

MINUTES OF MEETING
COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
June 21, 2021

The Columbus County Board of Education met on this date in regular session at 5:30 p.m. at West Columbus High 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
Lisa Nowlin, Finance Officer
Bonita Pridgen, Administrative Assistant

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Edwards.

By motion of Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Long, the final agenda for June 21, 2021, was approved.

By motion of Mr. Strickland, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the minutes of the May 10, 2021, and May 25, 2021, meetings were approved.

Mrs. Kim Smith (Columbus County Health Department), Mr. W.T. Edwards, Mr. Jeremiah Johnson, and community members were present as guests.

The floor was opened for public comments.

The Board recognized Mrs. Kelly Strickland Watts, teacher at Hallsboro-Artesia Elementary School, for receiving the NC Schools Go Outside grant, in the amount of \$9,960.69, from Outdoor Heritage Advisory Council.

Ms. Ashley Holmes, teacher at Chadbourn Elementary School, was recognized on receiving a Donors Choose grant, in the amount of \$6,950.00, to purchase 10 iPads with cases, headphones, and a charging cart that will be used at Cerro Gordo Elementary School and Chadbourn Elementary School.

The Columbus Career and College Academy Inaugural Esports Rocket League members Dante Grovner, Mason Hooks, David Rojo Trejo, Connor McGee (Coach Kevin Toman) were recognized by the Board for their rank of sixth (6th) out of 457 teams nationwide.

By motion of Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Strickland, contract services for the exceptional children's program were approved as follows: First Transit Extension Agreement (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022), Barbara B. Bell Psychological Services, Inc. (2021-2022 SY), Behavioral Consultation & Psychological Services, PLLC (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022), Progressive Speech Services, Inc. (2021-2022 SY), Speech Solutions, Inc. (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022), Suzanne Huggins, TVI (2021-2022 SY), TDP Creative Solutions, Inc. with Troy Pierce (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022), Vida McLeary, MPT/L (August 1, 2021 – July 31, 2022), AudPractice Group, LLC (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022), EDU Healthcare, LLC (2021-2022 SY), and Fairbanks, LLC (July 1, 2021-2022 SY).

The Board reviewed a letter from the Columbus County Health Department regarding “Making Proud Choices”.

Information on the comprehensive ninth grade health physical education curriculum, 2021-2022 SY was presented by Mrs. Kathy Lewis and Mrs. Jamika Lynch. No action was taken.

By motion of Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Long, the revised Southeastern Community College and Columbus County Schools Columbus Career and College Academy Cooperative Innovative High School Memorandum of Agreement, 2020-2023 SY was approved. Columbus County Schools will share the costs, in the amount of \$25,000.00 per year, for a School Resource Officer at Columbus Career and College Academy to be provided by Southeastern Community College Campus Police Division. See attachment No. 4312.

By motion of Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Strickland, the purchase from SAVVAS Learning Company for 6-8 Social Studies, 9-12 Social Studies, and 9-12 Math curriculums was approved. See attachment No. 4313.

By motion of Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Herring, the purchases from Curriculum Associates for i-Ready grade 5 (1 year) and i-Ready 6-8 math and reading to include K-8 toolbox Access (2 years) were approved. See attachment No. 4314.

The following was shared for informational purposes:

- Szostak Design, Inc., invoices 21 (West Columbus PreK-8 School) and 22 (Tabor City PreK-8 School)
- Herr, Inc. pay application # Seven. See attachment No. 4315.

By motion of Mr. Strickland, seconded by Mr. Long, Charter Bus Service providers, 2021-2022 SY were approved. See attachment No. 4316.

By motion of Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the activity bus and central fleet car mileage rates, 2021-2022 SY were approved. See attachment No. 4317.

Dr. Williams provided an update on the following projects: East Columbus Junior-Senior High School physical education building and the West Columbus High School windows.

By motion of Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Long, the Easement Agreement, regarding property on the East Columbus Junior-Senior High School campus, with Duke Energy Progress, LLC, was approved. See attachment No. 4318.

By motion of Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Strickland, the Memorandum of Understanding for Transportation Procedures Agreement to ensure the educational stability of Foster Care Youth: Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requirement was approved. See attachment No. 4319.

By motion of Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Strickland, the coverage quotes for Catastrophic Student Accident Insurance and Student Accident Insurance, from the Young Group, for the 2021-2022 SY was approved. See attachment No. 4320.

By motion of Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Herring the Memorandum of Agreement with the Columbus County Health Department for school nurse services, 2021-2022 SY was approved. See attachment No. 4321.

No action was taken on the naming of the West Columbus Pre K-8 and Tabor City Pre K-8 new facilities and the Board asked for this to placed on the July agenda.

The 2021-2022 Board of Education meeting dates were shared as a reminder.

Dr. Meadows provided an update on the Strategic Plan. By motion of Mr. Strickland, seconded by Mr. Long, the Board approved the Strategic Plan for the 2021-2026 SYs. See attachment No. 4322.

By motion of Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Strickland, the quote for Chromebooks from Vision21, in the amount of \$318,789.66, was approved. See attachment No. 4323.

By motion of Mr. Strickland, seconded by Mr. Herring, the bid (B1), received by Systel, for copier services contract was approved. See attachment No. 4324.

By motion of Mr. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Long, the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement (Softchoice quote) was approved. See attachment No. 4325.

By motion of Mr. Strickland, seconded by Mr. Herring, the revisions to Board Policy 2235/5005: School Advisory Council were approved. See attachment No. 4326.

Attendance of Advisory Council appointments, 2020-2021 SY was shared.

By motion of Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Long, the EndPoint Protection Evaluation provided by Carbon Black, in the annual rate amount of \$17,855.93, for a period of three years, not to exceed \$53,657.79, was approved. Attachment No. 4327.

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

By motion of Mr. Strickland, seconded by Mr. Long, the additional 12-month employees pay, in the amount of \$1,000.00, was approved. The employee must be employed in their 12-month position at the beginning and end of summer school (June 8, 2021, and ending August 20, 2021). See attachment No. 4328.

By motion of Mr. Strickland, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the Board approved the continuing budget resolution, 2021-2022 SY and the year-end closeout only of the 2020-2021 SY. See attachment No. 4329.

Dr. Meadows shared information regarding memberships for the 2021-2022 SY as follows: North Carolina School Boards Association Custom Policy Update Services (\$6,900.00), Web Hosting Service Initial Development/Fee/Annual Web Hosting Fee (\$3,650.00), NCSBA Membership Dues/Legal Assistance Fund Contribution (\$14,557.00), North Carolina School Boards Action Center (NCSBAC) Contribution (\$3,000.00), North Carolina School Boards Trust Errors and Omissions/General Liability Fund (Participation Agreement) (\$10,621.00) – See attachment No. 4330, North Carolina School Boards Association 2021-2022 Annual Subscription to *Education Law in North Carolina* (\$75.00), Cognia, Inc. (formerly Advanced ED) (\$4,800.00), North Carolina Association of School Administrators (\$5,350.00), Sandhills Regional Education Consortium (SREC) dues (\$13,750.00), and North Carolina Council of School Attorneys membership dues (\$370.00).

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. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Long, Dr. Meadows was authorized to act on the appeals 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. Herring, 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. Strickland, the Board returned to open session.

By motion of Mr. Herring, seconded by Mr. Strickland, personnel actions were approved, as recommended by Dr. Meadows. See attachment No. 4331.

The Board will meet in regular session on July 12, 2021, at the Columbus County Board of Education in the conference room at 5:30 p.m.

By motion of Mr. Strickland, seconded by Mr. Long, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:50 p.m.