

MINUTES OF MEETING  
COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
August 9, 2021

The Columbus County Board of Education met on this date in regular session at 5:30 p.m. at Williams Township School in the cafeteria. The following persons were present:

Worley Edwards, Chairman  
Ronnie Strickland, Vice Chairman  
Randy Coleman  
Monte Herring  
Steve Long

Deanne Meadows, Superintendent  
Jonathan Williams, Associate Superintendent  
Bill Phipps, Attorney  
Bonita Pridgen, Administrative Assistant (Virtual)

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Edwards.

By motion of Mr. Strickland, seconded by Mr. Long, the final agenda for August 9, 2021, was approved.

By motion of Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Herring, the minutes of the July 12, 2021, and July 29, 2021, meetings were approved.

There were numerous guest on line.

The floor was opened for public comments.

There were no special presentations or recognitions.

By motion of Mr. Strickland, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the proposed SY 2021-2022 testing calendar was approved. See attachment No. 4356.

By motion of Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Long, the report card release dates 2021-2022 SY were approved. See attachment No. 4357.

By motion of Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Long, interim progress report release dates were approved. See attachment No. 4358.

By motion of Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Strickland, the Columbus Career and College Academy report cards and interim progress reports, 2021-2022 SY were approved. See attachment No. 4359.

By motion of Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Strickland, the 2021-2022 SY Pre-K staggered enrollment (August 25, 26, and 27 only) and Brigance testing (August 23 and 24 only) were approved.

By motion of Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Coleman, kindergarten staggered enrollment (August 23, 24, 25 only) for the 2021-2022 SY was approved.

The following invoices were presented for information: Szostak Design, Inc., invoice(s) - West Columbus School (#23 - \$11,617.23) and Tabor City School (#23 - \$11,617.23), Herr, Inc. (pay application #8 - \$86,466.49), Barnhill Contracting Company (pay application #3 - \$382,111.13), Tai and Associates, PLLC (invoice #181879 - \$9,174.65), TriTek Fire and Security, LLC (invoice #26243 - \$13,816.30), and Szostak Design Inc., (invoice #02 - \$512.00) – Williams Township Roof Leaks Remediation (paid by Columbus County Schools). See attachment No. 4360.

No action was taken on the purchase of an activity bus, in the amount of \$99,499.00, using ESSER funding, as shared by Dr. Jonathan Williams. See attachment No. 4361.

By motion of Mr. Strickland, seconded by Mr. Herring, the quote from Southern Flooring, Inc., in the amount of \$147,000.00, for bleachers at West Columbus High School was approved. See attachment No. 4362.

By motion of Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the request from Duke Energy for an easement area “granting a perpetual and non-exclusive easement, to construct, operate, patrol, maintain, repair, replace, relocate, add to, modify, and remove electrical communication lines including, but not limited to, all necessary supporting structures and all other appurtenant apparatus and equipment for transmission and distribution of electrical energy, and for technological purposes related to the operation of the electric facilities and for the communication purposes of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers” at the West Columbus (PreK-8) school, as shared by Dr. Jonathan Williams, were approved. See attachment No. 4363.

By motion of Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Long, the proposed fundraisers and the additional East Columbus Junior-Senior High School request, 2021-2022 SY were approved. See attachment No. 4364.

By motion of Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Herring, the purchase of a one-year subscription to iStation, in the amount of \$38,709.00, was approved. See attachment No. 4365.

By motion of Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Long, the purchase of Amplify Reading Site Licenses, in the amount of \$48,400.00, was approved. See attachment No. 4366.

Mr. Strickland made a motion to require all staff to wear mask. The motion died due to the lack of a second.

Board was asked to review the dates to remember as listed on the agenda.

By motion of Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Long, the Board went into closed session to discuss information that is privileged, confidential, and not a public record under GS 143-318.11 (a) (1).

By motion of Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Long, Dr. Meadows was authorized to act on the appeal for new request (grades NC PK – 12) for student reassignment for the 2021-2022 SY in accordance with established Board policy.

By motion of Mr. Strickland, seconded by Mr. Long, Dr. Meadows was authorized to act on the new request (grades NC PK – 12) for student reassignments for the 2021-2022 SY in accordance with established Board policy.

By motion of Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Long, the Board returned to open session.

By motion of Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Long, personnel actions were approved, as recommended by Dr. Meadows. See attachment No. 4367.

By motion of Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Strickland, the Board approved revisions to Policy Code: 3620 Extracurricular Activities and Student Organizations. In addition, they reviewed the accompanying Extracurricular Activities and Student Organizations regulation 3260-R, and Club Application 3620-FI. See attachment No. 4368.

By motion of Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Strickland, the superintendent's goals were tabled and no consideration was given at this time.

The Board will meet in regular session on September 13, 2021, at a school site yet to be determined beginning at 5:30 p.m.

By motion of Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Long, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.