

MARENGO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Meeting Minutes
July 27, 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. Chester Moore, and Mr. Rayvell Smith.

Member absent: Mr. John McAlpine.

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. Charleston. It carried unanimously.

Second Approval of Previous Meetings

The motion for second approval of the June 22, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes and the July 18, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes was made by Mr. Charleston and seconded by Mrs. Joiner. It carried unanimously.

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

Business Matters

- **Bob Young – Frazer Lanier**
Mr. Bob Young with Frazer Lanier spoke to the Board members about the financing of the upcoming HVAC and Sweet Water High School roofing projects. The new funding project will add additional money to the present debt through payments of bonds. The payments will extend out while reducing the payments from \$430,000 a year to \$380,000 a year. Mr. Young will get a rating from Standard and Poors which usually takes about a week. The rate should be locked in during September.
- **Richard Johnson – Financial Update**
Mr. Richard Johnson, new CSFO, gave the Board members a financial update by PowerPoint. In the General Fund, the cash balance as of May 31, 2023, was \$1,385,124.42. The receipts were \$1,354,855.17 while the expenditures were \$1,957,709.52. This left a June 30, 2023, cash balance of \$782,270.07. This cash balance is less than last month but that is expected this time of year. In comparison to this time last year, it is up a little over \$300,000.
- **Wendy Joiner – Instructional Update**
Mrs. Wendy Joiner, Instructional Leader, gave a report to the Board members. She gave an ACAP summative update and reported the celebrations at each school. There was a lot of growth throughout the system. It was very noticeable in the 3rd grade Reading and 5th grade Reading scores. The students performing at the proficient level improved by double digits. In Math, the percentage of students proficient increased at all grade levels. Two new Math Coaches have been hired and the first planning meeting will be held on July 31st. The PreK numbers have increased rather slowly. Sweet Water High School is full while A. L. Johnson High School and Marengo High School are looking to add to their enrollment. The MTSS District Alignment Kickoff meeting will be held on September 14, 2023, at the Pelham Civic Center. The meeting will take a look at our district's mission and vision. We have received a \$48,911 School Safety Grant. The money will be used to purchase fencing at A. L. Johnson High School and Marengo High School. The system also received an Anti-Bullying Prevention Project funding of \$33,093 to purchase our Peer Helper Program. Ms. Kenyetta Evans presented at Mega Conference and did a wonderful job. She spoke on mental health issues throughout the schools. A. L. Johnson High School and Sweet Water High School had students that were recognized this summer at different camps. In closing, Mrs. Joiner pointed out all of the PD training that our faculty attended this summer.
- **Black Warrior Telecommunications Consortium / Utilities Report**
The Black Warrior Telecommunications Consortium financial statement for June 30, 2023, was \$76,788.06 in the checking account and \$90,410.93 in a CD. The utilities report for June, 2022, was \$30,214.42 while June, 2023, was \$27,337.01
- **Whole Board Training / Tax Renewal Update**
The Superintendent mentioned that the Whole Board Training would take place in either August or September and the topic would be on Finance. Also mentioned was an update on the tax renewal. A meeting has been held with the Probate Judge and Tax Assessor about the proper steps that need to be made.

Unfinished Business

1. That the Board approve Proposed Revised FILE: IGA (Grading System) as presented to the Marengo County Board of Education on June 22, 2023.
2. That the Board approve Proposed Revised FILE: IGD (Promotion Retention Policy) as presented to the Marengo County Board of Education on June 22, 2023.

New Business

3. That the Financial Reports for June, 2023, be approved.
4. 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 June, 2023, be approved.
5. That the Board approve Frazer Lanier to proceed with preparation of all documents and information necessary to prepare the Board to enter the market for the issuance of the Series 2023 Warrants in the amount of \$7,000,000 in order to refund and retire the Board's Capital Outlay School Warrants, Series 2015 and to construct certain capital improvements.
6. That the 2023-2024 Salary Schedules be adopted with implementation effective with each employee's contract period.
7. That the Superintendent be authorized to issue 2023-2024 employee contracts.
8. That the Board enter 2023-2024 Parent and Family Liaison / Attendance Contracts (August 8, 2023, to May 23, 2024), to provide parent and family liaison / attendance services. The following will be paid an hourly rate of \$25.00 per hour for a total of fifteen (15) hours per week:

A. L. Johnson High School	Gloria Pritchett
Marengo High School	Iesha McCarty
Sweet Water High School	Sandra Etheridge
9. That the Board enter 2023-2024 Teacher Intervention Contracts (August 14, 2023, to May 17, 2024) to provide intervention services for qualified students. The following will be paid an hourly rate of \$25.00 per hour for a total of twenty (20) hours per week:

A. L. Johnson High School

Nicky Crocker	K – 6 Reading
Katie Poole	K – 6 Math
Dorothy Cade	Secondary Reading

(Item 9, continued)

Marengo High School

Roberta Adams	K – 6 Reading
Janice Jones	K – 6 Math

Sweet Water High School

Donna Luker	K – 6 Reading
Bobette Huggins	Secondary Reading
Helen Ramsey	K – 6 Math

10. That the Board enter a 2023-2024 Part-Time Instructional Teacher Contract with Wanda Smith to provide English Language Arts instructional services at Marengo High School. She will be paid a daily rate of \$100.00 per day (3 hours per day, 5 days per week) covering the time period of August 3, 2023, to May 24, 2024.
11. That the Board approve the solicitation of bids for approximately four new buses. The Marengo County Schools will receive \$473,405 in FY 2023 Supplemental Fleet Renewal Funds that must be encumbered by September 30, 2023.
12. That the Board approve the following nominees for the Marengo County Board of Equalization:

Paul Whitcomb
James Patterson
Lepolean Peterson

Personnel Recommendations

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

Employment of Certified Employees

Janice Deason	Marengo High School	Teacher
Jacqueseya White	Marengo High School	Teacher

TEAMS Contracts

Camille White	A. L. Johnson High School	Science Teacher
Jarrell Watters	Marengo High School	Math Teacher

(Item 13, continued)

Sherrri Davis	Sweet Water High School	Math Teacher
Phala Mims	Sweet Water High School	Math Teacher

Resignation

Leon Walker	Marengo High School	Teacher
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Mrs. Joiner made the motion to approve items 1 through 13. A second came from Mr. Charleston. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

- Gifted Allocation / Fleet Renewal / ESSA Title I
- Meeting with Lt. Governor's Office
- State Examiners Exit Conference – August 8th at 10:00 a.m.
- Meeting with Georgia Pacific
- AHSAA Central Board Meeting
- AASB Fall District Meeting – September 7th
- Mega Conference
- Revenue Abstract Report
- New Employee Orientation
- Bus Driver Professional Development
- Institute – Sirhan Stacy
- Richard Johnson – Probationary Period
- Charles Coates – Follow-Up Letter

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, August 17, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The motion to adjourn at 6:03 p.m. was made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Charleston. It carried unanimously.

Luke Hallmark, Superintendent

Rayvell Smith, President