

SUMTER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 8, 2025

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Sumter County Board of Education was called to order by Chairman Patricia Harris with the following other members present: Patricia Harris, Rick Barnes, Abbis Bivins, and Sylvia Roland.

Carolyn Hamilton, Edward Jackson, and Vincent Kearsse participated virtually.

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

BOARD ELECTIONS

As required by policy, the annual board elections for chairman and vice chairman were conducted. Superintendent, Walter Knighton declared all positions open and asked for nominations for chairman. Mr. Barnes offered a motion to re-elect Mrs. Patricia Harris for chairman; second by Mr. Kearsse. There being no other nominations, Mrs. Harris was unanimously elected as chairman.

Mrs. Harris assumed the office of chairman and asked for nominations for vice chairman. Ms. Bivins nominated Mr. Jackson; second by Mr. Kearsse. There being no further nominations, Mr. Jackson was unanimously re-elected as vice chairman.

The chairman called for nominations for school board attorney for school matters. Mr. Barnes recommended law firm Pereira, Kirby, Kinsinger & Nguyen, LLP.; second by Mr. Kearsse. The nomination was approved unanimously.

Mr. Barnes nominated law firm Gatewood, Skipper and Rambo for local matters; second by Mr. Kearsse. The nomination was unanimously approved.

Mr. Barnes nominated the Americus-Times Recorder as the weekly legal organ; second by Mrs. Roland. The nomination was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Roland motioned to approve the agenda; seconded by Mr. Barnes; and the vote was carried unanimously.

The following consent agenda items were unanimously approved on a motion by Mrs. Hamilton; second by Mrs. Roland:

- A. Minutes of December 5, 2024
- B. Fund Raisers, School Use Requests & Overnight Field Trip Requests

OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUESTS

Fifteen students (SCHS Varsity Boys' Basketball) to Atlanta, GA, December 20-21, 2024, to participate in the Woodard Academy War Eagle Basketball Classic. *(Approval granted 12/19/2024)*

Twelve students (SCHS FFA) to Covington, GA, February 28- March 1, 2025 to attend the Georgia FFA Greenhand Jamboree and Success Conference.

- C. Acceptance of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the 21st Century Grant
- D. Financial Reports
- E. Vendor Payments – December 2024
- F. Open Payables – December 2024
- G. Preliminary Cash Flow Report

	Citizens Bank General Fund	GA Fund 1 General Fund	GA Fund 1 Special/ Capital	Citizens Bank SPLOST 2021	Regions Bank Sales Tax 2021	Citizens Bank General Fund 2
Nov. 30, 2024	\$0.00	\$6,000,000.00	\$3,641,784.28	\$0.00	\$451,752.07	\$3,671,100.43
Incoming	\$0.00	\$4,000,000.00	\$14,112.82	\$0.00	\$119.89	\$17,875,888.22
Outgoing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,732,079.00
Dec. 31, 2024	\$0.00	\$10,000,000.00	\$3,655,897.10	\$0.00	\$451,871.96	\$5,814,909.65

- H. Expenditure Journal Summary Budget Report
- I. 396 Fund Balance Revenue Report
- J. Resignations
- K. Transfers
- L. Employment
- M. Long Term Substitutes
- N. Paid Parental Leave Requests
- O. Family Medical Leave Requests
- P. Sumter County Board of Education Meetings Calendar for 2025

PERSONNEL

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

Resignations

Zari Mays
Susan Pittman

Transfers

Gwenesha Daniels
Shabreka Rivers
April Smith

Employment

Brian Simon

Long Term Substitutes

Lydia Walker
Lakisha King
Edna Mercer
Chelsey Kimbrough
General Reid

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Mr. Barnes; second by Mrs. Roland to approve the salary adjustment proposal for the position of Maintenance Supervisor. The motion was approved with four in-favor (Ms. Bivins, Mr. Barnes, Mrs. Harris, and Mrs. Roland), two abstentions (Mrs. Hamilton and Mr. Jackson), and one oppose (Mr. Kearse).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made at 5:43 by Mrs. Roland; second by Mr. Barnes 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)).

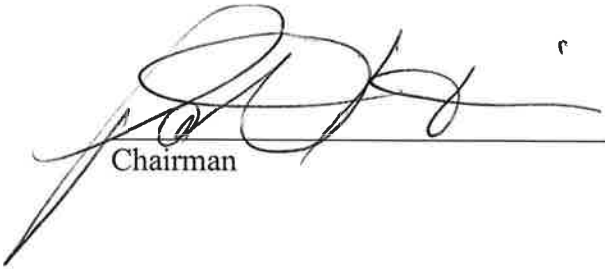
OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Mrs. Roland; second by Mr. Barnes at 5:58 p.m. to return to open session; the motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Barnes; second by Mrs. Roland to approve the transfer of Mr. Robert Walton from Lead Custodian to Custodian at Sumter County Middle School. The motion was

approved with four in favor (Mr. Barnes, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Hamilton, and Mrs. Roland), and two abstentions (Mr. Jackson and Ms. Bivins).

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Roland; second by Mr. Barnes. The motion was carried unanimously.



Chairman



Secretary