

SUMTER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 12, 2026

7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Sumter County Board of Education was called to order at 7:02 pm by Chairman Abbis Bivins with the following other members present: Patricia Harris, Rick Barnes, Carolyn Hamilton, Vincent Kears (7:07 p.m.), and Dwight Harris.

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

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

The following consent agenda items were unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Kears second by Mr. Barnes:

- A. Minutes of February 19, 2026 & March 2, 2026
- B. School Use Requests

FACILITY USE REQUEST

Americus Police Department (APD) to use the Thomas Bell Baseball Stadium at the Old Americus Sumter High School, Saturday, March 28, 2026, for a community-wide Easter Egg Hunt. (Fees and Insurance Waived)

- C. Transfr, Inc. Renewal (\$11,000.00) CTAE/QBE
- D. Financial Reports
- E. Vendor Payments – February 2026
- F. Open Payables – February 2026
- 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
January 31, 2026	\$0.00	\$5,828,388.15	\$3,841,742.24	\$266,833.01	\$496,759.33	-\$991,608.57
Incoming	\$0.00	\$6,367,167.60	\$11,078.25	\$201,404.70	\$1,485,611.09	\$80,780,156.15
Outgoing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,005,946.87	\$1,481,860.29	\$72,972,245.68
February 28, 2026	\$0.00	\$12,195,555.75	\$3,852,870.49	-\$1,537,709.16	\$500,510.13	\$6,816,301.90

- H. Expenditure Journal Summary Budget Report
- I. 396 Fund Balance Revenue Report
- J. Bus Purchase (\$155,900.00) DOE Funded
- K. Family Medical Leave Requests
- L. Retirements
- M. Long Term Substitute

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

Retirement

- Debra Hughes
- Brenda Poole
- Clifford Thomas

Long-Term Substitute

- Lakia Taylor

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Mr. Kearse, second by Mrs. Harris to approved the request for Planning Football Fields at South Campus & SCMS in the amount of \$34,000.00, funded by SPLOST. The motion was carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made at 7:44 p.m. by Mrs. Hamilton; second by Mr. Harris 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)). To consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the school district or an officer or employee or in which the officer or employee may be directly involved; (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1)). The motion was carried unanimously.

OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Kearse; second by Mrs. Hamilton to approve the following personnel matters; The motion was carried with five in favor (P. Harris, R. Barnes, C. Hamilton, V. Kearse, D. Harris), and one opposed (A. Bivins)

Contracted Services

Natacha Merritt  
Andrea Wright  
Katina Allen

Transfers

Brittany Sanders  
Reashia Smith  
Jannie Carter-Jackson

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Hamilton; second by Mrs. Harris. The motion was carried unanimously.

  
Chairman

  
Secretary