

SUMTER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 2026

7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Sumter County Board of Education was called to order by Chairman Abbis Bivins with the following other members present: Patricia Harris, Edward Jackson, Rick Barnes, Carolyn Hamilton, Vincent Kears, and Dwight Harris (7:25 pm).

A moment of silence was observed followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Kears motioned to approve the agenda; seconded by Mr. Barnes; and the motion was carried unanimously.

The following consent agenda items were unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Kears second by Mr. Kears:

- A. Minutes of January 8, 2026 (Attachment A)
- B. 2026-2027 Sumter County Schools System Calendar
- C. 2027-2028 Sumter County Schools System Calendar
- D. Georgia Leadership Institute for School Improvement _Base Camp (\$49,200.00) Title II & Title V
- E. Vendor Payments – January 2026
- F. Open Payables – January 2026
- G. Expenditure Journal Summary Budget Report
- H. 396 Fund Balance Revenue Report
- I. Nutrition Report
- J. Revenue Received Report
- K. Transportation Fuel Report
- L. Schools Quarterly Reports
- M. Georgia Department of Revenue Highway Impact Fees for 2024 and 2025 (\$11,500.00) Local
- N. 14 Passenger Bus Purchase (\$112,900.00) Local
- O. Approval of E-RATE FY2027 for Category 1 and 2 Items
- P. Employments
- Q. Resignations
- R. Transfers
- S. Family Medical Leave Act Requests
- T. Paid Parental Leave Act Requests
- U. Retirements
- V. Long-Term Substitutes
- W. Approval of the memorandum of understanding between the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia by and on behalf of Georgia College & State University (GC) John H. Lounsbury College of Education and Sumter County School System.

The following personnel matters were approved as part of the consent agenda:

Employments

Cera Nathan
Royce Thompkins
Antwaun Price
Hydia Broussard

Resignations

Mohan Banoth
Melanie Rico
Betty Wilmer
Gloria Wakefield
Virginia Moore
George Mitchell

Mustafa Furkhan
Teisha Stewart

<u>Transfers</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Vatina Reid-Williams	Family Engagement Coordinator	Admin. Assistant
Curtis Jackson	Sub Bus Driver	Bus Driver
Takeya Goodman	Second Grade Teacher	Gifted Teacher
Yearby Michael	Sub Bus Driver	Bus Driver

Retirements

Nancy Green
Mary Smith-Butts
Kimberly Smith
Terri Lee

Long-Term Substitute

Emma Robinson
Jessica Smith
Stephanie Tyson

A motion was made by Mr. Kears; second by Mrs. Hamilton to approve the School Use Requests & Overnight Field Trips. The motion was carried with five in favor (A. Bivins, P. Harris, E. Jackson, V. Kears, C. Hamilton), one opposed (R. Barnes), and one abstention (D. Harris)

FACILITY USE REQUESTS

Rosemary Robinson-Jones to use the cafeteria at Sumter County Elementary School, January 13, 2026, for an informational community sign-up session for Home Energy Improvement Program. *(Fees and Insurance secured)*

Jill King-Jones to use the gymnasium at the old Americus-Sumter High School campus, March 7, 2026, for a yard sale. *(Fees and Insurance to be secured)*

Dwight Harris (Dwight Harris Boys Club) to use the gymnasium and classroom at A.S. Staley Educational Complex, May 9-July 26, 2026, for a summer basketball league and summer camp. *(Fees and Insurance to be secured)*

OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUESTS

Twelve student-athletes and three coaches (SCHS Varsity Wrestling) to East Jackson in Commerce, GA, February 6-7, 2026, to participate in the State Sectionals.

Two students and three coaches (SCHS Varsity Wrestling) to Morrow, GA, February 12-13, 2026, to participate in the GHSA AA Traditional State Wrestling Tournament.

OVERNIGHT/OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST

Sixty students and three chaperones (SCMS/SCHS Band) to Jackson, MS, April 10-12, 2026, to participate at the Jackson State University Band Day.

OVERNIGHT/OUT-OF-COUNTRY FIELD TRIP REQUEST

Six students and one chaperone (SCHS 2027 Europe Trip) will travel to Amsterdam, Paris, and London, May 30-June 9, 2027. The purpose of this trip is to spark connections and inspire curiosity, confidence, and self-awareness, as well as provide life-changing experience that may ultimately be a once-in-lifetime opportunity.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made at 7:50 pm by Mr. Kears; second by Mrs. Harris to enter into executive session for the following reasons as read by the chairman: To discuss or deliberate upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee or to interview applicants for the position of superintendent; (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2)). The motion was carried unanimously.

OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Jackson; second by Mrs. Harris at 8:34 p.m. to return to open session; the motion carried unanimously

A motion was made by Mr. Jackson; second by Mr. Kearse to approve the following job descriptions; the motion carried unanimously.

SPHERE Project Director
SPHERE Executive Oversight
SPHERE Administrative Assistant/Wraparound Liaison
Special Education Transition Specialist

A motion was made by Mr. Barnes; second by Mrs. Hamilton to approve the following personnel matters; the motion was carried unanimously.

Employment
Lee Wright

Transfer
Katrina Fuller

Salary Adjustment
Tracy Wilson

Retirement
Walter Knighton

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Barnes; second by Mrs. Harris. The motion was carried unanimously.


Chairman


Secretary