

SUMTER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

AUGUST 12, 2021
7:00 PM

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Sumter County Board of Education was called to order by Chairman Rick Barnes with the following other members present: Carolyn Hamilton, Abbas Bivins, Patricia Harris, Vincent Kearsse, Jim Reid and Sylvia Roland.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Kearsse; second by Mr. Reid to adopt the agenda; motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made at 7:11 p.m. by Mrs. Hamilton; second by Mrs. Roland; to go 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) or to discuss or vote to authorize negotiations to purchase, dispose of, or lease property; authorize ordering an appraisal related to the acquisition or disposal of real estate; enter into a contract to purchase, dispose of, or lease property subject to approval in a subsequent public vote; or enter into an option to purchase, dispose of or lease real estate subject to approval in a subsequent public vote; (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)). The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel Matters

OPEN SESSION

A motion was made at 7:50 p.m. by Mrs. Roland; second by Mr. Kearsse to go back into open session.

The chairman, Mr. Barnes, read a letter of resignation submitted by Dr. Torrance Choates, Superintendent, effective June 30, 2022. A motion was made by Mr. Kearsse; second by Mrs. Hamilton to accept the resignation of Dr. Choates; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Barnes, Chairman, read a Mutual Resolution Agreement between Dr. Choates and the Sumter County Board of Education. A motion was made by Mr. Reid; second by Mr. Kearsse to accept the Mutual Resolution Agreement. The motion carried on the following vote: six in favor (Mr. Reid, Mr. Kearsse, Mr. Barnes, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Harris & Mrs. Roland), one opposed (Ms. Bivins).

Mr. Walter Knighton, Associate Superintendent, was unanimously named as acting superintendent on a motion by Mrs. Hamilton; second by Mr. Kearsse until an interim is hired and a search for a new superintendent is conducted.

Mr. Knighton assumed the duties of acting superintendent and presided over the meeting. He began by giving the superintendent's report.

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda including minutes of the meetings held on July 8, 26 & August 3, 2021 by Mr. Kearsse; second by Mrs. Hamilton; motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The financial reports for July 2021 along with the following preliminary cash flow report were unanimously approved upon recommendation of the committee:

Preliminary Cash Flow Report

	Citizens Bank General Fund	GA Fund 1 General Fund	GA Fund 1 New HS Construction	Citizens Bank Construction 2015	Regions Bank Sales Tax	Regions Bank 2015 Bond Proceeds
June 30, 2021	\$14,856.50	\$4,350,000.00	\$9,225,000.00	\$810,292.55	\$878,968.25	\$18,069.73
Incoming	\$0.00	\$132.74	\$4,305.84	\$0.00	\$432,797.38	\$41.02
Outgoing	\$0.00	\$1,550,132.74	\$2,079,305.84	\$345,887.67	\$0.00	\$18,110.75
July 31, 2021	\$14,856.50	\$2,800,000.00	\$7,150,000.00	\$464,404.88	\$1,311,765.63	\$0.00

The 2021-2022 Millage Rate and Five Year Tax Digest were approved, six in favor (Mr. Reid, Mr. Barnes, Ms. Bivins, Mrs. Harris, Mr. Kearse & Mrs. Roland); one abstention (Mrs. Hamilton).

The FY 2022 Career, Technical & Agricultural Education State and Federal budget allotments were unanimously accepted as presented by the committee.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The following personnel recommendations were unanimously approved as recommended by the committee:

Resignations

Celestine Peterson
 Concepcion Deriso
 Lakeithia Brown
 Sabrina Milledge

Termination

Doneyll Collins

Transfers

Heather Reynolds
 Wendy Wooden

Employments

Stephanie Harvey
 Jerita Stalvey
 Johnny Robinson
 LaShonda Monts

Corrective Action

Jeffery Hayes

Third Party Contract

Cassandra Coley

Long Term Substitute

Patti Young

FMLA

Tracy Douglas

The 2021-2022 athletic supplements were unanimously approved with the exception of Eric Brown, Sherri Harris and Uniek Crumbley.

The committee recommended the 2021-2022 athletic supplement for Eric Brown; motion carried six in favor (Mr. Reid, Mr. Barnes, Ms. Bivins, Mrs. Harris, Mr. Kearse & Mrs. Roland); one abstention (Mrs. Hamilton).

The 2021-2022 athletic supplement for Sherri Harris was approved on the following vote: six in favor (Mr. Reid, Mr. Barnes, Ms. Bivins, Mrs. Hamilton, Mr. Kearse & Mrs. Roland); one abstention (Mrs. Harris).

The 2021-2022 athletic supplement for Uniek Crumbley (contract services) was approved on the following vote: six in favor (Mr. Reid, Mr. Barnes, Ms. Bivins, Mrs. Hamilton, Mr. Kearsse & Mrs. Roland); one abstention (Mrs. Harris).

Additional personnel matters were unanimously approved as recommended by the committee as follows:

Grant Coordinator - CARES Act Job Description

Administrative Salary Adjustments -
Mr. Walter Knighton and Mr. Kimothy Hadley

Additional School Bus Monitors

Incentive Pay for Employees

POLICY COMMITTEE

Revisions to the following policies were unanimously approved as presented:

Policy GAE – Complaints and Grievances
Policy JKB – Solicitations by Students

The committee recommended revisions to the dress code and received approval by the following vote: five in favor (Ms. Bivins, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Roland, Mrs. Hamilton & Mr. Kearsse); two opposed (Mr. Barnes & Mr. Reid).

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The following items were unanimously approved as recommended by the committee:

2019 (factory leftover) Hydraulic Aerial Lift (\$15,950 + \$250.00 Delivery)
Hand-held Equipment (\$1,922.96)
Touchless and Automatic Water Fountains
Air Purifiers for all classrooms
Hepa Filters for all classrooms

OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by Mr. Reid; second by Mr. Kearsse to approve the contract with Georgia Power for electric services to Sumter County High School. The motion was approved on the following vote: five in favor (Mr. Reid, Mr. Kearsse, Mr. Barnes, Mrs. Harris & Mrs. Roland); one opposed (Ms. Bivins); and one abstention (Mrs. Hamilton).

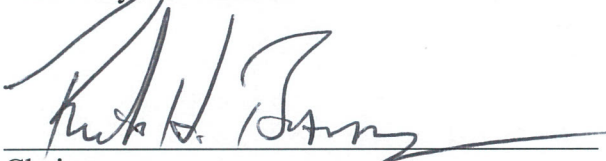
The Excess Facilities Charge Agreement with Georgia Power was approved on the following vote: six in favor (Mr. Reid, Mr. Kearsse, Mr. Barnes, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Harris, & Mrs. Roland) and one opposed (Ms. Bivins).

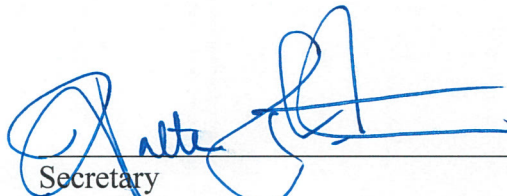
The Meter Totalization Terms and Conditions with Georgia Power was approved on the following vote: six in favor (Mr. Reid, Mr. Kearsse, Mr. Barnes, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Harris & Mrs. Roland); one opposed (Ms. Bivins).

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Mrs. Hamilton; second by Mrs. Harris to require face coverings/masks to be worn by employees and visitors inside the building of Sumter County Schools; motion failed on the following vote: three in favor (Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Harris & Mr. Kearsse); four opposed (Ms. Bivins, Mr. Reid, Mr. Barnes & Mrs. Roland).

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Roland; second by Mr. Kearsse.


Chairman


Secretary