

SUMTER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

MAY 14, 2026

7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Sumter County Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice Chairman Carolyn Hamilton with the following other members present: Dwight Harris, Patricia Harris, Edward Jackson and Vincent Kears. Mrs. Harris left the meeting during the intermission after recognitions.

Members absent: Rick Barnes and Abbis Bivins

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

Mr. Kears made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Mr. Jackson; and the motion was carried unanimously.

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

- A. Minutes of April 16, 2026
- B. School Use Requests & Overnight Field Trips

Facility Use

- 1. Americus Police Department (APD) to use the gymnasium at SCHS on Friday, July 17, 2026, for a Back-to-School Bash (Fees and Insurance Waived).
- 2. Roundball Roundup (Ryan Grunto) to use the Old Americus/Sumter Gymnasium on Harrold Avenue for a basketball camp, June 15-20, 2026. (Fees paid and insurance secured).

Overnight Field Trip Requests

- 1. Twelve students (JROTC) to Georgia Military College, Milledgeville on May 26-29, 2026 to participate in the GMS Summer Camp.
- 2. Fourteen students (SCHS Boys Basketball) to Atlanta on June 12-14, 2026 for a summer basketball team camp.

- C. Revised 2026-2027 School Calendar
- D. Memorandum of Understanding between Sandy Hook Promise Foundation and Sumter County School District
- E. Summer Attendance Incentive (Title I, Title II Funding)
- F. Spectrum Research Evaluation & Development, LLC
- G. Trauma-Informed & Solution-Based Practices – This Works, Inc.
- H. Panorama Renewal (\$77,624.40 - Title V)
- I. Purchasing of Core Curriculum ELA 6-12: SAVVAS (\$378,712.95 – SPLOST funds)
- J. ELA Professional Development ELA 6-12 SAVVAS (\$89,200 – Title II)
- K. Financial Reports
- L. Vendor Payments – April 2026

	GA Fund 1 General Fund	GA Fund 1 Special/ Capital	Citizens Bank SPLOST 2021	Regions Bank Sales Tax 2021	Citizens Bank General Fund 2
March 31, 2026	\$9,627,529.45	\$3,866,726.60	\$208,058.49	\$500,510.13	\$4,815,617.44
Incoming	\$855,122.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$877,996.30	\$89,028,266.33
Outgoing	\$0.00	\$1,801.59	\$122,665.41	\$0.00	\$90,830,256.07
April 30, 2026	\$10,482,652.40	\$3,864,925.01	\$85,393.08	\$1,378,506.43	\$3,013,627.70

- M. Open Payables – April 2026
- N. Preliminary Cash Flow Report
- O. Expenditure Journal Summary Budget Report
- P. 396 Fund Balance Revenue Report
- Q. Quarterly School Reports
- R. Policy IHE: Promotion and Retention (Waive attendance requirements for grades K-8 for 2025-2026 school year)

- S. Permission to purchase furniture for Accelerated Achievers Academy at SCES (up to \$90,000 – SPLOST)
- T. Technology Subscription Renewals and Agreements
 - Google Workspace Education Plus at \$16,200 (annual - Local)
 - Gaggle at \$18,112.50 (annual – Title V)
 - Infinite Campus at \$40,656 (annual - Local)
 - K12 Solution at \$18,318.75 (annual Title V)
 - Centegix Year 3 Payment at \$51,000 (annual - Safety Grant)
 - Microsoft 365 at \$22,262.96 (annual - Local)
 - CSM Agreement at \$6,100 (annual - Local)
 - NEOS Agreement at \$34,800 (annual - Local)
 - Xerox 3-year Lease Agreement (11 machines) at \$3634.85 monthly; \$43,618.20 annually (Local)
- U. Memorandum of Agreement between Columbus State University and Sumter County Schools for Field Experiences
- V. Memorandum of Agreement between Southwest Georgia Community Action Council, Inc. Head Start Program and Sumter County Board of Education
- W. Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia on behalf of the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service and Sumter County Board of Education
- X. Personnel Matters
 - Employments
 - William Shaw
 - Lawrence Smith
 - Michael Copley
 - Latanja Peoples
 - Ericka Wells
 - Sherri Lowe

 - Retirements
 - Renee Mays
 - Jamie Hawkins
 - Bridget Stevenson

 - Resignations
 - Darren Demcio
 - Maria Lewis
 - Elaine Hicks
 - Dinesh Paladugu
 - Deavious Barron
 - Deborah Smith
 - Lanautica Tookes
 - Makayla Cobb
 - Sheryl Rush
 - Monica Times
 - Jada Bailey
 - Shania Jolly
 - Ronrica Gordon
 - Kristen Wooden
 - Joshua Lambert
 - Lytresa Sanders
 - Veronica Walton
 - Adonnice Hicks
 - Mariah Wallker
 - Trinity Jenkins
 - Hope Bateman
 - Hydia Broussard

 - Transfers
 - Derether Harris
 - Adams Ajohna
 - Natashia Mahome
 - Uniek Crumbley
 - Charleshia Battle
 - Brandi Roland

Long Term Substitutes

Kendall Gandy
Jessica Smith

Rescindment of Contract

Molly Speir

Temporary Full-Time Employment

Andrea Wright
Shirley Fair-Johnson

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Mr. Jackson; second by Mr. Kearse to paint the SCPS interior utilizing SPLOST funds; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jackson offered a motion to approve the Open Gate Weapons Detection System in the amount of \$25,529.54 per unit for seven units to be paid from the FY 26 State Security Grant; motion was seconded by Mr. Kearse, and carried unanimously.

The Memorandum of Understanding between Georgia Association of Education Leaders (GAEL) Executive Coaching Division and Sumter County School District for \$12,500 to be paid from local funds was unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Kearse; second by Mr. Jackson.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made at 8:30 p.m. by Mr. Kearse; seconded by Mr. Harris to enter into executive session for the following reasons, as read by the vice 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)). To consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the school district or an officer or employee or in which the officer or employee may be directly involved; (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1)). The motion was carried unanimously.

OPEN SESSION

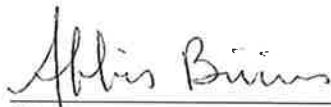
A motion was made at 9:38 p.m. by Mr. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Kearse to return to open session; motion was carried unanimously.


The following personnel matters were unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Jackson; seconded by Mr. Harris:

- 2026-2027 Administrative Recommendations
 - Calandra Parker, Principal, SCHS
 - Phoenecia Cummings, Curriculum Coordinator (Math)
 - Becky Shabeck, Literacy Content Specialist (K-6)

- Contracted Services:
 - Alphonese Wilson
 - Calandra Woolbright

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Harris; seconded by Mr. Kearse; motion carried unanimously.


Chairman


Secretary