

February 7, 2022
Colquitt, Georgia

The Miller County Board of Education met in a regular session on Monday, Feb. 7, 2022, at 6:00 P.M.

The following members were present:

Shane Miller, Superintendent

Cody Cleveland, Board Chair

Bill Spooner, Vice-Chair

Leroy Bush

Vic Fleet

R. W. (Rick) Little

Chairman Cody Cleveland called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and Bill Spooner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recommendation made by Chairman Mr. Cleveland to approve the agenda and past minutes. Motion made by Mr. Fleet and seconded by Mr. Little, Mr. Bush abstained due to not being present at last meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Cleveland reminded all present of the rules for public participation. Three minutes allowed. Warning received in two minutes. Don't mention names and maintain a professional manner.

Public Participation: Discussion about Tennis court

Ms. April Powell, High School tennis coach spoke on needing a new tennis court. She listed some of the tennis team accomplishments in recent years. Ms. Powell thanked the board for their willingness to listen and consider the need for new tennis courts. She stated her desire for all students to have a chance to play. She pointed out several disadvantages to not having courts at the school. Students have been unable to participate due to lack of transportation to the park for games and practice. We appreciate the city of Colquitt for letting us play on their courts and do not want to bash or complain about the condition, but they are in bad shape. Safety is an issue. The courts have cracks, slippery buildup, insect infestation and the windscreens aren't holding up. The cracks create an uneven playing surface and can affect performance. Also, there is no available storage and coaches are forced to transport all their equipment to/from every practice. Ms. Powell welcomed Ms. Jara Miller, the middle school tennis coach. High school currently has seventeen players and many of them are here tonight, reports Ms. Powell. Middle school has sixteen players this year. Ms. Powell indicates she is aware it would be costly but she believes all students deserve an opportunity to play. She expressed her willingness to help in any way as we move forward with this and she thanked the board for allowing her to speak.

Ms. Jara Miller, Middle School tennis coach. We had forty students signed up to play tennis at the middle school but only sixteen were able to get transportation to the park for try outs. This limits what we can offer the kids. Ms. Miller acknowledged and thanked Mr. Ronnie and Ms. Jean Rentz for allowing them to practice on their tennis courts located at their private residence on Oak Drive. She

February 7, 2022
Colquitt, Georgia

states it's a blessing but shows a necessity due to the city courts not being available when others are using them, so they have to seek alternatives. The flexibility of having additional places to play would be appreciated.

Mr. Bush thanked them for stepping up and making others aware of the issue. A short discussion followed and included the need for courts, lights, number of courts needed, cost, benefits.

Mr. Corey Thomas, Colquitt City manager, spoke from a parental perspective as well as a public servant perspective. People that live in Colquitt, though it's a small town, deserve and need the same amenities that other communities and schools have. They deserve and need to have good tennis courts. He met with Mr. Miller and Mr. Doug Cofty, Miller County Manager. He reports a great meeting today and hopefully he'll be able to present some short term solutions to what we already have. Mr. Thomas' additional included the long term need for new courts at school facility. Not only, from a school perspective but community and economic development as well. There's an overall quality of life element that we're able to offer the people that live here some nice things to have and to be able to attract some tournaments. Have people come in from other communities. We would appreciate your favorable consideration of us being able to eventually build some nice tennis courts at the school.

Mr. Miller voiced his appreciation for everyone coming out to speak and support tennis. He believes they had a very good meeting today at lunch with Mr. Tomas and Mr. Cofty. They will be doing some planning and talking with the board on some long term goals and possibly some short term goals as well to resolve the issue with lack of tennis courts.

Mr. Jamie Ard presented the Elementary School Report. He provided the board with several handouts. The first one is a pamphlet with pictures of some things going on at the school in the past weeks. Such as, 3rd grade project little builders, using tools. Ms. Lori Williams arranged it and the students enjoyed it. Another section shows upgrades such as new library furniture and water bottle filler installation and use. There are pictures of the Ga Ag Experience sponsored by Miller County Farm Bureau and students participating in some hands-on learning experiences in various classrooms. Included in the handouts is a document recommended by the school council. "Challenging Our Students: The Pirate Way". This was sent home with students and was presented to the board members a few weeks ago.

Mr. Cleve Roland presented the Middle School Report. They are getting back to normal with the covid situation. Only one student was quarantined last week. Mr. Roland spoke his appreciation for the teachers and their efforts to make sure kids are getting their work made up. He recognizes the strain and stressors this generates for the students and teachers as stated by the state superintendent.

Mr. Tommy Tabb presented the High School Report. On the topic of covid, the custodians have wiped down everything and opened up the whole school. Helped us get over that point. We had a big win over Seminole County, big crowd and the principal of Seminole County personally thanked him. Said Mr.

Lonnie did a great job with the crowd control and keeping everyone safe. Will be rescheduling some missed games due to covid and honor band.

Ms. Holly Thomas gave a band update. We had seven students that were selected out of our band to go to Troy honor band. They each get to work and perform with a hundred piece band ending in a mass concert Saturday and have access to clinicians from across the country.

Dr. Lovering and Ms. Mandy Long provided updates regarding CTAE activities. Its CTAE month and other things going on. The handout will outline most of the activities CTAE will be involved in.

Mr. Miller gave a facilities report. They've started fencing in the back of the school and will close up the back entrance. Spoke with the architect on the HVAC system and he has given the paperwork to the construction manager. They will be getting with us in the next week or so. Two HVAC units and roof work will be a little over \$400,000.00, but we're on track with that. Mr. Bush questioned installing a gate in the back fencing and Mr. Miller stated that could be done.

Ms. Jodi Collins provided feedback from the Hands & Hearts Horse Therapy and gave an update on the new Vision/Hearing Screeners. The new technology has already proven it's increased accuracy of screening results.

Recommendation made by Mr. Miller to approve the Travel and Fundraisers. Motion made by Mr. Little, seconded by Mr. Spooner, motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation made by Mr. Miller to approve the Financial Statements. Motion made by Mr. Spooner seconded by Mr. Little, motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation made by Mr. Miller to approve the purchases over \$5,000. Motion made by Mr. Bush, seconded by Mr. Spooner, motion carried unanimously.

- *Belnick Retail, 350 cafeteria chairs. \$15,375.77.*
- *Keystone Ridge Designs, trash cans and benches. \$6,070.94.*
- *SWG RESA, Baseball Stadium PA System. \$5,495.74.*

Recommendation made by Mr. Miller to approve the School Calendar for SY '23. Motion made by Mr. Little seconded by Mr. Fleet, motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation made by Mr. Miller to enter Executive Session at 6:29 P.M. Motion made by Mr. Fleet seconded by Mr. Little and carried unanimously.

Recommendation made by Mr. Miller to exit Executive Session at 7:34 P.M. Motion made by Mr. Fleet seconded by Mr. Bush and carried unanimously.

Recommendation made by Mr. Miller to approve Personnel as follows.

February 7, 2022
Colquitt, Georgia

- *Taylor Griffin and Alicia Grant as substitute teachers, Carlee Hatcher as para to replace Penny Massey and Tonya Buie as Payroll Clerk, replacing Dawn Kelley. Motion Mr. Little, seconded by Mr. Bush and carried unanimously.*
- *Accept resignations of Penny Massey, Donna Godfrey, Leigh Ann Walton and Dawn Jackson, eff. 5-27-22. Motion Mr. Little, seconded by Mr. Spooner and carried unanimously.*
- *Approve rehiring of teachers and staff for ES, MS and HS per the list provided. Motion, Mr. Little, seconded by Mr. Spooner. Mr. Little abstained due to family member. Motion carried unanimously.*

Recommendation, Mr. Cleveland, motion made by Mr. Little, seconded by Mr. Spooner to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 P.M. and carried unanimously.

Superintendent

Board Chair