Hamlet, North Carolina

November 9, 2023

The Richmond County Board of Education met in regular session, on November 9, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Central Office in Hamlet, North Carolina.

The members present: Wiley Mabe, chairman, Bobbie Sue Ormsby, vice-chair, Scotty Baldwin, Jerry Ethridge, Daryl Mason, Ronald Tillman, and Cory Satterfield.

The administrators present: Dr. Joe Ferrell, superintendent, Dr. Julian Carter, associate superintendent of Human Resources, Dr. Kate Smith, assistant superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Melvin Ingram, assistant superintendent of School Safety and Operations, Dr. Tesha Isler, executive director for School Administration and Policy, Dana Mintmier, director of Exceptional Children, Dawn Jordan, executive director of Finance, Steven King, directory of Maintenance, Mike Williams, director of Technology Systems and Student Information, Katherine Bendell, director of Instructional Technology, Kylie DeWitt, executive director of Communications, and George Crump, III, board Attorney.

After noting that a quorum was present, Wiley Mabe called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Bobbie Sue Ormsby requested a Moment of Silence and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Jerry Ethridge, seconded by Bobbie Sue Ormsby, the minutes of October 3, 2023, open and closed meeting were unanimously approved.

The agenda, as presented, was approved by unanimous consent.

Kylie DeWitt introduced the Inspiring Excellence Awards winners from Ashley Chapel Educational Center: Jennifer Stewart (certified), Wendy Brown (classified) and from Richmond Ninth Grade Academy: Anna Odom (certified), Gregory Douglas (classified).

Kylie DeWitt recognized Angel Mabe, principal of Mineral Springs and the staff as a top 10 Title I school in North Carolina by the National ESEA Distinguished Schools Program.

Mike Way, athletic director at RSHS gave a report:

* The current Fall sports are finishing up.
* Winter sports coming into play in 2 ½ weeks.
* RSHS is being used for some middle school sports activities.

Steven King presented an update on the construction projects at Mineral Springs School, Fairview Heights School, and Richmond Senior High School.

* Richmond Senior High School – original completion date of October 18, 2024, has been move to November 25, 2024 – received 3 quotes for relocating electrical – LS3P has issued a revised plan to lower pipes.
* Mineral Springs School – original completion date of July 29, 2024, has been moved to August 29, 2024.
* Fairview Heights School – original completion date of October 18, 2024, has been changed to October 2, 2024 - some underground piping will be relocated.

Melvin Ingram presented an update on the James Building:

* Built in 1966, three floors, 10,735 sq. ft.
* Services provided and staff housed presently in the building – EC specialists, Pre-K staff and testing area, tech facilitators, stem lab, school psychologist, behavior specialist – 24 staff members.
* Estimate yearly costs of the maintenance of the building was presented in report.

On a motion by Ronald Tillman, seconded by Daryl Mason, the board voted 5 to 2 to approve receiving the James Building from Richmond Community College Board of Trustees. Voting for the motion was Ronald Tillman, Daryl Mason, Jerry Ethridge, Wiley Mabe, and Bobbie Sue Ormsby. Voting no was Cory Satterfield and Scotty Baldwin.

Dr. Tesha Isler presented an update on the Policy – 4150 School Assignment. Meetings were scheduled for principals and social workers for feedback to develop a clearer and better policy. The next step is to meet with parents whose children are on reassignment on November 27, 2023. November 28, 2023, parents can participate in a virtual meeting.

Steven King presented bids for HVAC unit replacements at Hamlet Middle School for board approval. Witherspoon Heating and Cooling (100 Greensboro Street, Rockingham, NC) had the lowest base bid at $99,432.00.

On a motion by Jerry Ethridge, seconded by Ronald Tillman, the board voted unanimously to approve the bid as presented.

Steven King presented the change order PCO #013: CE #021 – Asbestos Encapsulation for Richmond Senior High School construction project by Muter Construction. The total cost is $15,775.40.

On a motion by Scotty Baldwin, seconded by Cory Satterfield, the board voted unanimously to approve the change order as presented.

Dawn Jordan presented the 2023-2024 Budget Resolution for board approval.

On a motion by Ronald Tillman, seconded by Jerry Ethridge, the board voted unanimously to approve the 2023-2024 budget resolution as presented.

Dr. Kate Smith presented the School Improvement Plans for each school. The board will have a 30-day review of these plans.

Board members took a short break from 6:16 to 6:27 p.m.

Dr. Tesha Isler presented the policies for board approval:

* 1310/4002 – Parental Involvement
* 3210 – Parental Inspection of and Objection to Instructional Materials
* 3540 – Comprehensive Health Education Program
* 4335 – Criminal Behavior
* 4720 – Surveys of Students
* 6120 – Student Health Services
* 7300 – Staff Responsibilities

Dr. Tesha Isler asked for waiver of the 30-day review of Policy 1310/4002 – Parental Involvement and Policy 4720 – Surveys of Students, due to recent updates received from the North Carolina School Board Association (NCSBA) Fall 2023 PLS.

On a motion by Cory Satterfield, seconded by Jerry Ethridge, the board voted unanimously to waive the 30-day review of the policies as presented and to approve the policies for adoption.

Dr. Tesha Isler presented the following policies for 30-day review:

* 4240/7312 – Child Abuse and Related Threats to Child Safety
* 6220 – Operation of School Nutrition Services
* 6230 – School Meal and Competitive Foods Standards
* 7232 – Discrimination and Harassment in the Workplace
* 7520 – Family and Medical Leave

Melvin Ingram presented the Field Trip Requests:

* Rockingham Middle – Beta Club – Greensboro, NC Junior Beta Club Convention – January 28-30, 2024 – 60 students

On a motion by Scotty Baldwin, seconded by Jerry Ethridge, the board voted unanimously to approve the field trip as presented.

Dr. Joe Ferrell presented the Surplus Items for board approval to be sold on Govdeals.com.

On a motion by Scotty Baldwin, seconded by Cory Satterfield, the board voted unanimously to approve the surplus report as presented.

Comments from board members: attended Fall athletic events, school visits, SHAC meeting, NCSBA Fall Law Conference, Raiders play first round of football playoffs, equipment needed for middle school sports, and remember the family of Lauren Austin.

Dr. Joe Ferrell presented the Superintendent’s Report:

* School is closed tomorrow, November 10, 2023, in honor of Veteran’s Day.
* November 13-15, 2023, board members will attend NCSBA Annual Conference in Greensboro, NC
* Thanksgiving Holidays are November 23 and 24, 2023.
* January 2, 2024, is first day back from Christmas Holidays and will be the regular monthly board meeting.
* Community Breakfast is December 7, 2023, at Washington Street School. Breakfast is at 8:30 a.m. and board meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Wiley Mabe citing NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3),(6) requested a motion to go into closed session.

On a motion by Scotty Baldwin, seconded by Daryl Mason, the board voted unanimously to go into closed session at 6:54 p.m.

The board returned from closed session at 7:27 p.m.

Dr. Julian Carter presented the personnel report, and the addendum.

On a motion by Jerry Ethridge, seconded by Daryl Mason, the board voted unanimously to approve the personnel and addendum reports.

There being no further business, on a motion by Scotty Baldwin, seconded by Daryl Mason, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:29 p.m.