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #2 – Recommendation for Approval of East Side Elementary School Playground Replacement

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, January 22, 2026, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – Recommendation for Approval to Award a Contract for Allatoona High School Site Improvements

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, January 22, 2026, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – Recommendation for Approval to Award a Contract for Construction of Griffin Middle School Renovations

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, January 22, 2026, Board Meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – Ratification of a Note Resolution Confirming the Acceptance of the Best Bid for the Issuance of \$100 Million of Short-Term Construction Notes

- Without objection, this item was placed on the **Consent Agenda** for the Voting Session of the Thursday, January 22, 2026, Board Meeting.

BOARD BUSINESS

- Annual Disclosure of Board Member Compliance – Mr. Scamihorn
 - All Board Members confirmed their compliance with Policy BH (Board Code of Ethics), Policy BHA (Board Member Conflict of Interest), and all applicable laws.
- Board Member Appointments to the Facilities & Technology Citizens Oversight Committee – Mr. Scamihorn
 - Ms. Sayler, Post 2
 - Reappointed Dr. Christian Johnson & appointed Alicia Bellezza-Watts
 - Mr. Hutchins, Post 3
 - Reappointed Brandeis Thompson & Semeka Samuels
 - Mr. Chastain, Post 4
 - Reappointed Wayne Brown & Shane Spink
 - Mr. Ragsdale, Superintendent
 - Reappointed John Loud
 - Mr. Scamihorn, Ms. Davis, Mr. Wheeler, and Mr. Cristadoro will name their appointees next month

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- Appointment of Board Liaison to Facilities & Technology Citizens Oversight Committee – Mr. Scamihorn
 - Mr. Scamihorn appointed John Cristadoro as the Board Liaison the F&T Committee for 2026

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Without objection, the Board approved the agenda as amended.

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mr. Hutchins, and unanimously approved by the Board at 4:07 p.m. to convene to Executive Session 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, January 22, 2026, 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 7:02 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Scamihorn, Board Chair, and the Osborne High School Boys and Girls JROTC Raiders led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD RECOGNITIONS

- 2025-2026 JROTC Raider Competition Girls State Champions – Osborne High School
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- 2025-2026 Youth Across America Hope Film Competition Student Winner – Anabella Alvarado, South Cobb High School
- 2025-2026 Youth Across America Hope Film Competition Teacher Winner – Aisha Davis, South Cobb High School
- 2025-2026 GHSA Class 5A Girls Individual Cross Country State Champion – Aislynn Dunn, Pope High School
- 2025-2026 GHSA Class 5A Girls Cross Country State Champions – Pope High School
- 2025-2026 GHSA Division 5 Girls Flag Football State Champions – Pope High School

PUBLIC COMMENT

- There were two (2) 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

- Breban, Abner, Director, Human Resources, HR Systems, resignation effective January 5, 2026
- Walker, Dr. Jeanne, Principal, Cobb Horizon High School, retirement effective July 1, 2026
- Watson, Dr. Tammy, Principal, Russell Elementary School, retirement effective July 1, 2026

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Section II – Position Recommendations Below Principal

Elementary School

- Stassen, Dana appointment to Assistant Principal, Kemp Elementary School from Teacher, Bells Ferry Elementary School effective February 6, 2026

Middle School

- Triebisch, Dr. W. Kevin, Assistant Principal, East Cobb Middle School, retirement effective June 1, 2026
 - A motion was made by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Ms. Davis, and unanimously approved by the Board to accept the Personnel Action Report as read and presented in Executive Session. Motion carried 7-0.

Student Matters

- SY26-Appeal #6
 - A motion was made by Ms. Sayler, 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 7-0.
- SY26-Appeal #7
 - A motion was made by Mr. Hutchins, seconded by Mr. Chastain, 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.

ACTION AGENDA ITEMS - 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 East Side Elementary School Playground Replacement

ACTION AGENDA ITEM #3 – Recommendation for Approval to Award a Contract for Allatoona High School Site Improvements to Ward Humphrey, Inc. (Marietta, GA) in the amount of \$490,000.00 to include pedestrian ramp repairs and the reroof of canopies at main entrance

ACTION AGENDA ITEM #4 – Recommendation for Approval to Award a Contract for Construction of Griffin Middle School Renovations to Triad Construction Co. Inc., (Atlanta, GA) in the amount of \$2,201,000.00 to include door and window replacement, emergency generator, elevator refurbishment, Family & Consumer Science classroom renovations, and modifications to the entrance for security.

ACTION AGENDA ITEM #5 – Ratification of a Note Resolution Confirming the Acceptance of the Best Bid for the Issuance of \$100 Million of Short-Term Construction Notes to JP Morgan Securities, LLC at a rate of 2.291447%.

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

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ADJOURN

Without objection, the Board adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY