

MARENGO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2023

4:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Mr. Rayvell Smith, President.

Establishment of a quorum.

Members present: Mr. Freddie Charleston, Mrs. Lynda Joiner, Mr. John McAlpine, and Mr. Rayvell Smith.

Member absent: Mr. Chester Moore.

The invocation was given by Mr. Smith.

Approval of Agenda

The motion to approve the agenda was made by Mrs. Joiner and seconded by Mr. McAlpine. It carried unanimously.

Second Approval of February 28, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes

The motion for second approval of the February 28, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes was made by Mr. Charleston and seconded by Mrs. Joiner.

I, Luke Hallmark, Superintendent of Education of Marengo County Schools, do hereby make the following recommendations:

Business Matters

- **Diana Luker – Financial Update**
Mrs. Diana Luker, CSFO, gave the Board members a financial update. In the General Fund, the cash balance as of January 31, 2023, was \$2,651,190.46. The receipts were \$1,249,654.15 while the expenditures were \$1,639,426.29. This left a February 28, 2023, cash balance of \$2,261,418.32. This cash balance continues to remain good. Unless there is some unforeseeable expenditure, the ending balance should be in the best shape that it has been in a very long time.

- **Luke Hinson / Terry Norton – Technology / Testing Update**
Mr. Terry Norton, Technology Coordinator, and Mr. Luke Hinson, System Technician, were going to have a presentation for the Board members but the internet was down for most of the day and it kept them from having it ready. They will present at the next board meeting.

- **Mrs. Wendy Joiner, Instructional Leader, was at a workshop and unable to attend the board meeting.** She left an update about the monthly academics that had been going on throughout the system.

- **Legislative Update**
The Superintendent presented a legislative update to the Board members. He mentioned the following bills that are being considered. The bills included: penalties for Fentanyl trafficking, punishment to drug dealers for selling drugs to a person that dies, rebates, and grocery tax reduction. Governor Ivey has proposed one-time rebates, increased construction budget, increased rural school capital funds, providing money for summer math camps and Numeracy Act programs, providing safety grants, and increasing college and career ready funds. The Superintendent also mentioned that the 3-mill and 5-mill county tax for education will be coming due. Mrs. Sharon Hilbish, Revenue Commissioner, is going to be asked to attend the next board meeting to better explain the process.

- **Black Warrior Telecommunications Consortium / Utilities Report**
The Black Warrior financial statement for February 28, 2023, was \$76,354.44 in the checking account and \$90,410.93 in a CD. The utilities report for February, 2022, was \$24,388.30 while February, 2023, was \$30,029.58.

- **The Ethics Commission Reports are due April 30, 2023.**

New Business

1. That the Financial Reports for February, 2023, be approved.

2. That the General, Federal, Capital Projects, Accounts Payable, and Payroll account bank statements as reconciled by Chief Financial Officer and reviewed by the Superintendent for February, 2023, be approved.

3. That the Board approve the proposed 2023-2024 school calendar.

Mr. Smith asked if the Board would consider observing Juneteenth on June 19th. The Superintendent mentioned that this date in the 2022-2023 calendar falls during the summer enrichment program. The summer program has been sent to the State Department of Education for approval, but the Superintendent believes that he can get it revised. The summer program is for K – 5 students to help them with their Literacy Act and Numeracy Act skills. The calendar proposed for 2023-2024 included adding Juneteenth on June 19, 2024, as a holiday.

4. That the Board approve The Frazer Lanier Company to assist the Board in the issuance of approximately \$7,000,000 School Tax Warrants, Series 2023 in order to refund and retire the Board’s Capital Outlay School Warrants, Series 2015 and to construct certain capital improvements.

Executive Session

The Superintendent asked the Board to go into executive session. A motion was made by Mr. Charleston and seconded by Mr. McAlpine to go into executive session at 4:47 p.m. It carried unanimously.

Mrs. Joiner made a motion to come out of executive session and a second came from Mr. McAlpine at 5:39 p.m. It carried unanimously.

Personnel Recommendations

5. That the Board approve the Superintendent’s personnel recommendations as follows:

Employment of Certified Personnel

Asaud Frazier (effective March 13, 2023)	Marengo High School	Teacher
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Employment of Support Personnel

Melissa Towle (effective March 13, 2023)	Linden Route	Bus Driver
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Rescind Retirement

Kimberly Luker	Sweet Water High School	LEAD Nurse
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Retirement

Debra Harris (effective end of the 2022-2023 school year)	A. L. Johnson High School	CNP Manager
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Diana Luker (effective July 1, 2023)	Central Office	CSFO
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Resignation

Mark Collier (effective March 9, 2023)	Maintenance	Maintenance Supervisor
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Mrs. Joiner made a motion to approve items 1 through 5. A second came from Mr. Charleston. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

- Foundation Program Check
- Handbook Committee Meeting
- ACT Scores – Statewide
- Handicap Bus
- West Alabama Education Forum
- Teacher Certification Questions
- County Board of Equalization
- Wellness Screenings
- Juneteenth
- Sweet Water High School Roof
- SSA Legislative Conference – March 6th through 8th
- TEAMS Meeting – March 15th
- AHSAA District 3 Meeting in Selma – March 15th
- AHSAA Task Force Meeting – March 22nd
- Spring Sports
- Spring Break (March 27th through 31st)
- Principal and Athletic Director Conference – April 4th and 5th
- SSA District 2 Meeting in Montgomery – April 6th
- Good Friday – April 7th
- AASB/SSA Summer Conference

Date and Time of Next Regular Meeting of the Board

The date and time of the next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, April 27, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The motion to adjourn at 6:04 p.m. was made by Mr. McAlpine and seconded by Mrs. Joiner. It carried unanimously.

Luke Hallmark, Superintendent

Rayvell Smith, President