

# ROCKCASTLE COUNTY SCHOOLS

245 RICHMOND STREET

MT. VERNON, KY 40456

## *Minutes of the Board Meeting*

***Tuesday, August 11, 2020***

### **Rockcastle Board of Education Members**

Angela Stallsworth-Mink - Chair, Susan Jordison - Vice Chair,

Anna Stevens-Goff, Misty Lakes, Jeff Vanhook

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** At approximately 6:00 pm, Chairman Angela Stallsworth-Mink called the meeting to order.
  - A. Silent Prayer:** At the direction of Chairman Angela Stallsworth-Mink, the Board observed a moment of silent prayer.
  - B. Roll Call:** All members present.
  - C. Reading of Board Team Commitments:** Anna Stevens-Goff read the board commitments.
  
- 2. ADOPT AGENDA/ACTION:** Chairman Angela Stallsworth-Mink asked for an amendment to the agenda, changing item #9 to "Public Comments" and moving "Adjournment" to item #10. Anna Stevens-Goff made a motion to approve the agenda with the requested amendment. Misty Lakes made a second. All members present agreed.
  
- 3. OPERATIONS/ACTIONS:**
  - A. Approve Minutes of the July 14, 2020 Regular Board Meeting**
  - B. Approve Minutes of the July 28, 2020 Special Board Meeting**
  - C. Approve Bills for Payment**
  - D. Approve 2020-2021 KPC/KEDC Bakery Bid with Klosterman Baking Company**
  - E. Approve TC-4 Substitute Teacher Certifications for the 2020-2021 School Year**
  - F. Approve Request for Family and Medical Leave of Absence**
  - G. Approve Community Education Grant**
  - H. Approve MOA with Berea College GEAR-UP/Upward Bound**
  - I. Approve Data Security and Breach Notification Best Practice Guide**
  - J. Approve Emergency Reading of Title IX Sexual Harassment Policies & Procedures**

Susan Jordison made a motion to approve Operations and Actions as presented. Anna Stevens-Goff made a second. All members present agreed.
  
- 4. DISCUSSION/ACTION:**
  - A. Review/Approve Tax Rate for the 2020-2021 School Year (Mrs. Ballinger)**

Superintendent Carrie Ballinger recommended to board members to set tax rates for 2021 at 42.5, the same as 2020 rates. She noted "Finance continues to be one of the biggest challenges of public education. We face this challenge with diligence and are committed to being wise stewards of the tax payer's money while providing a quality education to all of our Rockcastle County students."

The recommendation to the Board of Education to set each 2021 Tax Rate to remain the same as 2020 rates. The real estate property tax rate at 42.5 cents per hundred and the personal property tax rate at 42.5 cents per hundred, motor vehicle tax rate at 48.3 cents per hundred and utility tax rate at 3% and scheduled public hearing for August 27, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Jeff Vanhook made a motion to approve the tax rate for the 2020-2021 school year. Susan Jordison made a second. All members present agreed.
  - B. Review/Approve BG5 Project Closeout - RCHS HVAC/Roof (Mr. Clark)**

Anna Stevens-Goff made a motion to approve the BG5 Project Closeout for the RCHS HVAC and roof project. Susan Jordison made a second. All members present agreed.
  - C. Review/Approve Monthly Financial Reports (Mrs. Sweet)**
    - 1. Month Ending Balance Sheet**
    - 2. Revenue & Expenditures for the Month by Fund**

Anna Stevens-Goff made a motion to accept the monthly financial reports. Misty Lakes made a second. All members present agreed.

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#### **5. DISCUSSION/REVIEW:**

##### **A. Review Superintendent's Personnel Action Report (*Appendix A*)**

#### **6. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

##### **Marcus Reppert – Student Services**

- MyRock Online has about 950 students enrolled. Mr. Reppert noted that MyRock Online is different than NTI virtual learning.
- Orientations at schools will begin on Friday, August 14 with Chromebooks being distributed.
- Online enrollment is now open in Infinite Campus and will replacement the Enrollment Form.
- OverDrive digital book checkout program has been established in partnership with Rockcastle County Public Library

##### **Trent Clark – Technology / Facilities**

- RCMS parking lot updated
- Working on outdoor wireless at each school
- Network efficiency and maintenance
- Custodians have spent a lot of time painting and getting school buildings in tip-top shape for students
- Working on football press box remodel, which will include fiber optic cable that will allow broadcast of games over the internet.

##### **Ken Hopkins – Transportation**

- Currently working on update trainings with small groups of drivers and monitors
- No changes in routes as of today
- Buses will haul usual capacity, but students will use sanitizer when boarding the bus, wear a mask the entire ride and the bus will be sanitized after each route.

##### **Jennifer Mattingly – Instruction/Assessment**

- Working on new employee orientation and annual staff trainings.

##### **Jason Coguer – Preschool/Special Education/Instruction**

- Working with teachers on Google Classroom training
- Reported that teachers are diving into training to be as prepared as possible for NTI and are unified with sharing resources with one another.

##### **Jamie Saylor – Food Service**

- Preparing for professional development with all staff in small groups
- Working with transportation to create a new food service plan during NTI virtual learning days

##### **Jenny Sweet - Finance**

- Preparing for annual financial audit which will occur in October.
- Ordering of supplies such as masks, signage and other COVID related items.
- CARES funding received thus far has helped cover the cost of Chromebooks, extra food service supplies and virtual learning programs.

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- Working on FEMA application and documentation that will help off-set other COVID related expenses.

#### **7. SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATION:**

- Superintendent Ballinger discussed that the Board had approved four (4) 2020-2021 school calendars in previous meetings. She noted that due to the Governor's recommendation of not starting in-person school until at least September 28<sup>th</sup>, that the district will now need to change to Calendar #3, which is the September 9<sup>th</sup> start date. Our students would start virtually. This gives our district enough time to receive all the Chromebooks, get them programmed and ready for small group student orientations. Approval to start school virtually was given at last month's board meeting and not following the Governor's recommendation could cause liability issues for our district. Superintendent Ballinger added that hopefully it will just be virtual for the 13 days and that we can return to in-person school on September 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### **8. BOARD COMMENTS:**

- Board Member Angela Stallsworth-Mink noted that this would be a hardship on many families because of childcare issues, but that our community must pull together and help each other through this. She added that "Kids will adapt and this will make a difference in their future. This will open doors and have positive aspects."
- Board Member Misty Lakes applauded our district for keeping students at the center of every decision. "Chromebooks will be in the homes of children that may have never had one otherwise. The community is very blessed to be part of this school system. I appreciate all the behind the scenes work."
- Board Member Anna Stevens-Goff expressed her excitement as a mom stating, "Getting Chromebooks and using virtual platforms will be asset in preparing for college learning."

#### **9. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- Danielle Reams, parent, asked "Are we willing to go against the Governor? At what point are we willing to go against politics?" Board Member Jeff Vanhook noted the liability of not following the Governor's recommendation would be too great of a burden. We would need the immunity and support of government officials to be able to return to in-person school. Mrs. Reams expressed she wants to see our district excel and wanted to know what NTI would look like this year. Superintendent Ballinger assured Mrs. Reams that NTI will look much different this fall than it did in the spring. Our district has purchased several resources and trained teachers on how to use many virtual learning tools/programs. Mr. Coguer added that students will have personalized lessons with concentrated learning. Mrs. Reams expressed her appreciation to the district staff for working to make NTI successful for our district.
- Erin Grace, RCHS Teacher, noted that she understands starting with NTI means we are just shifting to the "Red Light" zone for those few couple of weeks. She stated that she trusts the experts to determine when it is safe to attend, and not attend, in-person school.

- 9. ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn by Jeff Vanhook at 7:50 p.m. Anna Stevens-Goff made a second. All members present agreed.

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## APPENDIX A

### SUPERINTENDENT'S PERSONNEL ACTIONS REPORT

July 14, 2020 - August 11, 2020

Appointments are subject to valid certification and other State requirements. All salaries/wages are in compliance with the c Board-approved salary schedule. Upon receipt of all required documentation, including SBDM approval and Pri recommendation, the Superintendent will send an official letter of employment to each individual. Employee assignments listed are based on current projections and are subject to alteration as permitted by law.

#### **Full Time Certified Employees**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Position</b>
Rachel Johnson	8/13/2020	Teacher – RCHS
Lauren Denny	8/13/2020	Teacher – BES
Hannah Adkisson	8/13/2020	Teacher – BES
Marcus Reppert	7/1/2020	Director of Student Services – Central Office
Tara Brown	8/13/2020	Teacher – RCHS
Robert Phillips	7/27/2020	Principal – RCMS
Julie Poynter	8/13/2020	Teacher - RCMS
Nicholas Williams	8/6/2020	Assistant Principal - RCMS

#### **Full Time Classified Employees**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Position</b>
Shawn Osborne	8/18/2020	Bus Driver

#### **Resignation**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Position</b>
Malcolm Shepherd	7/2/2020	Assistant Football Coach – RCMS
Judy Neal	7/15/2020	Bus Monitor
Katina Brock	8/3/2020	Bus Monitor
Abigail Reynolds	8/3/2020	College & Career Navigator - RCMS
Jeffrey Tipton	7/30/2020	Boys Cross Country Coach - RCHS
Rachel Cochran	7/17/2020	Bus Monitor
Peggy Akin	7/31/2020	Administrative Assistant – Central Office

#### **Retirement**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Position</b>
Jennifer Adkisson	9/1/2020	Teacher - BES

#### **Certified Substitutes**

<b>Names</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Position</b>

#### **Classified Substitutes**

<b>Names</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Position</b>
Savanna Sweet	7/1/2020	Substitute Instructional Assistant
Dawson Nicely	7/1/2020	Substitute Instructional Assistant
Terry Robbins	8/18/2020	Substitute Bus Driver
Barbara Vanwinkle	8/14/2020	Substitute Bus Monitor
Karen Bray	8/14/2020	Substitute Bus Monitor